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**W**elcome to the second edition of our Community magazine. We received lots of great feedback about the first edition.

In this edition we have a lot of articles we hope you will find informative, interesting, and inclusive. In addition to Maghull Town Council issues we have articles from several community groups and organisations. We also pay our respects to Dr John Rowlands who sadly passed away recently.

We have included a performance review of the Town Council’s activities, based on the manifesto we were elected on in 2019 and the business plan over the last four years, eg, what we said we’d do and what we did /didn’t achieve. We have also included an evaluation of our Neighbourhood Plan. We believe these evaluations are an important part of transparency and our democratic responsibility to you.

In February our keenly anticipated Maghull Advice Centre was opened. Through the Centre specialist advice on a range of issues is available, so please call in. I’m pleased to report that the town council will not be increasing the local precept this year. Maghull Town Council have only increased it in 3 of the 8 years we have been in office.



**Patrick Mckinley leader MTC and editorial team  
March 2023**

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Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information presented in ‘Maghull Press’ we cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions therein. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Council. Whilst all submissions are greatly valued, the Editor reserves the right to edit or exclude articles from publication.

# Maghull Town Council

## Performance Review 2019 -2023

In May 2019 we were elected based on a manifesto that had 7 priorities. A practical business plan was developed to implement these priorities. What follows is an evaluation based on the 7 priorities and of the activities that were undertaken to achieve the aims of the manifesto and business plan.

### The Impact of COVID

The largest single issue that has prevented the achievement of some of the priorities was the COVID Pandemic. Like most organisations the pandemic had a huge impact on our organisation. But the Town Council stepped up to the plate when confronted by the

Pandemic, the staff proved themselves to be both proactive and professional, reorganising priorities at short notice and getting stuck in with a range of community support initiatives.

We also approached Sefton Council and offered our facilities, this in itself provided a major contribution to Sefton's strategy and made a significant impact in protecting the community. The Town Council has received many plaudits for its proactive role during the pandemic.

Key: **Green**; mostly achieved, **Amber** work in progress  
**Red**: not achieved

Priority 1	Continue to Develop and protect our community
objective	New action 2019-2023
Support during COVID	Town Hall used for testing/major inoculation Centre ●
Keep residents informed of council activities	Maghull Press, Commonplace surveys, Website, Fair Deal for Maghull Campaign petition ●
Represent residents on planning applications and development	Successfully kept site traffic away from Maghull, Established residents/developers group to deal with Issues on Land East of Maghull, input on all major planning applications ●
Town Centre Improvements	Town Team strategic group established to lead on regeneration, community/local business/council ●
Review Neighbour hood Plan	Ongoing, Effective use of neighbourhood plan ●
Move toward ecologically friendly status	installed LED lighting in town hall and garage, Support for FOMD tree planting in MTC areas, Purchased Rhinoceros sculpture , Remove single use plastics ●
Review Anti-Social Behaviour improve youth provision	Engaged with Active Sefton and active sports foundation. Established Youth engagement committee ●
Develop volunteering/volunteer based groups	Partnership with FOMD, Cosy Club Volunteers Maghull Advice Centre Volunteers, Support Maghull in Bloom ●
Priority 2	Develop parks & greenspaces
Review and improve parks	£140 k spent on new parks equipment ●
Drainage issues in parks, Roundmeade/Pimbley etc	Commission a groundwater study to inform investment decisions ●
New facilities, indoor sports	Seek external funding, refurbishment of activity room ●
Tree surveys	Remove diseased trees and replace ●
Establish peace garden in KGV	Journeys Through Shellshock / Xmas Truce artwork ●



Develop events throughout the year	Post COVID Maghull fest restarted other events delivered/ planned.	●
Increase biodiversity	9,000 tree planted with Mersey Forest / FOMD, 200 bird boxes	●
Achieve green flag status	COVID delayed process, agreed to restart, urgent health and safety issues prioritised	●
Develop composting scheme		●
<b>Priority 3</b>	<b>A value for Money and enterprising Council</b>	
Seek sponsorship for activities	£7,000.00 achieved for Maghull Advice Centre	●
Develop inter parish network	Reduced priority due to COVID	●
Increase income generation	New licensee for Venue, increasing financial return, evaluation of surplus land	●
Increase reserves	Reserves reduced to improve park equipment	●
Reduce burden of loans	Ongoing, no further loans accessed	●
<b>Priority 4</b>	<b>Develop leisure and Amenity Activity</b>	
Develop green corridors linked to parks	Lottery bid, need to revisit	●
Develop children's' literary festival to encourage reading	COVID impact, will revisit for summer 2023	●
Maghull Fest	COVID impact but successfully restarted in summer 2022	●
Improve Youth Offer	Youth activity sub group established	●
<b>Priority 5</b>	<b>Develop Community Services and Groups</b>	
Develop a Maghull Hub/Advice Centre in the town centre	Maghull Advice Centre opened in February 2023 Maghull Learning & Skills hub started	●
To Assist Maghull Radio's sustainability	Roy Evans Foundation supporting Maghull Radio, ongoing communication with CS manager, re funding opportunities	●
Increase Volunteering opportunities	New volunteering opportunities through Maghull Advice Centre, Cosy Club/FOMD, weekly support given to Maghull Foodbank, annual Civic award scheme recognises volunteering	●
Develop grant awarding/free use of facilities to community groups	Community groups are using town hall facilities at no cost to them	●
Complete defibrillator audit	Completed Feb 2020	●
<b>Priority 6</b>	<b>Culture and heritage</b>	
To develop a heritage centre	Covid impact prevented meetings/revisit	●
To develop a heritage trail	Covid impact prevented meetings/revisit	●
To upgrade Blue plaques	Covid impact prevented meetings/revisit	●
<b>Priority 7</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	
To lobby for improved medical facilities for the town	use of the Town Hall as a testing station and later as a major Vaccination Centre during COVID, ongoing lobbying	●
Create a local health and wellbeing board	Changes in CCG prevented this	●
Promote health awareness including mental health/age issues	Maghull Advice Centre will provide help and support	●

# Park Life

Hello residents of Maghull, Welcome back to another edition of the Maghull Press. The MTC Park Management Team have been busy working hard over these last few months, completing a wide range of winter and spring tasks. You may have already noticed the landscape improvement work at Ballswood Park by the car park entrance. Trees and shrubs have been pruned back to improve visibility and public safety; similar work has also taken place at King George V Park. Other non-urgent, tree related, health and safety tasks that cannot be completed in the summer due to the bird nesting season have also been scheduled to take place at the following parks within the next few weeks; Dodd's Park, Glenn Park and Bobby's wood.

Tree and woodland improvement work is done for several possible reasons:

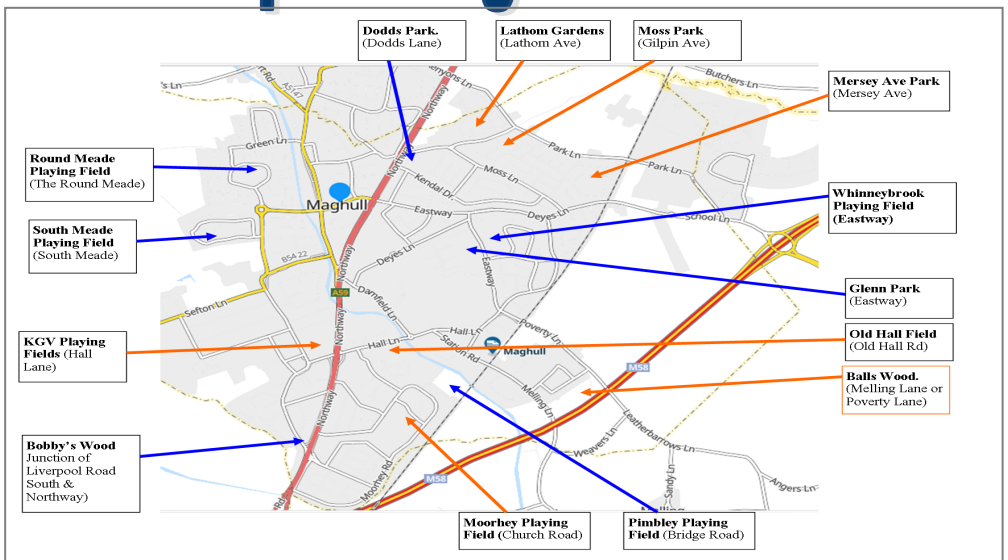
- To remove trees that have a health and safety risk to the public.
- To improve woodland health by removing diseased or dying trees.
- To remove trees in area to improve visibility.
- To improve overall vitality of the cope.

For further information on MTC's tree management process, please review our tree policy on the town council website

[www.maghull-tc.gov.uk](http://www.maghull-tc.gov.uk)

Other remedial tasks and improvement works to all 15 of our parks' infrastructure will be on-going, play equipment repairs will take place and new park signage will be installed. In addition, following the recent upgrade

## Map of Maghull Parks



of the children's play equipment in several of our parks, several residents have raised concerns that there is now a lack of seating/benches within the parks for families, adults and the elderly to sit, talk, relax and enjoy the surroundings. Therefore, I'm delighted

to say that additional seating will now be provided over the coming months.

Following confirmation the Champion Newspaper would cease publication, it was established MTC would need a new way of communicating, hence the creation of this fantastic magazine. Another tool in our communication strategy will be the installation of signs in each of our parks. Not only will the signage bring an identity to each park, which is a legal requirement, but the signs will also have a noticeboard display that will be populated with useful information such as MTC's contact details, upcoming town council meetings, and spring and summer events that will be taking place in several of our parks. I look forward to bringing you further updates in the coming months.

**Concerns & Complaints** - If residents have any concerns about the parks, play equipment, trees, or open spaces, please contact me at [info@maghull-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@maghull-tc.gov.uk) and I will get back to you.

**Derek Stephens, MTC Facilities Manager.**



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# Neighbourhood Plan—What Next?

January 2023 saw the four-year anniversary of the adoption of Maghull's Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan contains planning policies which helps Sefton Planning Department determine whether any planning applications in the area are acceptable. The Plan contains 6 major policies which focus on maintaining the community feel of Maghull whilst emphasising the elements of good design we wish to keep and looking to improve those elements which do not do the town and its history, justice.

Our comments have focused on the design of the new developments, ensuring that they are in keeping with the local area in which they would sit. This could be seen with the McCarthy Stone development at Red Lion Bridge. The Council recommended refusal due to its overbearing design on local properties which was contrary to policy Mag 4 in the Neighbourhood Plan which deals with appropriateness of design. The developer resubmitted their plans, after seeing our comments and the overall size of the building was reduced.

The Town Council was also heavily involved in the appeal by Persimmon Homes and Countryside Properties for their application to develop the south side

of the Land East of Maghull. Sefton MBC had decided, in essence, not to contest the appeal. However, the Council knew that it was imperative that residents be protected as much as possible from the disruption the development would bring and ensured that all of the deliveries would be channelled via the east of the site until the distributor road between Poverty Lane and School Lane is built. The Council continues to monitor the deliveries to the site and has regular meetings with the developers to ensure that all conditions on the appeal approval are complied with.

The Council continues to use the Neighbourhood Plan to underpin our comments and recommendations to Sefton Planning Department so that they take account of residents' views. The Councillors have become accustomed to planning issues in a way that helps represent the residents they support when recommending approval with certain conditions or refusal. We recommend refusal on all applications which feature poor design, inconsiderate traffic movements through the town and unnecessary build up in the urban area.

A copy of the Neighbourhood Plan can be found on our website [www.maghull-tc.gov.uk](http://www.maghull-tc.gov.uk).

## We still say no to the Simonswood Incinerator!

In April 2022 the Town Council voted to reject the planning application for the proposed Simonswood Incinerator. Unfortunately the plans were accepted by West Lancashire. We believe that there is a risk to the health and wellbeing of Maghull residents, so we are still opposed to it and we would consider supporting any ongoing legal campaigning to stop the incinerator from being built. Including public awareness/information sharing and advertising legal campaigning efforts through our new advice centre





## Can you help?

If you are interested in helping out with the Council's warm hubs or would like to be involved in any of the proposed activities please contact the Community Services Team on 0151 526 3705 or e-mail [info@maghull-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@maghull-tc.gov.uk).



MTC are running activities to support our most vulnerable residents and volunteers are vital to make them a success.

## Maghull Radio



Maghull Radio is pleased to announce that Lynne Wareham will be hosting a new Power Hour to help households save money on their Broadband and energy costs. We hope that this will evolve into a consumer style phone in where Lynne will give advice and guidance on residents power enquiries. This development is linked in with the launch of Maghull Advice Centre. The Power Hour will be launched on Tues 1st and 2nd week in March.

If you would like to be involved in please contact Ian Porter [studio@maghullradio.co.uk](mailto:studio@maghullradio.co.uk)



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**Have your Say!**

Seems to be pressure enforced,  
On the young, the clueless and the bored.  
Pressure of how to personally dress,  
Causing some to feel oppressed.  
About love and about identity,  
Comfortable labels should be a priority.  
This pressure in fact causes things to crumble,  
From the earth making a rumble,  
Earthquakes came and shook us up,  
Lost lives galore.  
Wars start to mark the end,  
A world of peace is what we pretend.  
No more ice, only more sun,  
Now heatwaves can only come.  
We act like everywhere is fine  
But really we are all in a lie.  
What good we lose and what bad we gain,  
Makes a Hell of our mortal plain.  
By Caitlin McIntyre

**Youth**

We are to be  
Taught, brought,  
Seen but not heard  
'cause we are not valued.  
Flashing lights.  
Our 'perfect' lives  
Shown off to be desired  
But that's not the truth.  
Worries, insecurities,  
All piled up.  
Numbness.  
They don't care,  
So why should we?  
Bright eyes once taking the  
Wrongs and only seeing the rights,  
But nothing is forever.  
By Molly Lloyd

**Imposter**

As teenagers, we feel very strongly about what people think about us. We try our hardest to look like everyone else so we don't stand out and don't feel like an imposter in friendship groups. We feel we need to be like everyone else and complete our daily tasks so we don't stand out. We look for people who are different, who may be 'an imposter'. It is a vicious cycle.

Despite all this, you can find people who you can trust, who have been beside you the entire time. Friends are like a navigation through your life, like shields to protect you. Therefore, do not worry because there are always good people to rely on, so find them, keep them and trust them.

Now, if you don't like the way someone treats you, don't feel scared and don't panic. You can talk to friends and trusted adults. Friendships are valuable.

By Sam Roberts

**Fantastic poems from pupils at Maghull High School**

# Opening Soon!

We're looking forward to joining  
the community when we open in April.

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## Recycled Plastic Unveiled as Stunning Community Art in Maghull.

On the 23rd February 2023, seven vibrant beautiful plastic bottle top mosaic pictures were unveiled on permanent display, on Stafford Moreton Way, by our special guest and renowned local and national recycling artist – Faith Bebington, on behalf of our grateful community.

The creative uplifting displays were made over the last year by Mrs Hannah Eborall (Maghull High School) and Kelly Broughton (Southport Art College) and their talented students, and organised by the Friends of Maghull and District (FOMD). They were made from community donated bottle tops that were collected from ‘Rainbow the Recycling Rhinoceros’, as part of the FOMD’s community crowdfunded Stafford Moreton Way Wildflower Eco-Project, to highlight the preservation of endangered wildlife and the importance of plastic recycling.

Dr Frank Sharp (FOMD) said, “As a community we are enormously grateful

to all the students and staff for the skills and generosity, which complements the beautiful floral artwork they undertook to transform two dilapidated litter bins for the same eco-project, which on that occasion was undertaken by Maghull and Maricourt High Schools, at the peak of the pandemic, hence the late tribute. The artwork is not only beautiful but upliftingly cheerful, poignant and engenders a wonderful sense of community and pride in our children”. Our grateful thanks are also conveyed to Kier Construction & MJS Joinery for creating and installing the picture cabinets, and Castle Foundry, Space Care, Maghull Town Council for their support in the creation of the rhinoceros sculpture”.

In the meantime, if you know of any schools or community groups who would like to receive donated bottle tops to emulate this artwork, we are keen to hear from you at [admin@fomd.co.uk](mailto:admin@fomd.co.uk) or for more information visit our website at



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# Maghull Town Team agrees a way forward

## Town Team agrees a way forward

The second meeting of the Maghull Town Team strategic group took place in February. A discussion took place on the feasibility of a local Business Improvement District. Unfortunately there is no funding for this. The Christmas market was discussed and all agreed it had gone well. An Artisan market will now run every 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. It was agreed that we need to keep up publicity using social media. It was agreed Evolve would organise a Christmas Tree in the square in December

## Moving the Town Plan Forward

Draft objectives for the town plan were tabled and a discussion followed to focus on what should be prioritised.

Outcomes: of discussion:

- Business incubator units need to be established
- Fairs need to become established and supported.
- We need A shop local campaign
- Can a solution be found for short term empty shops?
- Communications messages need to be big and simple
- Needs a bottom up approach. establish a baseline including the skills needed by local businesses.
- Health is a priority in the workplace. Community Wealth and Health go together.



- Important to establish the local Business Network (in essence this is also a network of employers). Some work has already been done on this. But it needs further development and we need to involve other organisations such as Sefton @work and Invest Sefton.
- We need to engage with local education and training providers, i.e. meeting employers (and community) training needs). explore potential for a learning and skills web

## Public image

Could do with clear communications and defined corporate branding.

## Progress since meeting

- Zoom Meeting organised with Invest Sefton. OUTCOME; Invest Sefton is organising a Health and Wellbeing seminar on 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Maghull Town Hall with the support of the Town Council
- First community based digital/maths courses agreed with provider and planned for April (trial learning and skills web with providers)

**Phil Dillon Community  
Services Manager**

# Community corner

The Christmas period is always a busy one for the Community Services team and this year was no different.

Working closely with Hayley Brennan from Betty's Coffee shop a Christmas Fayre was arranged on 30<sup>th</sup> November. This was hosted in the Town Hall for over 20 start-up businesses and proved to be very popular receiving many positive comments from the hundreds of people who attended. This was linked to the lighting of MTC's Christmas tree in the evening at the entrance of KGV, where people enjoyed the carol singers from local churches and kept warm with mince pies and mulled wine provided by MTC.

December saw MTC Mayor Cllr Josh Burns and Dr Frank Sharp of Friends of Maghull and District judge the Christmas shop window competition. The winner was The Flower Guy located on Liverpool Road South. The competition was more popular than ever and a big thank you to all shops that took the time to decorate their windows and provide much needed Christmas cheer.

The Council continued with its annual delivery of food hampers to the most vulnerable residents in early December. Working with partners including Maghull Foodbank, Westway Health Centre, Sefton CVS and a range of local voluntary organisations over 100 hampers were delivered to those in need to support them as winter arrived and the cost of living crisis worsened.



Pictured: Henry, Joe, Paul & Siobhan (MTC staff)

Another way MTC has helped people in need is establishing the Monday afternoon Cosy Club at the Town Hall in partnership with FOMD and working with the Smith Brothers Foundation. This has proved massively popular with people able to come to a warm safe space for a warm meal and enjoy a range of entertainment on offer. Funded by Sefton Warm Spaces this is all for free and has seen every Monday afternoon full of fun and always full of chat. Cosy Club runs until the end of March starting at 1pm Monday afternoons.

Looking forward there are several events planned for 2023. Following up last year's successful production of Frozen, the Gambolling Arena Theatre Company are back at Glenn Park with a new production...Pat the Painting Pig, for the youngsters. Sounds like it will be as interactive as Frozen so put the date of Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April in your diaries. More details to follow and more events to be announced as the year unfolds.

For further information or to comment on any of the above please contact the Community Services Team on 0151 526 3705 or e-mail [info@maghull-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@maghull-tc.gov.uk)

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# Goodbye to Maghull's Best Friend

## Dr John Rowlands (1939-2022 Died 19.11.22)

Goodbye John, your service to Maghull has been second to none from award-winning GP who co-founded the Maghull Medical Centre to unrivalled local historian.

John Kendrew Rowlands was born in County Durham, educated in Middlesbrough, graduated at Durham University in 1963 and had a variety of significant appointments in the north-east and London. He became a GP in 1971 and in 1974 he joined the pioneering Drs. R. Yorke, J. Rowlands and partners, in Maghull, until his retirement in 2002. Alongside his GP role he supported Sefton FPC, was a Medical Officer at Ashworth Hospital, lectured at Liverpool University and much more. The numerous heartfelt accounts on social media from his past patients demonstrates the high esteem he was held in, not only for his professionalism and compassion but the fact that he would often go above and beyond to support and reassure them at all times of the day/night with home visits. One of his many pioneering undertakings, involved establishing links between Alzheimer's disease and sports related head trauma, almost 20 years before this became the accepted wisdom! He also appeared as a medical expert on numerous TV and radio programs.

Vocationally, John has written more fascinating books on the history of Maghull than anybody, which even resulted in an abundance of blue plaques around the town, indicating where famous historical residents lived. His work has also highlighted the unique pioneering role that Moss Side Hospital played in providing treatment for shellshock now known as PTSD, which prevented countless World War I soldiers being tragically shot for cowardice. He has also been a keen authority and author of

many historical books on local footballers and teams.

John was our family GP when his surgery was in a semi-detached house on Liverpool Road South, before co-founding the Maghull Medical Centre. Whilst more recently we had the privilege of sharing time together as part of the commissioning process for the statue 'Compassion in Conflict' at Maghull North train station (2018) which commemorated Moss Side Hospital's (School Lane, Maghull) pioneering treatment of World War I shellshock.

We will miss John for his incredible intellect, wonderful humour, storytelling, compassion, and kindness. We really can't think of anyone who has given more to Maghull, consequently we are currently exploring a fitting tribute to commemorate and celebrate his immense contribution.

*When you are lonely and sick of heart,  
Go to the friends that we know,  
Bury your sorrows in doing good,  
Miss me, but let me go.*

With huge condolences to his family.

Cllr Dr Frank Sharp (on behalf of our grateful community)



Pictured: Dr John Rowlands bought a small boy an ice cream in Kathmandu, only to turn round and find a queue of his friends!

# Maghull Advice Centre

## Opens its doors



On 23<sup>rd</sup> February we had our official opening of our very own Advice Centre. The ribbon was cut by Cllr Patrick Mckinley leader of Maghull Town Council and Alan Kelly representing the Vauxhall Community Law Centre. The Centre is a unique collaboration between various organisations and groups who have come together to provide a raft of services to support the residents of Maghull and Lydiate. One of the key functions is to offer advice and guidance for claiming entitlements that residents are eligible for. This is particularly relevant for the over 65 age group, who are one of the largest groups who underclaim their entitlements. In Maghull over 26% of residents are over the age of 65 and therefore potentially there will be a lot of underclaiming within this cohort.

The cost of living crisis is hitting older residents hard as many of them are on fixed incomes, increasing energy and food prices are eroding disposable incomes and having untold impacts on residents mental health and general wellbeing for both young and old alike. In Maghull we do have an issue with social isolation, in turn this amplifies the negative impacts of high energy and food costs. Another issue which worsens the impact of social isolation is digital exclusion, in essence the ability to use technology for a range of functional purposes, eg on line banking, shopping, communication, all of which are increasingly on line.

We have been conscious over recent years how some of the 'normal social' structures which bind the social fabric of a society together have begun to crumble and

Maghull is no different in this respect. Apart from the town hall, which is not in the town centre, there are no other 'civic' buildings or spaces where residents can physically go for help. So taking all this on board a group of us got together to try and provide an accessible /friendly space where anyone from Maghull and Lydiate can drop in and have access to 'expert' help advice and guidance on a range of issues and so the Maghull Advice Centre was born.

We are offering welfare advice and guidance, help with housing and debt issues and energy advice. We are planning to run 'computers don't bite' style 1;1 support for those who lack confidence and help improve their digital skills. We will also be working with our colleagues at Maghull Radio to explore how our radio station can contribute to this agenda, we will be starting with a consumer radio phone in hour. We will also offer councillors surgeries so some of your elected representatives will be visible and available for you to come and meet face to face to discuss issues.

**Cllr Patrick Mckinley Feb 2023**



**Pictured: Alan Kelly VCL, Cllr McKinley & Cllr McCall**



Pictured: Councillors, Officers and volunteers



Vauxhall Community  
Law & Information  
Centre

Over roughly £15 billion of benefits go unclaimed each year by low-income households, that's £2,061 per household potentially being missed out on. People miss out as they don't realise they can claim.

Welfare support does not just mean income support, it includes other support like free childcare or reductions to your council tax bill.

There are groups of people who should especially check if they are eligible for any benefits:

- Pensioners
- People with long-term health conditions
- Carers
- Single parents

***What you may be missing out on.***

Benefits are not just for those out of work but also for people on low incomes. Becoming eligible for one benefit like Universal Credit, can mean that you qualify for other sources of help. Roughly, families earning less than £40,000 with children may be eligible for some amount of Universal Credit, especially if you rent. For example, Mary is a single parent on £20,000 per year, owns her own home and has two children 3 and 5. She is not claiming any benefits except child benefit and is paying £400 per month for childcare.

By not claiming, she is missing out on Universal Credit at £673.44 per month as well as the 25% single-person discount on her council tax saving her a further £300 a year.

**Maghull Advice Centre**  
**21 Leighton Ave**  
**Maghull**  
**L31 0AH**

**Open Now**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**10am to 4pm**



# Friends of Maghull



## Prestigious Royal Recognition Celebrated with Maghull's Children.

The King's representatives Lord Lt of Merseyside Mark Blundell and his deputy John Roberts, presented The Friends of Maghull & District (FOMD) with one of the 350 native trees (a Rowan) that formed part of the late Queens Green Canopy Platinum Jubilee huge art installation entitled the 'Tree of Trees' from Buckingham Palace.

The presentation was made in FOMD's Woodend Project in recognition of the 15,000 trees that have been planted recently throughout Maghull's parks, schools, and highways.

The 70 supportive children St Georges and Hudson Primary Schools and the neighbouring Bumbles Children's Nursery and 30 amazing volunteers braved the freezing November conditions, various speeches and sang two carol songs as a thank you to the lieutenantcy. Their singing and good deeds were so brilliant that Father Christmas (Rotary) made a jaw-dropping surprise appearance and gave out small presents donated by Morrisons and Maghull Town Council.

It was an incredible honour for Maghull and a magical experience for everyone who attended, despite taking three hours to thaw out afterwards! This surprise Royal accolade for FOMD's tree planting coincided with the equally surprising awards for transforming local green spaces which included (1) winning from hundreds of nominees the BBC 'Make a Difference Environmental Award' (September) and (2) the Sefton Council's 'Citizens for Good Award' (October). Dr Frank Sharp (FOMD Director) said. "The four years of tireless but thoroughly enjoyable endeavour by our small group would have been impossible without the support of our community in helping to make our town a better place to live".

More information about exciting new projects and how you can help, and also sad news about Maghull's mature tree loss and action can be found at:

[www.fomd.co.uk](http://www.fomd.co.uk)



# 'Journey's Through Shellshock' to be installed in KGV Peace Garden

The second phase of the public artwork to commemorate those soldiers in World War One who were 'shot at dawn' for cowardice, when most of them were suffering from shellshock, and the pioneering role Moss side hospital played in treating shellshock is to be installed in the new Paved Garden in KGV. The groundworks are being prepared and we hope to open the garden in late March early April.

'Journey's through shellshock' is the second part of the 'Compassion in Conflict' installation. The first being the magnificent statue based at Maghull North Station. The original plan was to have the two interconnected pieces next to each other, unfortunately this hasn't been possible.

We hope to have one of the original macquettes of famous "Christmas Truce" statue as the centrepiece, which commemorates the football match played between German and British soldiers during the temporary lull in the slaughter. All the artwork has been created by internationally renowned sculptor Andy Edwards.

It really will be worth a visit to all the installations and is part of our Maghull Heritage programme. Both are examples of art in the community that will attract external interest, in addition to providing a major contribution to the town's heritage and provide a great educational resource for local children.

Absorbing Narrative about the 'Compassion in Conflict' Sculpture:  
<https://m.soundcloud.com/user-847480131/compassion-in-conflict>

BBC Video of Maghull's First Public Art Statue Unveiling: <https://youtu.be/R-KXAi8GVeE>



# Night of Celebration

An exciting night at Maghull Town Hall saw winners of the various categories take home their trophies with the heartfelt thanks of the community of Maghull for their efforts in supporting and enhancing where we live. Well done to the winners and all of the nominees from everyone at Maghull



Hudson Primary School students presented with the Youth Award by Cllr Ross Ferguson



Cllr Barry Nixon presents Local Business Award winner Michelle Rossiter of Home from Home with her award



John Lewis awarded his Good Neighbour Award by Cllr Ken Hughes nominated for supporting his neighbours and keeping the area tidy.

**Congratulations to  
EVERYONE that  
was nominated in  
our eyes you are all  
winners**

# Maghull Civic Awards 2023



Winners of the Civic Award volunteers from Maghull Foodbank with MTC Mayor Cllr Josh Burns for their outstanding efforts helping vulnerable people in Maghull



Members of Friends of Maghull and District with a well earned win for their Environmental projects with Cllr Chris Carlsen

It really was a marvellous evening of celebrating the achievements of local people and businesses. A special mention to our Beacon Award winners for those who went above and beyond during the pandemic:

- ◆ Christine Menzies
- ◆ Maghull Community Association
- ◆ Maghull High School (Design Technology Department)
- ◆ Parkhaven Trust
- ◆ Scrummies

# Maghull peoples' social history;

## From Clent Farm to the Taj Mahal. The remarkable recollections of Mrs Sheila Lee.

The real character and value of any town is the people who live there. This kind of social history tends to be unrecorded. We believe we should try to recognise and record these contributions to the history, culture and heritage of Maghull. One example is the unique experiences of the Lee family told by Mrs Sheila Lee whose generosity of spirit shines as she recounts her experiences.

Mrs Lee and her husband Clifford arrived in Maghull in 1947, which was still a largely rural area. They settled on Clent farm where they spent the next 6 years before moving into a cottage, the rent at the time was £1 per week. The children had an idyllic, safe childhood playing and exploring the fields and surrounding countryside, helping around the farm, including ploughing the fields with a horse drawn plough. Vegetable deliveries came once a week on the back of a horse drawn wagon Clent Farm occupied the site around Westway Medical Centre, and extended down to Northway and as far as Dodds Lane. Deyes Lane was little more than a country lane with a few scattered cottages along its length.

### Journey of a Lifetime

Clifford Lee was a remarkable man, largely self taught he was multi lingual and a renowned Romani Scholar, he was well regarded by Liverpool University. Clifford was approached by the National Geographic Magazine to act as a consultant/interpreter on a project researching the Romani peoples and their ancient migration routes across Europe, into Asia and India. He agreed and subsequently Sheila and Clifford left Maghull in a Land Rover to start a once in a lifetime odyssey. They travelled across 21 countries

which took six months. A journey that would arguably match anything done by Michael Palin, or any of the current batch of celebrity travellers.

### The Lees, portraits and the King of Bohemia

The artist Augustus John (nicknamed the king of Bohemia) came to Liverpool in 1901. Later he became the most famous portrait painter in England. He also established an artists commune in the new Forest where artists and friends had open house. The Lee family were friends with John, and during summer months would sometimes stay on the estate. It was here one summer when Augustus painted a portrait of Clifford, which is now part of the National Portrait Collection of Wales. The artist Sven Berlin also painted and sketched Clifford and his son.

A truly remarkable tale that shows you never know who you're going to meet in our town. If there any multi millionaire philanthropists out there the Town Council would like to buy the portrait of Clifford and hang it in the town hall.





It gave me great pleasure as Mayor of Maghull to award students from Maricourt Catholic High School a special Mayoral Award for their efforts during the Covid 19 pandemic. Students Benita George, Rosa Park, Mia Wanless, alongside their teacher Alison Turner for the support they offered vulnerable and elderly people in the community at a time when it was most needed. They decided to do this on their own and came to teachers with their proposals which were then supported. It's great to hear about young people in such a positive light and demonstrates the good work being done in our community. I will be seeking to make more awards to individuals who have gone the extra mile for local people and if you know of any people

# Mayor's Corner



who merit an award I would be interested to find out who they are and if I can recognise them with awards.

Please contact the Town Hall on  
0151 526 3705 or  
e-mail: [info@maghull-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@maghull-tc.gov.uk)

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**National Gas Emergency Service** to report a gas or carbon monoxide emergency, or if a pipeline is struck (even if no gas leak has occurred) call **0800 111 999** -  
24 hours a day.

**Electricity North West** Please call **105** to report a power cut, damage to the network or a dangerous situation.

**United Utilities** Leak helpline  
**0800 330 033**

**NHS** If you become unwell and the GP Surgery and pharmacy is closed, consider calling **NHS 111**.

You can get an emergency supply of regularly prescribed medicine from **111** online

## SEFTON HEATING

**COMBI BOILER  
REPAIRS &  
REPLACEMENT**

**COMBI~BOILER~SERVICE  
£50**

- SHOWERS
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- PLUMBING
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- TAPS



**JAMES MCNALLY  
07967 434 033**



# Stronger Together as a Community

Why do we continually and confidently maintain that our health and wellbeing is primarily in the hands of health professionals, that our safety is determined by police, and how they respond to our concerns and that the quality of our children and young people's education depends solely on our schools and teacher's ability to teach and qualifications.

This article intends to initiate a wider discussion which contends that our perspective has been skewed by the assumption and belief that our statutory agencies including health, education and social care systems are the primary producers of what we need to live a good life of prosperity and well-being.

Readers will be aware the Maghull Town Council recently hosted the annual civic awards which was established to celebrate work in the local community. This included nominated individuals, groups and businesses, from young to old, all providing valuable services to the residents of Maghull on a voluntary basis.

Nominees represented just a selection of those providing valuable and inspirational services within our community. It is the work of these individuals and groups who are able to debunk this notion by repositioning and re-centring regular people within our community and recognises them as the primary producers and contributors of those things that lead to increased well-being and health.

The obvious strength within our community can collectivise and mobilise local assets that can best support our community. Our issues to do with safety, social care, health, loneliness and anti-social behaviour are in part a community problem and in our hearts, we know the solution is by organising the way people organise their lives so that the community of Maghull becomes our primary unit of change. If we consider how we can best support our community and help people in a way that builds on their capacities then the best place to start is with what is **STRONG** not what is....wrong. That journey begins at the local level, with caring communities place in the driving seat.

Cllr Barry Nixon

# Maghull Learning Web

Maghull Town Council working with Maghull Community Enterprises and a range of partners are pleased to announce the launch of a new community education partnership. The Maghull Learning Hub will bring together a range of providers to meet the education and skills needs of our community

by offering local learning opportunities in Maghull.

We are pleased to announce our first raft of courses, provided by Sefton Adult Learning Service, which are all free. Whether it be to help your children with their homework, or to brush up your digital skills for shopping, banking or managing your finances there will be something for you.

## Multiply



Sefton Community Learning Service



Multiply offers easy access to free numeracy courses and initiatives that can help you brush up your maths skills and help you become more confident with numbers.

Whether you need help in managing your bills, budgeting or you want to improve your potential at work.

**All workshops and courses will be delivered at Maghull Town Hall**

Course Title	Start Date	Day	Start Time	End Time
Using Comparison Web Sites	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
<b>Introduction to Household Budgets for Independent Living</b>	<b>27/04/2023</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>3:00</b>
Food Buying and Cooking on a Budget	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
<b>Everyday Maths Skills to Help Support Your Children's Learning</b>	<b>11/05/2023</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>9:15</b>	<b>12:45</b>
Understanding Energy Costs and Calculations	18/05/23	THU	12:45	2:45

For more information or to book on to a workshop contact Sefton Community Learning Service on 0151 934 4546



# The Land East of Maghull; An example of Dysfunctional Planning?

Discussions, debates and disagreements on the Land East of Maghull (LEM) have raged on for at least 8 years and continue to this day. Many people were opposed, some supported, but the inbuilt weighting in favour of developers through the revised National Policy Planning Framework always meant that this site would be developed. The LEM is the largest strategic site in the whole of Sefton's Local Plan planned to take 25% of Sefton's Housing need, plus a 20 hectare commercial Park. Maghull's housing need constitutes approximately 12%.

The Local Plan and subsequent plans and policies, have all been through the various stages of the planning process. At each stage the Town Council has submitted feedback/objections/recommendations reflecting what we believed to be the best interests of residents.

## **Keeping Site Traffic away from Maghull**

The first initiative the Town Council undertook was to conduct the largest survey ever undertaken in Maghull's history to ask for residents views on the Local Plan (10% of ever postcode was randomly surveyed). The results were fed back to Sefton Planning.

When the Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) was proposed by the developers and supported by some Sefton Planning Officers, directing site traffic through Maghull, we organised a campaign against it and proposed to build a haul road through the site keeping all traffic away from both Maghull and Melling. 97% of respondents voted in favour of our recommendation, it was ruled out and we ended up having to attend a 3 day planning hearing to put our case. Fortunately, we won and site traffic is now directed away from Maghull.

## **Flooding, Climate Change and the water table**

The site contains areas of flood plan. The developers' proposals to build a flood alleviation channel to mitigate the threat of flooding (a 9 foot deep, 200 foot wide, 1/2 mile long reservoir) was accepted by Sefton Planning, with no opposition from the Environment Agency, with assurances this will not make flooding any worse and would be capable of handling a 1 in 1,000 year extreme weather event.

## **Moving to stop more misery for Poverty Lane**

The original plan for the site stipulated that 250 houses could be built either side of the reservoir, thereafter a spine road linking school lane and Poverty Lane must be completed to prevent traffic chaos on Poverty Lane/School Lane. However, the developers on the south side want to increase the number from 250 to 498 before the spine road is built. This is due to a massive time lag as developers on the north side of the site haven't started building and those on the south will reach the target of 250 in 2024.

The early completion of the spine road between Poverty Lane and School Lane is crucial as it acts as a release valve for other infrastructure and traffic leading to the motorway spur and away from Poverty Lane and Maghull generally. The residents of Poverty Lane have been put through enough already without another 700 plus cars spilling onto local roads. The Spine Road needs to be built asap and no increases in building allowed. The Town Council moved a resolution to this effect, and have taken legal advice.



# VOLUNTEER WITH US

email us at [maghullinbloom16@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maghullinbloom16@yahoo.co.uk)



## MAGHULL TOWN COUNCILLORS

Name	Phone No.	E-mail	Ward
Cllr Josh Burns	01515263705	<a href="mailto:josh.burns@maghull-tc.org">josh.burns@maghull-tc.org</a>	East
Cllr June Burns	07763980000	<a href="mailto:june.burns@maghull-tc.org">june.burns@maghull-tc.org</a>	East
Cllr C Carlsen	01515263705	<a href="mailto:chris.carlsen@maghull-tc.org">chris.carlsen@maghull-tc.org</a>	West
Cllr A Carr	01515263705	<a href="mailto:tony.carr@maghull-tc.org">tony.carr@maghull-tc.org</a>	South
Cllr P Darlington	01515263705	<a href="mailto:peter.darlington@maghull-tc.org">peter.darlington@maghull-tc.org</a>	North
Cllr J Desmond	01515263705	<a href="mailto:jonathan.desmond@maghull-tc.org">jonathan.desmond@maghull-tc.org</a>	North
Cllr S Doherty	01515263705	<a href="mailto:sean.doherty@maghull-tc.org">sean.doherty@maghull-tc.org</a>	West
Cllr R Ferguson	07831250101	<a href="mailto:ross.ferguson@maghull-tc.org">ross.ferguson@maghull-tc.org</a>	North
Cllr K Hughes	07889454678	<a href="mailto:ken.hughes@maghull-tc.org">ken.hughes@maghull-tc.org</a>	West
Cllr M Lock	07535961313	<a href="mailto:matthew.lock@maghull-tc.org">matthew.lock@maghull-tc.org</a>	East
Cllr J McCall	01515263705	<a href="mailto:joanne.mccall@maghull-tc.gov.uk">joanne.mccall@maghull-tc.gov.uk</a>	West
Cllr P McKinley	07843085872	<a href="mailto:patrick.mckinley@maghull-tc.org">patrick.mckinley@maghull-tc.org</a>	North
Cllr B Nixon	01515263705	<a href="mailto:barry.nixon@maghull-tc.org">barry.nixon@maghull-tc.org</a>	South
Cllr J Sayers	07570799257	<a href="mailto:john.sayers@maghull-tc.org">john.sayers@maghull-tc.org</a>	East
Cllr Y Sayers	07570792489	<a href="mailto:yvonne.sayers@maghull-tc.org">yvonne.sayers@maghull-tc.org</a>	North
Cllr F Sharp	01515263705	<a href="mailto:Frank.sharpp@maghull-tc.org">Frank.sharpp@maghull-tc.org</a>	East



We are a charity that was formed in January 2021 as The Roy Evans Foundation. Due to personal reasons Roy Evans (ex-Liverpool manager) decided to step back from his role as patron of the charity and pass the baton to another talented sporting family, A family with 4 world class boxers The Smith Brothers and we are now proud to say we are now fully functioning as The Smith Brothers Foundation.

The Smith Brothers consist of 4 brothers, and it's impossible to imagine another family ever achieving what they already have in British boxing. Paul, Stephen, Liam and Callum Smith have all been British champions. They've all challenged for world titles. Liam and Callum Smith have both already been world champions.

They are all extremely motivated by charitable work as they grew up with their sister Hollie who has autism and is nonverbal making it extremely frustrating sometimes for her to communicate, so they understand how important support is to people in their position and want to give this support they have had back to the community.

The Smith brothers typically box with

the word autism stitched on the back of their shorts, to raise awareness and understanding about the condition. Helping people with autism is a strong part of the brother's desire to set up their own foundation and to create a legacy for the entire family, as family means everything to them all.

We are not a charity that gives funding to people, but we give people the tools through education to help create a better life for themselves and they can then sustain this moving forward. You will see us in many areas of the community, from delivering community workshops, educating, and mentoring many young people including those that mainstream education may not work for, radio shows, podcasts coming soon and much more, and with the name change we are now going from strength to strength, and we are hoping we will have our own venue that will be a real community hub soon.

**Please follow us on social media we are on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, just search the Smith Brothers Foundation.**

# Upcoming events

- **6th April 2023** - Pat the painting Pig in Glen Park (Gambolling Arena Theatre Group)
- **26th April 2023** - Full council Meeting (Town Assembly)  
6:30pm Maghull Town Hall
- **4th May 2023** - Local Elections  
**PHOTO ID NEEDED at polling station**
- **17th May 2023** - Annual Council  
6:30pm Maghull Town Hall

## Membership groups that meet at Maghull Town Hall:

- Maghull WI meet on the first Monday evening of the month (except when it's a Bank Holiday) in The Venue
- Maghull & District Lions meet on the first Tuesday afternoon of the month in The Venue
- Maghull Ramblers meet on the first Tuesday evening of the Month in The Venue
- The NAWC meet on Wednesday afternoons in The Venue. There's a break over the Summer



**MAGHULL  
FOOD BANK**

**EVERY TUESDAY 10-12**

St George's United Reformed Church  
Northway, Maghull

**FOR ANYONE IN NEED**

Vouchers available from local schools, churches, councillors and some health professionals  
**BUT NO VOUCHERS NEEDED**  
Enquiries 0151 526 7913

# Graham J Clegg Funeral Services

*Graham Clegg and his team are proudly serving Maghull and the surrounding areas*

- 24 - hour service
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- Transparent Pricing
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We offer a friendly, professional service to families.

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[www.cleggfunerals.co.uk](http://www.cleggfunerals.co.uk)



# FAIR DEAL FOR MAGHULL UPDATE

Nearly 2,000 Maghull residents have now signed the Fair Deal for Maghull Campaign. The following letter was sent to the leader of Sefton Council, The Local MP and CEO of Sefton MB . To date we have had no acknowledgement.



MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL

Cllr. Ian Maher

C/o Labour Group Office  
Town Hall  
Oriel Road  
Bootle  
L20 7AE

Angela McIntyre Town Clerk  
Maghull Town Hall  
Hall Lane  
Maghull  
Merseyside L31 7BB

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022  
Our Ref:  
Your Ref:  
Tel: 0151 526 3705

Email: [angela.mcintyre@maghull-tc.gov.uk](mailto:angela.mcintyre@maghull-tc.gov.uk)

Dear Cllr Maher,

## Re: Double Rating Maghull Town Council

As a result of the Full Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February where the budget for 2022– 23 was discussed fully and openly I have been tasked with writing to you to formally request that Sefton Council do the following

- Reintroduce the double rating for Maghull
- Allocate a fair share of the Maghull generated New Homes' Bonus in Maghull e.g., 25% of the bonus as we are taking 25% of the homes when we have only 12% of the need (similar to that we would have received if the Community Infrastructure Levy had been introduced)
- Guarantee that any Community S106 monies raised by development in Maghull received by Sefton MBC through Planning Obligations be used in Maghull.
- That Community S106 monies be used for the strategic priorities as detailed in Maghull Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan
- That any Recreational Mitigation Strategy monies raised by development in Maghull be used to support Maghull based diversionary activities as detailed in Maghull Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan.

The Town Council is very concerned that development in Maghull is being used to fund projects outside of the area. Whilst Sefton Council continues to remove essential funding from the area to support other areas in the borough Maghull feels that it is being left behind. There is no plan for the District Centre, no plan to provide funding for essential services and there is no suggestion of any funding being provided by Sefton Council to the Town Council despite requests to do so e.g., the S106 funding from the Aldi development to be used to improve the play area offer at Moorhey Park. This was requested in November 2021 and no response has as yet been received. It should be noted that Maghull residents have never benefitted from the Community Transition Fund

The top slicing of monies from development in Maghull should be automatically used within the Town Council area and a mechanism needs to be put in place to reflect this.

We look forward to receiving your response in the near future. However, if anything is unclear or you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. McIntyre'.

A. McIntyre (Miss)  
Town Clerk to Maghull Town Council



c.c. Dwayne Johnson CEO Sefton Council  
Bill Esterson MP, Sefton Central

Fair Deal Petition

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/fairdeal2022>



# Kids page

Would you like an  
**Advert in our  
 magazine?**

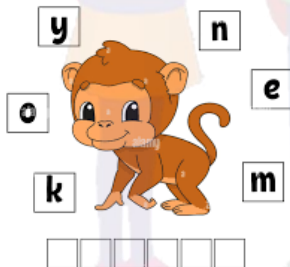


**01515263705**

**info@maghull-tc.gov.uk**

## Random Fun Facts

- There are 31,557,600 seconds in a year
- You can buy a square watermelon in Japan
- The acid in your stomach can dissolve steel



**Wanna hear a joke?**

Why did the chicken go the gym?

To work on his pecks!!

## THE Venue Maghull

- FUNCTIONS & EVENTS
- CIVIL WEDDINGS
- WEDDINGS
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- PRIVATE OR CORPORATE

Maghull Town Hall, Hall Lane  
 L317BB

Call: 0151 375 8348



@venuemaghull

Email : thevenuemanagement

@hotmail.co.uk

## YOUR 25TH HOUR IN THE DAY

Pink Spaghetti Southport PA Service



### Virtual Assistant Southport

I am Camilla Spengler, I live in Maghull and I am the proud owner of Pink Spaghetti Southport. I help business owners stay on top of all things admin.

If you feel that you are drowning in admin, whether in a personal or business capacity, get in touch - I can help!

#### Key Tasks:

- Administration
- Diary Management
- Business Development
- Email Management
- Minute Taking
- Personal Assistant Services
- Virtual Assistant Services
- Research
- Social Media Management
- Spreadsheets
- Organisation
- Email Marketing

PINK SPAGHETTI SOUTHPORT  
 CAMILLA SPENGLER

☎ 0333 355 0054

✉ camilla.spengler@pink-spaghetti.co.uk

🌐 www.pink-spaghetti.co.uk



# Intergeneration Project At Hudson Primary



The aim of the project was to use historic learning and art work to bring together two generations.

There is a gap in intergenerational projects in Sefton and by bringing the two generations together it creates a sense of community, generational peer on peer support, allowing for people that may not normally cross paths to grow by purely getting together.

The groups shared stories and researched old photographs. This instigated conversations to start about old Sefton and memoirs. This also sparked conversations with pupils about Sefton as it was, for the pupils it was historical learning but not in the style of a formal history lesson.

Each week pupils used their new found knowledge to create a book of memories for their older friends. The books were personal and based on the conversations that had taken place between the partnership.

The pupils took so much care and consideration as they wanted their books to be something their friends cherished.

This project has really helped to develop positive links between our older people and younger people in Maghull.

The project gave all involved a purpose, confidence, and a sense of community.



PIC-COLLAGES

★  
Youth Civic award winners 2023  
★

**Do you have dementia or care for someone who does?**

**Worried about your memory?**

**Alzheimer's Society Sefton is here to give you vital information and support.**



Our team of Dementia Advisers can answer your dementia questions, give emotional support, tell you about local groups and services as well as look at solutions to any concerns you may have.

We run a variety of activity groups, memory cafes and courses for carers in the area as well as an email information and update service. We are also looking for volunteers for our Side by Side befriending service.

**If you would like support or are interested in volunteering, please call 01704 539967 (answer machine) or email [seftonoffice@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:seftonoffice@alzheimers.org.uk) for more details.**

**Worrying changes nothing, talking changes everything**



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Office Address: 4 Tree View Court, Maghull, Liverpool, L31 3HF—0151 923 6173



# The Willow Centre Parkhaven Trust

Liverpool Road South, Maghull,  
Merseyside, L31 8BR

## Day Centre for people living with Dementia

We offer a home-from-home day centre for people with dementia. We provide the highest standards of specialist care and support for families.

There is always plenty going on at The Willow Centre from yoga to gardening, singing and hair and beauty to name but a few. All set in our beautiful purpose-built centre surrounded by our historic woodlands.

Get in touch or pop in & meet the team  
Call us on 0151 527 1848  
[www.parkhaven.org.uk](http://www.parkhaven.org.uk)



**Parkhaven Trust**  
• Kindness • Caring • Excellence  
Established 1888