

InspiredLiving

NOV/DEC 2025 | THE MAGAZINE FOR OLDHAM PFI RESIDENTS



Cosy up for the cold:
winter tips for you
and your home

Five minutes with
Matt Deaville,
Housing Management
PFI Manager

Here's how you can get in touch with us

Call

Call Great Places or Wates on **0300 123 2003**

A full range of services is available between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday. An extra out-of-hours service, provided by Wates, can be reached using the same number.

Press 1 – for Wates Living Space, for help with repairs, refurbishment and new-build enquiries.

Press 2 – for Great Places Housing Group, for help you with housing management and information on sales units.

Email

Need to email us? Drop the Great Places team a line on oldhampfi@greatplaces.org.uk or contact the Wates team on info.oldhampfi@wates.co.uk

Come and see us

You can also pop into the Crossley Centre, 323 Denton Lane, Chadderton, OL9 9GA or call on **0161 652 1419**. Alternatively, you can visit the Primrose Centre, 9 Magnolia Gardens, OL8 1HX which you can call on **0161 624 7202**.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour can have a negative impact on you and your neighbours' lives. It can include: nuisance and harassment, hate crime, domestic abuse, serious acts of violence, threats of harm. Prevention, early intervention and support are all key to tackling anti-social behaviour, backed by a full range of enforcement powers.

The easiest way to report anti-social behaviour to us is via the [My Place customer portal](#). Alternatively, you can use our [online reporting form](#) or call 0300 123 1966 and select the option you require. From receipt of your anti-social behaviour/nuisance report into our Customer Hub, we will record your contact and respond within three working days.

[Find out more on Great Places website.](#)

How to raise a compliment or complaint

We're committed to providing you and your community with excellent services. Customer feedback plays an important role in helping us to understand what's working well and where we could do better.

Had a great experience with a Great Places service, colleague or one of our contractors? We'd love to know about it so we can keep the good stuff flowing! You can pay a compliment using our online form below.

However if you'd like to make a complaint, in the first instance, please speak to your Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, who will work with you to help resolve the issue. If the matter remains unresolved, you can either [complete the form here](#) or contact 0300 123 2003. When calling, please select:

- Wates if it relates to a repair
- Great Places if it relates to tenancy management

We take all customer complaints seriously and we will keep you informed of progress during any investigations. To help us resolve your complaint properly, please complete the online form providing as much information as possible.



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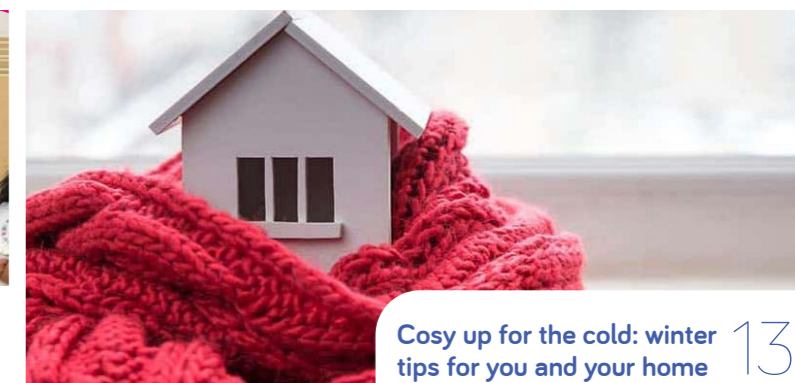
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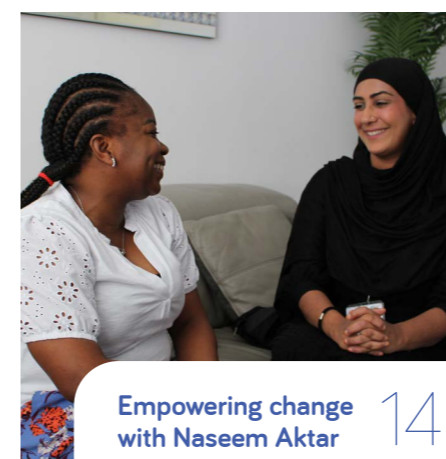
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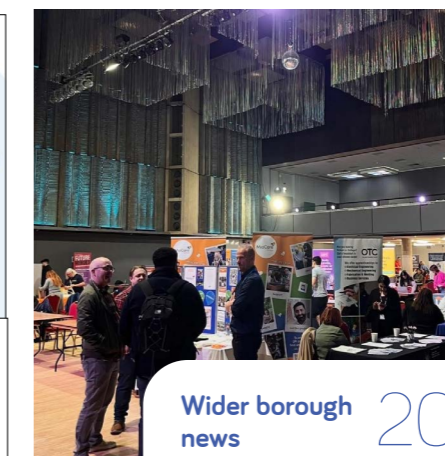
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Welcome to Inspired Living!

Welcome to your latest edition of Inspired Living - and my first as the new PFI Manager!

As we stroll through autumn and approach the colder weather, there is plenty to look forward to - whether it's Christmas, the New Year, or the hope of making the coming year our best yet. If this season brings challenges for any reason, we want to offer support and make things a little easier - whether that's guidance on staying cosy in the cold (see our article on page 13) or opportunities to connect with others at our community centres. Please reach out to us!

In this edition, you'll hear from me as I settle into my new role, as well as enjoy our regular features highlighting what's happening in our centres and across the wider borough. Each edition focuses on areas that matter to us and to our regulator, the Regulator of Social Housing. This time, we're spotlighting changes in the law regarding damp and mould. Your safety and health at home are our priority, so please take time to read the article and report any issues using the contact numbers listed in this magazine. You'll also find guidance on reporting anti-social behaviour and complaints—our Neighbourhood Co-ordinators and Neighbourhood Officer are here to help.

I'm also delighted to welcome Claire Molden, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, and Todd Bartley, Neighbourhood Officer, who joined the team this summer. Both bring valuable experience from our Oldham Neighbourhoods team and are fantastic additions to our existing team of Neighbourhood Co-ordinators, Caretakers, and Community Development Co-ordinators.

While ensuring safe and habitable homes remains our top priority, another key focus for me and the local authority is resident engagement. In this magazine, you'll find opportunities to get involved in walkabouts, block inspections, and new fortnightly drop-in sessions at Lansdowne and Stockfield, where you can share your views and help shape our services. We also have tenancy satisfaction feedback sessions at the end of November at Primrose and Crossley centres—where you'll hear how we're doing and have your say. Please sign up by responding to the emails.

I hope you enjoy reading our updates, and I look forward to seeing you soon.



Matt Deaville
Housing Management
PFI Manager

5 minutes with Matt Deaville, Housing Management PFI Manager

We caught up with Matt Deaville (Housing Management PFI Manager) to get a sense of his role and perspective at Great Places.

What does your role involve?

I oversee the tenancy management of around 630 properties in Oldham as part of a contract with Oldham Council called PFI. Day-to-day, this means managing a team of 10 colleagues at Great Places who support customers with all aspects of tenancy management, including:

- Rent
- Tenancy visits
- Caretaking
- Resident engagement
- Anti-social behaviour
- Running our two community centres at Crossley and Primrose Bank, which offer a varied programme of activities.

My role also involves working closely with contractors such as Wates, who maintain the properties, linking with other Great Places teams, and reporting to Inspiral (who hold overall responsibility for the PFI contract) and Oldham Council.

How long have you been with Great Places and what brought you here?

This month I'm celebrating five years with Great Places! Before my current role, I managed two services in Manchester for Great Places, supporting vulnerable customers - primarily men with enduring mental health conditions - on their journey toward independence. It was incredibly rewarding, but also brought intense challenges most days. After some great successes, I felt ready for a change, and this new role in Oldham offers plenty of challenge too - but with a fantastic team to share it with.

I've worked in other sectors, including youth work, the church, managing a local hub for a children's charity, and a care home for ex-offenders. However, I've found that working for a housing association provides both reward and recognition, which makes it a great place to be.

What's your favourite thing about your new role and what are you most looking forward to over the next six months?

After nearly five years working in a residential mental health setting, I'm really enjoying the change to working in the Oldham office and spending time at our community centres - Primrose Bank and Crossley Centre. The positive team dynamic, enthusiasm, and productivity make a big difference.

The contract we're working on comes with plenty of challenge, including over 100 Key Performance Indicators that we're accountable for to Oldham Council. I'm genuinely excited to learn the details of the contract and ensure we meet these targets - because ultimately, they're designed to benefit our customers.

What's been the highlight of your career so far?

I've been fortunate to work across different sectors and, over the last 10 years, to manage some great teams. In housing, a real highlight for me was finishing my last role with Great Places on a high. When I started five years ago, there was no team in place - by the time I left, we had built a high-performing team that achieved excellent audit outcomes.

They managed some very challenging circumstances and supported customers who were on the brink of eviction, helping them move forward positively.

Anything else you'd like to share? An interesting fact about yourself?

I'm an extrovert who loves connecting with people and learning new things. In 2010, I had the chance to live in Kraków for work, and I really enjoyed experiencing the culture, trying different foods, and learning some of the language.

More recently, I've become a big fan of padel and play once a fortnight with other school dads. It's a cross between tennis and squash, played in doubles, and you can join at any level. The group I play with are mostly beginners, but we all love it - give it a try!



Managing moisture in your home

Everyday activities like cooking, drying clothes and even breathing create moisture in your home. If it builds up, it can lead to condensation, damp and mould.

Managing moisture helps keep your home healthier. Here are a few easy tips to help - and you can [visit the link here for more advice](#).

Awaab's Law Changes to how we handle damp and mould

From 27 October 2025, a new law called Awaab's Law will mean housing landlords, including Great Places, must fix serious damp, mould and emergency problems more quickly.

This law was created after the tragic death of two-year-old Awaab Ishak in 2020, caused by mould in his home. We have now reviewed how we deal with these issues to keep you even safer in your home.

What's changing?

If you tell us about damp or mould and we think it's an emergency, we'll come out within 24 hours. We'll then do a full inspection within 10 working days. For significant damp and mould, we'll visit within five working days of our investigation being complete and follow up with an inspection where needed.

All reported cases of damp and mould will be investigated within 10 days of us being notified. After our first checks, if there's no emergency or serious risk, repairs will be done within our usual timescales. We'll speak with you directly to understand your needs, sometimes (and where possible) using video calls. Our team may ask extra questions to help us respond quickly – and you'll get regular updates and written summaries where needed.

To report a problem: Call 0300 123 2003

Top tips for managing moisture in your home

1. Salt

Filling small pots with rock salt and leaving them near condensation prone areas can be a great way to reduce moisture.



2. Cold water

Running cold water before hot in your bath can reduce steam by up to 90%!



3. House plants

Some house plants can help with reducing moisture in the air, such as Snake Plants, English Ivy, Peace Lily and Palms.



Neighbourhood News

Come along to one of our High-rise block inspections!

Do you live in Lansdowne Court or Stockfield Mount?

Your monthly block inspections where you can come and inspect the communal parts of the building with your Caretaker and Neighbourhood Coordinator. This will allow you to raise any concerns you have about the cleanliness or safety of the block.

The next inspections are due to take place on the following dates:

Tuesday 16 December 2025 10am – 12pm

Thursday 15 January 2026 10am – 12pm

Thursday 12 February 2026 10am – 12pm

Thursday 12 March 2026 10am – 12pm

Thursday 9 April 2026 10am – 12pm

Everyone is welcome; if you would like to attend, please meet your Neighbourhood Coordinator in the foyer at the starting time and location listed above. The inspections will take around two hours to complete.

Neighbourhood Walkabout Dates: December and January Primrose Bank

Tuesday 2 December at 10am

Tuesday 6 January at 10am

Fitton Hill and Dew Way

Tuesday 9 December at 10am

Tuesday 13 January at 10am

Crossley

Tuesday 2 December at 11.30am

Tuesday 23 December at 10am

Tuesday 27 January at 10am

If you would like to join us for any of our neighbourhood walkabouts, you are welcome to come along.

The meeting point will be at your local community centre.

Join us at our community drop-in sessions

Do you have questions about your tenancy, rent, or estate management? Or maybe you'd like to discuss anti-social behaviour or any other housing concerns?

We're here to help! Our Community Drop-In Service gives you the chance to speak directly with your Neighbourhood Team - no appointment needed.

When and where?

Every other Monday
Lansdowne Community Room
9:00am – 12:00pm

Upcoming dates:

Monday 1 December
Monday 15 December

Just drop in and chat with us—we're here to support you!

Peaceful Minds brings joy to The Primrose Centre

The Primrose Centre was buzzing with energy and excitement as Peaceful Minds CIC hosted a Community Fun Day, bringing together residents for a celebration of creativity, culture, and connection.

From the moment the doors opened, visitors were treated to a colourful array of activities and stalls, including:

- Food stalls serving up delicious bites
- Henna art and face painting for all ages
- Arts and crafts to spark imagination
- Clothes and jewellery for sale, showcasing local talent
- And plenty more to explore!

The event was a wonderful opportunity for families, friends, and neighbours to come together. It also reflected Peaceful Minds CIC's ongoing commitment to promoting wellbeing and community engagement.



EARLY HELP DROP-IN

We support families and individuals with issues surrounding **Housing, Finances, Mental Well-being, Physical Health, Parenting and Employment**



Join us at FoodCycle Oldham

FoodCycle Oldham invites everyone to join as a guest and enjoy a FREE hot meal every Tuesday at The Primrose Centre. No reservation is necessary.

Everyone is welcome at FoodCycle. Whatever your reason for needing a meal, you are welcome to join us. Some people come for the food. Some people come for the company. No matter your background, you'll be greeted warmly by our friendly volunteers.

Just turn up on the day to The Primrose Centre, 9 Magnolia Gardens, Primrose Bank, Oldham, OL8 1HX, every Tuesday from 6pm. If you want to find out more, you can contact oldham@foodcycle.org.uk or [visit the website here](#).

Early help drop-in with Positive Steps

Positive Steps holds early help drop-in sessions every Thursday at Primrose Bank Community Centre from 1pm and every Wednesday at The Crossley Centre from 2pm.

These support families and individuals with issues surrounding Housing, Finances, Mental Wellbeing, Physical Health, Parenting and Employment.

Neighbourhood News

Supporting futures: Training and Skills Academy

The Great Places Training and Skills Academy continues to make an impact, empowering learners with the skills and qualifications they need to thrive - both in education and in life.

One of our programmes currently underway is the Level 2 Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools qualification. Running in two groups at Oldham Library - **Tuesday daytime and Tuesday evening** - the course began in September 2025 and will conclude in June 2026, with learners graduating as qualified Level 2 Teaching Assistants. A key part of the programme is the school placement, giving learners hands-on experience.

We're proud to deliver this qualification through our in-house Training and Skills Academy, which received City and Guilds centre approval in August - a major milestone that enables us to offer accredited qualifications with confidence and credibility.

We're also supporting students through our **Level 3 Education and Training (PTTLs)** qualification, delivered on **Thursday evenings**. This course is designed for those who aspire to teach or train in adult education settings.

These programmes reflect our ongoing commitment to personal development and employability. Let's continue to champion learning and unlock potential across our communities.



Empowering customers and communities at the Fitton Hill 'Forward Together' Event

We were proud to join forces with partners from across Oldham and Greater Manchester at the recent Forward Together event - a day dedicated to boosting employability and strengthening community connections at Fitton Hill Library.

In collaboration with First Choice Homes Oldham, Get Oldham Working, ForHousing, and SPARK Oldham Youth Zone, we delivered a wide range of support services, including:

- Careers advice from national services
- CV writing and job application support
- Interview preparation
- Training and learning opportunities
- Childcare information
- Volunteering pathways through Action Together

The event was a fantastic example of what can be achieved when organisations work together to support local people. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make it a success - we're proud to be part of a network driving positive change across Oldham.

Community Fridge at The Crossley Centre: Powered by generosity

Every Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm, the doors of The Crossley Centre open to a lifeline many in our community rely on - the Community Fridge. It's a place where surplus food finds a new purpose, helping individuals and families stretch their budgets a little further. And demand is growing so much that even Oldham Foodbank refers people our way.

Recently, The Crossley Centre received a generous donation of shelf stable food (tins, boxes, and packets) from Christ Church School in Chadderton. A huge thank you to the school for their kindness and community spirit.

The fridge brings plenty of activity each week, and we couldn't do it without our incredible volunteers. Their time and energy keep the shelves stocked and the doors open. We're also reaching out to local supermarkets to secure more surplus food, ensuring we can continue to meet the growing need. Together, we're making a difference, one tin at a time.



Children's community cooking

Sixteen children recently stepped into the kitchen at Crossley Community Centre for a fun and educational cooking workshop.

Led by a professional chef, the children took part in a hands-on session where they learned how to prepare a healthy pasta salad - packed with fresh ingredients and full of flavour. Best of all, they were able to take their creations home to share with family and friends.

This initiative is all about building confidence, learning new skills, and encouraging healthy eating habits from a young age and judging by the smiles and proud faces, it's been a huge success.

We're proud to support activities like this that bring our community together and give children the chance to learn, grow, and have fun

JOIN US FOR
Festive FUN
WEDNESDAY
3:30PM - 5PM **17** DECEMBER
CROSSLEY CENTRE, 323 DENTON LANE, CHADDERTON, OL9 9GA
CALL/TEXT FOR A FREE FAMILY TICKET
07816 095437

Join us for Festive Fun at Crossley Centre!

Get ready to celebrate the season with an afternoon of crafts, activities, refreshments, and a very special visitor!

Date: Wednesday, 17 December

Time: 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Crossley Centre, 323 Denton Lane, Chadderton, OL9 9GA

This is a ticket-only event, and tickets are free for families. To book yours, simply call or text 07816 095437.

Don't miss out on this chance to enjoy festive fun with your community - book early!

A festive feast at The Primrose Centre

This December, FoodCycle Oldham is serving up more than just good food - they're bringing warmth, community, and celebration to the table.

Join us on Tuesday 16 December at 6pm at The Primrose Centre for a festive three-course vegetarian meal that's free, delicious, and open to all. Whether you're coming with friends, family, or flying solo, you'll be welcomed with open arms and a plate full of seasonal cheer.

The evening promises joyful conversation and a chance to connect with others in a relaxed, welcoming setting. Spaces may be limited, so come early and bring your appetite. We can't wait to celebrate with you.



Please Park Considerately

Parking can be a challenge, but being considerate makes a big difference to your neighbours and helps keep everyone safe.

- Avoid blocking driveways, paths, or access points.
- Leave enough space for emergency vehicles and pedestrians.
- Use designated parking areas wherever possible.

A little thought goes a long way - thank you for helping keep our communities safe and accessible for everyone!



Cosy up for the cold: winter tips for you and your home

As the colder months roll in, there are a few simple steps you can take to keep you and your home safe, warm and well this winter.

- Boiler check – make sure your boiler is working as it should. If your radiators aren't heating up or if your thermostat isn't responding, contact our Customer Hub.
- Even heating and ventilation – keeping a low, steady heat helps prevent condensation. If heating isn't possible for long periods, open windows or use extractor fans to reduce moisture.
- Safety alarms – test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms by pressing the button. If they're not working or you don't have one, let us know.

- Clear paths – sweep away leaves to help avoid slips and falls.
- Stop draughts – use draught excluders and close curtains before dark to keep warmth in.
- Drains and gutters – check for blockages to prevent damp and leaks. Report any issues to us.
- Gas safety – please ensure we can get access to carry out essential gas checks in your home.

Want more tips? [Find out more here.](#)



Empowering change with Naseem Aktar

At Great Places, our Employability Service continues to be a lifeline for customers seeking meaningful work, personal growth and renewed confidence. One of the driving forces behind this transformation is Naseem Aktar, Employability Coach in Oldham, whose dedication and personalised approach have helped many customers overcome barriers and rediscover their potential.

We spent time with Naseem and met Mrs. Adebola Oluseyi-Ogunlana, a customer whose journey with the service highlights the power of tailored support and genuine care.

Adebola's Journey: From uncertainty to confidence and success

Adebola first connected with Naseem through a proactive email outreach. "She reached out to me to check if I needed help with employment," Adebola recalls. That initial contact led to support with project management training and later, a deeper engagement when Adebola wanted to change her career path.

"She sat with me, helped me look for jobs, and gave me loads of interview tips," Adebola shares. "She kept saying, 'You'll be fine,' and that really boosted my confidence."

With Naseem's guidance, Adebola applied for a role at Great Places, secured an interview, and felt empowered throughout the process. "Before, I felt laid back. I kept getting rejections and thought maybe this wasn't for me. But now, I know I can do this."

And she did. Adebola has now secured a job as an Independence & Wellbeing Housing Assistant at Lorna Lodge, a fantastic achievement and a fitting conclusion to her journey. "It's really been helpful," she says. "The passion Naseem puts into her work is encouraging. I recommend this service to anyone who wants to improve themselves."

Adebola's story is just one example of how personalised support can unlock potential and transform lives. At Great Places, we're proud to have dedicated colleagues like Naseem who go above and beyond to empower change, build confidence, and open doors to new opportunities.

If you or someone you know could benefit from our Employability Service, don't hesitate to reach out - your journey could be next.

Stay safe: Firework safety and local guidance

Fireworks can be a spectacular way to celebrate, but when misused, they can cause serious harm and distress. In partnership with Oldham Council and the Community Safety Partnership, we're committed to promoting responsible firework use and tackling misuse wherever possible.

When can Fireworks be used?

Under the Fireworks Regulations 2004, fireworks cannot be used between 11pm and 7am, except on the following occasions:

- Chinese New Year: until 1am the following day
- 5th November (Bonfire Night): until midnight
- Diwali: until 1am the following day
- New Year's Eve: until 1am the following day

Using fireworks outside these times is illegal and should be reported to GMP.

How to report Firework misuse

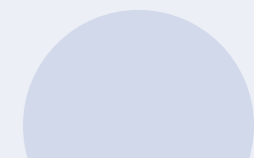
If you see fireworks being misused:

- Call 101 (non-emergency number), or
- Report online via <https://www.gmp.police.uk>

Your reports help GMP identify hotspots and plan patrols to target offenders.

Stay safe and respect your community

Fireworks are fun when used responsibly. Please follow the rules, think of your neighbours and pets, and help keep Oldham safe this season.





Fly-tipping and Bulky Bob's disposal information

Please remember it is an offence to fly-tip on Great Places, council or private-owned land.

Fly-tipping is a breach of your tenancy agreement, and if you are caught, you could be issued with a fine.

We'd like to say a big thank you to tenants who are getting in touch with us to report offenders. Fly-tipping is never acceptable, and with your help we can ensure those responsible are penalised.

If you need to dispose of large items, Bulky Bob's offer a collection service. You can request up to three items to be collected for £23. Any additional items are £8 each – the additional charge for fridges, freezers or fridge-freezers is £12. We will also collect any bagged-up fabric or small electrical items, like kettles or toasters, for free as part of any paid collection.

To find out more and request a collection, [please click here](#).

What's on in Oldham?

Festive Fun in the Town Centre!

Get ready for some seasonal sparkle! Every Saturday in the run-up to Christmas, the town centre will be bursting with festive cheer for all to enjoy.

Dates to remember:

Saturday 22 November
Saturday 29 November
Saturday 6 December
Saturday 13 December

What's happening?

- Festive street bands bringing music to the streets
- Street performers adding magic to the atmosphere
- Family-friendly creative drop-in sessions

Bring your family and friends and soak up the festive spirit - it's the perfect way to make memories this Christmas!



Live@thelibrary: Hansel and Gretel

Oldham Library, OL1 1AL

Thursday 4 December, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

After the huge success of last year's 'Tales of the Toymender', Oldham Theatre Workshop's professional company is working in association with Oldham Coliseum and Live@thelibrary to present one of the world's best loved fairytales.

Join Hansel & Gretel this Christmas at the Library Theatre Space for some inventive storytelling, song and laughter.

[Book here now!](#)

Small Cinema: Arthur Christmas

Oldham Library, OL1 1AL

Saturday 6 December, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Join us for a fantastic film at Oldham Library for our next instalment of The Small Cinema.

Get ready for an afternoon of fun and adventure at our screening of Arthur Christmas. Bring your family and friends to enjoy this animated classic on the big screen. This in-person event promises an unforgettable experience for cinema enthusiasts. Grab your popcorn, find a comfy seat, and get ready to be captivated. The perfect adventure for you and the family to enjoy.

[Book here now!](#)



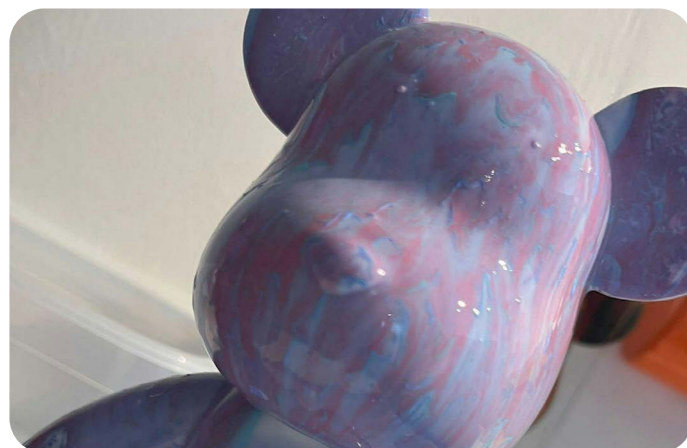
Fluid Bears and Mindful Paint-a-Trinket

Saturday 24 January 2026 10:00am - 12:00pm

Using pouring paint, create your own colourful fluid bear. Followed by some mindful pottery painting. Part of the Healthy New Year festival.

Using pouring paint, create your own colourful fluid bear. Followed by some mindful pottery painting. The pots will then be taken away and fired, ready for collection a few weeks later. Part of the Healthy New Year festival.

[Book now here.](#)



Build a business coffee morning

Oldham Library, OL1 1AL

Saturday 6 December, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Come along on the second Wednesday of the month to our Business Coffee Morning at the **Business Centre (BIPC) in Oldham Library!**

Each month we have a different mini-topic with a short talk by an expert. Then have a brew, network with other local small businesses and talk to business support organisations from across the borough. The Build a Business team will also be there to help you access all the free resources available through Oldham Libraries.

[Find out and book here.](#)



Live Music Saturdays Every Saturday, 7pm, Free Entry, Bees Knees Oldham

Looking for the perfect way to spend your Saturday night? Look no further than Bees Knees Oldham, where the stage comes alive every weekend with unforgettable live music!

Each Saturday from 7PM, we showcase a fresh lineup of talent—from local artists and tribute bands to genre-spanning performers that bring the best of Rock, Pop, Dance, and Indie. Whether you're into nostalgic classics or the latest hits, there's something for everyone.

- No tickets needed
- New acts weekly
- Check our Facebook for updates

So, grab your friends, grab a drink, and get ready for a night of music, energy, and good vibes. It's free, it's live, and it's happening every Saturday. **Bees Knees Oldham—where music meets memories.**

What's on at The Primrose Centre from Nov '25

Monday

12:30pm - 2:30pm - Music Cafe for people living with dementia.

Tuesday

9:15am - 11:15am - Sewing Class

14-week course starting 16th December

10:00am - 12:00pm - Stop Smoking Clinic

Ran by ABL Health. Please ring for appointment.

6:00pm - 8:00pm - Free Meal

3-course vegetarian meal provided by the Food Cycle Hub

COMMUNITY FRIDGE – Stocked every Tuesday, ring Jan to see what's available

Wednesday

10:30am - 12:00pm - ABL Health

Fortnightly healthy living sessions (Contact ABL Health for more information)

2:30pm - 5:00pm - Parkinson's UK

Meet 1st, 3rd & last Wednesday every month

6:00pm - 9:00pm - M J Dance

Call in for more information and prices

To book the hall for private events:

Contact Jan - 0161 642 7202, call into the centre or email jan.wade@greatplaces.org.uk



Thursday

1:00pm - 2:30pm - Poethrapy Session

Expression of emotion via poetry (ladies only). Contact the Primrose Centre for more information.

1:00pm - 4:00pm - Early Help Drop-In

Ran by Positive Steps. Support with housing, finance, mental wellbeing, physical health, parenting & employment. No appointment needed.

5:00pm - 6:00pm - Zumba

For ladies only.

Friday

12:00pm - 2:00pm - Art Class

5 weekly art sessions delivered by Lifelong Learning starting 14th November. Contact Jan to book a place.

HALL AVAILABLE TO BOOK FOR PRIVATE EVENTS.

Saturday

HALL AVAILABLE TO BOOK FOR PRIVATE EVENTS.

Sunday

11:00am - 2:00pm - Power of Autism Group

For families and carers.

4:00pm - 7:00pm - Health & Wellbeing get-together with food

Meet people, share experiences over a meal. Meeting dates: 16th November (5:30 - 8:30pm), 21st December.

HALL AVAILABLE TO BOOK FOR PRIVATE EVENTS.

UPCOMING EVENTS

23rd December - Seasonal Family Event - further information will be provided in December



What's on at The Crossley Centre from Nov '25

Monday

10:00am – 12:00pm - Creative Crossley Sewing Class
(Sewing & knitting class) (term-time only)

12:30pm – 2:30pm - ABL Health & Nutrition Group
(fortnightly)

6:30pm – 8:30pm - PHAB
(activities to reduce isolation for people of all abilities)

Tuesday

7:00pm – 9:00pm - Local Vocals Choir Group

Wednesday

10:00am - 2:00pm - Oak Tree Woodcarvers
Creative wood Carving, Annual Membership £20 plus
£5 weekly fee.

2:00pm – 4:00pm - Community Fridge (free surplus
food) & Community Space

Positive Steps - Early help (support with
employment, housing, wellbeing)

Your Community Centre for Chadderton

Please enquire about the above & booking the centre

Contact number - 0161 652 1419

@theCrossleyCentre

323 Denton Lane, Chadderton, Oldham, OL9 9GA

www.crossleycommunity.org.uk

Thursday

9:30am - 10:30am - Active Ladies Exercise Class
(Outta Skool) (free to join)

Friday

4:00pm - 6:00pm - Kid's Community Cooking

6:30pm – 8:30pm - Behind the Curtains Theatre Group

Saturday

12:00pm – 9:00pm - Available for private hire

Sunday

12:00pm – 9:00pm - Available for private hire



Wider Borough News

NxtGen Boxing to breathe new life into refurbished Marlborough Centre

A much-loved Glodwick building is set for a new chapter as the refurbished Marlborough Centre officially reopens under the management of local boxing organisation, NxtGen Boxing.

The building, formerly known as the Pakistani Community Centre, has undergone significant refurbishment thanks to Oldham Council's investment and the hard work of the club to support the fit-out.

Previously the building had to be closed due to Health and Safety due to significant disrepair.

The Council stepped in and recognised the benefit the centre would bring to the local community and without immediate work to bring it back to life, the building would have stood derelict.

Following a competitive process to find a new operator, NxtGen Boxing was successfully awarded the opportunity to take on the building and run it as a boxing club and community hub. This is alongside the existing community clubs and nursery.

NxtGen Boxing, founded by Asam Fiaz and Ryan Lawson, who have deep roots in Oldham and a drive for the town, has already made a name for itself helping young people build confidence, discipline and ambition through sport.

Their move into The Marlborough Centre marks the start of a new era for the club, after outgrowing their temporary home at the Honeywell Centre due to the expanding numbers of members.

Cllr Arooj Shah, Leader of Oldham Council, and members of NxtGen Boxing, officially opened the centre at a special event featuring a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



“Oldham is entering a confident new chapter” — two major events to drive career opportunities in the borough

Recently, Oldham Council welcomed partners, employers, education leaders and local organisations to the Oldham Works Summit — bringing together key voices to drive opportunity, skills and future-ready jobs for our borough.

At the summit, the council launched the Employment and Skills Plan 2025–2030, setting out its shared commitment to ensuring residents can access good quality work, young people and adults gain the skills to thrive, employers help shape the workforce of tomorrow and growth benefits every community in Oldham.

The aim is to build a confident, skilled Oldham powered by partnership.

On the same day, Oldham's biggest ever careers experience for young people took place at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

More than 650 pupils in years 9 to 11 took part in interactive, hands-on sessions with leading employers, exploring exciting career pathways in Construction and Green Economy, Creative, Culture and Sport, Digital and Technology, Education and Early Years, Engineering and Manufacturing, Financial and Professional Services and Health and Social Care.

This year, the event welcomed young people who are not in education, employment or training, those who are home-education and those with SEND — ensuring every young person has access to opportunity.

Building on Oldham's CyberFirst programme and expanding digital pathways, this event strengthens our growing digital future — and with even more to come.

How are we doing?

Complaints opened

3



Complaints closed

3

Number of relets in the last Quarter

9

Average relet time

13 days

Annual tenancy visits completed in the last quarter

89

Caretaker cleaning visits in the last quarter

159

Tenancy cases managed by Great Places in the last quarter

Opened: 20 Closed: 22

Number of gas services completed

72

Number of repairs completed

781

Percentage of repairs completed on the first visit

89%

Repairs completed against targets



Emergency and urgent repairs

Achieved: 0.34 working day
(target: 1.1 working day)

Low priority repairs

Achieved: 5.36 working days
(target 9.98 working days)