Tech and Tea

Are you 65 and over? Do you want to find out how technology can work for you?

Perhaps you want to send an email to the grandchildren or do some shopping, all from one device? You could even watch your favourite TV show! Then please get in touch to find out about a free programme all about helping you get more out of technology. Plus, free tea and biscuits!

Courses are delivered all across Salford!

To sign up, speak to Matt on 0161 743 3625

Or email: matt@inspiringcommunitiestogether.co.uk
Welcome to LIFE IN Salford. In this issue we’re showcasing local information, activities, news and advice from across the whole of Salford, including a special section with news and activities from the local community.

We hope you enjoy reading LIFE IN Salford and we’d love to hear what you think about the magazine or any ideas you have for future content. Email lettersinlife@salford.gov.uk
Salford in short

**Top exam results**

Year 6 pupils at two Salford primary schools are officially amongst the best in the country.

Lower Kersal primary school did so well in Year 6 exams that the school is now amongst the top 100 in the country while Mesne Lea primary school, Walkden is in the top 200. There are nearly 16,000 schools in the country.

**Digital Champions**

Can you help people to develop basic digital skills including using the internet safely and confidently? We are looking for new volunteer Digital Champions who have basic digital skills and can offer a little time each week to work as part of a team and provide basic digital support for adults at community venues across the city. For more information go to www.go-on-salford.com

**Decisions, decisions**

The Salford Suite at Salford Civic Centre, is where key council decisions are made.

But at weekends you can now book weddings or wedding receptions, anniversary celebrations, formal dinners and even children’s parties.

There’s full catering from champagne buffets to afternoon tea, curry banquets or hot pot suppers, easy disabled access and it’s great for public transport or free parking.

Call 0161 736 4870 or email citywidecatering&events@salford.gov.uk or www.salford.gov.uk/venue-hire

**Home sweet home**

Almost 300 empty homes have been brought back into use as part of Salford’s housing boom – and this puts Salford as one of the top five in the country.

Since 2012, Salford City Council has used £2.5 million of government funding to help property owners transform vacant, disused properties into much-needed affordable accommodation. An extra £4.2 million was spent on refurbishment and renovation works which has boosted the local economy.
Extra help
Twelve domestic abuse victims in Salford are getting extra support.
Salford City Council won extra government funding to help them live safely while they rebuild their lives, share experiences and support each other.
Domestic abuse can be physical, emotional, sexual or financial but doesn’t have to be endured. Specialist help, re-housing or improved home safety help is available – see www.salford.gov.uk/enough

Beat the scammers
Salford Council is urging everyone to share tips to beat the scammers and keep vulnerable people safe.
Only let trusted traders do work, never employ doorstep callers and never hand over money on the doorstep.
When people call, ask for ID, close the door and use the organisation’s official number to check the visit is genuine – not the number the caller has given you. Genuine callers won’t mind.
If in doubt call the police on 101 or trading standards on 03454 040506.

WW1 allotment
Ordsall Hall has researched and created a World War One (WW1) style allotment in its grounds, as part of the Salford Remembers centenary commemorations. This Heritage Lottery Fund project started in January 2015 and will be growing varieties of vegetables in 2016 that were available during WW1 and helped to feed hungry families on the home front.
If you would like to be involved in working on the allotment this year please contact Kate Wels on kate.wels@scll.co.uk or call 0161 872 0251

Rogue landlord crackdown
Damp, dangerous and unsafe private homes are being targeted.
Salford City Council is working with private landlords to tackle the worst homes in the city, particularly flats above shops. Up to 16% of the city’s 18,000 homes could be below standard.
Private tenants with concerns about their living conditions see www.salford.gov.uk/landlord-standards

Together, we can tackle child abuse
Salford is supporting a new national campaign to encourage members of the public to report instances of child abuse and neglect. If you think a child is being abused or their safety is at risk, then it’s important to tell someone. You don’t have to be absolutely certain, if you have a feeling that something’s not right call us in confidence on 0161 603 4500, email worriedaboutachild@salford.gov.uk or go to www.salford.gov.uk/childconcern
You can also find out more information on child sexual exploitation and report issues at www.itsnotokay.co.uk – a campaign put together by Project Phoenix, a unique collaboration of public and third sector partners throughout Greater Manchester.

Au revoir et merci
Tributes have been paid to two champions of French town twinning who have sadly died.
Jean Lefort had been involved in twinning with Worsley since his father, the mayor of Saint-Ouen, signed the agreement in 1961. He was president of the St Ouen Twinning Association.

Walk and ride
Eight kilometres of traffic free paths are being improved.
The Roe Green, Linnyshaw and Tyldesley looplines link Monton, Walkden, Little Hulton and Ellenbrook on old railway lines, while the Port Salford Greenway will connect people with thousands of new jobs being created at Port Salford.
The three metre wide routes are for cyclists, pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooter users. See www.salford.gov.uk/trafficfreecycleroutes
Make your mark
Are you registered to vote?

There are three opportunities to vote this year.

On Thursday 5 May you can vote for a local councillor to represent the interests and needs of local people and help shape, direct and monitor local council services.

You can also vote for a City Mayor to represent the city with responsibilities including education, children’s social services, adult social services, health, housing and community safety.

And on Thursday 23 June you will get to decide whether or not Britain stays in the European Union.

But to vote you have to be on the Electoral Register which lists the names and addresses of anyone who is registered to vote. Anyone not on the list needs to take action before the deadline on 18 April.

Register and change your details online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote by providing your National Insurance and date of birth details to confirm your identity. People aged 16 and over can register to vote although they cannot vote until their 18th birthday.

Make sure you are ready to make your mark at the polls.

Looking for an affordable way to buy a home?

If so, then shared ownership could be just the way for you to get on the property ladder. It means you buy a share in a new house or apartment (usually between 25% and 75%) at an affordable price. Rent is then paid on the outstanding share as well as any service charges or ground rents.

ForLiving is a new brand dedicated to the sale of affordable homes. With exciting new-build developments in Salford, offering two and three-bedroom homes, you could be moving into your new home sooner than you think.

Recent changes to shared ownership mean that many of the restrictions have been removed – so why not find out if you could open the door to owning your own home?
Salford is joining nations, communities and individuals across the world in commemorating the centenary of World War One with a programme of events, exhibitions and projects called Salford Remembers.

We are looking back at how life in Salford during World War One and how the war shaped and changed Salford forever, with a focus on the social history of the city and its people. The programme is led by the council along with Salford Community Leisure and the Friends of Salford Museums Association with help from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

As well as our own activities and events we are supporting, encouraging and enabling people, groups, communities and neighbourhoods across Salford in their own ideas, plans and activities to commemorate the centenary.

There are many ways to be part of our World War One centenary commemorations. You may simply want to visit an exhibition or attend a talk, or perhaps you are looking to host your own World War One event. It’s easy to get involved.

If you are interested in developing commemorative activity, please get in touch by emailing jennifer.doherty@scll.co.uk or calling 0161 778 0801. For more information about our commemoration programme, including upcoming talks and tours visit [ww1.salford.gov.uk](http://ww1.salford.gov.uk) or follow Twitter @salfordww1

**Somme Centenary**

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. There were huge losses of Salford men on 1 July 1916. Three battalions of Salford Pals lost almost 1,000 men on this one day alone. This huge sacrifice sent the city into mourning and for many years 1 July was remembered in Salford as Thiepval Day.

Further details on how Salford will commemorate the anniversary of Somme will be announced shortly.

**Salford Remembers** would love to hear about your ideas to commemorate the Somme in your street or neighbourhood, please contact Jenny Doherty (details above) by Monday 18 April.

**What we have done so far**

There has been an array of World War One commemorative activity in Salford including community projects, exhibitions, talks, tours, workshops, object handling sessions and networking forums, which include:

- **100 Years Ago: Salford At War** exhibition at Salford Museum and Art Gallery.
- **Greenspace Team’s Poppy Planting** at Peel Park, Little Hulton and Regent Park in Ordsall
- **Breaking New Ground** – a World War One allotment developed and grown in Ordsall Hall’s gardens (see p5)
- **GM1914** (gm1914.wordpress.com) – an online blog capturing and seeking out personal and local stories from the Great War. These include extracts from the letters home of Jack Trenbath who grew up in Salford and was killed in action in September 1918.
What's on
There's plenty to see and do across the city this spring.
Go to www.visitsalford.info for more great events and activities.

Events in parks

Wednesday Walk at Clifton Country Park
Wednesday 23 and 30 March, 10am to 12pm
Clifton Country Park, Clifton House Road, Swinton
A two hour circular walk exploring the countryside around Clifton.

Tiny Tots Ramble at Clifton Country Park
Friday 25 March, 10.30am to 12pm
Clifton Country Park, Clifton House Road, Swinton
A ramble around Clifton Country Park for young children with their parents or carers. Come and join us afterwards for a cup of tea and some healthy snacks in the visitor centre.

Easter Bunny Hunt
Saturday 26 March, 11am to 2pm
Clifton Country Park Visitor Centre, Clifton House Road, Swinton, M27 6NG
£1.00 per sheet
Can you find the Easter bunnies hiding in the park? Come along to search for them. Drop in at the visitor centre between 11am and 2pm to get a trail sheet.
For more information contact Salford Ranger Team 0161 793 4219 or email rangers@salford.gov.uk

Walkden’s Easter Eggstravaganza
Saturday 26 March, 12noon to 4pm
Parr Fold Park, Walkden Road, M28 7EA
50p to join in the hunt
Join the Easter Bunny for a family friendly Easter Hunt in the park. With inflatable super slides, arts and crafts activities and yummy chocolatey prizes! Dress for the outdoors and wear your bunny ears.
For more information contact Sarah on 07885 665877.

Circus Funtasia
Wednesday 25 May to Monday 30 May
Weekdays 5pm and 7.30pm, weekend 2pm and 5pm, Bank Holiday Monday 2pm and 5pm
Victoria Park, Manchester Road, Swinton
Adults from £12, children from £10
Back by popular demand, an all new circus adventure at Victoria Park over the May Bank Holiday Weekend. Booking hotline: 07706 168507
www.circusfuntasia.co.uk

Irlam Live
Friday 3 June to Sunday 5 June
Prince’s Park, Liverpool Road, Irlam
Day tickets are £15 Friday, £30 Saturday, £30 Sun.
Weekend tickets are £65 or £95 for VIP tickets.
Fabulous new community based two and half day outdoor music festival taking place in an idyllic setting. Head liners include Tony Hadley, the voice of Spandau Ballet and the legendary Billy Ocean. Other acts include The Bay City Rollers starring Les McKeown and the fantastic T’Pau.
Tickets are only available online from the Irlam Live website www.irlamlive.co.uk

Armed Forces Day Parade and Winton Festival
Saturday 25 June, 10am to 4pm
Winton Park, Sutherland Street, Winton
As part of the national Armed Forces Day celebration, Salford’s second annual Armed Forces Day parade leaves Duke’s Drive in Monton and heads down Parrin Lane to Winton Park for a day of live brass band music, community stalls and afternoon tea with the Salford Angels WI, songs and military displays. The parade leaves Duke’s Drive at 10.30am. For more information, please contact Joanne Farrell on 0161 793 3432.

Events at Salford Museum & Art Gallery
www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk

Creation Station
Every Saturday and Sunday
12 to 4pm
Join us every weekend and get creative and see what you can make at the creation station!

Lark Hill Place Sweet Shop
The first Sunday of every month
12.30pm
Visit Mr Tomlinson’s Sweet Shop on the recreated Victorian street, Lark Hill Place and pick up some sweet treats!
Bridgewater events

Bridgewater Volunteers
Enjoy working in the great outdoors, learning new skills and meeting new people? Be a Bridgewater volunteer.
Spring Clean - Wednesday 13 April, 10am to 3pm, Bridgewater Park
Meet at the entrance to Bridgewater Park opposite the Moorings, Boothstown.
Build a Hibernaculum - bug hotel Saturday 27 April, 10am to 3pm, Bridgewater Park
Meet at the entrance to Bridgewater Park opposite the Moorings, Boothstown.
Bench Building - Wednesday 4 May, 10am to 3pm, Duke’s Drive
Meet at Duke’s Drive car park (off Parrin Lane), Monton.

All abilities are welcome and we provide all the tools and materials. To find out more contact Jill Tyson on 07872 808003 or email bridgewatercanal@salford.gov.uk

Digging Worsley New Hall – a talk by archaeologist
Dr Mike Nevell
6 April, 7pm
Eccles Town Hall, Church Street
Come along to our talk by Dr Mike Nevell, from the Centre of Applied Archaeology at Salford University, to find out more about the unique history of Worsley New Hall and some of the findings from the excavation of what remains.
This event is free but booking is essential – www.est1761.eventbrite.co.uk

Spring Fever
Thursday 7 April
11am to 3pm
Duke’s Drive, Monton
Explore the area and learn about different bird eggs on our egg hunt, help to make a giant nest and climb inside, create a cute pom pom chick and collect twigs, moss and feathers to build a nest of your own to take home.
Meet on the meadow at Duke’s Drive, just beyond the car park.

All details correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change.
Royal honour for Julie

A children's nurse consultant from Salford Royal has been awarded an MBE for services to paediatric nursing across Greater Manchester.

Julie Flaherty, 59, started as a cadet nurse in 1973 at Booth Hall Hospital in Manchester and estimates that she has cared for more than half a million children throughout her career.

She started work at Salford Royal in 2005 and is Nurse Consultant in the trust’s Panda Unit, the emergency department for children with acute illness and injury.

The mother of four children and three step children, she said she was ‘flabbergasted’ to receive a letter from the Cabinet Office announcing she was on the New Year’s Honours list and added:

“I am really, really pleased, excited and tearful, all the emotions you can have, to be honest. It is such a privilege and honour.”

Julie - who was also the winner of a Spirit of Salford award - has dedicated lots of her spare time volunteering for humanitarian efforts around the world including travelling to Sierra Leone, where she helped during the ebola breakout.

Salford Royal’s Lead Governor and firefighter Dave Pike also featured in the New Year's Honours list and has been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) for his work at Irlam fire station.

Salford pair up-cycle their business

Salford entrepreneurs Liam Barlow and Jade Wheatland have received a £1,000 grant to help their business J&L Up-cyclers, which refurbishes old and abandoned furniture for resale.

The programme helps people bring their business dreams to life through one-to-one training sessions.

For Liam, setting up his new business is an opportunity to get his career back on track and help support his family. Liam said: “I’ve always wanted a hands-on job but employment opportunities were slim. I got in touch with City West after seeing an advert online about training courses, and I haven’t looked back.

I was able to teach people how to up-cycle furniture and got the chance to find out what it’s like to run a shop with a pop-up stall.”

Jade and Liam have already set to work on their new shop and workspace at a retail unit in the Hulton District Centre.

If you want to find out more about ‘Don’t Keep It Under Your Hat’, just contact City West’s Enterprise team on 0300 123 5522, or email enterprise@citywest.org.uk.
Plans unveiled for
160 new homes in Swinton

Ambitious plans to build more than 160 new homes in Salford have been unveiled.

Housing association Salix Homes has submitted a planning application to Salford City Council to build 161 properties on the Beechfarm Estate in Swinton, also known as the Poets Estate.

Salix Homes has been working closely with the Poets Estate Steering Group, made up of residents, councillors and representatives from the social housing provider, to develop proposals for an area of the estate where the properties are affected by structural issues.

The steering group voted in favour of redeveloping the estate and as part of the proposals, 146 affected properties will be demolished and replaced with 161 new homes – creating additional and much-needed housing in the area.

The affected properties are located on Blantyre Street, Shakespeare Road, Stevenson Road, Tennyson Road, Kingsley Road and Wordsworth Road.

The new homes will be a mix of two, three and four-bed homes, 120 of which will be available for rent from Salix Homes, replacing the 119 rental properties being demolished, while 41 will be for sale.

Mark Foster, head of investment at Salix Homes, said:

“We have worked very closely with the residents every step of the way and are confident that our significant investment in this community will help deliver much-needed new and improved homes for Salford.

“This is an exciting time for Salix Homes and our residents as we continue to work together to develop desirable and sustainable communities which will make this area a much more attractive place to live and work.”

It’s hoped work will begin in November. The project will be carried out over four phases and is expected to be completed in summer 2019.
What does ‘devolution’ in Greater Manchester actually mean? Is it going to make any difference to people in Salford?

Under devolution, local councils and NHS organisations across Greater Manchester will control a significant amount of public money. They will decide how the £6 billion NHS budget for Greater Manchester is spent and will shape services around the needs of local people.

Salford City Council, Salford Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and community organisations have jointly developed a ‘locality plan’ explaining how health and social care services will be provided in Salford over the next five years. Voluntary and community groups, people with long term conditions, people with disabilities, patient participation groups and carers and citizens’ panels, were consulted on key priorities.

There was much discussion about what devolution will mean, why we need a local plan, the role and responsibilities of the public and voluntary sector and what needs to change so people take more responsibility for their own health and wellbeing and rely less on services.

Our vision is that people in Salford will have the best start in life. They will live healthier lifestyles supported by resilient communities and be able to manage their health into old age. Put simply our vision is for Salford people to start, live and age well.

What do we mean by start well, live well and age well?

**Starting well**
- I have parents/guardians who look after me
- I am a healthy and active child
- I will grow up and achieve my potential in life, education and employment

**Living well**
- I am happy in life and feel supported by my family, friends and local community
- I take care of my own health and wellbeing and can manage the challenges life may throw at me
- My lifestyle helps stop any long term condition or disability getting worse and affecting my life

**Ageing well**
- I am an older person who is looking after my health and delaying the need for care
- If I need it, I will be able to access high quality care and support
- I know that when I die, this will happen in the best possible circumstances

You can read more about the locality plan at www.salfordccg.nhs.uk
Salford City College learners, staff and governors are celebrating the fantastic results of a recent Ofsted inspection, which concluded that the college remains ‘good’.

Salford City College is one of the largest and most successful colleges in the North West, with a history of success. Once again in 2015, learners achieved an A-level pass rate of 99% and an overall learner pass rate of 95%.

The Ofsted inspection report highlights many key strengths including:

“Teaching, learning and assessment are good... Learners make particularly good progress in developing their personal skills and confidence. They have a very positive attitude towards their studies, and work hard to achieve their target grades.”

John Spindler, CEO and Principal at Salford City College, said:

“We are extremely proud to be the top performing General Further Education College in Greater Manchester for 16-18 year olds, and our Ofsted rating further confirms this excellence in delivering first class teaching and learning.”

The college recently announced that new and exciting changes to its estate have begun, ready for new students starting in September 2016. The new facilities will include:

- Modern eLearning Hubs at each centre
- A brand new Animal Care Centre at Eccles Sixth Form Centre
- A refurbished student training restaurant at Walkden Sixth Form Centre
- A new state-of-the-art gym and training centre at Eccles Sixth Form Centre
- A brand new Higher Education centre at FutureSkills
- Brand new hair and beauty salons at Walkden Sixth Form Centre

To find out more about the fantastic courses on offer at Salford City College, and for details of our March Open Evenings, go to www.salfordcc.ac.uk

College ‘Good’ say Ofsted
Welcome to our community pages

These pages are focused on events, activities and news from you and your local community.

Peter Hook fundraiser to put bums on seats

Legendary musician Peter Hook hosted an evening of music and conversation to raise money for a theatre in the local community he grew up in.

The event took place on 26 February at Salford Arts Theatre in Pendleton.

The Joy Division and New Order bassist, who was born and raised in Salford, performed to help raise money to pay for new seating at the theatre. He was joined by local band, Death to the Strange, and BBC Radio’s Mike Sweeney. There were also specially shot videos from John Cooper Clarke and Bez.

The theatre has already undergone improvements as part of the Pendleton regeneration activity, but now needs to raise around £40,000 for new seating.

The venue is famous for being the starting point for actors including Christopher Eccleston. It is now used for regular shows, as well as workshops to help local children take their first steps to an acting career.

You can donate to the new seating fundraiser (or the ‘Burns On Seats’ fund as it’s affectionately been named) by contacting Roni at the theatre. Go to www.salfordartstheatre.com for more information.

Get your cat ‘snipped’ or ‘spayed’ for just £5!

Cat owners in Salford can now protect their cat for just £5 due to a new Cats Protection neutering campaign (eligibility criteria apply).

Why neuter?

Male cats will fight less, reducing risk of injury. He is less likely to spray smelly urine in your house and he is less likely to roam, so there’s less chance he’ll be hit by a car.

Female cats will no longer come into heat – this will stop her calling for a male. If not spayed, she could have a litter of kittens three times a year! Their care takes time, effort and money.

Spaying also protects both from getting some cancers and infections.

Call 03000 12 12 12 and see www.cats.org.uk/msc to find out if you’re eligible.

Friends of Little Woolden Moss

Little Woolden is a recovering mossland which was previously an expanse of lowland raised bog. The Chat Moss Project (as part of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust) have been working hard to restore the area to a living breathing mossland to create a better habitat for wildlife, after years of peat extraction.

But the protection of this beautiful nature reserve can’t be maintained without your help! A friends group will now be set up to play a key role in the preservation of the mossland in the future, giving local residents the opportunity to become more connected to nature.

If you’re interested in joining a friends group, come along to a meeting on Tuesday 5 April at 6.30pm at Irlam Train Station. If you would like to attend, please contact Beth Attwood on batwood@lancswt.org.uk or call 01204 663754.
Gardening and litter pickers needed!

Friends of Ordsall Parks are looking for volunteers to help with gardening and litter picking sessions at Ordsall and Monmouth Park. Sessions will be held on the following dates and times:

- Sunday 3 April 1pm
- Sunday 1 May 11am
- Saturday 4 June 1pm

If you’re interested, meet by the community garden in Ordsall Park, which is at the Taylorson Street entrance by Nine Acre Court.

It is weather dependent and tools and gloves are provided. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Citizen award winners

Congratulations to Salford Talking News and 13 year old Ethan Evans who were recently awarded Ceremonial Mayor’s Citizen Awards for services to their community.
Quicker, easier, better.

More public services are going digital. In the coming year Salford City Council is changing the way it works and residents will be able to do business online (more easily) at a time that suits them using smartphones, tablets and computers.

To help, there are public computers in buildings like Gateways and libraries and now there is free wi-fi in 90 buildings. All you have to do is select 'Freebee' in your wi-fi settings, complete a simple and quick log-on and your free browsing can begin.

If you need a bit of help getting to grips with technology, learning how to browse the internet, send emails and stay safe online we have courses available for adults. April’s dates are:

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date and time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Broughton Hub</td>
<td>18 April 12noon-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walkden Gateway</td>
<td>18 April 9.30am-11.30am and 6.30pm-8.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Hulton library</td>
<td>19 April 12.30pm-2.30pm</td>
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<td>Eccles Gateway</td>
<td>19 April 1pm-3pm</td>
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<td>Irlam library</td>
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<td>Pendleton Gateway</td>
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To take part contact your nearest library reception or ring Mike on 07980 856452.

Don’t need a course but have questions about email or the internet? Volunteers run a free drop-in help every Wednesday 1-3pm at Swinton Gateway in the computer suite. If you bring your own device just remember to charge it up.

Tech and tea courses are also available for the over 65s specifically (see inside front cover). Learning new things comes with a cuppa!

Free wi-fi for ‘silver surfers’ in Salford

Salix Homes has teamed up with Salford Council to have free wi-fi installed at its eight sheltered housing complexes for the elderly across the city.

Studies have found that there are 7.4 million people in the UK who have never used the internet, of which 6.3 million are over the age of 55.

Sue Sutton, executive director of operations at Salix Homes, said:

“Our aim is to get as many of our older tenants on the internet as possible, which we hope will help combat the feelings of isolation that are so common for older people and enable them to reconnect with their families and friends online.”

Salix Homes tenant Hilda Ellis, 73, from Langworthy, has been taking part in the Silver Surfer sessions run by Salix Homes. She said:

“My family bought me a tablet computer because they said I had to get into the modern world, but I didn’t have a clue what to do with it at first. The IT sessions have been brilliant, I’ve learnt how to email and how to Skype and now I can use it to keep in contact with my family in Australia.”

Salix Homes has also produced a handy guide, pinpointing the Freebee points across Salford. To claim yours email marketing@salixhomes.org
Get DigiSmart!

Surfing the web is an everyday thing for some people but not everyone has the confidence to get to grips with the internet.

Another way to get help is the new DigiSmart programme for City West Housing Trust customers. Free training will guide you on how to email, apply for jobs online or use Skype to speak to friends and relatives!

Eccles customer Mrs Wild was just one person to benefit from the programme.

“The training has been absolutely brilliant!” she said. “Before signing up to DigiSmart my online skills were very basic. I have several part time jobs and I felt I’d been excluded from applying for permanent full time jobs without the skills to apply online. I’m taking small steps and have been supported throughout the training. My DigiSmart champion even contacts me in between sessions to see if I need extra help. Signing up for the training has really boosted my confidence.”

If you want to find out more about DigiSmart, why not contact City West or pop along to a training session in your area? Just call 0300 123 5522 or visit www.citywesthousingtrust.org.uk for more details.
It’s no secret that changes in rainfall patterns are putting extra strain on drainage systems and river networks across the UK and as a result, flooding incidents are occurring more frequently across the country.

Following extreme rainfall, no matter how clear and blockage free the drainage networks may be, there is a chance of local flooding due to the volume of water in the drainage system.

This is, of course, no consolation for the many residential and business premises affected by the recent flooding of the River Irwell.

Salford City Council and Urban Vision continue to invest in and deliver a series of improvement and maintenance programmes for roads and waterways the council is responsible for. Although this will never stop flooding in Salford completely, it really does help to minimise the amount of incidents across the city.

Urban Vision’s drainage teams work hard to ensure Salford’s highway drains, culverts and trash screens are regularly maintained and kept clear from blockages. Most trash screens are cleaned of debris on either a weekly or monthly basis and Urban Vision provide a reactive cleaning service to clear any blockages identified outside of routine cleaning schedules.

From April 2012 to date, across the city, Urban Vision has:

- cleared 1945 gullies with concentrated cleansing and jetting
- freed and greased 986 gully covers
- repaired 261 collapsed gully connections
- replaced 1203 defective gully pots
- replaced 662 damaged gully covers

Further works are planned throughout 2016 and beyond to ensure the drainage system remains as efficient as possible.
Here’s a snapshot
of some key schemes Urban Vision has worked on.

**Leigh Road, Worsley - culvert replacement**
Leigh Road in Worsley had a history of flooding on the road and on the nearby golf course. In April 2015 the full length of the culvert on Leigh Road was replaced by Urban Vision on behalf of Salford City Council. This increased the capacity of the culvert to help reduce future flooding and also avoided a possible collapse on the old stone brick culvert that would have caused major disruption to the road network.

**Bridge inspections**
After the recent floods, Urban Vision immediately inspected four key bridges in Broughton to ensure they were structurally sound and safe to use. Once determined safe, the team went on to inspect over 60 other bridges and culverts across Salford after the flooding, to ensure they were safe and the culverts were running effectively as possible.

**Working together!**
Urban Vision worked alongside Salford City Council, Salix Homes, other partner organisations and emergency services staff during the recent floods in Lower Broughton to provide as much help and support as we could to local residents and businesses.

“Thank you all so much for your help with the clean up and the removal of items including furniture from St Clement’s Church. Thank you for the advice, gloves, refuse sacks, skips, storage space and the men and van. In other words we asked, you gave and did. It really is so humbling for the help and support we have received. We really couldn’t of asked for more, you excelled”. Nigel L.Nodel, Church Warden of St Clement with St Matthias Church, Lower Broughton

**Planning Ahead.**
What else is happening to help keep Salford as flood free as possible?

Salford City Council has produced a local flood risk management strategy. This strategy will help to guide and prioritise actions within Salford to manage local flood risks. It will also be used to help gain funding for better flood defences in the future.

The Salford Local Flood Risk Management Strategy was adopted in May 2015. A copy of this strategy and accompanying assessments can be downloaded via [www.salford.gov.uk/lfrms](http://www.salford.gov.uk/lfrms)
Salford community unites to support flood victims

Boxing Day saw the worst flooding to hit Salford in more than 70 years.

The River Irwell burst its banks bringing devastation to hundreds of homes in the Lower Broughton area.

While the waters have long since receded, the recovery process continues for the residents who were affected.

We spoke to Salix Homes tenant Elaine Connolly who told of her gratitude to the Salford community which has rallied round to support her.

Elaine was spending Christmas with her family at her home on Heath Avenue, Lower Broughton, when the River Irwell burst its banks on Boxing Day.

The family tried in vain to move what belongings they could upstairs, but the flood waters left a trail of destruction and heartache.

Elaine, who has worked as a child-minder from her home for the past eight years, lost all the children’s toys and outdoor play equipment she requires for her business, which were stored in a two sheds in her garden.

She said:

“One side of my garden is set up for the kids, there was a Wendy house, bikes, everything. We have contents insurance, but unfortunately it didn’t include any of the children’s toys that I use for my business.”

In desperation, Elaine posted an appeal on Facebook and has been overwhelmed with the response from the public who have donated a mountain of toys.

She added:

“People have been coming to my house who I don’t know and giving me toys. There was even one woman driving round asking people where I lived. Riverview Primary School have let me have a room at the school so I can carry on with my business.

“I can’t believe how nice everyone has been – I’m so grateful.”

Salix Homes is now underway with the drying out and repair process on Elaine’s home, along with almost 300 other Salix Homes’ properties which were affected.

Elaine added:

“I know it’s going to be a long process, but I don’t think Salix Homes could have done any more for us than they have.

“People from Salix Homes came round the day after checking on us and I have a disability, so I have a stair lift fitted, and the first thing they did was check it was still working ok.”

Repairs underway for Salix Homes tenants

The repair and recovery process is now well underway for Salix Homes’ tenants in Lower Broughton.

Repair work is being carried out in a phased approach across the estate as Salix Homes works alongside tenants to help them get their lives back to normal.

Salix Homes chief executive Lee Sugden said: “Our teams have been out on the ground since Boxing night providing all the support, advice and assistance we can to tenants like Elaine whose lives have been changed by the floods.

“We are now underway with the recovery and repair process and I would urge anyone with questions or concerns to drop by at our Flood Support Centre on Heath Avenue open on Fridays from 9am-4.30pm, or contact us 24-hours-a-day on 0800 218 2000.”

Salix Homes has also launched a Financial Support Package for affected tenants. To find out more drop in at the Flood Support Centre, call 0800 218 2000 or go to www.salixhomes.org/floods

Elaine with the mountain of toys that have been donated by the public.
It’s blooming good news for local residents who will be able to enjoy a national Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) garden on their doorstep. In a spectacular coup for the city, the RHS are restoring the lost historic grounds at Worsley New Hall in Salford which was part of the third Duke of Bridgewater’s estate.

Planned to open in 2019, the garden is the result of collaboration between the RHS, Salford City Council and the owners of the historic estate, Peel Land and Property. RHS Garden Bridgewater forms part of the society’s wider ten year £160 million national investment programme to enrich everyone’s life through plants, and make the UK a greener and more beautiful place.

RHS Director General, Sue Biggs, says: “We always thought it would take us longer to find our fifth garden, but with its beautiful landscapes, good public transport links and outstanding location, Worsley New Hall was an opportunity we couldn’t miss.”

Renowned landscape architect Tom Stuart-Smith will create an overall master plan for the garden which will forge links with regional educational bodies to develop new apprenticeship and student programmes. Public engagement will include volunteering and learning opportunities as well as community events.

Horticultural highlights will include the restoration of the ten acre walled kitchen garden, one of the largest in the UK; recreating and developing historical features such as the tree lined garden approach and recovering the terraces, which sit between the lake and the site of the lost Worsley New Hall.

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Keeping communities safe

Have your say

We’re looking at how we tackle crime and disorder and we want you to have your say.

An updated draft community safety strategy has been produced and you can shape how we deal with local issues before it is put into action.

Community safety is a priority for the council and partners and it is only with your support, information and views that we can make our neighbourhoods safer places to work, live and play.

The population and make-up of Salford is ever-changing so we revisit the strategy regularly to review how we will deal with crime and disorder and check it focuses on the right areas.

You can find more information at www.salford.gov.uk/community-safety-strategy
**Tackling antisocial behaviour**

We are using unique and innovative ways to reduce the impact of crime and antisocial behaviour in the city. A key part of our work is to steer young people who could end up in trouble away from bad choices and make them understand the consequences of their actions.

Engage2Work is a new project with 15 to 25-year-olds. Targeted groups of young people get tailored one to one mentoring and specialist help with everything from finance to personal development. If they complete the course, we’ll help them all find a job.

In another project, targeted young people meet a mum whose son was jailed. They hear how it devastated her family, see a mock cell and hear from an ex prison officer about life in jail. Young people on the course now have work placements thanks to the progress they’ve made.

We have also used antisocial behaviour agreements successfully, spelling out what behaviour must stop and that there will be consequences if it doesn’t. In Eccles we received reports of antisocial behaviour and criminal damage. Thanks to information from the community, 15 youths have now been given antisocial behaviour agreements and so far no more complaints have been made.

In January two civil inunctions were given to two youths who threatened shop keepers in Broughton. They have been banned from parts of the area and cannot associate with each other in public.

A public spaces protection order has allowed us to tackle those causing a nuisance on Kennedy Road and Barff Road in Weaste. It stops people from throwing objects, touching property without permission or acting in an aggressive or threatening manner.

To help us build safer, stronger communities please report problems, or any information, to us on www.salford.gov.uk/reportit

**CCTV**

Our CCTV network continues to keep people safe. Highly trained council staff monitor 130 state-of-the-art cameras across the city 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Latest figures from the last three months of 2015 show that council operators directed police to 353 incidents where they made 61 arrests.

The CCTV unit is linked to police radios and uses real-time information to help scour vast areas for wanted and missing people.

Information and footage is provided to the police so it can be used to investigate offences. It is also shared with housing providers so they can pursue tenancy action against nuisance tenants.

And new ‘darkfighter’ cameras mean that criminals can no longer operate under the cover of darkness.

In addition, housing association Salix Homes also monitors more than 400 CCTV cameras covering tower blocks across central Salford. In an average shift the team deals with around 2,500 calls and works closely with the police and other service providers helping to keep you safe.

**Meeting Ian Hopkins, Chief Constable**

“When I joined policing I did it because I wanted to help keep people safe and now as Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police that is still my aim every day. Salford is a vibrant area that has been at the forefront of developing how we are changing policing to meet the challenges we face. We have been working closely with Salford City Council to tackle the issues affecting people and also with other agencies, making sure the right person is dealing with problems and finding solutions. This approach is particularly important in our efforts to tackle organised crime that has blighted neighbourhoods.

I have personally seen the impact that the small number of organised criminals have on communities. This can’t be allowed to continue and all the agencies are determined to deal with it. But we can’t achieve this alone and need you to work with public services to help keep communities safe. We can all do more to be active citizens and keep security as a priority.

I was overwhelmed by the community spirit I saw when I visited those affected by the Boxing Day flooding in Lower Broughton. People working with the police were so resilient despite the issues they were facing.

We need your help every day providing information that can help us keep communities safe. You can do this through Crimestoppers 0800 555111 or by contacting local police officers. Together we can build a Salford that is safer for everyone.”
Getting healthier in Little Hulton

Do you live in Little Hulton? Would you like to lead a healthier and happier life but aren’t sure where to start? If so, then your local neighbourhood lifestyle coach could be just the thing for you!

The project, a local partnership between City West Housing Trust, Big Life Centres and Salford Health Matters, is already improving the health of people in Little Hulton through advice and support on low moods, weight loss, exercise, smoking and alcohol intake.

Residents can access the service themselves or you can be referred by City West and Salford Health Matters. Craig, the lifestyle coach, is based in The Mustard Tree store at the Hulton District Centre.

Craig said: “We offer a range of support for residents and I attend regular appointments with the people I am working with. “After a session where we talked about employment and work experience, I worked with a young person to resolve their benefits issues and secure an apprenticeship at a local firm. “I’m working with 14 people in the area at the moment and want to support more.”

If you would like to find out more about how Craig could work with you to make changes to your health and wellbeing, just contact City West on 0300 123 5522 or email hello@citywest.org.uk

Come along to Music for Memories!

A new community resource in Eccles is helping to ensure that people with dementia can meet new friends, reminisce and join in a good sing-a-long!

The Music For Memories Café, a partnership between City West Housing Trust and The Alzheimer’s Society, takes place once a month at the Barton Hub in Eccles. All sessions are free and are aimed at those people with memory issues, as well as their carers.

At the sessions, a singer or other entertainer hosts a sing-a-long which can stimulate memories, ensuring that people can exercise their minds as well as their voices. There is also a whole host of memory aids such as reminiscence boxes as well as information to hand out and themed events to support carers.

The café is part of City West’s commitment to a government initiative which is working to create four million dementia friends by 2020 and making all communities “dementia friendly”.

The next Music for Memories sessions take place from 12.30pm - 3pm on the following dates:

- Tuesday 29 March
- Tuesday 26 April
- Tuesday 31 May

To book a place or if you want to find out more just contact City West on 0300 123 5522 or email hello@citywest.org.uk
A mbitious plans have been announced to create a £2 million flagship scheme in Salford providing much-needed accommodation and training for young people.

Housing association Salix Homes has unveiled proposals to convert the disused homeless hostel Petrie Court in Lower Kersal into a state-of-the-art training centre with live-in accommodation to help young people transform their lives.

The initiative, dubbed the Salford Working Out Project, will be the only one of its kind in Salford providing people aged 16-25 with a stable place to live while they work, complete their education or undertake training.

The project has just received £1 million funding from the Homes and Communities Agency and will be match funded by Salix Homes.

Lee Sugden, chief executive at Salix Homes, said:

“This will be the first centre of its kind in Salford and will enable us to break down those barriers that are preventing some young people from accessing employment or training and provide them with the opportunities they so desperately need to transform their lives.”

As part of the plans Petrie Court on Cromwell Road will be fully refurbished and modernised creating shared accommodation, along with a state-of-the-art training centre, gym and ICT suite.

Salix Homes will also work alongside local skills and education providers to deliver training programmes and employment opportunities, as well as one-to-one support and coaching for residents.

It’s hoped the facility will be open by summer this year (2016).
Salford Together has been joining-up health and social care services for older people since 2012 – and now wants to extend this to many areas of adult health and social care.

This will include areas such as mental health care, learning disabilities, and building upon the good practices we currently have, for example our proactive approach to supporting carers throughout the city. However, we will ensure that, where things need to be more joined-up, they will be.

Salford City Council, NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group, Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust and Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust are working together to help people to live healthier and better lives, and have a good experience of services.

It’s about using money and resources in the most effective way as people live longer and more have complex and multiple long-term health conditions. Over 12,500 older people already live alone in Salford and that could reach 16,000 by 2030.

Other figures indicate that there are 36,500 adults in Salford who might have some kind of wellbeing need.

Up to now, Salford Together has focused on three areas:

**Local community assets** are about services, amenities and things happening in your area or community. Using local assets will help people stay active and independent and they play a significant role in helping people’s welfare, such as looking after people’s mental wellbeing and helping people back into work.

The **centre of contact** is designed to be a single contact point for staff, clinicians and the public to get help and advice on both health and social care.

**Multi-disciplinary groups** are medical staff and social care staff, working together to ensure people who have lots of different needs get the right care and support. The groups include a GP, a practice nurse, a social care worker, a district nurse and a mental health worker.

Watch out for more information and further opportunities to get involved and help shape a new way of working in Salford.

You can visit the website to find out more: [www.salfordtogether.com](http://www.salfordtogether.com)
Housing chief David Orr has voted Pendleton’s £16 million makeover of three tower blocks “impressive”.

The National Housing Federation Chief Executive visited Spruce Court, Whitebeam Court and Hornbeam Court which have been turned into stylish, modern apartment complexes over the last two years.

The 266 apartments now have new kitchens, bathrooms, double glazing and décor, with new lifts, communal spaces, landscaping and recycling facilities. Six more blocks will be refurbished over the coming months.

The work is part of the £650 million Pendleton regeneration scheme, which will see more than 1,600 new energy efficient homes built and more than 1,250 existing properties improved. New parks, open spaces and a community farm will also be created.

Regenerating the area is expected to create 500 jobs, over 2,000 work experience placements and job training for more than 3,200 people.

The whole government funded project is being delivered by The Pendleton Together consortium which includes social landlord Together Housing Group and building and regeneration specialist Keepmoat. It is supported by Salford City Council and The University of Salford.

Mr Orr said: “This project is a fantastic example of how successfully we can meet the needs of local communities when we work together. I am impressed by the high quality of the homes and the community-wide benefits the regeneration will have.

Delivering more projects like this will be important if we are to ensure that everyone has a modern, energy efficient home to live in, and housing associations are ideally placed to help councils and private sector partners work together to deliver improvements like these. I hope that this project inspires similar initiatives across the country.”

The Pendleton masterplan has taken 10 years to develop and local people have been closely involved in its creation. Launched in 2013, the building and refurbishment work will be delivered in several phases and will be due for completion in 2024. The first of the new homes expected to be ready in 2014. All the refurbishment work to 1,250 homes is expected to be completed by mid-2016.
University boasts new digital recording studios

The University of Salford is developing what will become one of the largest digital recording studios in Europe.

This comes as the University prepares to open its brand new £55 million arts and media facility, the New Adelphi Building. The New Adelphi is set to become one of the largest new-build studio complexes in the UK and it will be ready in time for September’s cohort of new students.

New Adelphi, which will be the University of Salford’s new home of creativity, features a wide range of state-of-the-art facilities and equipment that students will be able to use as part of their creative learning. One feature includes the creation of six new industry-standard music recording studios. Designed by White Mark Ltd, the creators of London’s phenomenally successful Air Mastering Recording Studios, these music recording studios are comparable to those used by some of the biggest commercial studios in the UK. These studios will provide Salford students with first-hand experience of the kind of facilities currently used in the music and post-production industry, equipping them with a vitally important skillset which can be applied to their creative employment after graduation.

New Adelphi, which comprises seven floors of meticulously designed space, also includes a 350-capacity theatre, acting and photography studios, café areas, performance and rehearsal spaces, computer suites and lecture theatres. The investment in New Adelphi highlights the University’s commitment to creating an environment that will encourage academic excellence and will also strengthen student employability.

Brendan Williams, Programme Leader in BA Hons music: Creative Music Technology, said: “The new recording studios are comparable to some of the best professional facilities and we have everything in place to enable our students to compose, rehearse, perform and record their work to a professional standard. We are all really looking forward to getting our hands on the equipment.”

Allan Walker, Dean for the School of Arts and Media, added: “The New Adelphi is a fantastic new addition to our offer. It continues the development of our cultural campus, following our earlier move to MediaCityUK, and supports the rapidly growing reputation of Salford as a city of cultural production. The New Adelphi’s facilities and equipment provide world class facilities, particularly in the areas of music and performance. Combined with our high quality teaching, our students will continue to be provided with a perfect footing for their careers in the creative industries.”

The University of Salford offers a wide range of courses for students to study. Find the course for you on our website www.salford.ac.uk/study
Reward your community

‘Recycle and Reward’ is about getting people to recycle more and reducing the amount of waste that Salford sends to landfill. In return, local groups and projects will get rewards to benefit the community.

Bridgewater Salford Amateur Boxing Club was just one of our recent winners. They got the most votes in East Salford and because people in this area recycled more, they received their reward of brand new boxing gloves.

“The gloves we had previously were old and smelly. They were long overdue an update but we didn’t have the money. It’s made a considerable difference replacing the gloves and all our boxers, aged from six to 39 will benefit.”

Lee Whitehead, Bridgewater Salford Amateur Boxing Club

Roe Green Play Park was another winner, with over 500 people voting for their bid for a new seating area for parents and grandparents.

“We’re delighted to have won. The money will go towards the redevelopment of the play park so we can make it a safe, fun place for children once again. Many thanks to everyone who voted for us and made an effort to recycle more.”

Daniel Stribling, Roe Green Play Park

Cast your vote today at www.salford.gov.uk/recycleandreward

How it works

Every month, a number of groups in each area of Salford go head to head to ask for your votes. They can ask for a reward worth up to £1,000 such as new equipment or building works.

The groups with the most votes in each area will get their reward if recycling in that area has increased from the month before.

The scheme runs until March 2017 and is fully funded by a government grant with £200,000 available for the community, providing recycling increases.

Other winners so far include Walkden Community | Lawler Street Residents Association | De La Salle FC | Eccles Rugby Club | Cadishead Rhinos | St Ann’s Hospice | Women’s Aid | Salford Friendly Anglers | Friends of Buile Hill Park | Friends of Eccles Rec | British Wrestling Club and Swinton, Pendlebury and Clifton Care of the Elderly Association.

If you’re part of a local group and would like to apply, visit www.salford.gov.uk/recycleandreward
The council budget – get the facts

Between 2010/11 to 2016/17 the council has had to make savings of £171 million to balance our budget. We have had to manage a 42.4% reduction in core government funding since 2010 – this equates to £753 to every dwelling in Salford.

The council has done its utmost to develop plans that can deliver service transformation, efficiencies and income generation whilst keeping the impact upon service users and residents to a minimum.

We’re committed to doing things differently to make the most of the budget that we have but difficult decisions were needed.

Salford council has frozen council tax increases for the last six years while doing our best to manage reductions in funding alongside increasing costs and pressures on services. This means without the increases in precepts set by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority, your council tax bills have been frozen since 2010.

This year we have had to increase council tax charges by 3.75%, as government funding which was available previously has ended. Two percent of this increase, generating £1.6 million, will be ring fenced and used exclusively for adult social care services in Salford.

In the next year we will be making it quicker, easier and better to use services online – saving money whilst making improvements. We will keep you updated on these and other changes in this magazine.

Please see www.salford.gov.uk/budget for detailed information.
Councillor David Lancaster has been honoured with an MBE for services to the community and charitable services to elderly residents across the city.

City Mayor Ian Stewart said
“I am delighted that Councillor Lancaster has been recognised for his many years of service to the community.”

Deputy City Mayor Councillor David Lancaster said
“This is an honour not just for me but for the city and also the people who have worked hard over the years for the Salfordian Hotel.”

Serving as councillor for over 50 years as well as Deputy City Mayor, Councillor Lancaster spearheaded a campaign to save The Salfordian Hotel in Southport, a popular seaside holiday destination for Salford’s elderly and disabled residents.

The hotel, which was took over by the Salfordian Trust in 1997, provides an ideal place to take a break for residents and their carers with 24 hour on-call support. With beautiful views and friendly staff, the hotel is within easy reach of Southport’s attractions and accessible for disabled and elderly residents with a wet room, mobility scooter hire and transport to and from Salford.
There's no place like a new home...

We have fantastic modern homes available at a rent you can afford right here in Pendleton.

The location, new facilities and extensive refurbishment inside and out make our houses and apartments ideal homes.

Our dedicated staff are on hand to assist you with advice when you need it and you can now access all our services on-line from the comfort of your new home.

Tel: 0300 555 5567
Visit: www.pendleton together.co.uk

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- do it all on-line - report repairs, view rent account, live chat

We're here for you!
- 24-hour call centre
- concierge service
- handyperson and decorating services

We've gone green!
- excellent recycling facilities
- NEW carbon footprint reducing heating systems

We're perfectly placed!
- close to local shops
- excellent transport links
- close to city centre, Salford Quays and universities.