

# BOB'S BULLETIN

Edited by  
Bob Renshaw.

As editor, and owner,  
I reserve the right  
to determine the  
magazine's content.  
All contributions most  
welcome.

Email your story to me  
at:

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All E&OA

A Free Community Magazine  
for Holts featuring all tales, small  
tales, but especially *Tall* tales!

## In This Issue:

Page:

2. Oldham Council,  
The Breakfasters.
3. Famous Oldhamers,  
Think Fast.
4. Famous Last Words ...  
Clairvoyant Scams.
5. Dr Chauhan Letter,  
Fabric of Time.
6. Lady in the Veil.
7. The Cat, A Rat ...  
Laugh With Navaster.
8. This Day in History.
9. Holts Variety Store.
10. Post Office Notice,  
Miscellaneous.

## Next Issue 14 August

My Clematis! I chop it  
down every year but it  
still grows back!





## Oldham Council

Oldham residents advised to take extra care during extreme heat.

Thursday, 14th July 2022

Oldham residents are strongly advised to take extra care and precautions over the coming days with temperatures set to soar over the weekend and into next week.

An Amber Extreme Heat warning has already been issued by the Met Office and comes into effect on Sunday until Tuesday, with local forecasts predicting highs of up to 35C.

This weather warning is not to be taken lightly, with population-wide adverse health effects likely to be experienced and the latest advice warning of the potential to cause serious illness or a danger to life.

A Level 3 UK Health Security Agency Heat Health Alert is also in place from Saturday until Tuesday, with people advised to look out for the most vulnerable and those with underlying health conditions.

Heatwaves can affect anyone, but the most vulnerable are at greater risk including people who are older, especially anyone over 75, and those who live on their own or in a care home.

People with a serious or long-term illness are also vulnerable, alongside those who find it hard to keep cool themselves, like babies and young people or people with Alzheimer's disease.

Those who are outdoors for large parts of the day are also at high risk.

*Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, said: 'It may be nice to see the sun shining but in anticipation of this extreme heat, now is not the time for us to take this weather lightly and to act irresponsibly.'*

'These conditions are serious, and they can sadly be life threatening, especially for our most vulnerable residents, so we must ensure those closest to us are okay and have everything they need during this extreme heat.'

'Whether it's checking in on our elderly neighbours or helping those who are most vulnerable to keep cool, our actions go a long way in keeping people safe.'

There are plenty tips for coping in this type of weather, including drinking plenty of fluids, applying sunscreen regularly and keeping out of the sun between 11 am to 3 pm.

Avoid exercising during the hottest parts of the day and excess alcohol too, and if you're staying indoors, remember to close your curtains on rooms that face the sun to keep your rooms cooler.

If you need to take a trip somewhere, never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle, especially infants, young children or animals.

A common temptation in warmer weather is attempting to cool down in open water but this brings its own risks and should be avoided.

'Swimming in local reservoirs can be extremely dangerous,' Cllr Brownridge added.

'Not only can the cold water shock your body and lead to panic, it can also be very deep and if something was to go wrong, the emergency services may struggle to reach you in time if you are in a remote location.'

'Avoid the temptation, act responsibly and stay safe.'

With more residents likely to visit their local parks and green spaces during the warm weather, residents are reminded to respect their nearby surroundings and residents.

This particularly includes our moorland areas, such as Dove Stone Reservoir, the Saddleworth Moors and Crompton Moor, where fires of any kind, including disposable BBQs, are banned and you risk being fined or prosecuted.

Moorland fires, however they are caused, can have devastating consequences for animals, property and the land, so we urge anyone who sees a fire on the moors to ring 999. ■

With thanks to Oldham Council

KOC 'N' ROLLS CAFE ROC HOLTS COMMUNITY CENTRE

## The Breakfasters: Latest

Thursday 7 July 10.30

The breakfast gang, a name coined by Kaylee, trekked up to the Roc 'n' Rolls once again for the coffee morning regular breakfasters. Madge, Beryl and Billy, Linda,



Maureen, Jean C, Denise and myself took our places and ordered our breakfast, It was Fried egg, a slice of toast, beans, black pudding, spam, bacon and hash brown was served to all except myself who opted for a steak Candian



which is a thin slice of steak on a muffin with fried onions. Plus tea or coffee all round.

Our thanks go to Kaylee and Jade for all their hard work preparing our breakfasts and more to the point putting up with us!

Roll on our next breakfast!

Bob Renshaw



# Some Famous Oldhamers

## #73 Philip Gilbert Hamerton

**P**hilip Gilbert Hamerton (10 September 1834 – 4 November 1894) was a British artist, art critic and author. He was a keen advocate of contemporary printmaking and most of his writings concern the graphic arts. He was an important theorist of the English Etching Revival.

Hamerton was born at Laneside, a hamlet near Shaw and Crompton, Lancashire, England. His mother died giving birth to him, and his father died ten years later. When he was about five, he was sent to live with his two aunts at an estate called the Hollins on the edge of Burnley, where he attended Burnley Grammar School.

Hamerton's first literary attempt, a volume of poems, was unsuccessful, leading him to devote himself for a time entirely to landscape painting; he camped out in the Scottish Highlands, where he eventually rented the former island of Inistrynich in Loch Awe, upon which he settled with his wife Eugénie Gindriez, the daughter of a French republican magistrate, in 1858.

Discovering after a time that he was more suited to art criticism than

painting, he moved to Sens and later to Autun, where he produced his *Painter's Camp in the Highlands* (1863), which was very successful and prepared the way for his standard work on *Etching and Etchers* (1866). In the following year he published *Contemporary French Painters*, and in 1868 a continuation, *Painting in France after the Decline of Classicism*.

He had by now become art critic to the *Saturday Review*, which necessitated frequent visits to England, forcing him to give it up. He proceeded in 1870 to establish and edit an art journal of his own, *The Portfolio*, a monthly periodical, each number of which included of a monograph upon some artist or group of artists, often written by



him. The journal championed printmaking, especially etching. He selected and wrote the accompanying text for *Etchings by French and English Artists* (London: Seeley, 1874) which included work by Alphonse Legros and Léon Gaucherel. The discontinuation of his painting gave him time for writing, and he successively produced *The Intellectual Life* (1873), perhaps the best known and most

The demonym of Oldham is Oldhamer; however, this list may include people from Chadderton, Failsworth, Lees, Royton, Saddleworth, and Shaw and Crompton, all from the wider Metropolitan Borough of Oldham.

Reference Wikipedia, free encyclopedia.

valuable of his writings; *Round my House* (1876), notes on French society by a resident; and *Modern Frenchmen* (1879), admirable short biographies. He also wrote two novels, *Wenderholme* (1870) and *Marmorne* (1878).

In 1884 *Human Intercourse*, another volume of essays, was published, and shortly afterwards Hamerton began his autobiography, which he brought down to 1858. In 1882 he issued a finely illustrated work on the technique of the great masters of various arts, under the title of *The Graphic Arts*, and three years later another splendidly illustrated volume, *Landscape*, which traces the in-

## *Abridged by Bob Renshaw*

fluence of landscape upon the mind of man. His last books were: *Portfolio Papers* (1889) and *French and English* (1889). In 1891 he removed to the neighbourhood of Paris, where he died suddenly in Boulogne-sur-Mer, occupied to the last with his labours on *The Portfolio* and other writings on art.

In 1896 was published Philip Gilbert Hamerton: an *Autobiography*, 1834–1858; and a *Memoir* by his wife, 1858–1894. ■

## *Think Fast*

'C'mon boy—high time you started earning your keep around here.' I was twelve.

The old man led me out to the garage and put a three pound coffee can on the bench in front of me; full of years of old screws, nuts and bolts, had to weigh ten pounds. It was one of the old style cans you opened by winding off a strip of tin around the top with a key that had to be broken away from the bottom. It was like winding a clock to open one of those cans. The top edge of the opened can was knife sharp.

'Sort the nuts, bolts and screws by size

and put 'em in these baby food jars.'

He went back into the house.

I emptied the can onto the bench and sorted all screws then all nuts then all bolts. Then I went back to the screws, sorted them by size, then the nuts and so on. I talked to myself to block out the shouts and laughter and the wooden thump of bikes as they jumped over plywood ramps in the street, took me about an hour.

Finished, I went to the house, '—all done—can I go play now?'

'Let's take a look.'

I knew what that meant; didn't say anything. I went back to the bench to get

some more baby food jars out. He stood on a stool at the opposite wall. I wasn't paying attention because I knew he was fishing for another coffee can. 'Think fast!'

I looked up, saw a coffee can in midair coming toward me too late. The edge of the brim hit me on the bridge of my nose between my eyebrows, laid it open. Blood flew everywhere as I went down to my knees. I put my hands on the floor in front of me and watched it gush out of my head into a pool.

'You dumb ass; you're supposed to catch it.' ■

*Doug Elwell*



# THE FAMOUS LAST WORDS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE ...

**Charles II** (1630–1685), was king of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

He had several aristocratic mistresses, and one of more humble birth – the actress Nell Gwynn. He said of her prior to his death:

Background to King Charles II's last words

Charles did indeed have many mistresses and, whilst leaving no

**'Let not poor Nelly starve.'**

legitimate heir, he did make many of his illegitimate children dukes. The dukedoms of Cleveland, Buccleuch and Queensbury, Monmouth, Richmond and Gordon,

Grafton and St Albans all stem from these affairs.

On his deathbed, he asked his brother to look after his mistresses, including the aforementioned Nell.

Sadly, and like many of the most quotable 'last words', Charles' "Let not poor Nelly starve" wasn't actually the last thing he said. His actual dying words, during a lingering demise caused by kidney failure, were:

'You must pardon me, gentlemen, for being a most unconsionable time a-dying'.

Source: History of My Own Times, Gilbert Burnet, 1724.

## North Korea Jokes

North Korea is now threatening the United States with all-out war. You can see they're stepping it up. In fact, they released 10 more photos of Kim Jong Un looking through binoculars.'

– Jay Leno

'Japan and South Korea are on high alert after North Korea successfully launched a long-range rocket. Both countries are surprised by North Korea's successful launch, but definitely not as surprised as North Korea.'

–Jimmy Fallon

The problem with political jokes is they get elected.

## CLAIRVOYANT SCAMS

Clairvoyant and psychic scammers sometimes contact potential victims by email, but it's usually by post. They aim to trick them into believing that their 'powers' can solve problems, bring good luck, lift bad luck, help them find true love, or protect them from harm.

The letters they send out look as though they are personal to the recipient. But actually, the message could relate to anyone. For example: 'You are a sincere individual, but sometimes people just don't understand you'; 'Something has been bothering you lately', 'You are thinking of changing something in your life.'

Some try to persuade people to buy lucky charms, or claim they have messages from beyond the grave. Whatever story they weave, victims will be charged for the clairvoyant's fictitious help. If a payment is made, more lies will follow – the scammer

wants to obtain ongoing payments. Those going through difficult times, or feeling lonely, are more at risk of falling for these types of scams.

## Remember

❑ Clairvoyant scammers often hide behind stolen photographs. They never disclose their real identity on letterheads.

❑ Some scammers glean genuine information about people by trawling places like social media, networking sites and bereavement

notifications.

❑ Just because someone appears to know your business doesn't mean they have special powers.

❑ Don't be tempted to part with cash in return for 'winning' lottery numbers – they are always fake. If you pay out, the only winner will be the scammer.

❑ Any response from you indicates you're interested, even if you don't send cash.

❑ If you respond to a clairvoyant scam letter, you could end up receiving a variety of other postal scams, as postal scammers share victims' information.

## Think!

*If you suspect you have been targeted by a scammer, stop all communication immediately and report it to the dating site.*

Your past, your future ... is your business

**Think Jessica Publications**  
2019  
Greater Manchester Police



## This summer take a holiday from binge boozing

By Dr Zahid Chauhan OBE

**‘The festive season** is most renowned for the over-consumption of alcohol.’

But in fact, abuse of the booze is an all-year-round phenomenon with summer and its cocktail of warmer weather, longer days and more free time, a real concern.

Being in public office means you are privy to forthcoming national campaigns and summer drinking is high on the government’s agenda this year. With fist fights on beaches from

Devon to Hartlepool reported last summer (some involving 200 sunbathers!) you can see why. Figures also show a worrying rise in home consumption, due to lockdown.

One of alcohol’s greatest appeals is that it relaxes us. But that also means we drop our defences, not least against the power of the sun’s rays. Sunstroke is a common complaint across Emergency Units in Britain throughout summer. Experts in Australia also believe that neglecting the sun cream – because you are a little merry! – might exacerbate your chances of skin cancer. And as anyone who has experienced a hangover will know, alcohol dehydrates you.

Our usual reserve gone, we have more accidents and become involved in antisocial behaviour. Bank holidays have been marked by increased drinking since Shakespeare’s days.

Moderation is the key here. Britain has a binge drinking culture and though we may not imbibe every single day, that can cause liver and heart damage, increase your chances of having a stroke and raise your weight to dangerous levels.

Keeping that bottle of water with you is important for teetotalers as well as drinkers. Exercise is wonderful but over-exertion particularly in the heat, is not. Bites and stings are also nasty things in the summer and a plague of horse flies, who are capable of disseminating a bite that could swell to the size of a golf ball, hit the headlines a couple of years ago.

You need a well-stocked medical cupboard, with antihistamines a particularly useful addition.

Now lockdowns have been relaxed, some of us may get the opportunity to venture abroad. Check what

injections and health precautions you need to take – not forgetting of course to note the COVID-19

rules that may apply to your destination.

Summer 2022 sees me joining that national concern around alcohol – particularly with its link to anti-social behaviour. This is the season of brightness and happiness and shouldn’t be blighted by booze-fuelled poor health and crime.

As the old Northern adage ‘always make sure you take a little water with it!’

Dr Zahid Chauhan OBE, Deputy Mayor of Oldham and Councillor Alexandra Ward.

Learn more about his work, at [www.zahidchauhan.co.uk](http://www.zahidchauhan.co.uk)



‘Good evening. You’re probably all wondering why you just walked into this room.’

## Fabric of Time

by Raymond Cothorn

Summer nights long ago in those streets below the hospital window, trucks with yellow flashing lights from the Louisiana Department of Mosquito Control hiss along slowly, the high whine of the compressors shooting out white spray behind the trucks like seeds from the crooked funnels of harvesters, killing the insects flitting among the trees or batting against screened doors, punctuating porch talk. Still, now, this summer night, more yellow lights flashing on the top of newer trucks in the neighbourhood where once lightning bugs flickered along childhood streets and among bushes and in treetops and sometimes died only when caught in jars and their glow smeared across the front of t-shirts.

It is a night with my daughter like most others recently: carrying on and dealing with the constant monitoring of machines and infections and bodily functions (or lack of them), making an effort at small talk with any visitors, at being interested in matters outside of the hospital, most times the effort of reading a newspaper or book or watching the TV high up on the wall too much to overcome, walking the halls when the need to escape the room is high, peering into other sick rooms when doing so, making eye contact with other vigilant people, the heaviness of waiting etched always in expectant looks, wondering at other stories of illnesses, nodding at the thin young man in his robe wasting away, wondering at his thoughts as he stands at the end of the corridor looking out the window at the trucks spraying for mosquitoes, the knowledge of just how ill he is in his eyes, knowing his prognosis is dim, dealing with it the only way any of us can, one moment at a time, one after the other, then again and again, moments rushing together so quickly but strung out so endlessly that the fabric of time finally stretches and slows down. ■



# THE LADY IN THE VEIL

He had not expected to meet the woman of his dreams, but there she was strolling along in the moonlight beside the cemetery. Carlos quickened his pace until he was level with her, hoping for a glimpse of her face under her veil.

Carlos made a few remarks about the beautiful night and the lovely weather—anything to keep her talking. She stopped abruptly and turned to face him. He caught a glimpse of dark eyes glinting behind the veil.

'What is it you want?' she asked.

'A date, Señorita. Just a date.'

Carlos beamed at her. She paused and said, 'I don't know. Ask me again in this place at this time tomorrow night, and we shall see.'

Carlos's heart leapt in his chest. So she was playing hard to get? Well, fair enough. He would see her tomorrow, and then she would fall into his arms!

The next day dragged by for the infatuated Carlos, and he had trouble concentrating on his work. But at last he was free and running the few blocks to his home to change into a

suitable outfit.

He could barely contain himself, and he reached the cemetery a few minutes early. She was not there yet, so Carlos entertained himself by picturing his beautiful bride in their new home. Suddenly she was there in front of him, the moonlight sparkled off her veil. Carlos was enchanted.

They talked for hours, standing in



front of the graveyard. She was as witty as she was beautiful, and Carlos begged her for a date.

'We will go out tomorrow night,' she said. 'I will send you a letter with the place and time.' Carlos kissed her hand and floated away, so happy he wanted to sing for joy.

Carlos was absolutely useless at work the next day. After work, he rushed home and found a letter in his mailbox. Eagerly he read it, not pausing to wonder how she knew where he lived. Then he ran next door to show it to Diego, his closest cousin.

Diego went pale when he read her signature, Rosa Gonzale. This must

be the same Rosa that died in a car crash last year. Diego tried to warn Carlos, but Carlos was already in love.

That night as Carlos hurried to the cemetery Diego followed, certain that his cousin was in over his head. Carlos bounded over to Rosa. 'At last, we go out!' he cried to her. 'But first, my love, show me your face!'

At his words, Rosa pulled aside the veil. Back at the gate, Diego gave a gasp of shock, for she had the desiccated face of a skeleton. He was frozen to the spot by the power of the evil specter, unable to warn Carlos. Looking down, Carlos only saw the glamour the ghost was projecting. As the skeleton's withered arms trapped him, the veil on his eyes was lifted and he realised in one heart-stopping moment the abomination he was kissing. The ground opened up, and with a laugh of triumph, the specter pulled him down and down into her tomb. The earth closed over Carlos and Rosa.

Diego, freed from the ghost's spell, ran into the cemetery, shouting his cousin's name in terror. But it was too late. Carlos was dead—locked for all time in Rosa's arms. ■

*Excerpted from Spooky Texas  
retold by S.E. Schlosser*

## Only in America: Right to Life Group

By Mr H I Pocracy



### Songs & Strumming.



**6.30pm. Wednesday,  
13<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.**  
Roc & Rolls Café,  
Near Birches Parade.  
**£5 per person.  
£10 for a family.**

A concert  
where YOU  
can sing too  
(if you  
want to!)

**Refreshments  
included  
in price.**

**2.00pm. Thursday,  
14<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.**  
Community Rooms,  
33, Brown Edge Road.  
**Suggested donation  
of £5.**

Proceeds will be split between the venues and  
 HAGL (Holts Ageless Guitar Lessons),  
 which provides free guitar lessons & loan of equipment  
 for people of any age.

**John Faraday**

## The Cat, a Rat and another Rat

**I** had a shock the other Friday evening. I went out of the back door to give Esme, my cat, a shout to come in but, instead, I got a real surprise. There, on the floor



just outside my back door were two rats and a cat with a huge grin that almost split her face in half. Esme wasn't the cat who got the cream, she was the cat who got two rats! One rat was already dead the other was twitching and looked as if it was about to expire. Esme was playing with it. Why do cats do that?

I picked up both rats and disposed of them. I did wonder if I could cook them and make a Rata-touille. If it didn't contain rat it couldn't be called Ratatouille could it? Two rats should be enough for



that. Esme was not amused and jumped into a neighbour's garden

and refused to move any further. She sat by some bushes hoping that there'll be another couple of rats to catch no doubt. I couldn't tempt her back. She sat rooted to the spot for about an hour. I shook a Dreamies bag and showed her her Whiskas food dish but to no avail. She wanted another rat. I thought she was going to leave me for a dirty rat!

I tried to coax Esme in but she



wasn't having any of it. It was time to take more decisive action. I pushed open the back gate into my neighbour's garden and walked sternly across to where Esme sat like a crouching tiger. She knew I was coming for her so she began to slink away. She crossed the garden and jumped up onto my garden fence. I left the garden and closed the gate behind me.

### *Writes Bob Renshaw*

Esme jumped down onto my lawn and slowly, reluctantly, hesitantly went into the kitchen. I fed her more Whiskas and while she was eating I locked the back door and closed the window. She can't go back out now.

Ten minutes later she came into the living room and jumped up onto my knee and curled up to go to sleep, dreaming of rats I suspect, but I know one thing for sure, she still loves me! Yes!

*PS. I did report the rat problem to our court manager!*

## Laugh with Navaster!

How do cows count? With a cowculator.

The police asked me how did your husband die? I said poison, the police said, but he had bruises all over his body. I replied yes he didn't want to take the poison.

My wife told me to be more in touch with my feminine side, so I crashed the car.

A truck load of Vicks vapour rub has overturned on the motorway, amazingly there was no congestion for up to eight hours.

I went bald early in life. I still have a comb, just can't part with it.

Dear ghost, if you can move stuff about my house and flicker lights on and off then can you do me a favour use a mop and clean the kitchen.

I don't know who needs to hear this, but if a bear has shoes and socks on it still has bear feet.

I yelled 'cow' at a woman on a bike. She gave me the middle finger and ran right into a cow, I tried.

Olives are the perfect snake for people who like the taste of drowning at sea.

GPs have threatened industrial action of working at weekends and evenings. If this happens I'm going to join the picket lines just so I can have a face to face with my doctor.

Are you sweating when putting petrol in your car? Do you feel sick paying for it? You probably have carowner virus.

Everyone has the right to my opinion, I don't care who you are.

The dog ran off so there I was walking round the park shouting its name for twenty minutes but I couldn't find him. My wife said I should look harder, so I shaved my head and got a tattoo but I still couldn't find the dam dog. ■

*Navaster Twistree*



# This day 3 July in History

**1823** – Afro-Chileans are emancipated.

**1847** – After 17 months of travel, Brigham Young leads 148 Mormon pioneers into Salt Lake Valley, resulting in the establishment of Salt Lake City.

**1847** – Richard March Hoe, American inventor, patented the rotary-type printing press.

**1864** – American Civil War: Battle of Kernstown: Confederate General Jubal Early defeats Union troops led by General George Crook in an effort to keep them out of the Shenandoah Valley.

**1866** – Reconstruction: Tennessee becomes the first U.S. state to be readmitted to Congress following the American Civil War.

**1901** – O. Henry is released from prison in Columbus, Ohio, after serving three years for embezzlement from a bank.

## What do *you* remember?

**1910** – The Ottoman Empire captures the city of Shkodër, putting down the Albanian Revolt of 1910.

**1911** – Hiram Bingham III re-discovers Machu Picchu, 'the Lost City of the Incas'.

**1915** – The passenger ship SS Eastland capsizes while tied to a dock in the Chicago River. A total of 844 passengers and crew are killed in the largest loss of life disaster from a single shipwreck on the Great Lakes.

**1922** – The draft of the British Mandate of Palestine was formally confirmed by the Council of the League of Nations; it came into effect on 26 September 1923.

**1923** – The Treaty of Lausanne, settling the boundaries of modern Turkey, is signed in Switzerland by Greece, Bulgaria and other countries that fought in World War I.

**1924** – Themistoklis Sofoulis becomes Prime Minister of Greece.

**1927** – The Menin Gate war memorial is unveiled at Ypres.

**1929** – The Kellogg–Briand Pact, renouncing war as an instrument of foreign policy, goes into effect (it is first signed in Paris on August 27, 1928, by most leading world powers).

**1935** – The Dust Bowl heat wave reaches its peak, sending temperatures to 109 °F (43 °C) in Chicago and 104 °F (40 °C) in Milwaukee.

**1937** – Alabama drops rape charges against the 'Scottsboro Boys'.

**1943** – World War II: Operation Gomorrah begins: British and Canadian aeroplanes bomb Hamburg by night, and American planes bomb the city by day. By the end of the operation in November, 9,000 tons of explosives will have killed more than 30,000 people and destroyed 280,000 buildings.

**1950** – Cape Canaveral Air Force Station begins operations with the launch of a Bumper rocket.

**1959** – At the opening of the American National Exhibition in Moscow, U.S. Vice President Richard Nixon and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev have a 'Kitchen Debate'.

**1963** – The ship Bluenose II was launched in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. The schooner is a major Canadian symbol.

**1966** – Michael Pelkey makes the first BASE jump from El Capitan along with Brian Schubert. Both came out with broken bones. BASE jumping has now been banned from El Cap.

**1967** – During an official state visit to Canada, French President Charles de Gaulle declares to a crowd of over 100,000 in Montreal: *Vive le Québec libre!* ('Long live free Quebec!'); the statement angered the Canadian government and many Anglophone Canadians.

**1969** – Apollo program: Apollo 11 splashes down safely in the Pacific Ocean.

**1974** – Watergate scandal: The United States Supreme Court unanimously ruled that President Richard Nixon did not have the authority to withhold subpoenaed White House tapes and they order him to surrender the tapes to the Watergate special prosecutor.

## Where were *you*?

**1977** – End of a four-day-long Libyan–Egyptian War.

**1980** – The Quietly Confident Quartet of Australia wins the men's 4 x 100 metre medley relay at the Moscow Olympics, the only time the United States has not won the event at Olympic level.

**1982** – Heavy rain causes a mudslide that destroys a bridge at Nagasaki, Japan, killing 299.

**1983** – The Black July anti-Tamil riots begin in Sri Lanka, killing between 400 and 3,000. Black July is generally regarded as the beginning of the Sri Lankan Civil War.

**1983** – George Brett playing for the Kansas City Royals against the New York Yankees, has a game-winning home run nullified in the 'Pine Tar Incident'.

**1987** – US supertanker SS Bridgeton collides with mines laid by IRGC causing a 43-square-meter dent in the body of the oil tanker.

**1987** – Hulda Crooks, at 91 years of age, climbed Mt. Fuji. Crooks became the oldest person to climb Japan's highest peak.

**1998** – Russell Eugene Weston Jr. bursts into the United States Capitol

## What were *you* doing then?

and opens fire killing two police officers. He is later ruled to be incompetent to stand trial.

**1999** – Air Fiji flight 121 crashes while en route to Nadi, Fiji, killing all 17 people on board.

**2001** – Simeon Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the last Tsar of Bulgaria when he was a child, is sworn in as Prime Minister of Bulgaria, becoming the first monarch in history to regain political power through democratic election to a different office.

**2001** – The Bandaranaike Airport attack is carried out by 14 Tamil Tiger commandos. Eleven civilian and military aircraft are destroyed and 15 are damaged. All 14 commandos are shot dead, while seven soldiers from the Sri Lanka Air Force are killed. In addition, three civilians and an engineer die. This incident slowed the Sri Lankan economy.

**2009** – Air Flight 1525 crashes at Mashhad International Airport, killing 16.

**2012** – Syrian civil war: The People's Protection Units (YPG) capture the city of Girkê Legê.

**2013** – A high-speed train derails in Spain rounding a curve with an 80 km/h (50 mph) speed limit at 190 km/h (120 mph), killing 78 passengers.

**2014** – Air Algérie Flight 5017 loses contact with air traffic controllers 50 minutes after takeoff. It was travelling between Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and Algiers. The wreckage is later found in Mali. All 116 people onboard are killed. ■

*Abridged by Bob Renshaw*



# HOLTS VARIETY STORE & POST OFFICE



**Personal & Business Daily Banking, Cash Withdrawals & Cash Deposits (All Major UK Banks) Cheque Deposits, Postal Orders, Bill Payments, Local Collect, Home Shopping Returns, UK & International Letters, Small, Medium, Large Parcels, Stamps, First & Second Class Mails, Parcelforce, Drop & Go, Gas & Electric Top Ups, National Lottery, Scratch cards, Mobile Top ups & E-Vouchers, Gift Cards & much more!**



## **Post Office Opening Times –**

**Mon – Fri: 9.00 AM – 5.00 PM**

**Sat: 9.00 AM – 4.30 PM**

**Sundays & Bank Holidays Closed**



**Glassware**



**Houseware**



**Kitchenware**



**Seasonal**



**Beauty & Well Being**



**Candles & Fragrance**



**Hardware**



**Personal Hygiene**



**Partyware**



**Skin Care & Cosmetics**



**Personalised Gifts**



**Electricals**

**Hardware, DIY, Stationery, Skincare, Household Essentials, Homeware, Laundry, Toiletries, Medicines, Toys, Instant Tanning Products, False Nails, Eye Lashes, Bath Blasters, Gift Packs, Phone Accessories, Light Bulbs, Pet Products, Themed Birthday Party Products, Cleaning & Kitchen, Gardening, Seasonal goods, Small Appliances & Electricals, Plastic containers, Greeting Cards and more !!**

## **Shop Opening Times –**

**Mon – Fri: 8.30 AM – 6.30 PM**

**Sat: 9.00 AM – 5.00 PM**

**Sundays & Bank Holidays Closed**

**Address: 8-12 Near Birches Parade, Next to the ROC Café, Holts, Oldham OL4 5PZ**

**We Accept All Major Debit / Credit Cards With No Minimum Spend**

# Post Office News Flash

## Please Note Our Temporary Opening Hours

For **Saturdays Only**  
Commencing ...

1st July 2022– 1st September 2022

**09.00 – 1pm Saturdays Only**



This temporary change of Saturday opening hours will be for **two months** only

**BirThday**  
**GreeTings**  
**To**

**Madge 4 August**

**Anon 5 August**

**Dot 12 August**



### Senior Citizen Texting Codes

ATD – At The Doctors  
BFF – Best Friend Fell  
BTW – Bring The Wheelchair  
BYOT – Bring Your Own Teeth  
FWIW – Forgot Where I Was  
GGPBL – Gotta Go Pacemaker Battery Low  
GHA – Got Heartburn Again  
IMMO – Is My Hearing-Aid On  
LMDO – Laughing My Dentures Out  
OMMR – On My Message Recliner  
OMSG – Oh My! Sorry, Gas  
ROFLACGU – Rolling On Floor Laughing and Can't Get Up  
TTYL – Talk To You Louder

Senior Citizen Stories © 2018

### Look!

I'm sure everyone has a story in them so why not share it with everyone here in Holts? If you want to make a contribution? Share your funny joke, the silly story, the humorous photograph, the 'It happened on the way to the ...' moment?

Just email it to me at:  
bobinoldham@gmail.com

Or drop them in to me at  
39 Brown Edge Road

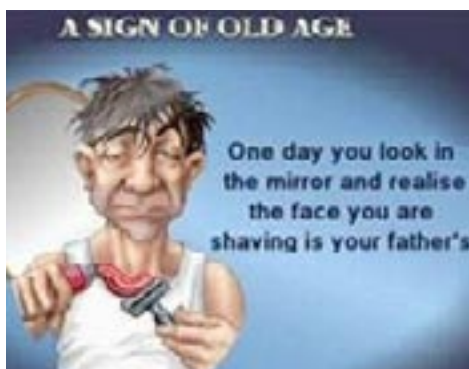
Please give me a shout, well not a shout exactly, a quiet whisper will do, and I will print it. Or you can scribble it down on a piece of paper. Don't worry if you think your spelling's not up to much or you think you couldn't possibly write your little story because I can easily knock it into shape. You can also write anonymously if you wish. So go on, surprise yourself, give it a try. I've got to fill my pages somehow!  
Thank you very much.

*Bob Renshaw*

### LOOK!

Our coffee morning times have changed to 09.00 until 10.30. Come along and find out what's happening!

*Thank you*



## Bob Monkhouse

**My mother tried to kill me when I was a baby. She denied it. She said she thought the plastic bag would keep me fresh.**

