# West Bolton Team Parish profile 2024



Prayers.....Acts of Love.....Learning.....Serving..... (PALS)

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Manchester





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# **Our Mission and Vision**

The West Bolton Team of Churches is now in its twelfth year. Our founding mission statement was summarised as being PALS: People of prayer, committed to Acts of agape love, Learning more of God's love and Serving our community in practical ways.

# We seek to bring the Good News of Jesus through

- Courses such as Alpha and sermon series to encourage sharing of faith with family and friends
- Visiting door to door and delivering Good News Newspapers
- Special outreach events, holiday clubs for our youth and programmes for different age groups
- Joining in Bolton-wide events organised by our Mission Community and Passion for Bolton
- Online services and support for World Mission
- Working with Heaton & Halliwell Clergy Fellowship

# We seek to grow as disciples of the Lord Jesus

- Through spirit led worship, prayer and Bible study
- Encouraging growth in numbers attending house groups or Zoom bible fellowships

# We seek to serve our communities in practical ways through

- Involvement in HAFWAY, Halliwell Befriending and High Hopes for Halliwell-being, ESOL classes, Urban Outreach and Toddler groups
- Hiring out our buildings to external community groups such as Mid-week saxophone choir, All Stars Dance and Narcotics Anonymous





# **Qualities and skills**

# Team Rector with responsibility for St Luke's Church

Welcome and thank you for showing an interest in our parish. We are praying that the right person with the right gifts will be someone

- Whose ministry and personal faith is rooted in prayer, and who will encourage prayerfulness in the congregation
- With vision to seek God's leading—even willing to take risks, as led by the Holy Spirit
- With an aptitude for oversight and strategic planning
- Who is sympathetic to different strands of churchmanship across the team
- Who will develop the preaching ministry of ordained and lay members across the team
- With a vision for evangelism in our parish, working with the wide ethnic mix of our congregations and neighbourhoods
- Who is a good leader with good communication skills who can bring the team of churches closer together and manage those employed by the team
- With an ability to encourage and develop lay ministry and leadership
- Who will recognise the diversity of the five churches and lead us in the next stage in our development as part of Bolton Central Mission Community
- Who is compassionate and servant-hearted
- Who can relate to the youth of the church, recognising they are the future of the church, whilst acknowledging the wealth of experience and participation of our elder members
- Who can use their gifts to serve the church and local community
- Who has a commitment to support world mission
- Willing and able to lead worship in an informal style
- Who is comfortable with I.T

We recognise that God will send the right person in His time and we know that no-one is perfect, above all we hope and pray for a Team Rector who will love, support and encourage us.

Hopefully the points above will give you a flavour of the gifts we think you might need.

# **Information**

West Bolton Team is comprised of five churches. These are: St George the Martyr, St Luke, Halliwell, St Paul, Halliwell, St Paul with Emmanuel and St Thomas the Apostle. We have been a team for 12 years. The post that is vacant is that of Team Rector who will be the focal minister for St Luke's, with overall responsibility for the team.

The patronage of the benefice is held by a Patronage Board.

We belong to Mission Community 2 (Bolton Central) and to the Bolton Deanery, part of Manchester Diocese.

Archdeacon Ven.Dr Rachel Mann Tel: 07834403195

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Area Dean Revd Simon Cook Tel: 07745 232 662

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Mission Community Leader Revd Ian Hepburn Tel: 07989 507037

Email: lecturer@boltonparishchurch.co.uk

West Bolton Team website: www.westboltonteam.org.uk

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<u>Schools.</u> Clergy volunteers go into local Christian schools to lead assemblies weekly and we have some connections with non-Christian local schools for

St. THOMAS



activities such as Light Parties and Faith Trails.



# West Bolton Team Statistics:

Total on Electoral Roll: 225 Average Sunday attendance: 148 Number of baptisms: 16 Number of marriages: 2 Number of funerals: 18 Christmas Communicants: 164 Easter Communicants :186

For further area statistics see page 20



# Sunday services

Our sermon series and service rotas are planned jointly by the clergy team and administrator.

We hold regular Team services on rotation at one of our Team Churches, where all five congregations are encouraged to join together.

#### Lent courses

We often use the 'York' courses or similar during Lent and Advent and tend to hold meetings during the day, and in the evening mid-week to allow people to attend. We have also included zoom meeting if required. We have regular Bible studies for Farsi speakers, plus a Discipleship course was held at the end of last year with plans to advertise further enquirer's courses.

#### Finance Info:

- We have paid our Parish Share in full as a Team since its formation. Covid had a huge effect on our giving and in some cases is still noticeable.
- All of our clergy expenses and those of ALM's etc are fully met.
- Stewardship is encouraged within each church.
- Each church has its own local treasurer who reports back to a team treasurer; they then report to the PCC at each meeting. They input all info into the online Data Developments system at the Diocese.
- Each church produces a written document about their activities during the previous year that is used alongside the APCM financial document.
- Each church has its own Mission Action Plan which is reviewed regularly and discussed at sub committees (each church) and PCC (team). Items on these include children, youth, elderly, asylum seekers and refugees and the local community. These are available on request.

# Safeguarding

- We are passionate about the importance of safeguarding.
- We have a team of 3 members who take the lead on recruitment, training, DBS certificates and risk assessments.
- They meet regularly to discuss any changes, issues or up to date news.
- The team is using the National Dashboard for safeguarding administration.



#### **Clergy and staff**

#### Revd. Rodger Petch (Focus: St Paul's, Halliwell and St Thomas's)

Formerly a mission partner from Yorkshire to Nigeria; more recently (16 years ago!) I crossed the Pennines to work in dampest Bolton with my wife Sarah (we met and married in Nigeria) and my two children, now adults. I would describe myself as Open Evangelical having come from a Methodist background via University CU, CMS and ordination in Nigeria into the Anglican Communion. I believe very much in the whole gospel to the whole person where the



church seeks to engage with the local community through church member networks, alongside working with local community and recreational groups. My ministry in Bolton has focused on St Paul, Halliwell and St Thomas the Apostle Halliwell. I serve on the school governors, the management committee of HAFway, the trustees of High Hope For Halliwell-being which runs St Paul's Community Centre and the steering group for the All Souls Project as well as leading school assemblies across the two church schools – St Matthews and St Thomas. I believe worship and teaching should be accessible and relevant to the communities the churches seek to serve and have run START and Alpha courses for people wanting to explore.



# **Revd. Fayaz Adman** (Focus: St George the Martyr and St Paul with Emmanuel)

Born 1963 in Peshawar, Pakistan. God blessed us with two children. I earned my bachelor degree in Religious Philosophy and certificate in Theology, as well as in Ecumenism from the Anglican Centre in Rome. I was appointed as Bishop's Chaplain in the diocese of Peshawar and served more than five different parishes. God called me to come and serve in the South Rochdale Team and then to Bolton in 2007. I believe in gifts from the Holy Spirit to work among all nations and bring them close to Christ as Saviour, as well as

having a church building as a base to worship and from which to operate God's mission. I also believe that God wants unity and mission going side-by-side to reach out together as laity and clergy.

#### Claire Ree Team administrator

I've worked as administrator for 16 years, originally for St Luke's and then for the West Bolton Team. I thoroughly enjoy the job and the people we serve. It's varied and rewarding which makes it a joy to come into work (usually!). I'm generally the first port of call for most church enquiries, so I get to connect with a lot of our congregations and community.

Apart from the everyday tasks I am involved in rota planning, statistic/data collection and reporting to the Diocese. I do the majority of the social media work and interaction. I am the PCC

secretary and also on St Luke's Sub committee so hopefully I don't miss any important information.

My own children are now 18 and 13 with one still in education at our local CofE secondary school.



#### Rev Margaret Irwin Team Curate

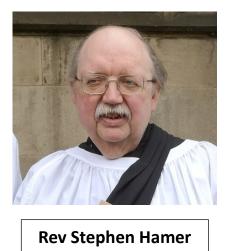
I have always lived in Bolton, I am now retired from working as a scientist, with one grown up son.

After several years of serving the church as a Reader I pursued a call to Ordination. The training was very different to what I expected due to the pandemic however I feel very blessed to now be ordained as priest in July 2023. My calling is to serve around the team but mainly based at St Luke's.





#### Other people within our Team



Deacon



**Rev Michael Taylor** Retired non – stipendiary

There are three Readers and 5 ALMs across the Team, plus 4 representatives as Governors in our link schools.

Our PCC consists of twenty six members which includes seven wardens, nine reps, five deanery reps, 3 ex-offio.

Sub committees, with their clergy are proactive in forward planning to encourage people to consider serving on PCC. Prayer surrounds this process.







# **Sunday services**

St Luke's 9.30 a.m. Service of the word 10.45 a.m. Morning worship (Holy Communion once a month)

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship (Holy Communion twice a month & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

# **St Paul with Emmanuel**

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship (Holy Communion 2 Sundays per month)

Farsi Worship 12.30pm 2nd & 4th Sundays

# All Saints Asian Christian Church

An Urdu speaking Christian Church who meet on the first & third Sunday of each month at 3.30 pm

# St Thomas's

9:45 a.m. Two services a month Holy Communion or Baptism. Occasional services with schools

# St George the Martyr

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship (Holy Communion twice & family service once per month)

6.30 p.m. Informal fellowship, including singing, sharing & prayer held at Kenyon Rise













# St Paul's

#### **ST LUKE'S CHURCH**

#### Background

St Luke's is on a main road into Bolton in an Urban Priority Area, amongst mainly terraced housing. The original church (1874) was destroyed by fire in 1974 and the current church complex (1978) includes two extensions added in the 1980s. The West Bolton Team centre, which was originally the vicarage, adjoins the building. There is a church car park and garage.

There have been Hindu and Muslim communities in this area for many decades. More recently we've seen a number of asylum seekers from Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. We have several families from Nigeria in our congregation, and over the last few years many from Iran – one of whom served as a Church Warden for a couple of years before relocation.

Despite the language challenges we try to facilitate their worship in Church e.g. by having the Bible

reading in English and Farsi and having some of our songs translated too.

#### Sunday worship

The atmosphere is informal, but warm, inviting and family friendly with a Bible based ministry at the heart of the services.



9.30 Prayer: A short service of the Word led by clergy, reader or ALM, with 3-10 worshippers.

10.45 Morning worship: A lively, informal service, with Holy Communion once a month.The structure of the service varies and includes all age worship. Around 40 - 60 adults and15-20 children normally attend. A creche and groups for children and teenagers meet twice monthly during this service.

Services are projected onto a screen, and the musicians lead from the worship platform. We use 'Proclaim' software, which enables different service leaders, preachers and musicians to contribute to the preparation of services online from home. The liturgy is generally from '*Patterns of Worship*' and robes are not usually worn.

During the Covid pandemic the Team produced service recordings, which then led to weekly livestreaming of the services. St Luke's is one of the 3 Team Churches who do this and examples can be found at:

22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2024 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaT\_FaYoYvM&t=141s 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhWGWnxM63g&t=1412s

#### **House Groups**

House groups have always been an important part of life at St Luke's, and we currently have four groups meeting during the week, in homes and the Team centre.

Several church members assist the clergy with the pastoral care of those not in house groups.

#### **Mid week Church activities**

#### Tots & Co

Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Toys, craft, singing and eating! This has a Christian element and 'Wiggle the Bible bookworm', a Children Changing Places initiative, is used.

**Wednesday coffee mornings** - open to all and attended both by Church and non-Church members. We have included carol singing and fundraising (particularly for Mary's Meals) as part of this activity.

**ESOL classes** – This is open to all and numbers vary. It is run by a couple from our congregation and assisted by a volunteer experienced ESOL teacher.

#### St Luke's Mission partners

World mission has always been important at St. Luke's, and our mission partners were all church members here before they moved overseas. 10% of our income is given to mission.

Tim and Jenny Kangas, serving with OMF in Cambodia.

Tony and Lindsay Holbach, serving with OM, but based in Blackpool. Tony is the Crisis Management Consultant and part of O.M.'s People Care Team.







# St Paul's Halliwell

St Paul Halliwell: A welcoming, inclusive church family working to share God's love in the community.

St Paul Halliwell is a 176 year old Church with a long history. It was built by an Evangelical, J Ainsworth, who was a local bleacher. He built the Church, the Parish Centre, the Community Centre and the adjacent cottages – all of which are Grade II listed and situated in a Conservation Area. The Church is situated on a main road position in a socially deprived area with a growing

Muslim Asian population. There is no off-road parking for the Church. Geographically, we are a small patch, built up with housing. Percentage wise, the Church is representative of the local community based on numbers and ethnicity.

Our church tradition would be described as middle of the road tradition with Evangelical emphasis.

Prayer & Worship: St Paul's is alive and growing with a friendly and welcoming congregation. Many of our congregation are local to St Paul's. The average age is 50 but we have many young families and also many elderly people.

For baptisms we hold preparatory visits with the family, which includes the First Steps video and they are then invited to attend 3 Family services. We have two or three

baptisms per year and these services are usually very well attended. Some families have continued to attend or maintained contact with St Paul's following the baptism.

We can offer Holy Communion preparation classes for 7+ year old children to enable them to participate fully in Communion.

# Worship

- Worship is based on Common Worship.
- We hold a monthly All Age Family Service on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.
- Communion Services 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> and family communion on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday.
- Morning Prayer on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Services start at 10.45am
- During the year we hold special services at Easter and Harvest, which are sometimes accompanied by a shared meal which is held in our adjacent Parish Hall.
- We also hold an annual Christingle service which is always very popular as are other special services over Christmas, Ash Wednesday, and Mothering Sunday. We also have services where we invite special speakers, e.g. our Archdeacon, Urban Outreach.
- We currently have a keyboard player and singers, and also make use of song videos which were recorded during lockdown.
- We live stream our service weekly rotating fortnightly around three of the team churches.





# Acts of Love (agape)

Giving. Much of our giving is gift aided and we are up to date paying our parish share. We make donations to charities; World Vision by sponsoring a child, The Children's Society at the Christingle, Urban Outreach at Harvest time, International and disaster appeals.

#### Life long Learning

- We have a weekly Sunday School and the children take part in All Age and special services.
- Advent & Lent Study courses with occasional courses such as LLF and engagement with FFM and ALM training. Alpha & Start Courses.
- We value reaching out more to the local community by:
- Knocking on doors with invitations to services, concerts, fairs and other events.

#### **Church Life**

- We hold a fortnightly Saturday Café which is attended by church members and the local community.
- HAFWAY we have strong links with HAFWAY (Halliwell Action For Working

Alongside Youth). This excellent and very well known youth project is based in our Parish Centre.

• Our two community buildings are very important to the congregation, several of whom take part in or volunteer at the events and activities offered by our partner organisations. St Paul's Community Centre was refurbished in 2018 plus exterior work to the Parish Hall. Hafway were successful in a funding application to the Youth

Investment Fund-refurbishment will be completed by early 2025.

- Halliwell Befriending Service, an excellent service for local older people, run from our Community Centre.
- HHH High Hopes for Halliwell Being. A community charity based in the community centre, that provides a wide range of activities and support for the community (all ages).
- We are hopeful that all this will lead to church growth.

# Areas in which we aim to move forward

• Families – ministry to young families and schools.

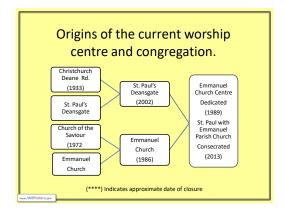






#### St Paul with Emmanuel Parish Church

The Parish of St Paul with Emmanuel has its origins in the urban growth which took place as a result of the growth in cotton manufacture and processing in the nineteenth century. This resulted in the need for a large increase in housing stock. A large number of church buildings were constructed in the area between the years 1839 and 1881 to meet the spiritual needs of the growing population. A breakdown of this is shown below.





The current parish is set within the context of an inner urban, multi-faith, multi-cultural community. The population are of minority ethnic backgrounds (mainly from the Indian Sub-continent).

The parish church complex is used by different community groups and is a focus for community activity. It continues to be a venue for ESOL classes, run by Bolton College. The growing asylum seeker and refugee communities in the area provide a significant client base for this aspect of parish life.

St Paul with Emmanuel lies between two arterial 'A' roads into Bolton town centre. These are populated by south Asian and East European shops and various restaurants which reflect the diverse cultural make -up of the population. The main campus of the University of Bolton, University Collegiate School, three LEA primary schools, Bolton School (Private), Bolton Sixth Form College and Bolton College are sited within the parish boundaries of St Paul with Emmanuel.

Meetings every two weeks on Sunday afternoons are the All Saints Asian Christian Church, speaking in Punjabi and Urdu, and the Farsi Church led by our ALM every two weeks at Sunday lunchtime. Weekly church activities include a 'Knit and Natter' group on Wednesday morning and a Farsi-led Bible Study on Wednesday evening. There is a weekly Zoom bible study on Tuesday evenings with St George the Martyr Church. Social events are organised throughout the year including meals after church on Sunday morning with foods familiar to our asylum and refugee community, BBQs in the summer and a book club. The church opened as a warm space for the community on Wednesdays during the winter months last year manned by volunteers. The church congregation also joins in with activities, both spiritual and social, organised across the team.

There are Holy Communion Services on two Sunday mornings in the month, Morning Prayer / Service of the Word, and a Family Service on other Sundays. It has an open evangelical tradition. Clergy tend to robe. All services are based upon Common Worship and Songs of Fellowship using Power-point video projection.

Café style worship is an alternative during some Services. Robes are worn for Holy Communion. We have a worship group that leads the singing on Sunday morning. There is a baptistery with full immersion pool. The congregation is small and of mixed age and gender. Approximately 75% of members live outside the parish. It is skewed towards the elderly who have wide ranging expertise having held a variety of occupations during their working lives and there is wide lay participation. As a member of the Bolton Central Mission Community under the new Diocesan vision for Mission Communities the church members are looking forward to future challenges. Traditionally we have had a missionary focus supporting Mission Partners overseas connected to CMS. Charities that the church supports include International Aid Trust which has worked in Kyiv for many years. Since the war in Ukraine, we have worked closely with one of the charity trustees to channel our contributions in the most appropriate manner.

St Paul with Emmanuel is one of the team churches that live streams its services on a rota basis. This is a point of contact for many families, including those who have moved overseas, to remain part of our extended church family.

The church supports the work of Bolton Interfaith Council and through this has links with a mosque and Hindu Temple in the locality. The church is a venue for Bolton Interfaith Council Faith Trails.

The church is a polling station at election time and a venue for Community Area Forum meetings with local councillors.

User Groups, at the moment include Martial Arts and Narcotics Anonymous.



#### St Thomas' the Apostle



#### HISTORY

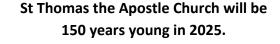
The church was completed in 1875 to serve the growing local population. The main benefactors were the Cross family, mill owners who lived nearby at Mortfield. Thomas Cross gave the site for the church, a school and a vicarage, plus £1,000. The carved wooden altarpiece incorporating a low relief of da Vinci's last supper was given by his son, James Percival Cross. The church was an early use by the architects of brick on such a large scale providing seating for 849 people. The church was consecrated in July 1875 by the Rt. Revd James Fraser, Bishop of Manchester. A Lady

Chapel was formed in 1922 as a war memorial and new vestries were added to the church in 1932. The Altar was replaced in 1960 due to a fire.



First Incumbent William Popplewell 1875-1877 Current Team Vicar Rodger Petch 2007- present day





C.E. PRIMARY, HALLIWELL

St Thomas Church has a close working relationship with the head teacher and the rest of St Thomas School. The School is involved with special services, and also holds regular assemblies in Church.

#### St Thomas C.E. Primary, Halliwell

Working closely with the school we have Tiny Toms group every week and a Messy Church in school on special occasions.

The recent school roof repairs have given the church the opportunity to help by moving some of the lessons into the church building.

#### **Sunday Services**

There are weekly assemblies for the school held in Church on Wednesdays.

Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month we have Holy Communion at 9.45am.

Clergy usually robe for services.











# St George the Martyr Church

St George the Martyr is an evangelical church in an urban area of Bolton with a large Muslim community. We have a small, mixed aged congregation, who all work closely together as a family.

# **Midweek Activities**

# Church Café

Tues 11am-1pm—open to all ages. The average attendance is 15-25. We serve a variety of soups and freshly made sandwiches etc.

# Model Aircraft Club

The group meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month on the evening.

# Bible Study

Tues 7-8pm. We work our way through various books of the Bible a chapter at a time. Since Covid this has continued on Zoom. This is a joint study with St Paul with Emmanuel.

# Prayer Meeting

Wednesdays 2-3pm in a flat in Kenyon Rise.

# Youth Club

Fridays 6.30-8.30pm. We welcome youngsters from 5– 16 years of age. There are games, crafts and a tuck shop. We have time to stop and think, usually on a Bible- based theme.





# **Mission Support**

We give a tenth of our church income to overseas and home missions.

# **Sunday Services**

We meet weekly at 10:30am with Holy Communion twice a month and café-style church every six weeks. On Sunday evening at 6:30pm we meet in the lounge of Kenyon Rise (an independent living home), where we share fellowship and refreshments with the residents.

Sunday school meets weekly during the morning service. Youngsters start off in church and then leave for their own teaching time. They return to church before the end of the service to report on what they have learned.

Youngsters and the young at heart leading action songs during the morning service.





A view of the church interior.

One of our ALMs waiting to receive the offering during Wiggle Worship.



#### St Matthew's Vicarage for the Team Rector

#### Stowell Street, Bolton, BL1 3RQ





The vicarage is a modern 4 bedroomed detached house with enclosed front and private back garden. The garage is attached and there is generous parking within the grounds.

There are three primary schools close by, including St Matthew's C of E primary. There is a small park, local grocery shops and high frequency bus service to the town centre all less than five



than 5 minutes in a car. Canon Slade is the nearest Church of England secondary school.

minutes' walk from the vicarage. Aldi and Morrisons are less

#### West Bolton Team Centre



The West Bolton Team has a team centre, converted from St Luke's vicarage and attached to St Luke's Church. It houses the church office where the team administrator works, together with а room. family style kitchen. prayer informal meeting rooms and further office space. The back garden is used in summer by St Luke's congregation and groups.







For details from ONS see: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census\_2021 .

whites & Local Government. Deprivation statistics are derived from the English Indices of Deprivation 2019, produced by the Ministry of Housing, Comm More dezals can be found an https://www.gov.uk/governmenUstatistict/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019

Deprivation statistics are published at LSOA level. Figure 4 shows how the population of each area is split across LSOAs, categorised by LSOA deprivation decile. For more detailed parish census and deprivation information, see: https://www.churchofengand.org/abour/data-tervices/resources-publications-and-data#na . For an interactive map showing parish deprivation and census statistics, see: http://arcg.is/IRaS4CS

Parish deprivation statistics in figure 7 are colour-coded by parish deprivation decile

shoding shows severity of deprivation compared to other parishes, calour-coded by decile.

1456

Sale

98%

Local services

E.g., a figure of 25% means that 25% of parishes are more deprived than this parish

35% 45% 55%	25% X	5% 15%
45%		

Produced by the Dara Services Team, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SWI P 3AZ. Data of production: 27/2/2024. Version 32; index: 4608

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be grateful to be notified of errors and to receive comments/suggestions; please email statistics unit@churchofengind.org

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



What's on in and near Bolton?



- Jumbles Country Park
- Bolton Wanderers Football Stadium
- Smithills Hall
- Bolton Steam Museum
- Moss Bank Park
- West Pennine Moors
- Hall'i'th Wood
- **Rivington Pike**
- **Queens Park**
- Leverhulme Park
- Winter Hill
- Peel Monument
- Turton & Entwistle reservoirs
- Great Hill
- **Rivington Barn**
- **Chinese Gardens**
- Reservoirs
- **Bolton Arena**







#### Places to visit and see in and around Bolton

Fred Dibnah Heritage Centre

Cinemas

- The Octagon Theatre
- Moses Gate Country Park
- **Bolton One Leisure**
- Hollywood Bowl
- Bolton Little Theatre
- Bolton Albert Halls
- Doffcocker Lodge
- Smithills Open Farm
- **Turton Tower**
- Horwich Leisure centre
- **Bolton Museum**
- **Belmont Reservoir**
- **Bolton Rugby Club**
- **Barrow Bridge**
- Many groups /societies to join







