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## Special Events at the Club

**Thursday 25th August:**  
Dementia Friendly Film  
*Carousel 1pm*

**Saturday 10th September:**  
*Barrie and Ingrid Temple*  
7.30pm

**Saturday 15th October:**  
*Brian Peters 7.30pm*

## Regular Events

**1st Monday Reading Group: 8pm**

**2nd Monday Poetry Reading  
Group: 8pm**

**Tuesday (Alt) : Creative Writing  
Group**

**Tuesday Folk Club: Weekly 8pm**

**2nd Thursday: Record Club 8pm**

**3rd Thursday: Stitch Sisters 8pm**

**Friday Club Night: Weekly  
7pm-9pm Games session;  
9pm-11pm Folk music session**

**2nd Saturday Repair Café 11-1**

**1st Sunday: Film Night 7.30pm**

**2nd Sunday: Quiz 7.30pm**

**4th Sunday: Michelle's Music  
Night 8pm**

Check website for further details:  
[glossoplabourclub.org.uk](http://glossoplabourclub.org.uk)

## Letter from the Chair : Derek Clarke on how Spring events at the club have generated much interest and brought in new members.



Dear Comrades and Friends,

Writing to you in April I said that, although we were still living with the pandemic, things were slowly getting back to some form of normality. That prediction was a bit premature, when I look at the current levels of Covid in the High Peak.

Nevertheless, the Club has been thriving in recent months. The May Day Bank holiday weekend was a huge success. Our theme of 'May Day, May Day for the

Planet' really caught the mood of the country, to try and do something about the climate crisis. You can read a full report of all of the weekend's activities in this newsletter.

Another highly successful weekend for the Club was the Glossop Heritage weekend at the end of May. It was felt by some members that Victorian Heritage events like this tend to portray life during that period through rose tinted glasses, whereas the reality for many working people was a struggle to feed and clothe themselves.

A banner designed by Carol Beckett was hung from the front of the Club; it depicted the real lives of Victorian people and compared them with the desperate lives of many people today. In addition, a petition was produced calling on the Prime Minister to resign, which attracted over a thousand

signatures. The reaction of our MP Robert Lorgan on being presented with the petition has been circulated to members.

Both of these major events attracted a lot of positive publicity and also drew in many people who would not necessarily visit the Club. They also generated a significant number of people applying for Club membership.

Finally, just a note on some improvements that have been made around the Club recently. The addition of a shelter in the garden has been welcomed by many members who have commented on how well the garden area now looks, and what a pleasant place it is to sit and relax on a summer's evening – let's hope there are many more to come.

*A Luta Continua...*  
Derek Clarke  
Chair Glossop Labour Club.

## How Does Our Garden Grow?

**This summer has seen the blossoming of the Labour Club Garden. Hilary Clayton looks back at how it all started and how it continues to be a great space to have a relaxing drink and meet up with friends old and new....**

It all started with a pneumatic drill demolishing the previous flower beds in 2007/8. At the time the club was being upgraded, so Anne Robinson and I volunteered to do the same with the garden, so that we would have both a smart interior and exterior. This was the beginning of our garden adventure.

Little did we know about the volume of work we were taking on but, after much toil, the result was a huge improvement, which has developed with each passing year. Other members - including in particular Martin Purvin - have joined the adventure, and helped enormously in both the initial stages and subsequent years. About five years ago Norman Garlick joined the team, and made a huge difference in lessening the work load for me.

Norman has concentrated on the grass-cutting and assisting enthusiastically wherever needed. Both Norman and I worked in the garden over lock-down which was a great blessing for us both. It gave us the opportunity to cement between the flag stones, get a real grip with the clearing out and making a start on planning the future of the garden. We have found that the Committee has been very supportive of our aims, has funded our requests and members have made suggestions of their own. We also recently purchased some new planters, compost and new plants for the side section of the garden. The old barrel planters are gradually being disposed of after a 15 year weathering and we now looking to replace at least one with something more robust. We will welcome any donations of additional plants,



Our plan for the future of the garden is ongoing. We listen to others and consider changing needs, but above all we hope to maintain a lovely space with lots of interest whichever season it is. We are delighted that the garden is being enjoyed by so many people from different groups who use the club, and it seems to facilitate a lot of social activities. To have a focus like the garden is very rewarding for Norman and I, and we hope we can continue for many years yet.



## Debbie Windley reflects on the Glossop Victorian Weekend Banner Drop

During the Victorian weekend in Glossop we displayed the fantastic banner Carole Beckett designed and created. It was way more impressive than we had imagined, Carole having created an arresting image. Hanging the banner was more challenging than originally thought, but after a great joint effort by Alan, Dennis Gaunt and Ray Collins we had it up and secure.

Alongside the banner we ran a petition asking Robert Largan to demand Prime Minister Johnson's resignation.\* Ruth George came down to support the petition and thank all the people who came along to help, either behind the bar or to run the petition and look after the banner. Both the banner and the petition attracted a huge amount of interest. Those of us outside the club spoke to hundreds of people passing, the vast majority of whom signed the petition, with a final total of about 1000 people signatories in person or online.

Lots of visitors came to take a look at the club, to sit in the garden, and enjoy a drink. The objectives for the day set by Mary Moss, Debbie Windley, Kasey Carver and Carole Beckett were fully realised in raising the profile of the club in the town, re-establishing the club as a centre for activism and drawing in new members. Eight new members joined that weekend.

We were very disappointed that Glossop Chronicle did not cover the banner or the petition, although the Buxton Advertiser did put the petition on its front cover. Carole Beckett is going to raise this with the Chronicle.

In the future, we would like to use the banner again and have had some recommendations for making it easier to hang, and more secure. This could only be done when further work on the front of the building is undertaken, and when it is re-pointed

We are looking into hanging it at other venues and events. We are open to ideas from other parts of the High Peak or beyond. We plan to approach The Peoples' History Museum in Manchester, and other banner displays. The Unite community may be interested in using it.

**\*Editor's note:** Mr Largan has subsequently written a letter from his official parliamentary office to some of the nearly 1000 people who signed the petition that includes unfounded and offensive allegations against the organisers of the petition and by implication our club. A formal letter has been sent in response to this.



### Membership

If you know of anyone who would like to join the Labour club, membership forms are available from the club and we always welcome new members. It costs £5/year and members benefit from a friendly social environment with lots of opportunities to develop interests and meet others. If you still need to pay your subs for this year, contact [glossoplbourclub@gmail.com](mailto:glossoplbourclub@gmail.com)

### Room Hire

The Labour Club is a wonderful space for local groups to meet on a regular or ad-hoc basis.

To book, contact Angela Dale  
[bookings.glossoplbourclub@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.glossoplbourclub@gmail.com)

### Join the Monthly Tote

The Tote is a way of raising funds to allow us to buy special items, or undertake special projects, beyond those that can be supported from our normal income. Members participating in the Tote pay, by standing order, £5 per month. Each month we have a draw, and the winning member gets a 'prize' of £25. To join the tote, contact Kasey Carver at [kasey.carver@btinternet.com](mailto:kasey.carver@btinternet.com) who will send you a standing order form.



### Write an Article for the Newsletter

If you'd like to write an article for the newsletter, please send it to Margaret Peters on [margaret.peters@live.co.uk](mailto:margaret.peters@live.co.uk)



## Ray Collins looks at the success of the new Repair Café @ Glossop Labour Club

There is a global movement, led by ordinary people, to create Repair Cafés in towns and cities. Here people can bring for repair personal items that are broken or otherwise unusable, using expertise provided for free by volunteers. There are established Repair Cafés in New Mills and Buxton but, until now, nothing similar in Glossop. The committee agreed to set up a Repair Café at the club late last year, and The Repair Café @ Glossop Labour Club has now been up and running since March 2022.

The Repair Café @ Glossop Labour Club provides many benefits that align with the aims of our club. Environmental benefits include reducing waste and the need for unnecessary replacement purchases, and providing a counter to the throwaway society. There are also social benefits, in providing a low-cost repair service, improving people's confidence in performing simple repair tasks, fostering experience, and promoting the understanding of mutuality. It has also increased community engagement with the club, and helped to introduce a number of new members.



We run events each month, on the second Saturday of the month between 11:00 and 13:00 (future dates listed below) and currently have a number of regular volunteer repairers with skills in sewing, furniture, woodwork, jewellery, bicycles, electrics and general fettling. We are always interested in hearing from new repairers whatever your skills, and are particularly looking for volunteers to help with organisation, promotion, social media etc. If you would like to get involved, contact [ray.collins@uwclub.net](mailto:ray.collins@uwclub.net).

### The Repair Café @ Glossop Labour Club

Future Dates for your Diary (2nd Saturday of Every Month):  
13th August, 10th September, 8th October, 12th November,  
10th December.

### Book Donations

For many years, club stalwart Angela Grills has organised the sale of second hand books in the club. Club members donate pre-loved books. We thank you for doing so, as all proceeds from the sale of these books go to club funds. When you donate your books, it would help if you could bear the following in mind:

- We accept paperbacks and hardbacks. We accept a wide range of books, including fiction and non-fiction.
- If you'd like to, please pop a note inside the book to say why you enjoyed reading it.
- Please make sure that your books are in good condition.
- Please be aware that we may not have enough space for all donations; we are aware of what will be likely to appeal to our members.
- The books will be placed on the shelves in the garden room at the club. If they do not sell after 6 months, we will donate them to either the Oxfam Bookshop, or the Community Bookshop in Glossop.

*Happy Reading!*

## Red Film Club

Glossop Labour Club, Chapel Street, SK13 8AT

**Sunday September 4**

Bar opens 7.00; film starts 7.30

**The Last Bus (2022)**



An elderly man, Tom (Timothy Spall), whose wife has just passed away uses only local buses on a nostalgic trip to carry her ashes all the way across the UK to Land's End, where they originally met, using his free bus pass.

All welcome. Entry by donation. £4 suggested or less if low wage.

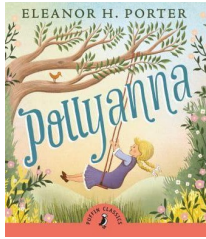
All welcome to this informal showing of a great film.

Tea and biscuits included!



**'I've just finished reading and enjoyed...'**

This book is chosen by David Fowler



Send your 'Good Reads' to :  
[margaret.peters@live.co.uk](mailto:margaret.peters@live.co.uk)

**Saturday 10th September. 7.30pm  
Barrie and Ingrid Temple**

Barrie and Ingrid are powerful singers from Newcastle upon Tyne. They sing in harmony, either *a capella*, or with Barrie's concertina and guitar accompaniments, and their presentation is committed and passionate, with both political and humorous content. Also in the repertoire are Barrie's original songs, which are now being sung and recorded by other performers. Barrie and Ingrid have performed throughout the UK and abroad, at folk clubs and festivals, where they are well respected for their unique style of close harmony singing and their original arrangements.

**Tickets from the Club or from George Street Bookshop. Online from [wegottickets](http://wegottickets.com).**



**Saturday 15th October . 7.30pm  
Brian Peters**



Brian is a locally-based singer and musician, with an international career that has taken him to the USA, Canada and Australia as well as countless venues and festivals in the UK. He plays an array of instruments including guitar and squeezebox, and performs mostly traditional folk, with a few surprises in store and an entertaining style. Brian is an old friend of Glossop Labour Club, having performed for us several times, solo or in bands, his most recent appearance having been in the sell-out 'Road to Peterloo' show in 2019.

**Poetry please.....**

Poetry is a delight and pleasure, especially when it comes to life in being read aloud. We now have an evening at the Club devoted to just that: reading and listening to our favourite verses. It is open to everyone, and we hope to see you. No pressure to bring something to read, but we will be thrilled if you do. We don't set topics, so we have an eclectic mix across the years and styles of poetry, including local authors and regional verse.

**Second Monday of the month from 8.00 pm, Snug Bar.**

For information about the Poetry evenings, please contact: [juliabrun@icloud.com](mailto:juliabrun@icloud.com)

The poetry evening is an off-shoot of the Labour Club Reading Group which continues to meet every month (1st Monday) to discuss a novel, and on Zoom as well.

For more information about the Reading Group, please contact Anne: [margannerobinson@btinternet.com](mailto:margannerobinson@btinternet.com).

**'MAY DAY MAY DAY FOR THE PLANET'**



This year's May Day Bank Holiday weekend at the Club was a huge success - the number of participants and the welcome we gave them made me think we should consider holding this type of event on a more regular basis. Things kicked off on Friday evening with poetry readings, then on a hectic Saturday morning, stalls were laid out and people arrived with their wares. Everything eventually slotted into place, and the club looked great with a steady stream of visitors, some of whom had not visited us previously, while for our regulars it was an opportunity to network with other like-minded people and campaigns. The lunch

of curry and pakoras was welcomed by everybody before people settled down to hear our guest speakers in the garden sunshine, under the new shelter. I counted just over thirty participants, many from outside the area. The workshops that followed, which proved particularly popular, gave people opportunities to discuss in smaller groups how they could contribute to the fight against climate change. The Saturday evening concert with our old favourites Jess Silk and Darren Poyzer was well-attended and enjoyable. On Sunday over a dozen people joined the Glossop 'social history walk', and the reaction was so positive that an extended version is planned for a later date. Banner-making too went ahead, despite a re-jig caused by the retiming of the Manchester May Day Demonstration, which several of us attended: it attracted over a thousand people in a carnival atmosphere. On Sunday evening the uplifting Ken Loach film 'Spirit of 45' was screened. Monday morning saw a leisurely start with stalls and activities being set up, and teas and coffees in abundance. Soon children began to arrive and to participate in the activities, while their parents browsed the stalls and the Repair Cafe. Vegan food was available free



of charge and many people took up the offer. The rooms and the garden were busy throughout the day, and several new visitors commented on the welcoming environment. The event was a triumph, not only in terms of the people who came along - several of whom became members - but also for the publicity it generated for the Club. However, this can't be the end of the campaign to tackle global warming, Our 'May Day May Day for the Planet' should act as a springboard for more action in the community, and we need to consider how to take the campaign forward. Thanks to all those who made this weekend such a success, in particular to Kasey, Debbie and Peter who all played pivotal roles in the planning.

