

Vol. 1, issue 4 Winter 2022



### In this Issue:

- P1 : Letter from the Chair Christmas Events**
- P2 : Welcoming Spaces**
- P3 : Music for the People**
- P4 : Red Film Club**

### Special Events at the Club:

**Sunday December 4th**  
**Red Film Club 'Hairspray'**  
7pm

**Friday December 9th:**  
**Derbyshire Christmas Carols**

**Saturday December 10th**  
**Club Christmas Party**  
Doors open 7.30pm

**Sunday 11th December**  
**The Red Shed Players:**  
*A Cost of Living Crisis Christmas Carol*  
2pm

### Regular Events

- 1st Monday Reading Group: 8pm**
- 2nd Monday Poetry Reading Group: 8pm**
- Tuesday (Alt) : Creative Writing Group**
- Tuesday Folk Club: Weekly 8pm**
- Wednesday: Gamers**
- 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 (NB 18th December)**

[glossoplabourclub.org.uk](http://glossoplabourclub.org.uk)

## Letter from the Chair : Derek Clarke on changes coming to your club



Dear Comrades and Friends,  
Visitors' to the Club may have started noticing some changes to the furniture and decor in recent weeks. These changes are a result of the motion that was passed at our last AGM, when it was agreed that the Club needed a makeover to reflect the changing views of the times and attract a wider clientele, while at

the same time retaining our loyal customer base. The Committee have had several meetings over recent months and one of the early decisions that we made was not to employ an interior design company to advise us on what was required but instead to draw upon our own, and Club members, interests and experiences. Our guiding principle in the work is the three 'Rs' Recycle, Refurbish and Reuse. Groups have now been formed to focus on the Snug (Kasey, Den, Ray and Alan) Garden Room (Margaret, David and Julia) and Entrance (Debbie and Eddie) and the work has started with some interesting and creative ideas. If you have any suggestions or comments I'm sure they would be interested to hear from you.

In addition to the work inside the building we now have twenty solar panels on our roof and a battery in the cellar which means we are now in a position to start generating our own electricity, once Octopus Energy has installed a new meter which is scheduled for 23rd December. Future plans are to move away from gas central heating and instead install heat pumps powered in part by the electricity we generate. This will not only significantly reduce our energy bills but also reduce our carbon output.

Finally, on behalf of all of the Committee can I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Covid Free New Year and look forward to seeing you at the Club in the very near future.

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



### Derbyshire Christmas Carols Friday 9th December 7.30pm

Come and sing these special carols to celebrate the season. Many of them were sung by local people who lived in Derbyshire villages such as Castleton and Eyam. Some are more widely known. Jeremy Dale will lead us and song sheets are available. Daniel Bath has once again agreed to provide accompaniment on the piano. These carols are all great fun to sing. No charge for admission, but we will be making a collection for two charities, *Glossopdale Foodbank* and *Music for the Many*. Come and raise the roof, and a glass!

### 'Tis the Season...

#### Saturday 10th December Doors open 7.30pm

Join us for the Club Christmas Party. The Melody Gal aka Tracey Martin, is providing the music, and with a repertoire of over 2000 songs, there will be something for everyone's taste. You just need to bring yourself, some snacks if you'd like to, and enjoy spending time with friends in the club.



## Red Shed TV Extravaganza

Sunday 11th December 2pm

### 'A Cost of Living Crisis Christmas Carol'

The latest show from Wakefield's Red Shed Players, inspired by both Dickens and Dario Fo, promises an afternoon of satire, song, and sedition.

When Scrooge re-locates his payday loans business offshore, the Cratchett family face a tough Christmas. Bob Cratchett visits the food bank but Mrs Cratchett has other ideas about how to deal with a system that puts profits for the few ahead of the needs of the many.



"We don't want charity, we want justice, we should sack Scrooge and his like-minded parasites and redistribute the wealth stolen from us."

Tiny Tim has joined DPAC (Disabled People Against Cuts) and refuses to forgive Ebenezer Scrooge. He explains: "This system is failing the masses and must be opposed by any means available. In these times looting stops being a crime and starts being self-defence".

## Welcoming Spaces

A warm space for all to share

Glossop Labour Club will be taking part in High Peak Borough Council's Welcoming Spaces scheme and will be opening its doors each Sunday from 1100 – 1500 hrs from this Sunday, 20 November. We have fixed this time up until 11 December after which we may amend the timings depending on what suits people best. Light refreshments will be available free of charge. There is also free WiFi, games, books and newspapers. We are in the process of applying for a food licence and, once this is obtained, we aim to provide soup, baked potatoes etc. All those wanting to meet others in a convivial and friendly space are more than welcome. Please check our website for updates after 4 December:

<http://glossoplabourclub.org.uk/warm-spaces>

Details of the other organisations in Glossop are also opening their doors at different times during the week can be found at:

<https://www.highpeak.gov.uk/article/7343/Welcoming-Spaces>

## Food Hygiene Awareness

Committee members Angela Dale and Margaret Peters, have recently completed a Level 2 Food Hygiene Awareness Course. There will be new signage in the kitchen area to comply with food hygiene regulations.



This sink is  
for hand wash  
only



Accessible  
toilet

## Improving Facilities

Our accessible toilet has had an upgrade recently with the addition of a new mirror and baby changing facility. We hope this will prove useful for members, and we are keen to know what you think about these changes.



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

This book is chosen by  
Pam Zuntz

Send your Good Reads  
to:

[Margaret.peters@live.co.uk](mailto:Margaret.peters@live.co.uk)

## 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 [glossoplabourclub@gmail.com](mailto:glossoplabourclub@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.glossoplabourclub@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.glossoplabourclub@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)

## Music for the People

### Brian Peters takes a look at the long tradition of music making in Glossop Labour Club



*Michelle Holding and Bonz in concert, 2022*

Members of Glossop Labour Club will know that it is a hotbed of live music – in fact the club has been an important local resource for acoustic music for many decades. Long-time stalwart and former secretary Terry Revell casts his mind back to the 1960s, when LC members would attend jazz nights at the Band Room, featuring national artists like Kenny Ball and George Melly, which often ended with bucketfuls of beer carried back to members' houses for after-hours partying! Local folk nights were held at the Station Hotel (later the George) around the same time, but it wasn't until the 1970s that the club started organising regular folk concerts in the large upstairs room (following the lead of the poetry nights that had already become established) and featuring some of the cream of the Manchester folk scene. 'The Oldham Tinkers, Harry Boardman and Mike Harding all came to the club,' Terry remembers. 'Ken Bracewell, who ran the nights and booked most of the acts, was a good friend of Mike's through the Ramblers' Association – they both at one time chaired the

Manchester branch.' Another early guest was Hadfield singer and musician Terry Walsh, whose act in those days featured a traditional wooden dancing doll, and who is still a regular visitor to folk nights at the club.

After a lull in activities, music returned in the 1980s under Terry Revell's direction, with themed evenings welcoming local performers such as Lesley and Steven Davies, who appeared as a young duo and are both still involved with the local music scene. 'Open nights' at which anyone can perform, remain an important part of the club's musical mix to this day. Current secretary Kasey Carver is a passionate advocate of participatory music events: 'I think that our informal sessions and folk club occupy an important niche in the area, a place where people can 'have a go' in a supportive environment. It's all about people doing stuff together in good company.' Kasey herself ran the monthly Sunday sessions during the 1990s, after taking over from Jean Hobson. She persuaded top-notch local musicians like Matt Fahey and Brian Austin to attend. 'It really took off, with a lot of their friends and contacts turning up, some of them travelling quite a distance. I didn't seem to need much sleep in those days so I kept the bar open very late - which may also been part of the attraction,' says Kasey with a wry smile. 'The rule was that anyone could join in, irrespective of their talents or appropriateness of the instrument: I don't think there were many other sessions that had a regular sousaphone player!' Several families brought musically-inclined children along with them; one talented teenage guitarist who struck up a song was surprised to find other musicians joining in. At the end, he looked up and asked in wonderment, 'So people know Neil Young?!'

Another fondly-remembered club musician, Joe Brindley, began coming along to the sessions around this time, initially playing spoons, but soon deciding to take up the melodeon (button accordion) and gaining the confidence to sing. When Kasey found herself with too many commitments to continue as organiser of the Sunday folk nights, she handed the task on to Joe and fellow squeezebox player Baz Renwick, who kept the pot boiling for several years. Joe was an affable and humorous MC, and sometimes hilariously forgetful: even the most talented regulars might find themselves introduced as 'Thingy'!

Joe's sad death early during the Covid period left a void, into which stepped accomplished duo Michelle Holding and Bonz, who have hosted the monthly Sunday sessions ever since, welcoming an eclectic mix of musicians and singers. At the same time, the Tuesday night Folk Club continues to provide a friendly and informal session to which singers, musicians and poets bring traditional or contemporary material, while the Friday night instrumental sessions are thriving, with musicians including members of regional ceildh bands kicking up a rip-roaring selection of traditional dance tunes. More opportunities for participation have been offered by the annual themed nights initiated by Jeremy Dale, including a Burns Night, a Lancashire Night, and a Welsh Night around St. David's Day. Jeremy also organises the popular evening of Christmas Carols during the festive season, including many traditional carols unique to Derbyshire.

Important though these participatory sessions are, there's also a keen local audience for performances by accomplished musicians, so concerts – usually on a Saturday night - have been a part of the club's offering for many years. Pat Hetherington organised many shows during the 1990s: 'I loved those nights; they were usually packed, with a warm, friendly atmosphere, and the bands always said they'd enjoyed playing for us. I used to book acts I'd heard at festivals – anything from Bluegrass to Mariachi, Western Swing to Cajun – including Cajun dance teachers. There was an anarchic 'street music' element to some of



*Friday night session, 2007*

the bands: like the guy who'd acquired a fiddle from a skip, and repaired it with Araldite... then there were 'The Lost T-Shirts of Atlantis', my personal favourites, who had banjos, ukuleles, a stylophone, a bass that had once been a bath tub, and a drum made out of a dustbin!

There were also top performers from the folk scene: Martin Carthy, doyen of traditional English song, played during the early 1990s, while another of the 'greats', Roy Bailey, gave a moving performance of deeply committed contemporary songs as the club moved into the 2000s. Around this time, a number of excellent artists offered their services for nothing in support of the Chernobyl Children's Appeal, for events organised by Ken and Mags Whiting with Linda and David Walker. Since then, the Saturday concerts



*The Rocky Mountain Ploughboys, 2001*



*Martin Carthy, early 1990s*

have become a regular attraction, with Jeremy Dale booking the guests, who have included Will Kaufman, with a fascinating musical presentation about Woody Guthrie, and Barry and Ingrid Temple, who got a great response for their hard-hitting industrial songs from the North East. Further events with a political focus have been provided by the independently-organised Defiance Sessions, which celebrate 'songs with a conscience', and have promoted artists such as Johnny Campbell and Jess Silk. The club also welcomes at regular intervals the riotous crews who disembark at Glossop from the 'Folk Trains' that provide musical entertainment for enthusiastic (or bemused!) passengers on the evening service from Manchester; bands and their followers take a musical break at the club before staggering back for the late train to Piccadilly.

## We're listening .....

Labour Club Committee members have been busy discussing ways in which we could improve the experience for members who use the club regularly. There are times when different groups need space, and this can sometimes be difficult to share, so we are working on ways in which we can use the space in our club creatively. This will involve some changes and we welcome your ideas and comments as we move through the process.

## Our Days Out

There are opportunities to socialise in a variety of activities outside the Labour Club. There are three walking groups; The Red Ramblers, Red Amblers, and the Five Mile Walkers. Recent successful visits to Tatton Flower Show and Glossop's Christmas Lights have encouraged us to plan other activities next year. There will be a club day visit to Tatton between 19-23 July 2023. Also a visit to the garden of the Pankhurst Centre in Manchester in the company of Jan Leigh, the designer of the garden. We hope to co-ordinate this with International Women's Day on 8th March 2023.

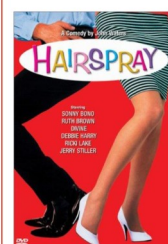
### Red Film Club

Glossop Labour Club, Chapel Street, SK13 8AT

Sunday December 4

Bar opens 7.00; film starts 7.30 pm

### Hairspray (1988)



A light hearted musical comedy with a serious point to make.

In the 1960s, Tracy Turnblad, an overweight optimistic Baltimore teenager, lands a spot on the local TV station's *Corny Collins* dance show.

Now a teen hero she starts using her position to speak out for the cause she believes in, most of all racial integration. In doing so she earns the wrath of the show's former star, Amber Von Tussle and her pushy unpleasant parents. The rivalry comes to a head as Amber and Tracy vie for the title of Miss Auto Show 1963. Running time 88 mins

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

## Toilet Twinning

A recent initiative in Glossopdale was for organisations to work together on World Toilet Day to highlight the need to 'flush away poverty, one toilet at a time'. As 1.7 billion people on the planet don't have access to somewhere safe to go to the toilet, the Labour Club has twinned a toilet. In doing this we have helped to fund a project in a community that will enable families to build a basic toilet, have access to clean water and learn about hygiene – a vital combination that saves lives.



[www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org)

## Red Film Club 2023

The Red Film Club has a reputation for showing a wide variety of films with mostly socio-political interest. These are shown on the first Sunday of the month starting at 7.30pm, and are popular with members. You can check the Club website for further details, but here's a peek at what you can expect soon.

In 2023, the Red Film Club aim to screen:

February: *Morris: A Life with Bells on*

March: *MASH*

April: *Dr Strangelove*

May: *Buena Vista Social Club*

June: *Shooting Dogs*

July: *The Lives of Others*

(All subject to Licence)

Please note there is no film in January.

[glossoplourclub.org.uk](http://glossoplourclub.org.uk)

