



## Whit Friday, 13th June...

Full details of traffic restrictions, parking and safety notes are on the insert inside this diary. Please have a great night and take care. Also be careful about your property, making sure nothing gets lost!



**FRIENDS OF DOBCROSS SCHOOL**

**Friends of Dobcross School (FODS) will be holding their annual summer fair and raffle on the 27th June. We would very much welcome any raffle donations from any local businesses or local business owners.**

**If you can help, please contact :**

**friendsofdobcrossschool@gmail.com or via Facebook.**

## Photograph time again!

Surely, as the weather has been so good recently, you have all been out with your cameras! Maybe one or two of your pictures could be selected for the 2026 Dobcross Calendar. Hopefully, we will soon be putting one together for next year.

As usual, aim for a high resolution and a landscape format, but sometimes we crop a portrait view to fit, as that's the best shape for each month's page.

So please send them to us at [diary@dobcross.com](mailto:diary@dobcross.com)

## Band Club News



I'd like to offer my sincere apologies to long-standing committee member Carole Bell.

Carole stepped down from the committee at the last AGM and I omitted to mention this in the last edition of the Diary. Carole has been a valued member of the committee for many years and has made a valuable contribution to the ongoing success of the Band Club.

You may be aware that the Silver Band are fundraising for their trip to the National Finals in Cheltenham later this year. We are currently seeking donations of any description that could be included in hampers, to be raffled off in aid of the band. So if you have any items that might be suitable, please drop them off at the club. Anything from a bottle of wine to a meal voucher or a box of chocolates would be most welcome.

It's that time of the year again as we look forward to a sun-drenched Whit Friday. The Club will be open in the morning for the gathering of the bands and the traditional and always poignant rendition of Silver Hill. Then it's on to the square for the morning service and a brisk march to Uppermill.

The Club will remain open all day and there will also be an outside bar on the car park, hosted by our friends at We Are Wolf brewing. The band contest will kick off around 4.00 pm and end around 11.00pm. Hope everyone has a great day and we look forward to seeing friends old and new in the Club.

Finally, many thanks to Cliff Bird from AVIS AV, for upgrading the big screen in the snooker room. Cliff has installed a state-of-the-art system at no cost to the club. The results are fantastic and a massive improvement on the previous system which looked like it had been installed by Professor Branestawm. Many thanks to AVIS AV on a fantastic job.

**Terry Lawless**

This edition of the Dobcross Diary is kindly sponsored by the Dobcross Whit Friday Committee

## WHIT FRIDAY, 13th June 2026

The Dobcross Whit Friday Committee is proud to sponsor this issue of the Diary and would like to thank the Dobcross Village Community for their support for the Whit Friday events. We hope everyone has a wonderful day on Whit Friday 2025 and please join in.



- ❖ Whit Walks ❖ Lunch for the children of Dobcross ❖
- ❖ Afternoon sports day ❖ Dobcross Band Contest ❖

[doxwhitfriday@gmail.com](mailto:doxwhitfriday@gmail.com)



# Dobcross Youth Band



On April 6<sup>th</sup> The Youth band received the devastating news that our wonderful Librarian Rosemary Whiffin had passed away very suddenly and unexpectedly.

Rosemary and her husband Peter joined our Band family over 30 years ago when they brought their son Robert to join the band. Robert took up the trombone and still plays, currently with Greenfield Band. Rosemary and Peter soon became dedicated supporters of the band, Peter joined the committee and Rosemary became our librarian.

Anyone who knows about Brass bands will understand the librarian's job is certainly not stress free. Having a filing system that works, photocopying all parts [never give out originals!] at a moment's notice for MD's, getting copies back to file after the piece has been removed from the programme, laminating and putting together march pads and hymn pads for all parts, to name a few of the jobs covered. Multiply that by upwards of 100 members of a Youth Band who come along to rehearsals and engagements with the cry, "I've lost my music", "I never had this piece", "I've left my music at home/school" even "the puppy chewed my music!" Rosemary patiently reproduced the part, sometimes with a well-deserved reprimand to persistent offenders. She put together folders of the programme of music for our tours and always carried a file of spares to contest. As Steve Beardmore, Training Band MD said to his Band, "Every piece of music you have will remind you of this lovely lady. Look after your music in respect of her memory". We were so fortunate to have an absolute gem.

Rosemary was a Physiotherapist in her professional life and this led to her taking on the role of First Aider to

the band. Although all the committee and volunteers hold First Aid certificates, Rosemary took the lead. Two first aid kits, one for Trainers and one for the Youth Band. She kept them meticulously up to date. Rosemary will be remembered by many of our children for her kindness and care for anyone feeling unwell, especially on engagements and band trips.

We all said goodbye to Rosemary on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May at Holy Trinity Church, Dobcross where Rosemary was an active member in the church she loved so much. The Church was filled with family from near and far; friends, ex colleagues, representatives of the many causes she supported and members of the Dobcross Community. The service was a true celebration of her life, the many spoken tributes filled with wonderful memories and lovely, funny anecdotes of her life.

As was so fitting, the music was a reflection of Rosemary, with her favourite hymns, a beautiful rendition of "The Lord Bless You and Keep you," by the choir. Many members of the Youth Band came out of school and college and along with ex members and parents to play a moving tribute, arranged by James Atkins, of three pieces that reflected Rosemary's involvement with the Band Family, 'Hail Smiling Morn', 'Be Still', and 'Bring me Sunshine'.

Thank you so much to Peter, Robert and the Family and everyone who played a part in this very special service for a very special lady, who left on her final journey to the applause of those who came to honour her. She is missed.

Sue Crook. Chairman

## Community Shop Open During Band Contest Event - Join the Fun!

This Whit Friday as we all march to the beat of drums and brass and the annual band contest fills the village with music, colour, and cheer, there's even more to look forward to — the Dobcross Village Store will be open throughout the event, offering refreshments, handmade goods, and event-day specials to give your picnic that va va vroom!

Store manager Tim has promised samosas and sandwiches and of course there are always lovely treats, other goodies and freshly baked treats on offer in store.

And as usual there are some great wines and beers on offer, as well as other hot and cold drinks to keep you refreshed and get the party started.

Whether you're here to cheer on your favourite band, enjoy the festive atmosphere, or just passing by, the Dobcross Post Office and Store is the perfect stop and will be open until 8pm.

[www.dobcrossvillagestore.com](http://www.dobcrossvillagestore.com)



## Nature Notes

One afternoon in mid-May, two small black birds with long, narrow, curved wings were flying fast around the streets of Uppermill and up over the roof-tops, making a screaming sound - rather like excited children on a roller-coaster. They were swifts, one of the insect-eating bird species which return here every year to breed. They will leave again in just a couple of months, to spend the rest of the year in southern Africa.

Once a young swift is ready to leave its nest, it will spend almost its entire life on the wing, feeding, mating and even sleeping while airborne. It's thought that the two halves of their brains can sleep separately, so that there is always one half awake. They have very short legs, because they hardly ever need to use them except for clambering in and out of their nest holes, which are usually in a hole in an old building. They can fly at very high altitudes and their legs are covered with tiny white feathers to stop them losing too much body heat.

As with many other insect-eating species, the number of swifts has declined drastically over recent years. One reason is the loss of nesting sites, as old buildings are renovated and holes in the roofs are being blocked up. To compensate, the designers of new buildings are being encouraged to use special swift bricks in their walls, with horizontally elongated holes giving access to holes in the cavities. Another reason for the decline has probably been the shortage of insect food in recent years. Hopefully they are appreciating the clouds of greenflies which are around this spring. Incidentally, several drivers have commented to me on the numbers of insects they are finding on their car windowscreens and numberplates this year.



Swift



House Martin



Swallow

## Athene Noctua

(Illustrations from the RSPB website)

## DOBCROSS BOWLERS

The bowling season is now well under way and unlike last year we have been playing in sunshine! The league matches continue until September, and at the time of writing, we have four teams in the top slot of their leagues and two in the second slot which is a great start. Well done to them! Five of our other teams are maintaining their mid-table positions and hopefully the remaining two can improve their positions later!

During June we will be playing our inter-team competition, which is a new initiative this year, and six teams have entered which should ensure some interesting matches between them.

Then we will revert to our usual Club competitions, starting on Sunday 6 July with the Graham Hill Trophy, and then the Atherton Malone Trophy in August.

**Kevin Lawton – Chairman    07929 892 657**

## 200 CLUB HTD

### April's winner!

The winner of this draw with share number 162 is:  
**Andy Raymer.**

### May's winner!

The winner of this draw with share number 16 is:  
**Rita Chester.**

Promoter: Mr Peter J Whiffin, 22 Nudger Green, Dobcross, Oldham, OL3 5AW)

## Holy Trinity Church Services in June

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>09:30am</b>	<b>All Age Eucharist (CW)</b>
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:30am</b>	<b>Morning Praise (NPW)</b>
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:30am</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday (CW)</b>
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>09:30am</b>	<b>Eucharist (CW)</b>
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:30am</b>	<b>Morning Praise (NPW)</b>

*This Diary is distributed free to every home in Dobcross and also available via email. It is now also available to read on the Dobcross Shop website, together with a welcome pack: [dobcrossvillagestore.com](http://dobcrossvillagestore.com) We try to include all village events. If you have any articles for the next issue, please contact Patricia on 01457 878814 or by emailing [diary@dobcross.com](mailto:diary@dobcross.com).*



## Dobcross Silver Band

Following the great win at Blackpool in February, another superb contest performance from the Silver Band at the Buxton Festival in early May saw the Silver Band crowned

to our National Finals Fund as we prepare once again for the prestigious trip to Cheltenham in September.



In early June we will compete at the Meltham March and Hymn Contest, this at a lovely location at the Travellers Rest Inn just outside the village. Then we look forward to Whit Friday of course where the Silver Band will once again take part in the spectacular morning marches and the Band Contests later in the day.

In July we will compete at the Brighthouse March and Hymn Contest on 6<sup>th</sup> July and Brass on the Grass will

3rd Section champions and also winners of the best Euphonium section prize! Winners at Buxton now 4 years in a row for this superb Dobcross team.

As I write this we look forward to our next Anniversary concert, this time at the Band Club where we have a 'reunion' theme, an opportunity to reach out to and share memories with former members. Monies raised at this event will be allocated

hopefully go ahead without rain this year on 20 July. Showcase Brass concerts are working very well in 2025 - thank you for your support. On June 22 at 2pm we have our friends from Delph Band performing for us at the Club for the first time in many years. Definitely one for the diary!

**Andy Black (Silver Band Chairman) on 07907 635397**

### Saddleworth Gardening Club Summer Trips - Visitors Welcome

**Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Gardening Weekend: RHS Garden Harlow Carr.**

A celebration of all things gardening at RHS Garden Harlow Carr's Summer Gardening Weekend! A perfect day out for plant lovers and anyone looking for a fun and inspiring summer escape. Browse an incredible selection of plants, including offerings from some of the country's finest nurseries, featuring Chelsea Gold Medal Winners. Garden Tools, Accessories and Sundries also on display and for sale

**Entrance** – RHS member and 1 guest free (take your card)/on line in advance £15.85 /Group rate for 15+£14.27

**Coach** Member £24 Visitor £27 Pick-up Grotton -9.45 am/ Uppermill 10.00am

**Booking Contact Janet 01457 875704**

**Closing date – June 12th**

**Future Dates:**

**Sunday 20th July**

**RHS Show at Wentworth Woodhouse**

**Booking** - Lesley on 07784 793 410 Closing date – July 12th

**Sunday 14th September**

**Autumn Plant Hunters' Fair at Arley Hall**

**Booking** - Irene on 07861 620142 Closing date – Sept 5th

### FOOTPATH AND FOOTBRIDGE UPDATE

I mentioned last month that I was hoping to have a face-to-face meeting with Oldham's Director of Environment to finally establish what options are acceptable to replace the bridge as soon as possible, and the good news is that I have an appointment to meet him on Thursday 22 May. That is after the copy date for this Diary so watch out for a detail report next month!

In the meantime, I have obtained a price for a minimum standard footbridge which would cost £5,600 delivered in kit form, but that would need some arrangement either paid or voluntary to assemble it! It would have the advantage of the bridge being replaced within the designated width of the footpath so the work itself would not need approval from Newbank.

**Kevin Lawton**

### Good Luck for Whit Friday

**The village wishes all our Brass Bands the best of luck for Whit Friday.**

**Let's hope it's a lovely sunny day for all of us too!**

**DOBCROSS WHIT FRIDAY TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS**  
**FRIDAY 13TH JUNE, 2025**

EVENTS
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PROCESSION OF WITNESS (WHIT WALKS)</b></p> <p><b>9.45 am</b> The Procession of Witness leaves the Band Club and marches to The Square for a short service. At 10.30am, the procession leaves the village via Woods Lane and Dobcross New Road into Uppermill.</p> <p><b>12 noon (approximately)</b> The procession returns from Uppermill via Wool Road and Sugar Lane and disbands in The Square</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DOBCROSS BAND CONTEST 4pm - Midnight</b></p> <p>Band coaches <b>only</b> can enter the centre of the village using a one-way system from Sugar Lane and will leave by Woods Lane. Bands perform their street marches from the Band Club to The Square and then walk to Churchfields to play their contest piece.</p>

NO PARKING ZONES
<p><b>9am - Midnight</b> Woods Lane Platt Lane from the Old School to The Square The Square and Churchfields</p>
<p><b>3.30pm - Midnight</b> Sugar Lane. The South side of Sugar Lane to 29 Sugar Lane &amp; the whole of the North side Dobcross New Road</p>

ROAD CLOSURES
<b>9am - 11am and 3.30pm - Midnight</b>
The Square from Sandy Lane
Woods Lane from Dobcross New Road
Platt Lane from after Lark Hill Road
Sugar Lane from Wool Road
Crib Fold from Crib Lane

RESIDENT PASSES & PARKING FACILITIES
<p>The car park at Dobcross School is available for residents affected by these restrictions. Parking for Blue Badge holders is available at the Vicarage.</p> <p>Vehicles displaying a Resident's Pass can gain access to the following addresses on Whit Friday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nudger Green, Nudger Close,</li><li>• Treetops Close, Sycamore Cottages,</li><li>• Woods Lane, for houses that have off-road parking,</li><li>• Platt Lane from Bar Meadow to the Old School</li><li>• Sugar Lane, for houses with off-road parking.</li></ul> <p>Residents' passes will be distributed by the House to House collectors between 23rd May and 12th June. If you need additional passes, email: <a href="mailto:dobxwhitfriday@gmail.com">dobxwhitfriday@gmail.com</a> or phone Pam Rose: 07779 274834</p> <p>Residents who have visits from carers and/or home helpers should advise them of the above restrictions which take place on Whit Friday, 13th June.</p>

# WHIT FRIDAY IN DOBCROSS – 13TH JUNE 2025

Let's Make It a Day to Remember!

## HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION REMINDER

Our collection is still underway (until 12th June), helping to fund all the Whit Friday events. If we miss you, you can still donate online (search \*Dobcross Whit Friday 2025\* on GoFundMe) or by cash at Dobcross Village Stores. Resident permits are also being delivered as part of the collection. If you need extra permits for your household, please email [dobxwhitfriday@gmail.com](mailto:dobxwhitfriday@gmail.com)

## CAN YOU HELP ON THE DAY?

We need volunteers for Morning Whit Walks and the evening Band Contest (including stewards and support roles)..To get involved, contact Helga Dydyk on 07713 186003.or come along to our volunteers' meeting on Wednesday 4th June, 7.30pm upstairs at The Swan to find out more.about the roles.

## KEEPING YOU SAFE

Whit Friday brings hundreds of visitors to our village. Please help us keep the day safe for everyone by being aware of the following 'hot spots' and telling visiting friends and relatives about the concerns.

### **Platt Lane Street March**

Bands will be reading sheet music as they march and may not see obstructions ahead. Spectators should stand well back to avoid accidents and let everyone enjoy the music.

### **Woods Lane/Churchfields**

It's tempting to watch the contest from Woods Lane—but please don't. Band coaches pass through all evening, and this road must be kept clear at all times.

If one of the volunteer Dobcross stewards asks spectators to move, it's for everybody's safety. Please follow their instructions.

## TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

Whit Friday brings major changes to parking and access in the village.Full details are included in the Traffic Restrictions flyer delivered with this Diary.

This information will also be posted on the Dobcross Whit Friday Facebook page; local village community social media sites; and at: [saddleworthwhitfriday.co.uk/dobcross](http://saddleworthwhitfriday.co.uk/dobcross)

If you have any questions at all, we can be reached through our email address: [dobxwhitfriday@gmail.com](mailto:dobxwhitfriday@gmail.com)

Let's work together to make Whit Friday 2025 safe, joyful, and unforgettable.

**See you on Friday 13th June!**

## What's on in June

**Saturday 7th 10.00-12.00 Coffee Shop.** Dobcross Band Club. Donations to Oldham Food Bank welcome.

**Denshaw Cinema. 'A Real Pain' (15).** Dedicated booking number. Please text (preferred) or phone 07845698551

**7.00 Local Legends Charity Concert** in aid of 'Prevent Breast Cancer'. Sold Out

**Sunday 8th 12.00 Club open. Bowlers Team** Competition qualifier.

**Monday 9th 7.00 DVC Meeting.** Holy Trinity Church. All welcome.

**Tuesday 10th** Dobcross Ladies theatre visit to Shaw Playhouse 2 to see the play TWO 2. Members who have pre-booked only.

**Friday 13th** Whit Friday. See information on the back of this page.

**Band Club** will have an exciting addition of an outdoor bar located on the back of the car park. Hosted by **WE ARE WOLF BREWING**.

**Thursday 19th 7pm for 7.30 pm.** Whit Friday Committee Volunteers dinner.

**Saturday 21st** Saddleworth Gardening Club Visit to RHS Harlow Carr. See inside for details.

**Denshaw Cinema. 'We live in Time' (15).** Booking as above.

**Sunday 22nd 2.00 Showcase Brass with Delph Band.** Band Club. (Open at 1.00)

**Friday 27th** Bowling Green Private event from 12 noon-6pm. (Open at 12 noon)  
FODS Summer Fair

**Sunday 29th 2.00 Inter Team Bowling Cup Final.** (Open at 12.00 noon)

### **Weekly events:**

**Wednesday 7-8.30pm Creative writing, in The Swan.** Contact Cathy for more information: [cathycrabb@gmail.com](mailto:cathycrabb@gmail.com)

**Natasha's Morning Classes at the Band Club: 07852 576 107**  
£8 per session (£14 for 2, if taken in the same week)

### **Pilates:**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
9.30-10.15	10.30-11.15
10.30-11.15	