



BoA Join In

This year's BoA Join In event was a huge success, despite the rain – or perhaps because of it! So many organisations were fitted into St Margaret's Hall, with around 300 people attending to find out about volunteer organisations in our town and how to join in. It was an inspiring event to be part of and feedback from the participating groups was excellent.

Thanks to everyone for taking part. A feedback survey on the event has gone out to the volunteer groups, and this is being followed up by a survey to assess how the town council can do more to support our community groups, so that more people across the town can be involved in all that's happening locally.

Skate Jam

This year's town council organised skate jam held on July 18th and was hugely successful with around 100 skateboarders, scooter riders and BMX riders of all ages joining in the fun.

There was a programme of competitions and activities for everyone from experienced riders to those trying wheeled sports for the first time. Thanks to ATBShop who organised the activities and to the town council youth team, BOA Youth who organised other activities including giant jenga and a marble run. Thanks also to Route One for providing this year's raffle prizes – and to Mighty Girls CIC and Evie's Kitchen for their help and to BagKraft for the wonderful BOA Youth tote bags.

BoA Holiday Club

Our town council organised holiday club goes from strength to strength offering low cost summer holiday activities for children. This year we have 23 sessions running from August 3rd to 26th including tennis, drama, pottery, dance and even a magic circus funshop!



Town of Culture Competition

BoA submitted a strong bid for the UK Town of Culture competition – along with almost 400 other towns. We were not one of the 15 towns shortlisted but we look forward to seeing whether some of our ideas can, nonetheless, be progressed. Thanks to all the organisations and individuals who contributed so many interesting and exciting contributions to the bid process.

Town photo trail

We now have a wonderful selection of photographs produced by the BoA Photography Group and plans are underway to produce a trail/photo hunt of some kind, hopefully by the autumn. Thanks to the photographers and also the Preservation Trust for their support with this project.