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Bilston magazine

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Oct/Nov, issue of the Bilston Magazine.

I must start off by saying a massive well done and thank you to all those who volunteer around this area.

You would be amazed at how many people do something for nothing (no pay and often very little praise) in our community.

I'm not even going to attempt to mention them all, but if you know one of them (school governors, litter pickers, music festival and event organisers, Rotary and Lions members, Scout and Guides leaders, neighbours who put peoples' bins out etc) maybe just tell them they're appreciated.

The world would be a lot worse off without them.

Anyway, I have some big news.....drum roll..... I've launched a new website – West-MidsLife.com – which went live on 1st September. There are several reasons for doing this;

Firstly, I often don't have enough space in the magazines to satisfy the demand from people who send in articles and features and I don't like disappointing them. Now, I can put their piece online or maybe put part of it in the magazine and rest on the website, as there's no limitations on space.

Secondly, more and more of my advertisers are asking for digital options and previously, I couldn't help them with that. Also, I can give them a far bigger audience – there are 6.8 million people in the West Midlands!

Finally, although people tell me they love the magazines, there will come a time (not yet!) when printed magazines are past their sell by date. I need something in place for when that day comes.

I do need to stress, the new website is not an online magazine, but there will be elements of what you enjoy in the magazines, on there.

There will also be an extensive 'What's On section' so if you have an event coming up that you'd like to promote. Please email me the details.

I hope you like it. Check it out; www.WestMidsLife.com

Due to the increasing cost of print, more than ever, our advertisers are vitally important to the to the continuation of this magazine. Please have a look at their adverts and if you do purchase anything from them, PLEASE TELL THEM YOU SAW THE ADVERT IN THE BILSTON MAGAZINE!

The next issue will cover December and January and will be out on 2nd December so if you want to be in it, please contact me by 1st November.

Enjoy your read!

Simon



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News in Brief

Corporal Bertie Crick

Every year around November the 11th I think about my grandad, Corporal Bertie Crick who was born in Shepherd Street and joined 7th South Staffs Regiment in 1914, he was posted to Liverpool, after training, bound for Gallipoli, in Turkey. Having survived that, he moved to France in July 1916, moving to Popperinge, near Ypres.



On the 15th July 1917, he moved to the trenches at St. Jan, where his group relieved the Black Watch, to try to capture the Passchendaele Ridge, in the Third Battle of Ypres, below the German held ridge. It was possibly the worst sector in the front.

Casualties recorded Pte Cobley, C Wounded on that day. The 16th the next day, the enemy sent over a large number of poison gas shells, very troublesome to the eyes, nose and throat, and they drove off an enemy aeroplane from our front line by Lewis gun fire. Casualties, Pte Partridge J and Pte Smitheson wounded. It got worse the next day.

On the 17th July 1917, Cpl Crick B9362, died of wounds aged 27 from shell fire/ sniper fire. My grandad, Bertie lived the whole of his short life between 20 and 27 so that we are free from peril, as one soldier pointed out. He is buried in the Commonwealth War Grave Military Cemetery, at St Jan No2 plot I.W.5. a mile North of Ypres. He is commemorated in the Roll of Honour at Walsall Archives, Walsall Town Hall, and Wolverhampton Archives.

I am immensely proud of him, his achievements and his determination in a very difficult and dangerous situation.

He left behind his Widow Edith, and two daughters, Lillian and Dorothy (my mother). I never knew him but feel connected, even though I do not have a photograph of him, which I am still searching for.

So, this is the reason that November the 11th is so important, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, Lest We Forget!

Mark R Cooper

Portobello Methodist Church

Coffee Mornings Saturdays October 11, November 8 10.00-12.00 Hot & cold drinks, cakes and toasted teacakes on sale.

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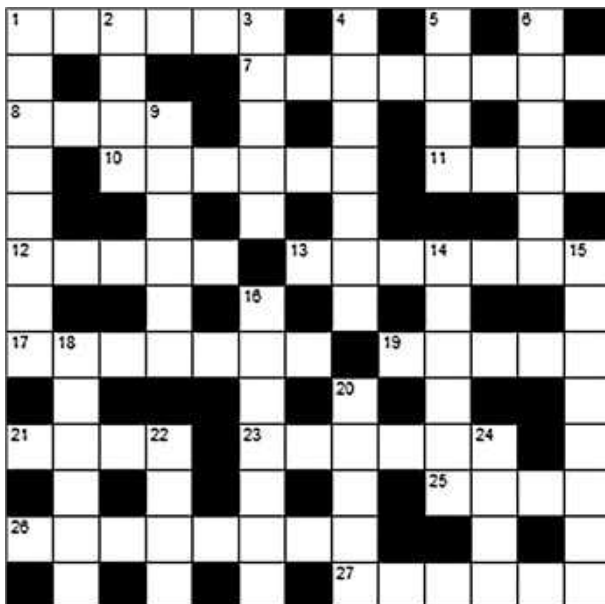
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Crossword

Please see answers
on page 39



Across

- 1 Motionless (6)
- 7 Leftover (8)
- 8 Partiality (4)
- 10 Dried grape (6)
- 11 Pin, tack (4)
- 12 Head of a monastery (5)
- 13 Highly contagious viral disease (7)
- 17 Stress (7)
- 19 Lightweight wood (5)
- 21 Clasp, clench (4)
- 23 Kitchen appliance (6)
- 25 Duty, function (4)
- 26 Camouflage (8)
- 27 Alcove (6)

Down

- 1 Deduct (8)
- 2 Slightly open (4)
- 3 Fresh, chilly (5)
- 4 Disjoined, apart (7)
- 5 Norse god (4)
- 6 Extreme scarcity of food (6)
- 9 Hairdressing establishments (6)
- 14 Ice dancer (6)
- 15 Lurch, reel (8)
- 16 Egotism, arrogance (7)
- 18 Insect with pincers (6)
- 20 Influence, authority (5)
- 22 Piece of paper, leaf (4)
- 24 Prickly plant with flowers (4)

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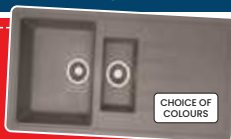
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Helping Wolverhampton Residents Love Their Homes Without Splashing the Cash

Wolverhampton residents wanting to give their homes some love and attention can now do it without splashing out on expensive new tools.

Leader of the council, Councillor Stephen Simkins launched Wolverhampton Tool Library today with partners All Saints Action Network (ASAN) at their All Saints Road base.

Residents will be able to borrow anything from power drills and screwdrivers to larger items like carpet cleaners and electrical saws, as well as garden tools to make their homes look great inside and out.

There will be a nominal subscription fee to join the Wolverhampton Tool Library, but users can access up to three tools for four days at a time, potentially saving hundreds of pounds on buying new equipment to improve their homes.

To celebrate the launch, the first 50 residents to sign up will receive their annual membership free of charge.

ASAN's talented volunteers have also made a number of wooden donation boxes, which will be located with City Homemakers partners across the city, for people to donate surplus tools they no longer require, but which are still in good working order.

Wolverhampton Tool Library is the second major scheme to be launched under the council's City Homemakers initiative, after Too Good to Chuck was launched at the end of May to a great response from the public.

Residents using the Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) at Shaw Road are now asked if they've brought anything along which is 'Too Good to Chuck' and the site has been inundated with items, which are going to local families in need.



Wolverhampton Tool Library launched today by (from left), Project manager Omie Pickerill, Chair of All Saints Action Network, Sandra Samuels OBE and Leader of City of Wolverhampton Council, Councillor Stephen Simkins.

City Homemakers is all about the council and a network of partners helping residents to take pride in their homes and be able to make small improvements no matter what their budgets.

It helps prevent waste and helps the environment, as well as helping vulnerable families who need furniture and practical ways of turning their houses into much-loved homes. The initiative will not just help individuals but also help communities and the look and feel of the whole city in time.

Chair of All Saints Action Network (ASAN) and former Mayor of Wolverhampton, Sandra Samuels OBE, said: 'Asan is looking forward to resurrecting a scheme, which in the past just served the people of All Saints, but Wolverhampton Tool Library is now set to benefit the whole city, which has to be great news.'

'We are absolutely delighted with the support received working in partnership with City Homemakers. 'Thank you to our staff and volunteers, led by Tool Library Project manager Omie Pickerill.'

See **ASAN's** dedicated webpage for details of tools available and to sign up to the tool library <https://www.asan.org.uk/community/tool-library/>.

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New Website Launched for the West Midlands

At the start of September, a new website was launched with the aim of bringing the people of the West Midlands closer together.



WestMidsLife.com will have a comprehensive What's On section, along with pages on Food & Drink, Homes & Gardens, Finance, Education, Occasions, Entertainment, Health & Beauty, Business, Travel, News, Property, Charities and Motoring.

The news and articles will be about people, places and organisations from across the whole of the West Midlands, so advertisers will now have a potential audience of 6.8 million people.

Editor, Simon Archer says, *"I do need to stress, it's not an online magazine, but there will be elements of what you enjoy in the magazines, on there. Although the magazines remain strong, this will take us on to the next level with a far greater reach, more flexibility and more options."*

"The advantages of the new website are enormous, for instance, I usually don't have enough space in the magazines to satisfy the demand from people who send in articles and features and I don't like disappointing them. Now, I can put their piece online or maybe put part of it in the magazine and rest on the website, as there's no limitations on space."

"Secondly, more and more of my advertisers are asking for digital options and

previously, I couldn't help them with that. Also, I can give them a far bigger audience – there are 6.8 million people in the West Midlands!"

The 'What's On' section is designed so readers can see at a glance what events are taking place using the Calendar.

This saves people having to visit each venues' website to see what shows are on.

WestMidsLife.com is launching with a huge social media campaign and a series of radio adverts to drive visitors to the site.



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Take A Magical History Tour at City Archives' Annual Fair

Wolverhampton City Archives' Local History Fair returns next month – with residents and visitors invited to immerse themselves in the rich and varied heritage of Wolverhampton and the surrounding area.

Held within the historic setting of the City Archives, the annual event will showcase an impressive array of stalls hosted by local history societies, museums, and heritage groups.

Visitors will be able to speak to representatives from organisations such as the Wednesfield Burial Ground project, West Midlands Police Museum, the Museum of Wolverhampton and South Staffs, Wednesfield History Society, Moseley Old Hall, West Midlands Fire Service Heritage Group, and the local branch of the Western Front Association.

Other exhibitors include Willenhall History Society, The Arts Society, Wolverhampton Hospitals Heritage Collection, The Wolverhampton Society, The Wolves Museum, and Midland Ancestors.

In honour of Black History Month, Wolverhampton City Archives will also present a special exhibition. Standing Firm in Power and Pride celebrates the resilience, achievements, and cultural contributions of Black communities throughout Wolverhampton's history, offering visitors a chance to reflect on stories that have shaped the city's identity.

Councillor Jeszemma Howl, Cabinet Member for Governance and Digital, said: "The Local History Fair is a chance for people of all ages to come together to explore the past, connect with local heritage groups, and discover the stories that make Wolverhampton such a vibrant and historically rich place. Whether you're a seasoned researcher, a student of history, or simply curious about our city's past, please come along and find out more."

The **Local History Fair** takes place on **Saturday 11 October** and will be open from **10am to 4pm**. Admission is £5 for adults and £2.50 for children. The Friends of the Archives will be on hand throughout the day, offering homemade cakes and refreshments for a small charge as part of their fundraising efforts.



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Community Spotlight: Ecotex Contracts Ltd in Bilston

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Wolverhampton Celebrates Fairtrade Fortnight



Party on 3rd October 2025 at Wellington Road Campus Bilston."

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"Wolverhampton is a very proud Fairtrade City and this year we have been celebrating our 21st year anniversary of being a certified Fairtrade City which included a special celebration at the Mayors Parlour back in March in front of distinguished guests."

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"The difference is something we can all make when we choose Fairtrade and campaign as part of a UK-wide movement calling for a fairer system behind the things we consume every day."

"As Chair can I say a personal thank you to everyone who supports Fairtrade across our great city and continues to support the work we all do on the Partnership." Together we are making a difference.

Fairtrade Fortnight 2025 will take place from September 22 to October 5, focusing on promoting fair trade practices and supporting farmers and workers globally and Wolverhampton City Fairtrade Partnership will be celebrating with a very special College Tea Party.

Julia Farrell - Chair of Wolverhampton City Fairtrade Partnership says, *"Fairtrade Fortnight is a special time in the campaigning calendar whereby all supporters and campaigners across the UK raise awareness of trading fairly"*

"We are especially delighted to announce that we have a new partnership with City of Wolverhampton College and there are exciting plans ahead for the future - starting with a fabulous Tea





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Wolverhampton Woman's Poker Success



A local retiree and keen poker player from Wolverhampton has triumphantly won £3,150 after making the final table in a major women's poker festival in London.

Val Morris, who was proudly the oldest player at the final table, won her seat to the PokerStars Women's Summer Festival in an online qualifier tournament on PokerStars. She claimed 8th place out of the 193 entry field which featured professional players from all over the world including Chess Grandmaster and

PokerStars Ambassador Jennifer Shahade who won the Main Event for £22,200.

Val has been playing on PokerStars for 20 years. While technically retired, she is very active in the grassroots poker scene centred around voyageinpoker.com, the poker forum that she founded 20 years ago that now boasts over 1,100 members, and she wants to encourage more players back into the game.

The PokerStars Women's Summer Festival took place from August 12-17 at The Clermont Hotel and was designed to encourage more women,

who currently make up approximately just 3% of tournament poker fields, to play the game by creating a dynamic, inclusive space to elevate female competitors.

Valerie, 74 said, *"The Women's Summer Festival was a wonderful event and very special, attracting some of the best players from around the world. To final table the Main Event felt very very good - don't let age be a barrier to anything you want to do! PokerStars work very hard to make their live events inclusive to all and provide first class support to enable people with disabilities to participate."*



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Charity Football Competition Notches up a Century

by Steve Gordos

When industrialist John William Hunt came up with the idea of a football competition to raise funds for the local blind, little did he know it would be still going strong a century later.

The J W Hunt Cup has embarked on its centenary season, having raised nearly £450,000 for the Wolverhampton, Dudley and Districts Institution for the Blind which later became the Beacon Centre. His love of football and a desire to help the community led to the competition which bears his name.



A superb trophy was commissioned with handles in the shape of crocodiles, the crocodile being the symbol Chillington had adopted to go on all its products.

Sadly, Hunt died on December 10, 1925, before the first J W Hunt Cup was staged. He was 82 when he died at his home, Maycroft, Ash Hill, Compton, Wolverhampton after being taken ill. He had retired as Chillington chairman three years earlier.

Out of respect, plans for the cup to be played in the 1925-6 season were shelved, so the inaugural meeting was held on Thursday, September 16, 1926, at the Molineux Hotel. The hotel building, now extended and housing the city's archives, has on it a blue plaque to mark the historic meeting.

Wolverhampton Wanderers were represented at that meeting and from the beginning have been stalwart supporters of the J W Hunt Cup. By coincidence the old blind institution was in Waterloo Road, just a short distance from Molineux.

The first 13 finals were staged at Molineux, beginning with a 2-0 win by Short Heath United over Cannon Iron in 1927. Short Heath won three more finals and

their total of four triumphs has never been equalled. Wolves continue to allow Molineux to be used and, in all, it has been the final venue on 56 occasions.

The J W Hunt Cup president Alex Hamil is a former top-flight ref. "It's a great competition," says Hamil, "and it may now be unique as it is open to clubs from different leagues." Hamil added: "We have had great support from the clubs and local companies over the years." Hamil was in 2013 awarded the MBE for services to football and the visually impaired.



A dinner will be held at Molineux, in September next year on the anniversary of the founding meeting and a book charting the history of the cup will be published. Written by committee men John Hughes and Steve Gordos, J W Hunt Cup Centenary will contain details and photos for every final as well as a history of the cup and the figures who have served it well.

It also features the historic occasion in October, 2021, when a J W Hunt Cup first-round tie between Old Wulfrunians and Bloxwich side Lane Head saw an English record for the most kicks in a penalty shoot-out. There were 44, Old Wulfs winning it 19-18 after the game had ended 3-3.

Another great industrialist and benefactor, the late Sir Jack Hayward, once said of the cup "It's part of Wolverhampton's history."

He was spot on with that verdict and Alex Hamil adds: "We have a great committee who ensure the competition runs smoothly." Clearly, the J W Hunt Cup's future is in safe hands.

To read the full article and to see more photos, visit www.westmidslife.com or use the QR Code.





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Governor of the Bank of England Visits Wolverhampton

A team of representatives from the Bank of England visited Wolverhampton last night for the Wolverhampton Citizens' Panel, where they answered questions from a cross section of the local community on topics such as quantitative tightening, the cost of living and the labour market.

Prior to the event, West Midlands Magazines' Editor, Simon Archer, was given exclusive access to interview the Governor of the Bank of England, Andrew Bailey. Here's what he had to say:

SA: *So being the governor of the bank of England is one of the most powerful jobs in the country. What does a typical day look like for you?*

AB: *It's usually quite long. Well, so a lot of the time I'm at the bank. But I also have to tell you that trips like this around the country are the most fun part of the job. And particularly this one, which I'll come on to. I think I told you my family actually come from here. My parents originally came from Birmingham and I'm a West Brom supporter.*

SA: *Wolverhampton and the wider West Midlands have a strong manufacturing and service base. How do national monetary policies filter down to support businesses here?*

AB: *Well, again, you know, we are very interested and focused on what's going on across the country at the level of individual businesses and individual communities. We talk to businesses a lot and that's what I'll be doing tomorrow. We want to know what they're experiencing and we want them to tell us what the impact of what we do is. What's the impact of interest rates? How easy are they finding it to get to borrow when they need to borrow? What are they getting from the banks? Because the other big job the bank of England does is financial stability and regulate the banking system. So,*



we're very interested in that. So, as I say, we take it all back. And we regularly sit in our policy meetings and say, I'll say, well, when I was in the West Midlands, this is what I heard and are we really reading this correctly or not?

SA: *Okay, thank you. If you were speaking directly to families in Wolverhampton who are worried about their mortgages, rent or energy bills, what reassurance could you give them? And really I'm referring to the future.*

AB: *Well, the reassurance I want to give them is that our job is to bring inflation down to our 2% target. And we will do it. We've been able to cut interest rates from the peak and my expectation is that I think we will see a gradual reduction in inflation over the course of the next months, going through next year. I think there is still some further journey down in interest rates to go. But exactly when that will be and how much it will be will depend on the path of inflation going down.*

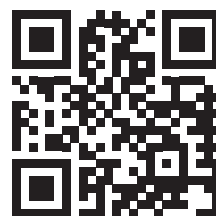
SA: *Final question: So, what is the information or news that you check first thing in the morning and last thing at night on your phone or laptop?*

AB: *Well, I have a variety of news feeds come through on my phone. I've got all sorts of financial market prices, so I do check those, sadly, when I get up in the morning. So I do look at those and of course, the West Brom results.*

The forum was held at The Workspace at All Saints Action Network, All Saints Road, Wolverhampton on Tuesday 23rd September.

Use the link here to find out more about community forums; www.bankofengland.co.uk/about/get-involved/community-forums

To read the full interview, visit www.westmidslife.com or use the QR code.





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Help shape plans for the new look Bilston High Street Link



know what you like about the plans and if there is anything you would like to change. It is important that the link provides the facilities the Bilston community want to see and use.

You are invited to come along to a community event to help shape the plans. Alternatively, you may wish to take a survey online to provide your feedback. Simply scan the QR code or type the link into your internet browser. You can also email your comments to:

BilstonHSL@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Proposals for a new Bilston High Street Link

City of Wolverhampton Council is working with a wide range of stakeholders and the local community to help shape future proposals for a new look Bilston High Street Link.

The High Street Link sits between Bilston High Street and Pinfold Street car park. At the moment the outdoor market traders are using it, but in autumn 2026 the Council plan to develop it, so you can enjoy it on the way to and from the High Street.

The Council has already consulted the local community to see how they would like the High Street Link to be used. Keen to see what young people think, we have worked closely with two local schools whose pupils use the link most. The first round of feedback told us you wanted areas for food and drink, play and nature.

In a further consultation in Winter 2024, you told us what you would like to see in these different areas and the Council has now produced plans that we need your help with.

Now the Council want to hear your thoughts on the plan for the new look Bilston High Street Link. We want to

Community Event

Join us at a drop-in local community event to share ideas on a proposed new Bilston High Street Link

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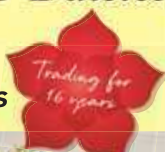


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Links to the Past

Black Country History with Tim Hamilton

The Invisible Mon!



Hello, my name is Tim Hamilton and learning about the past is one of my biggest passions. I have worked with museums for over 10 years, helping take care of historic objects and preserving and sharing their stories. I also volunteer as a Trustee at the British Association

for Local History, a national charity which has a wide range of resources and support for anyone interested in Local History.

So, at the time of writing it's September 2nd and I just did a YouGov survey – which was polling what people think and feel about the month of September. As I started to navigate my juxtaposed feelings of hopefulness and dread... You know, the new educational year, all the birthdays! But also, the slow descent into dark mornings and darker nights, I suddenly realised Halloween is on the horizon and of course, as a horror fan, I'll be glued to all the classics in the coming weeks - so I thought it only right we return to James Whale and have a look at another one of his horror masterpieces!

James Whale's most iconic movie may well be *Frankenstein* – but *The Invisible Man* is very much a part of the Halloween pantheon of goblins and ghouls. Even if you've never sat through the original 1933 film, chances are you've heard Claude Rains' chilling vow, "We'll begin



with a reign of terror..." or seen endless parodies of a madman wrapped in bandages and dark glasses. What fewer people realise is that it was a Black Country lad—James Whale of Dudley—who brought H.G. Wells' tale to the screen, just two years after directing *Frankenstein* and cementing his place in horror history.

James Whale

James Whale, born on July 22, 1889 in Dudley. One of six born to a blast furnaceman and a nurse. Without the strength to follow his family into heavy industries, Whale started work as a cobbler and reclaimed nails from replaced soles which he sold as scrap to bolster his income. When World War I broke out in 1914, Whale was just 25 years old and yet he voluntarily enlisted before it became mandatory. Whale, a second lieutenant, was taken as a prisoner of war in the Third Battle of Flanders in August 1917, and was held at the infamous Holzminden Officers' Camp, where he remained for around a year until the war's end in November 1918.

While imprisoned Whale found "a source of great pleasure and amusement" in the amateur dramatic group in the camp, he practiced at writing, acting and set designing. He also developed a talent for poker, and when the war was over, he cashed in the IOUs from his fellow prisoners to provide himself with funds for re-entry into civilian life. For ten years thereafter Whale made a living in the theatre, acting, building sets and directing. In 1928 Whale directed the then unknown play *Journey's End*, which offered a glimpse into the lives of British Lieutenants in the trenches of WWI in 1918. The play was a huge hit first in the UK and later, on Broadway. When the opportunity came to transform the play into a motion picture at the dawn of the "talkie" era, Whale himself was the first pick which kick-started his career as one of the best-known directors in glamorous 1930's Hollywood. Whale directed so many movies, they could entertain you all Halloween long and stand out titles include *Frankenstein* (1931) its sequel '*Bride of Frankenstein*' (1935), *The Old Dark House* (1932) and then *The Invisible Man* (1933). For good measure and to showcase his diversity, I think it's worth mentioning that Whale also directed

the Oscar Hammerstein musical movie 'Show Boat' (1936).

The Creation of "The Invisible Man"

The Invisible Man was written by H.G. Wells, one of the most imaginative and forward-thinking authors of the late Victorian era. First published in 1897, it emerged during a time when science and invention were rapidly reshaping society, and Wells' background in biology gave his fiction a sharp, almost prophetic edge. The novel was conceived within the intellectual ferment of London's scientific circles and Wells' fascination with the boundaries between what science could do and what it should do.



The central figure of the novel is Griffin, a gifted but reckless scientist who discovers a way to alter the refractive index of the human body, rendering himself invisible. Far from being celebrated, Griffin's "gift" becomes a curse, as he grows increasingly alienated, paranoid, and violent. His descent from curious experimenter to ruthless outcast mirrors the darker anxieties of the industrial age—where unchecked progress and ambition could as easily destroy as liberate.

The Invisible Man challenged late 19th-century ideas of scientific progress, morality, and identity, reflecting both excitement and unease about modernity. The novel was quickly recognised as a landmark of speculative fiction and alongside works like *The Time Machine*, cemented Wells' reputation as one of the "fathers" of science fiction. Over a century later, Griffin's story continues to inspire adaptations, debates, and reinterpretations, proving that the dream—and nightmare—of invisibility still holds power over the imagination.

In true Hollywood fashion, the 1933 movie version of *The Invisible Man* departed significantly from H.G. Wells' novel to create a leaner, more sensational horror story. Wells' book is a slow-burn tale that balances scientific speculation with a study of Griffin's isolation and growing madness. James Whale's

film, by contrast, heightens the spectacle—Claude Rains' Griffin is unhinged almost from the outset, delivering grandiose threats and murderous promises that made for thrilling cinema. Subtler elements of the novel, such as Griffin's scientific reasoning or the full psychological toll of invisibility, are stripped away in favour of brisk plotting, macabre humour, and startling special effects.

That being said, the trade-off created something unforgettable. Whale's film showcased groundbreaking visual trickery, using double exposure and clever editing to make Griffin's bandages and clothing vanish before the audience's eyes—a revelation for 1933 cinema-goers. The result may lack some of Wells' philosophical weight, but it more than compensates with a chilling, campy sinister energy that cemented *The Invisible Man* as a cornerstone of Universal's monster cycle. It remains an eerie, genre-defining experience.

Whale retired from film making after the release of *'Personnel Placement in the Army'* (1942) and spent the next 15 years of his life quietly painting. Sadly, following two strokes in 1956, his health declined, and he took his own life in 1957. Unusually, for his time, while he remained a private and quiet person, he openly acknowledged his homosexuality, a matter which is addressed in the film *'Gods and Monsters'* (1998), in which the final months of Whale's life are portrayed by Sir Ian McKellen. In 2002 Whale's life and work was memorialised on Castlegate Way in Dudley – a stone's throw from the Showcase Cinema and just a mile from his birthplace on Park Hill Street near Buffery Park. The memorial is huge! Standing 15 feet or more, its plinth is formed of concrete styled in bands to represent film canisters, and the twirling cast iron strip of film depicts frames of *Frankenstein's Creature*.



Share your favourite cult classic horror movies with me on X @MrTimHamilton

See for yourself:

James Whale Memorial
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Further Reading:

The Invisible Man – H.G. Wells, 1897.
www.britannica.com/biography/James-Whale - Michael Barson



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Wolverhampton's Top Young Citizens Announced

10 Young Wulfrunians have been recognised for their outstanding community service at this year's Wolverhampton Young Citizens of the Year Rotary Awards Ceremony. They are Ethan Shaw, Richie Tanner, Jessica Yang, Kieran Smith-Mills, Sarah Featherstone, Harleen Nahal, Eva Abley, Aisha Mustapha, Frazer Humphreys and Haya Mehager.

The event, held in Chancellor's Hall, University of Wolverhampton, was attended by Mayor of Wolverhampton, Councillor Craig Collingswood, accompanied by his daughter Mayoress Abby Collingswood, along with over 150 people including the finalists, their guests, and representatives of the Rotary clubs, main sponsors Safran (previously Collins Aerospace) and other sponsors. The Rotary Clubs of the City devised these annual awards which are in their twelfth year.

Rotarian Mel Eves, Chairman of the Awards and judges, acted as M.C. assisted by Chris Allen, from WCR FM Radio and Amanda Evans from City of Wolverhampton Council, who read out the citation for each finalist, who all received a Certificate of Recognition from the Mayor.

The younger age group awards are named after Roger Timbrell in recognition of his 10 years of service as chairman of the awards committee. The older age group is the Tom Warren Award, in whose memory these awards were inaugurated.



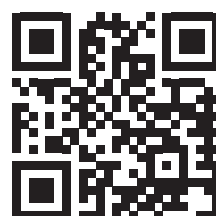
This year's winners were; Ethan Shaw (13-18 age group) and Frazer Humphreys (19-25 age group) who were presented with their plaque and Certificate by the Mayor, Chair, Mel Eves and and Vice-Chair, Roger Timbrell. In addition they were each given £100 for themselves and another £100 for the charity of their choice.

There was also a Special Recognition Award to Eva Abley, a winner of these awards in 2023, for taking her community service to a national level by publishing a book (The Good the Bad and the Wobbly) with all proceeds going to Birmingham Children's Hospital and for the BAFTA award winning documentary she did about the poor provision for children with special needs.

The Guest of Honour, Dr Willard Wigan MBE, who was born and raised in Ashmore Park, then wowed the audience by giving a truly inspirational talk about his journey from a troubled childhood to becoming a world famous master of micro sculptures.

Chairman Mel Eves said: "These young people are wonderful role models for our City's young people. They deserve to be recognised and their achievements celebrated. It has been a privilege to have been one of the judges and to have led the organising committee for the first time this year.

To see more photos from the event, visit www.westmidslife.com or use the QR code.





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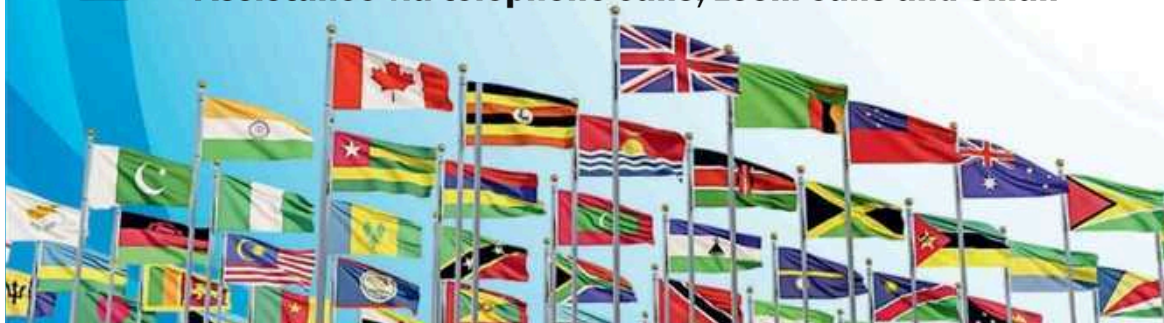
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Police/Fire/Ambulance	999
Police (non emergency)	101
Crime Stoppers (anonymous)	0800 555111
Electrical emergency	0800 328 1111
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Gas emergency	0800 111 999
Water emergency	0800 7834444

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Bilston Heath Centre	01902 444003
Bilston Sports Injury Clinic	07445 119139
New Cross Hospital (switchbrd)	01902 307999
NHS Non-Emergency	111
Woodcross Health Centre	01902 675588
Wolverhampton City NHS Trust.....	01902 553909

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Bilston South (formerly East)

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Rashpal Kaur.....	07976 882469
Stephen Simkins	07775 007989

Ettingshall North

Zee Russell	07880 176838
Jeszemma Howl	07816 085166
Jenny Cockayne	07527 388564

Bilston North

Linda Leach.....	07771 836016
Leigh New	07771 836616
Anita Stanley.....	07707 204986

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RSPB.....	0845 1200501
Samaritans	116 123

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Bilston Methodist Church	01902 402137
Bilston Congregational Church	07704 322807

Bradley Methodist Church.....	01902 402137
Christ Church, Coseley	01902 687283
Church of God of Prophecy	01902 497370
Excel Church	01902 498781
Guru Nanak Gurdwara.....	01902 496135
Holy Spirit Ministries.....	07811 399979
Holy Trinity Oxford St	01902 493459
New Testament Church of God	01902 498861
Shri Durga Wbhawn Hindu	01902 354081
St Chads, Bilston.....	01902 494776
Stowlawn Methodist/Anglican Church ..	01902 402137
St Mary's, Oxford Street	01902 496306
St Leonard's Church	01902 491560
St Martins Church Bradley	01902 546460
The Asian Evangelical Church	01902 353705
Word of Spirit & Life Baptist Church	07976 713716

Schools

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Christ Church C of E Primary	01384 818375
Field View Primary.....	01902 925701
Green Park School	01902 556429
Holy Trinity Catholic Primary	01902 240901
Hurst Hill Primary.....	01384 818845
Loxdale Primary.....	01902 558570
Manor Primary.....	01902 556460
Moorcroft Wood Primary School.....	01902 495943
Moseley Park Academy.....	01902 553901
Ormiston South W'ton & Bilston Acad ..	01902 493797
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