

BOLTON DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY

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*is a voluntary organisation,
a community-arts group of photographers
who are creating a pictorial record
of life in Bolton.*

*Founded in 1995,
we take as our model the work of
HUMPHREY SPENDER,
the documentary photographer of the 1930s who
produced the famous 'WORKTOWN' collection of
photographs for the MASS-OBSERVATION project –
a visual survey of Bolton life,
its streets, parks, pub-life, sport, local politics, work
and annual holidays.*

*Humphrey Spender was, until his death in 2005,
the group's Honorary Patron.*

*We are pursuing a modern equivalent
of his 1930s work, with the aim of creating
a visual archive depicting life in the town
in the 20th/21st centuries.*

*Since 1995 we have produced over 30 exhibitions – often
working in association with local bodies,
such as Bolton Hospital, Bolton At Home, Bolton Museum
& Art Gallery, Greater Manchester Police etc.*

Our Exhibitions tour continuously around local venues. They have been on display around the Libraries circuit, in Bolton Art Gallery, the Museum, the Town Hall, the Octagon Theatre, Smithills Hall, Royal Bolton Hospital, Bolton Parish Church, the University of Bolton, and Weston Park, Shropshire.

In 2006, the group held an exhibition in Bolton's twin-town, Paderborn, in Germany.
Currently we have an exhibition at the Octagon Theatre on display until May 2018.

Past projects have been supported by local, regional & national Arts Boards and charities, including **BOLTON ARTS FORUM** and **BOLTON AT HOME**.

OUR MOST RECENT EXHIBITIONS

2013- 2015

- *Art's Desire
(Creative Lives & Pastimes in Bolton)*

2015- 2018

- *The Bolton-Bridgeman Connection*
- *Crompton Walks*

2017-2019

- *Theatre Through The Lens
(Behind the Scenes in the Octagon's 50th Year)*

PAST PROJECTS & EXHIBITIONS

1995

- *Libraries in Camera*

1996

- *Bolton at Work*

1997

- *Bolton at Play*
- *Winter Hill Mass-Trespass Centennial*
- *Last Days of Burnden Park*

1998

- *The Reebok Stadium:
The First Season*
- *Community Health 2000*

1999

- *Closer to Nature*
- *Street Life*

2000

- *Eventful Year*
- *Behind the Scenes at
Royal Bolton Hospital*

2001

- *Worktown in the Millennium*
- *Countering Crime & Disorder*

2002

- *Spirit of Friendship,
(Commonwealth Community Events)*

2003

- *Refugees & Asylum Seekers in Bolton*
- *Hidden Talents,
(Traditional Arts & Crafts Surviving in Bolton)*

2004

- *Shining Lights: Temples & Mosques in Bolton*

2005

- *Gypsies, Travellers & Show-people*

2006

- *Homeless in Bolton*
- *Bolton Mela & Black History Month 2005*
- *Pictures of Bolton, Past And Present
(An exhibition in Paderborn, Germany)*

2007

- *Bolton Mela & Black History Month 2006*

2008-2009

- *Public Art In Bolton*

2010-2011

- *A Year in the Life of Bolton Interfaith Council*
- *Halliwell & its UCAN Centre*

2012-13

- *Rehearsing For the Big Night –
A Year in the Life of Bolton Amateur Theatres*

2013-2014

- *Samuel Crompton anniversary exhibition*

2014- 2015

- *Mills, Mines & Machinery
(A Survey of Bolton's Industrial History)*

Our
BURNDEN PARK
photographs of the
last days of Bolton
Wanderers' old
ground formed
part of the 1997
Bolton Museum
exhibition
**'THE BURNDEN
STORY'**.
This exhibition,
the most popular in
the Museum's
history, attracted
50,000 visitors.