

Celebration of the role the people of Bolton took in supporting Spain 1936-1939

Report on a recent event at Bolton by Simon Martinez

A blue plaque was recently unveiled in Bolton. It was dedicated to the memory of James Alwyn, an International Brigader who died in 1937 at the battle of Jarama. Maria Luisa Toole, a *niña*, unveiled the blue plaque and called on the audience not to forget the children who were evacuated from Spain 80 years ago or the child refugees of today.

Charles Jepson then spoke movingly about the support for Spain from the people of Bolton, those that went to Spain to join the International Brigades, and those that stayed at home who housed, fed and educated the 54 children who came to the Colony at Watermillock House, and who collected for Food and Medical Aid.

Manuel Moreno told of the efforts of volunteers to make the run down Watermillock a safe home for the children and looked forward to the commemoration of the children and their supporters which will be held next year.



Manuel Moreno and Maria Luisa Toole & the memorial plaque to James Alwyn.