



Due to the continued support, and additional funding this year from the Town Council, we were able to triple the size of the event, to truly put something on that stood shoulder to shoulder with other like-minded UK based comics events. We have always wanted to steadily grow the festival, and this year's growth made it what it was.

Our footfall was constant, something we'd never experienced before - more than doubling our usual 1000+ visitors without a doubt, and that was just in the Town Hall.

We welcomed 70 plus creators from the world of comics, who had travelled from around the country to be involved, our biggest line-up yet. We filled the upstairs of the Town hall with the cream of creators, always focussing on comic art, and the power of comics, in all its many forms. This brings fans of comics into the town, it shows the town what comics is and can be. It introduces people to comics in a way they didn't know existed, and it brings people into the Town Hall, and into our town.

This year once again we spilled out of the Town Hall, but this time were able to invest in creators more due to the grant. We had Laura Howell from the BEANO drawing in the Library, a local new creator doing 5 minute dog portraits in B&V trading dog shop on Chestergate, Award winning cartoonist/illustrator Emma Reynolds doing 5 minute people portraits in Flour Water Salt, who experienced a Treacle Market style day of trading, with families, creators, all getting coffee, socialising, mixing together as part of the same community.



Nearby bars, restaurants and cafés all told me they were busier because of MACC-POW! And many creators stayed over night and socialised, and stuck around on the Sunday even if their role didn't involve that day.

Cinemas who hosted the comic book film screenings welcomed 100 people to those, not bad for a set of films you can stream online, and particularly on welcome sunnier days too!

The Monocle Deli hosted the Graphic novel reading room with a constant flow of visitors on a day they usually don't trade relaxing with a new comics title over coffee and cake.

One of our highlights was welcoming a Swiss creator called Barbara Nigg from ZURICH, who came to the festival after just finding out about it two weeks ago. She booked a flight,

accommodation and spent the entire weekend in Macclesfield doing as many parts of the festival as she could and enjoying coffee in many of our cafés.

We also welcomed our first guest from the US, cartoonist Michael Lark who has only recently moved to the UK from Texas, he enjoyed his visit so much he asked to be involved every year moving forward, and will be back soon to run some workshops at our studio.

So thank you for supporting our event, things changed in ways I could have only hoped and I look forward to seeing just what we can achieve for our 10th year.

Marc Jackson – Macc Pow Co-Founder

