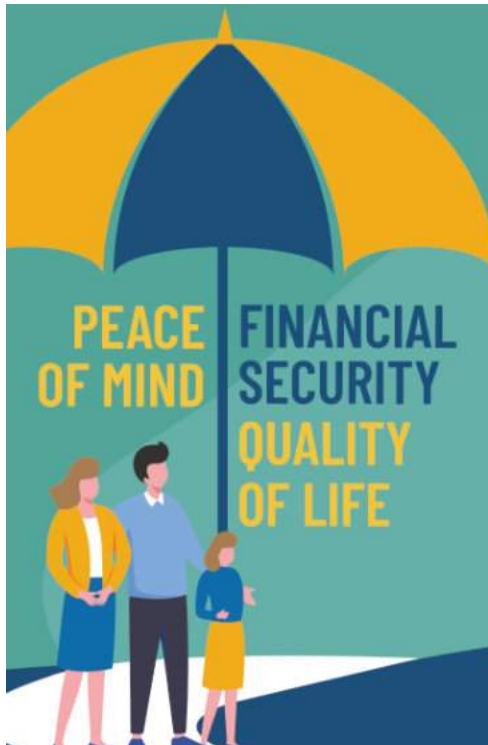




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Focus

HEPWORTH'S MAGAZINE Autumn 2026

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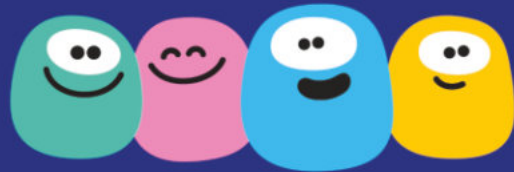
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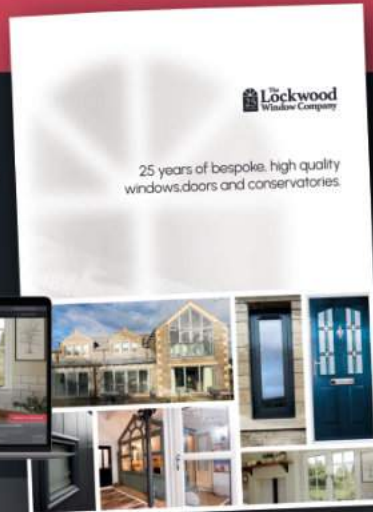
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Ceramic creatures from the Sharing Memories "Creatures of the Walk" exhibition which formed part of the Holmfirth Artweek fringe event at Holmbridge Church in July.



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Hepworth Feast Day 2026 (Best one yet!)



Above: Helme Edge Vineyard (see the Meltham Vineyard article p12)



Below: Specially made bags containing toiletries donated by Mothers' Union members, friends and the Hepworth community to Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership, at a coffee morning organised by MU in the Village Hall (see Mothers' Union article p35).



HEPWORTH PLAYERS ARE PROUD TO
PRESENT



Goldilocks and the Three Bears

By Alex Jackson



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9th December @ 7pm (Early Start & Finish)
10th December @ 7:30pm
11th December @ 7:30pm
12th December Saturday Matinee @ 2pm
12th December @ 7:30pm

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Hepworth Garden Club Annual Show 2026




Christmas around the World

Saturday 12th
December
10am - 4pm

Sunday 13th
December
12noon - 4pm

Seasonal Refreshments

Light Lunches

Hepworth Church

Admission Free

Hepworth's Christmas Exhibition

Welcome to Focus...

Here in beautiful Hepworth, autumn is always a short, but very sweet season. Whether you're venturing out for some village walks during the cooler days or getting busy in the kitchen with all the fabulous Garden Show produce, it's the perfect time to plan some new local activities.

There's so much going on right here in our very own Village Hall, our resident Art and Badminton groups are enthusiastically welcoming new members, and a new mindful pottery class has started up too (see Amanda Ovington's article). There's a brilliant new selection of films for your Friday Film Nights; the Big Breakfast is back by popular demand, and the magical Christmas Market opens nice and early for your quality stocking fillers and gifts. Oh, and please... whatever you do, don't forget to book your tickets for this year's Panto!

If you are missing the summer warmth and relaxation as the chilly nights draw in then don't despair, there's a stunning woodland sauna available to book at Uppergate Farm. And that's not all... did you know that Yorkshire has its very own wine trail now and that it includes not only Holmfirth Vineyard, but also a boutique family run vineyard producing incredible wine just over in Meltham? You can read all about our fabulous Helme Edge wine-tasting experience (always making sacrifices for our readers) right here in your autumn copy of Focus as well as the Feast report, Garden Show results, sporting triumphs and so much more. Don't forget to check our diary pages for all the local events in detail.

The winter edition of Focus will be published in early December and will include details of many events up and down the village this winter and early spring. If you have any news, articles or diary dates for this edition, please email me (Lisa Hoad) focushepworth@gmail.com before our copy deadline **Friday 13th November 2026**.

Thinking of advertising in Hepworth's favourite magazine? Our distribution list is growing, we currently deliver over 700 copies of each edition FREE to homes in Hepworth, Jackson Bridge, parts of Scholes and the surrounding area so it really is a cost-effective way of getting your business seen. For more information, please email our marketing manager, Mary Wrathmell mary@wrathweb.uk

Happy reading- Lisa Hoad (Editor)

Please note that the views expressed in Focus are not necessarily those of Hepworth Community Association. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions to the magazine, and it is our policy not to publish anonymous or unattributed articles or letters.



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Across: 1 Bulgaria 5&29dn Samuel Pepys 8&27 Nou Camp 9 Slang 10 Lopper 11 Oust 12 Ent 13&33 Elmer Fudd 14,18&23 Dead Man's Chest 16 Stud 21 Prius 22 Re-enter 24 Smug 29 Post 31 Extro 32 Gum 34 Posing 35 End of 36 Own 37 Suchet 38 Traverse

Down: 1 Bubo 2 Gusted 3 Realms 4 Anger Management 5 Sultan 6 Moped 7 Lurid 15 Enigma 17 Unless 19 Spry 20 Arts 25 Maggot 26 Stadia 27 Coffee 28 Puddle 30 Thigh

Hepworth Feast 2026

Steven Booth reports...What a magnificent Hepworth Feast on Monday 29th June – the sun shone, hundreds of people turned out, and it was perhaps, but we say it every year, 'the very best Feast ever!!'

On the Sunday evening (28th June) we had quality musicianship in the Village Hall with a number of different Hepworth bands and artists performing - all for free!! Notably: the ever entertaining "Hepworth Singers" rehearsed and conducted by Julia; a high-quality Rich and Sam Tipler set and, as always, Rob and Clive's popular sing along and dance session headlined the night.

A beautiful day dawned and on the Monday afternoon (29th June) hundreds of children, parents and villagers 'processed' behind Hepworth Band and sang hymns in Hepworth, Scholes and Jackson Bridge. The 'Feast tea' was enjoyed by many in the Village Hall.

The United Sing was well attended and the band, as usual, was conducted by John Turner, the hymns were led by the Reverend Bill Henderson (a big thank you to Bill). The outstanding Hepworth Band then gave an impromptu, modern pop tunes rendition by the stage.

The sing was followed by races in the recreation ground and the crowd and runners cheered as the inter school relay race between Hepworth, Scholes, New Mill and Hade Edge Schools was won by Hepworth School (Eva, Nancy, Heath and Charlie); the Hepworth Co-operative Race Trophy is now back in the village!! Prior to the relay, scores of parents and children encouraged the smiling sprinters and laughing sack racers of all ages.

At the conclusion former Hepworth school pupil Angela Homes (nee Beever) presented the relay winners with their medals, prize money and the Hepworth Co-op trophy.

The Village Hall was nicely busy all evening as locals and visitors enjoyed the bar and reminisced over the old and new village photographs, newspaper clippings and histories. It was noted that there was some wear and tear on the School Feast banner and this will be addressed before next year.

Excellent pig roast sandwiches were provided courtesy of Shaun Heap, butchers, from Hade Edge. The Butchers Arms was very busy and hosted drinks and a BBQ. Hepworth Football Club were also present and did a good trade with their pop-up bar and food stall. Evening entertainment was provided by: Gavin, the Rapide Clown, Punch and Judy (Mr Dan), the highly unusual Sloths and a superb Magician, Chris Stewart. We had two fantastic live bands – Anita and Enoch's Hammer with a busy, enthusiastic, street long ceilidh; the evening music concluded with Rob, Clive, Chris, Rick and Tom putting on a superb, lively stage performance. A firework finale at 11pm brought the proceedings to an end. Please note – given the way the world is, this will be the last Feast firework display!!

The Feast co-ordinators would like to thank everyone who helped – upwards of 100 people volunteer their time for free - far too numerous to mention all by name are the many day time and evening stewards, the supervisors of all the children, tea makers and servers, bandsmen/ women and musicians , grass cutters (Oliver, Scholes Cricket Club), banner carriers, the Reverend, our Head Teacher, race organisers, Village Hall helpers, lighting and stage putter uppers, gazebo erectors, tidier uppers and rubbish collectors, the many people, sponsors and businesses who donate to Feast funds and those who collect the donations. The 'just giving' website was again particularly successful in enabling many people and businesses to make on-line donations to help fund this year's Feast.

Our Sponsors continue to be particularly generous and a big thanks to all of them. Book tokens at the school leavers assembly were presented by Susan Sexton (nee Booth) who went to Hepworth School (in the 1950s) as did her mum and dad and grandfather before her. There were 16 leavers this year and the vouchers had been paid for out of Feast collections, after a generous discount from the Read Bookshop in Holmfirth.

The number of donors and sponsors are too numerous to list here (plus many significant donors prefer to remain anonymous) but special thanks this year to the following particularly generous benefactors: Philip Smith and family, Lockwood Windows (the Pogson family), The Nook , Ricardo and co at The Butchers Arms, The Wildy Wood campsite, Carlin and Barnside Farms, William Sykes and Sons, Joe Hinchliffe at Hinchliffe Architecture and Design Ltd, Mick and Anne Dyson, Hannah and Rob Black, and the always very supportive Platt family.

The grant monies received in 2025 from the Longley Farm; One Community Trust were used to pay for qualified traffic management operatives (most of the

stewards are volunteers but a new requirement of the Council is to have three fully qualified staff for the day and evening). Plus, the Kirklees Refuse team who always come to take away the bins and rubbish etc. Thank you to all.

The Feast co-ordinators will be meeting again in the New Year and any thoughts, recommendations on future Hepworth Feasts will be gratefully received (see key names below). New volunteers and group members are always very welcome. The Hepworth Feast Organising Group has now adopted a 'Voluntary Group Constitution' and will hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, sit under the charitable 'umbrella' of The Hepworth Community Association. Please note that in 2027, Feast Monday will be 28th June.

Committee/ organisers: Steven Booth (Secretary), Alan Brook (Chair), Sarah Dixon (Treasurer), Stephen Lindley, David Cartwright, Ruth Lockwood, Cameron Kelly, George Heathcote, Sally and Darrell Hampshire, Joe Wheelhouse, Mark Crouch, John Turner, Mo Biggins, Gillian Holsey. Auditor: Mo Biggins

Feast Finances	2026	2025	2024
Income			
Teas sold	£71	£71	£60
Sing collections	£467	£575	£412
Sunday night collection	£231	£175	£284
Local business sponsorship/			
Individual donation	£3978	£3645	£4129
'Just Giving' collection			
One Community Grant	-	£595	-
	<u>£4747</u>	<u>£5061</u>	<u>£4885</u>
Expenditure			
Teas: children/ stewards/ band	£500	£450	£450
Medals, prizes, book tokens etc	£276	£183	£239
Bands/ music	£1293	£1189	£1021
Children's entertainment	£1240	£1240	£1235
Insurance	£489	£480	£480
Lights, paint, bunting etc	£370	£701	
Donations/ Fees to school/ church	£550	£1000	£500
Stewarding costs	£453		
Fireworks	£203	£185	£185
Legal/ licences	£21	£223	-
Village gazebos etc	-	-	£228
	<u>£5025</u>	<u>£5320</u>	<u>£5039</u>

Feast Race Results 2026

Relay Race Winners:

Hepworth (Eva, Nancy,
Heath and Charlie)

Under 6 (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Hetti
Catlyn

Under 6 (Boys)

1st Place
2nd Place

Thomas
Milo

6 and 7 (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Harper
Summer

6 and 7 (Boys)

1st Place
2nd Place

Gabriel
Asa

8 and 9 (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Alice
Sianna

8 and 9 (Boys)

1st Place
2nd Place

Maxwell
Herbert

10 and 11 (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Eva
Nancy

10 and 11 (Boys)

1st Place
2nd Place

Ely
Ethan

12 and 13 (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Evie
Honor

12 and 13 (Boys)

1st Place
2nd Place

—
—

6 and 7 Sack Race (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Flora
Evie

6 and 7 Sack Race (Boys)

1st Place
2nd Place

Bobby
Joshua

8 and 9 Sack Race (Girls)

1st Place
2nd Place

Bonny
Alice



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8 and 9 Sack Race (Boys)

1st Place	Teddy
2nd Place	Herbert

10 and 11 Sack Race (Girls)

1st Place	Clara
2nd Place	Harriet

10 and 11 Sack Race (Boys)

1st Place	Orron
2nd Place	Ethan

12 and 13 Sack Race (Girls)

1st Place	Evie
2nd Place	Millie

12 and 13 Sack Race (Boys)

1st Place	Zak
2nd Place	Daniel

Congratulations to all the wonderful junior athletes from our local schools who took part in this year's exceptionally hot and humid event.

A particularly huge well done to the children of Hepworth, who were the overall winners!

Coffee, Cake & Chat at Hepworth Church

Gloria Styring writes... Coffee, Cake & Chat continues on the last Saturday of the month in Hepworth Church meeting room. Please note there will not be one in December so that you can continue celebrating Christmas and organising your New Year party.

This venture has proved to be very popular and is a catch-up time for neighbours and friends to meet. You don't need to come with anyone; there will be someone there to chat to share your stories with and enjoy the coffee/tea and home-made cake.

If you are new to the village, this is the place to meet new friends. The cost has been £2.50 ever since we started this in April 2024, so from January 2027 we are slightly increasing it to £3. Still very good value, I am sure that you all agree.

Eve of Feast: World première in the Village Hall

Angela Berry reports... As has become tradition the singers started the evening's entertainment at the Village Hall on the Eve of Feast. As usual the hall was packed with lots of smiling faces ready for a great night of entertainment.

We had a piece of music arranged especially for us commissioned by Gillian with a member of the singers in mind who has a passion for Northern Soul. It turned out to be a selection of Northern Soul classics but was too much for us to learn in time so two of the songs were chosen to sing. The Night by Frankie Valli and Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy (a bit like most of our members especially the foolish bit) by The Tams.

Gillian sent a recording to Alfie Pugh who composed the music. He was delighted to hear his music come to life. Our next song was the classic Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen. We had to get this right as everyone knows the song, which we managed to do. Julia and Christine are always testing us and pushing us to be as good as we can be. It is also a lot of work for them, we all marvel at how Christine learns to play anything we do and the amount of time she must spend practicing, Julia is always enthusiastic especially when attendance is sometimes a bit ad hoc and she has to go over things many times.

We don't expect full attendance every week, people have other things on, holidays etc so if you are thinking of coming to a practice but can't commit to every Friday don't let that put you off.

Coming up

September 13th we will have our passports ready when we travel to Scholes for a Sunday afternoon concert at the Methodist Church at 3pm.

We will be having our usual open rehearsal and social evening on Friday November 27th – all welcome. See posters nearer the time. At the moment we have not arranged a date for singing outside the White Horse.

We will be performing in the Church at the Christmas Carols and Readings along with Hepworth Band. This will be Sunday 20th December at 4pm

As always if you enjoy a good sing song come along and join us and as previously said there is no obligation to take part in any performances we may do.

New members are always welcome; we practice every Friday in the Church 7:00pm to 8:00pm. There is a charge of £2 to go towards the use of the Church and buying music etc.

We are a friendly bunch, have a laugh and some of us a few drinks at the pub afterwards. Watch out for updates on the Hepworth Facebook page and Hepnet.

Holme Valley Parish Council News – Autumn 2026

Update on Parish Council Grants in Hepworth

Community groups in Hepworth have benefited from several Parish Council grants over the past year, supporting everything from improvements to the Village Hall to local sport.

Hepworth Community Association received £2,500 towards an air-to-air heat pump for the Village Hall, while Hepworth Hurricanes were awarded £1,500 for kit for the girls' netball team last autumn and a further £1,500 this spring for a walking netball project. The Community Association also received £210 towards the village Christmas tree.

Benches

The Parish Council also looks after more than 150 benches across the Holme Valley, and we currently have a small number in storage looking for new homes. If there is somewhere in or around Hepworth where you think a bench would be useful, perhaps on a popular walking route, near a community space or somewhere with a particularly good view, we'd be pleased to hear your suggestions.

And while it may still feel early to mention Christmas, preparations will soon be getting under way. The Parish Council supports village Christmas trees and celebrations across the Holme Valley, and applications for this year's Christmas tree grants will be opening shortly.

Keep an eye on the Parish Council website and social media for details.

Contacting Holme Valley Parish Council:

Rich McGill (Deputy Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)
deputyclerk@holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Gemma Sharp (Assistant Clerk)
assistantclerk@holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Helme Edge – A Meltham Vineyard

Mary Wrathmell reports... Most of us know about the Holmfirth vineyard on Woodhouse Lane but the Holme Valley is now lucky enough to have another. It's the Helme Edge vineyard facing south on the valley sides in Meltham and it produces white, rose and sparkling wine. Owned by the Calder/Smith families and helped run by their grandson Tom, it was started by retired ICI chemist Alan Calder under lockdown.

Lisa Hoad, our editor, and I decided to see what it had to offer. We started our tour with a glass of bubbly while Alan explained the genesis of the operation and gave a comprehensive talk about grape varieties that can be grown this far up north. Then we had a walk round the vines with young Tom, who told us about the highs and lows of running a vineyard. Who knew that wasps could be the bane of a grape-grower's life? We finished off by sampling the white and rose wines accompanied by some elegant nibbles while looking out at the spectacular views across the valley.

A lovely afternoon that we can thoroughly recommend. If you are interested in a tour of Helme Edge, go to their website at: <https://helmeedgevineyard.co.uk> for all their details. Groups are welcome.

Editor's note: Especially for our Focus readers! We were thrilled when Jennifer Calder (aka: granny) stopped pruning vines long enough to give us her recipe for the outstanding shortbread provided as part of the tasting nibbles....

Helme Edge Vineyard Shortbread

Ingredients

8 oz (227g) Butter (melt in a pan)
8 oz (227g) Plain Flour
4 oz (113g) caster sugar
4 oz (113g) cornflour

Method

Mix together the plain flour, caster sugar and cornflour and combine with the melted butter. Place in a tray, roughly 10" x 8". Prick and bake at 180°C for 30 minutes. When ready cut into the size you want and sprinkle with caster sugar.

The Yorkshire Wine Trail (YWT)

Lisa Hoad reports... Inspired by our trip to Helme Edge, I wanted to know more about Yorkshire's vineyards. Due to a changing climate and new grape varieties more suited to our regional weather, Yorkshire's wine industry has gone from strength to strength in the last few years. According to the YWT

website, "Yorkshire is today a premium wine producing region, with around 16 commercial vineyards producing in excess of 100,000 bottles of wine each year..."

On 31st March 2026, ten Yorkshire vineyards came together to launch the Yorkshire Wine Trail with the aim of supporting wine tourism in the region. The ten vineyards involved are Helme Edge, Holmfirth, Bay Vineyard, Carlton Towers, Goose Beck, Knotfield, Laurel Vines, Leventhorpe, Towthorpe and Yorkshire Heart, covering all parts of the Yorkshire region.

The organisers even created a Vineyard "Passport". Offering a reward for those who visit all 10 trail vineyards in a year. Whilst this certainly sounds like a challenge for the Focus team, I must admit there was something extra special about drinking Helme Edge's award-winning wine in our local valley. Details of the trail can be found at www.yorkshirewinetrail.co.uk

Hepworth Art Group – New Members Welcome!

Hazel Mercer writes... after a short summer break the art group resumed on Wednesday, 9 September 2026.

New members of all levels are most welcome to come along. For those who have never painted and just want to give it a try, or need that little extra help, especially using watercolours, we are happy to share some of our techniques. We also use other mediums such as pencils, pastels and acrylic paint etc. A small selection of watercolour paint, paper and pencils will be available for you to try out, if needed.

We meet every second and fourth Wednesday in the month between 2pm - 4pm in Hepworth Village Hall. The cost of each session is £2 per person, this covers the cost of hiring the hall, insurance, tea, coffee and biscuits.

We suggest a theme each month and the theme for September is 'Fairground', but this is not compulsory.

If you wish to discuss further, please feel free to email me at: hazeljmercer123@gmail.com

Services at Hepworth Church

Sheena Blunden writes... Now that we have our new vicar, the monthly pattern of worship is settling down. There is a service of Holy Communion at 9.30am every Sunday except the fourth Sunday which is a joint service with New Mill and Thurstonland at 10.00am and this rotates between the three churches which make up the Holme Valley East Benefice.

Thoughts from the Vicar

Rev. Sarah Cawdell writes... I am very glad of this opportunity to introduce myself, and Simon to you. I am the new incumbent of the new Benefice (collection of parishes) and am delighted to be the Vicar of Hepworth, New Mill and Thurstonland. We moved into the church property at 3, Vicarage Meadows, HD9 1DZ in August and are thrilled to find ourselves in a place of wonderful views and welcoming people. We look forward to getting to know you better over the weeks and months ahead.

We have three adult children: a son and two daughters and are glad that they are all content and settled in their lives, leaving us for the moment unencumbered and able to settle into life in Yorkshire. Both of us have been clergy in the Church of England since 1995. Previously we lived and worked in and around Bridgnorth in Shropshire. The hills are gentler there, and the driving less challenging! For the last three years we have been living and working in Gulu, a city in Northern Uganda, East Africa. We worked with the Church Mission Society, and in the Diocese of Northern Uganda. I was Principal of a Theological College, part of a team training clergy for the Church of Uganda. Simon worked with the Diocese in development, and became an arable farmer, growing maize, soya and coffee with the local community.

We had a wonderful and challenging three years there and were able to hand our work on to local people as we left just after Easter this year. The greater part of the population of Uganda are subsistence farmers, growing maize and beans enough to provide for themselves, some are also businesspeople, and very entrepreneurial.

I am excited now to be part of three vibrant and healthy congregations which are at the heart of their local communities, and I look forward to worshipping God and learning together. These are challenging times in our world, as individualism and power seem to be driving out common sense and cooperation. I am convinced that a hopeful future lies in working together with our differences, living peaceably with one another in so far as that is possible. When I look at the people that Jesus put together in the early church, I am amazed and encouraged by the variety and apparent incompatibility of those who were called together to share the love and grace of God in word and action.



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I hope that in these local communities in our different ways we can continue to reflect that hope, love and generosity and work together for the good of all who live and work here.

Please feel able to contact me, to visit or through my email: sarahcawdell59@gmail.com. I look forward to meeting you and working with you. God bless you.

Hepworth Christmas Exhibition

Lorraine Pollitt writes... Sorry to mention the word 'Christmas', but please don't pass by! As many will be aware we have a new vicar at Hepworth Church, her name is Sarah Cawdell. Sarah's previous role was in Uganda, so when I discussed with her the theme for our Christmas Exhibition, she said, given her Ugandan links, she would choose 'Christmas around the World'. So that's it!

Well, that gives huge scope for the imagination. Many countries are in summertime, so Christmas is a very different occasion to ours, and their celebration food very different.

Also, countries have different traditions and celebrations can take place on days other than 25 December. Some countries don't give gifts. I wonder what our contributors will make of it?

I showed Sarah some of the photographs taken of last year's exhibition (Christmas Songs and Carols) and she was blown away by the inventiveness of the displays and said she was excited to see what we could come up with this year.

So, get your thinking caps on. Which country will you choose and what features will you display? Let's show our new vicar what Hepworth, Scholes and Jackson Bridge are made of. The exhibition weekend is 12th and 13th December and the displays will remain in place until the new year. Gloria Styling will be writing out soon to our usual groups and individuals but if you would like some further information or would like to get involved (you don't need to be a church member), then you can contact her at: gloriastyling@icloud.com I hope you will take part.

Hepworth Film Night

Mary Wrathmell writes... We start the season with a film with some home-grown talent - the wonderful actor, Jessica Gunning. The Holmfirth girl stars alongside Ian McKellen in the 5-star reviewed 'The Christophers'. Do come and have a look at her in action in this dark comedy-drama film.

Friday 11 September - The Christophers

An irascible old English painter called Julian Sklar, wonderfully played by Ian McKellen, is a once dominant but now outmoded artist, living solo in a chaotic London townhouse. Opposite McKellen, Michaela Coel, is at the top of her game as Lori Butler, a charismatic former art student fallen on hard times. She is hired as Julian's assistant by his grasping adult children Barnaby (James Corden) and Sallie (Jessica Gunning). Lori is under instructions from the children to find a series of much talked-about paintings that Julian began showing in the 1990s while he was still a big name but then withdrew from sight and hid somewhere in the house; these are passionate studies of his then beautiful lover, Christopher, called "The Christophers".

Barnaby and Sallie figure that The Christophers are the only things worth the big money for them; Lori's job is to find them and, if they are destroyed or unfinished, to forge similar works using her remarkable skills so they can pass them off as real once he's dead. Directed by Oscar winning director, Steven Soderbergh. (Rating 15 – running time 1hr 40 mins)

Friday 9 October - Nouvelle Vague

Nouvelle Vague marks director Richard Linklater's second film of 2025 after 'Blue Moon' which we showed in June and was very well received by the regular Hepworth film nighters. It is a retelling of the making of Jean-Luc Godard's first feature film- 'A Bout de Souffle' or its English name- 'Breathless' in 1960 amidst the French New Wave movement in France. The film is shot on 35mm black-and-white to evoke the visual style of Breathless, and it is truly beautiful to look at.

Linklater's approach fully transports the viewer back to this period, giving the film a distinctly voyeuristic quality- almost as if we are members of the crew working in 1959 Paris, quietly observing the filmmaking process from the background. The cast features Guillaume Marbeck as Jean-Luc Godard, Zoey Deutch as Jean Seberg, and Aubrey Dullin as Jean-Paul Belmondo. Hugely cool but also funny and enjoyable. (Rating 12 - running time 106 minutes - subtitles)

Friday 13 November - Finding Emily

A sparkling romantic comedy that follows Owen (Spike Fearn), a lovestruck sound engineer in Manchester who is trying to track down a girl named Emily after getting a phone number that is one digit short. He is "helped" by an ambitious psychology student, also named Emily (Angourie Rice), who is secretly using Owen as a case study for her thesis proving that love is a form of temporary madness. Chaos ensues when Owen's quest triggers a massive campus-wide email and social media pile-on. The film makes the most of its Manchester setting by finding interesting parts of the city to film in. 'Finding Emily' may follow a familiar formula, but it does so with style, humour, and a genuine emotional core that's difficult not to fall for. Directed by Alicia McDonald. (Rating 12 - running time 111 mins)

Friday 4 December - Madfabulous

A high-spirited and good-humoured drama from screenwriter Lisa Baker and director Celyn Jones, reclaiming a forgotten chapter in queer Victorian history. Callum Scott Howells amusingly plays the flamboyant aristocrat Henry Paget, 5th Marquess of Anglesey, a delicate consumptive and aesthete who, in the late 19th century, blew his vast inheritance on colossal private theatricals, wild parties and jaw-dropping performances in which he would appear in gender-challenging costumes, including a diaphanous veil he wore as a "butterfly dancer". He caused scandal with his behaviour and apparently unconsummated marriage to first cousin Lily (Ruby Stokes), whose attitude to him here is perhaps more affectionate and tolerant than it was in real life. Rupert Everett is excellent in the fictionalised role of the kindly butler, Gelert. (Rating 12 – running time 108 mins)

As always, the film will start at 7.30pm with the village hall doors and bar opening at 7pm. The entry price remains the same at a bargain price of £5.00. Don't forget, you can watch a trailer and find details of the next up and coming film on the Hepworth Village Hall website at: www.hepworthvillagehall.org.uk

Sharing Memories Group Autumn Update

Viv Jebson writes...Sharing Memories goes from strength to strength. We finished our last project "Creatures of the Walk" in July, when our exhibition formed part of the Holmfirth Artweek fringe event at Holmbridge Church. We exhibited many of the ceramic creatures that we had made over the course of the project and were pleased that many of them sold, so we were able to contribute not only to our own funds but also to Macmillan. We also made a small "Creature Hunt" for children in Holmbridge Churchyard.

Anyone walking through Carr Wood in Hepworth will also have hopefully noticed some ceramic sheep, crafted by our members in conjunction with some children from Hepworth School. If you missed them don't worry - they are still in situ! We were lucky to have four ceramicists run fantastic workshops for us as part of the project, two of them from Hepworth: John Holt (ceramic sculptor and flow artist) and Gail Dooley (a sculptor that works with stoneware clay).

We start up again after the Summer break in September. Our next project is called "It's in the Leaves" and will focus on "culture" and what it means to everyone. The art form we will be exploring in this season is print, looking at relief printing, mono and collagraph printing, rubbing and found object printing. We will have two trips, one to visit the Angela Harding exhibition at The Sculpture Park (she is one of Britain's foremost and respected printmakers), the other to West Yorkshire Print Workshop.

Why not come along to find out more - we meet every Thursday 1-3pm in term time, somewhere in the Holme Valley (the location changes as we work with other partner groups in the community)

Don't have transport? Don't worry we can arrange a lift or taxi for you for only £5 for your return trip.

For more information, call Viv Jebson 07850622918 or email sharingmemories@gmail.com

Christmas Market and Pop-Up Café 2026

Gill Wallis writes...Saturday the 21st of November is the date of this year's Christmas market held in the Village Hall. The event is organised by members of Hepworth church and is always an enjoyable occasion.

Take advantage of the opportunity to start on your Christmas shopping in a friendly and relaxed environment. Many of the now well-established stalls will be there for you to browse and purchase from. Always popular the gift stall, consisting of toiletries, bath and shower items, soaps, and complimentary products. Also handmade Christmas tree decorations, gift-wrap, table crackers, Christmas cards and such.

The tables of plants and bulbs and home baking stalls are always well stocked but still sell out quickly. The tables of pre-loved games, toys and books is a real winner, and people realise what bargains there are on these tables. If anyone can donate any good quality games, toys or books to this stall, then that would be appreciated.

They can be left in the church vestibule any day between 10am and 4pm. They can be left anytime from now, no need to wait until nearer the time.

Additionally, the two popular tombola stalls will be there as will David Drake with his popular assortment of jams and chutneys and not forgetting the raffle table with some good quality prizes.

The pop-up cafe will be serving refreshments throughout the day to eat in or take away. Both the market and the cafe will be open from 9.30 am to 2.00pm. Posters for the event will be up around the village nearer the time and on Hepworth Village Facebook. Look forward to seeing you there!

Charity Coffee Mornings

Stella Southam writes...The amounts raised in recent months are as follows:

June 10th	FOHS	£237.28
July 8th	Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership	£320
August 12th	Sharing Memories.	£270

The total amount raised at these coffee mornings, since May 1997 is £79,494,68

The dates of future coffee mornings are as follows:

Sept 9th	Hepworth Church (Stella Southam)
Oct 14th	Huddersfield Guide Dogs for the Blind (Janet Armitage)
Nov 11th	Hepworth Pre-School and After-School Club (Abi)
Dec 9th	Marine Conservation (Chris Beaven)
Jan 13th	Cystic Fibrosis (Fiona Anderson)

I have some bookings for 2027, but there are vacancies for the following months: July, August, October, November and December. Please contact me if you are interested in running one of these charitable events. You would need four or five friends to help you, and a 3-page document list of instructions, telling you how it is done!

It can be a fun thing to do, and you can be supported by others, including children from Hepworth School, during term time.

For bookings, please contact me, Stella Southam (01484-681600)

Hepworth School Update

Headteacher, Mark Crouch reports...Hepworth will feel like a new school in September with some significant staffing changes in place.

Every year some staff move on, and some join us, but I think this year we have had more moves than ever before. While this is always a sad time, it is exciting that the staff who are leaving are embarking on new challenges; it also allows school to bring in fresh ideas and for us to move in a new direction.

I feel that this is particularly relevant this year as Hepworth School starts this academic year officially as an academy for the first time. It will look no different from the outside, but we will have lots of support inside school to help us both



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academically and with leadership. We are now part of a collective of schools rather than standing alone.

Last year was a very successful one for the school from an academic point of view. Certain year groups must take external assessments and are compared to national standards. We did very well in all of these. The main ones we are judged on are the Year 6 SATs, which pupils take in May before leaving to move on to high school. We are so proud that 100% of our pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to 63% nationally.

These are our best ever results with many of our pupils exceeding the expected standard. It was nice that Mr Chapman could leave with such positive results! We know that academic results are not the most important thing – we value kindness, respect and good morals above all of this, but it is great that our pupils can move on to Holmfirth High School with such a good platform on which to build next year.

I am also very pleased to tell you that Hepworth School has gained its Silver Award and Early Years Award from the Bumblebee Conservation Trust this summer for the work we did in the last academic year.

We will be going for the gold award next year. Thanks to Mrs Brackenbury for supporting me to get this award. If you want to find out more visit the website: <https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org>

As always, if anyone out there feels like they can offer any support to us in school then please make contact. We are always looking for people to come and read with pupils or help with maths or in our grounds. As our budget has been cut further this year, we need any support from our lovely community!

Scholes Cricket Club's 150th Centenary

John Andrews writes...By the time this is with you, we will have completed our 150th centenary celebrations and will be looking forward to the long hard winter ahead!

At the time of writing, our first team sit second in the premier league, which has already been won by Hoylandswaine; and our seconds look to have secured their safety in the conference league, the third tier of the HPCL.

There have been no cup heroics this season, the firsts somehow lost the final of the T20 competition to Rastrick in late July. Our Under 17 team have once again gone a league season without losing a game and easily won their division. They will also have played against Mirfield Parish in the Philip

Oldfield Cup final at Lascelles Hall. All or junior sides have performed well this season with many of our players playing at higher age groups for the first time. I think we can say it has been an enjoyable season for all involved with the juniors from our All Stars to our Under 17s.

Our Women and Girls section have fielded more teams than ever this season with two soft ball teams, a hard ball side and a girls' Under 13 team. All teams have been competitive and have had an extremely enjoyable summers cricket. Our Sunday team have played many more games than previously this last season finishing with a respectable top six finish.

This side is a stepping stone to Saturday cricket and is a vital pathway for our juniors into senior cricket.

Scholes Chapelgaters have won the Emmerson cup and will have appeared in the Evening League finals day by the time you read this. Plans for the close season are well in hand with a full programme of events to keep everyone happy.

Our very popular bonfire will be held on Saturday November 7th this year, all our forthcoming events are publicised via our social media channels.

One sad note for the season was the passing of our friend and former first team captain Laurence Heap – a constant figure at Chapelgate for many years. Information about Scholes Cricket Club can be found on our websites: scholescc.co.uk and scholeshuddersfield.play-cricket.com. We are always open to new players and members so come along and be part of our extended family. Email: info@scholescc.co.uk

As usual we would like to thank all our sponsors without whom it would be almost impossible for a small village club to survive at this level of our sport.

Church Garden Party in Review

Gill Wallis writes...After a showery and coolish start to June, the day of the church garden party was just as planned, lovely and sunny but not too hot. It was very well attended and lots of people said how much they had enjoyed the afternoon. All the stalls did well and sold lots of items, many people could be seen leaving with armfuls of cakes, jars of jams, marmalades, books and games.

The barbecue was as popular as ever and the bar very well supported to the point of selling out of Pimm's! Additionally, the cafe inside did a great trade with tea and cakes.

The children made great use of the games especially the wonderful, new 'Spat the Rat' made a short notice by the talented Stephen Lindley. Rebecca the face painting lady was kept busy. (Thanks Rebecca you were great!)

The band were superb and many folks simply sat with a drink listening to them.

Thank you to everyone for coming along on the day and supporting the event and a huge thank you to all the people who gave their time to help with the setting up and dismantling of gazebos, supervising children's activities, baking, donating, and countless other tasks.

We are happy to report that what is essentially a fun, social event raised the fantastic sum of £1330 for church funds. Many thanks!

From the Wildlife Garden – Ask Allan...

Your chance to ask wildlife and nature related questions of a local geek (Allan Senior)...

Question: Is Himalayan Balsam a weed? I've seen quite a lot round Hepworth, especially at Ox Lee. Should we get rid of it? What happens if we don't? (M- Hepworth)

Himalayan balsam is classified as an invasive non-native plant, but it is not considered a noxious weed. It is illegal to plant or cause Himalayan balsam to grow in the wild under UK wildlife laws. The plant itself is a member of the same family as Busy Lizzies. Himalayan balsam typically grows 1 to 2.5 meters tall, with hollow, hairless stems that are green or yellow-green tinged with red. Its lance-shaped leaves are mid- to dark green, often with red veins, finely serrated edges, and grow in opposite pairs or whorls of 3–5.

The plant produces large, hooded flowers in shades of pink, purple, or occasionally white, measuring 2.5–4 cm long, which are sweetly scented and attract pollinators. The flowers have a distinctive shape often compared to a policeman's helmet. The seed heads pop distributing the seeds up to 7 meters away. Seeds landing in water are then carried downstream to establish a new growth, hence why large patches are often found near to water. It competes with native plants and reduces biodiversity, but it is not harmful to humans and can be controlled through non-chemical methods. If left unchecked the plant will form a monoculture, excluding water, light and nutrients from our native plant species. The shallow roots also do not help with soil stabilisation increasing soil compaction and/or erosion.

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Removal is thankfully easy with pulling being the simplest and most effective process. With a firm pull on the stem a Himalayan balsam plant can be completely removed, including the roots. Snap the stem to stop flower formation continuing by drawing from the roots, and then the plant can be left to compost. Complete removal from one area will take several years to ensure all the plants are removed, but the process will get easier year on year.

Question: The RSPB have advised that we don't feed birds over the summer. When should we start feeding them again? (S- Hepworth)

Earlier this year the RSPB issued an advisory on the feeding of birds over the summer months. This was:

Feed seasonally

In summer and autumn (1 May–31 October) you can feed small amounts of mealworms, fat balls or suet. Why?

- Protein-rich food helps boost chick survival rates.
- Natural foods are plentiful in summer, so birds need less supplementary feeding.
- Finches are less attracted to fat and suet, so risk of disease is likely to be lower.

Feed safely

Adjust the amount you offer based on demand and try to prevent it from getting wet. Choose hanging feeders over flat feeders. Clean feeders weekly, and refresh water every day. Why?

- Fresh food is less likely to harbour bacteria or spread disease.
- Uneaten food can attract rodents.
- There's a higher risk of disease spreading on flat feeders.
- Regular cleaning helps reduce the spread of disease.
- Fresh, clean water is especially important during hot weather.

The purpose of this advice was to help reduce the spread of disease. Research has shown a worrying decline in some of our much-loved garden birds due to a disease called trichomonosis. This is a highly contagious disease and can spread where birds gather in large numbers such as at bird feeders. Greenfinches, for example, have dropped by over 65% in the last three decades.

Question: We have been thrilled to see a stork in the stream on a couple of occasions lately. Is this commonplace around here, and do they migrate far? (M&L- Hepworth)

Firstly, I have to disappoint and say that almost certainly you saw a heron, not a stork. According to the British Trust for Ornithology there are currently no recorded native wild storks breeding in the UK. While there are occasional isolated visits



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by these majestic birds these tend to be isolated to southern England. This may change in coming years as efforts are underway for reintroduction. While both long legged and long necked birds that is about as far as the similarities go. The fact you saw the bird in the stream does give the firm indication that this was a heron. While technically carnivorous herons are renowned for eating fish, amphibians and water insects and can often be seen standing perfectly still in shallow water waiting to spear a fish with their long, impressive beak.

This does unfortunately mean that while living in Hepworth it is not likely to see a stork flying over delivering a baby. But next time you are on holiday in Spain you may be lucky.

Question: How can I get rid of ivy? I've tried many weed killers including SBK, which I thought would work, but it hasn't! (M- Kent)

Are you sure you want to get rid of your ivy? Ivy is an amazing plant for wildlife, providing food, shelter and nesting for hundreds of different species. The leaves provide food for caterpillars; the late flowers provide a vital nectar source when other supplies are dwindling; the berries provide winter food for birds; and the whole structure provides shelter and nesting sites for insects, birds and small mammals.

It can get out of control, big and unruly and sometimes it is just in the wrong place, so removal is required.

As it seems you have already experienced this is often not the easiest task. Avoid trying chemical treatment, that is just not wildlife friendly and often does not work (as you have already seen).

The preferred route is to sever all the stems as close to the ground as possible. This alone can sometimes be enough as without leaves the plant cannot photosynthesise and will die. For more established plants though there is a reserve in the roots and this needs to be dug out. Dig out what roots you can. New shoots may continue to pop up from any remaining roots but if you keep on top of removing these the whole system will eventually die – no leaves mean no photosynthesis so the plant will essentially starve to death.

Got a question for Allan? Email: focushepworth@gmail.com

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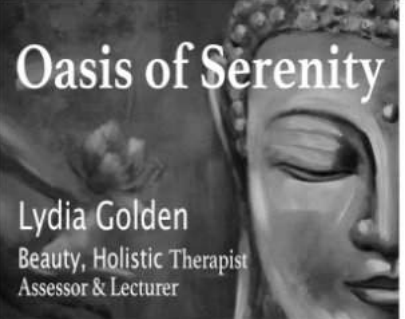
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News

This year's Panto offering from the Hepworth Players will be **Goldilocks and the Three Bears**. Following last year's sellout success, the Players have chosen another Alex Jackson pantomime with his trademark wit and risqué humour. This production of the classic cautionary children's tale has been infused with an exciting circus twist so... roll up, roll up and see you all over at the Big Top... sorry, the Village Hall for the best show in town. Rehearsals began this month and online tickets go on sale at the start of October, see our diary pages and don't miss out, book early to avoid disappointment!

Private dining is now available at **The Butchers Arms** in their stunning upstairs dining room. Christmas booking are now open and various autumn dining events will be held in this new space so look out for upcoming information on their social media and Hepworth Village Facebook page.

Wildy Wood Farm of Meal Hill Lane, New Mill, opened their new campground for campervans and motorhomes recently. Focus went along for a look and can confirm that alongside the spectacular local views from the valley, the facilities are top notch with electric hook-ups, generous sized hard standing pitches and a spotless accessible heated shower facility. Another great option for locals who have people coming to stay. Bookings via their website: <https://wildywood.co.uk>

The **Church Garden Party** held in June has raised a record £1330 for church funds! As always, it was brilliantly planned and organised and took place on a beautifully sunny summer afternoon.

Hepworth School children have achieved their best ever SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) results. These assessments are national tests and an incredible 100% of Hepworth pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, with many pupils exceeding the expected standard too. See Mark Crouch's article for more school news.

Holme Valley Mountain Rescue Team Update

Mat Golden reports... We have had quite a busy couple of months. We have attended two incidents involving horse riders. In one, the rider was thrown from a horse and sustained a broken ankle. In another, a person had been kicked by a horse. Both casualties required medical treatment at the scene before being stretchered to awaiting ambulances.

We have also been assisting West Yorkshire Police with searches for missing people. Two of these incidents were in the Wakefield area and one was near Tankersley. Thankfully, two had happy endings, although sadly, one did not.

The middle of June saw one of the largest incidents we have attended recently. This turned out to be a major multi-agency incident involving West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, HART (Hazardous Area Response Team), Yorkshire Air Ambulance and the Coastguard.

The incident involved a mountain biker who had fallen approximately 60 feet over a cliff and sustained serious injuries, including several fractured ribs and a punctured lung. The casualty had also come to rest close to a reservoir and, in the end, our specialist water team was involved in the extraction.

In excess of 70 rescue personnel assisted at the scene. I am very pleased to say that the casualty is now on the road to a full recovery, and we wish them all the very best.

Some of the other incidents I have been involved with have involved assisting neighbouring mountain rescue teams. One included the winching of a casualty to safety, while another involved carrying a casualty from Bleaklow after they suffered an ankle injury.

More recently, we have also been involved with the Moor Fires, assisting West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Although we do not fight fires, we can assist with communications, logistics, access points and education. This is an ongoing process, and we will continue to assist wherever we can.

Come and See Us at Our Open Day!

I am hoping this edition of Focus will be out in time for our annual Open Day, which is being held at our HQ on Manchester Road, Marsden, on 19th September, from 10.30am until 3.30pm.

Everyone is welcome, and there will be lots to see and do. All our team equipment will be on display, demonstrations will be taking place, and our three rescue vehicles will all be available for visitors to look around.

Finally, please accept my apologies if you were planning to visit our stand at Hade Edge Gala. We did arrive and set up at the Gala, only to receive a callout as we arrived. We had to make quite a rapid departure!

And, just to finish, please all enjoy the outdoors. Should anyone want help, advice or suggestions on anything we might be able to assist with — whether that is navigation, clothing, kit, walk planning or anything else — please feel free to contact me.

Many thanks- Holme Valley Mountain Rescue Team (07771 666442)

HepworthLIVE

Paul and Di Drury write... We will be starting our 17th season of live folk and roots music in October and now have well over 100 HepworthLIVE shows behind us. Our aim has always been to bring the best quality singers and musicians from the UK and around the world, to the Village Hall. We think we have achieved this with some truly exceptional nights and hope to continue this into our new season.

The programme is fully booked through to April, and we believe we have some brilliant performers appearing. If you like live music and have not yet been along or are new to the village why not give it a try. We can promise top quality musicianship up close and personal in the intimate setting of our lovely Village Hall and a very friendly audience, many of whom have been coming since the very first shows. All the artists listed below have their own websites / Facebook pages where you can learn more about them or listen to their music and there are usually videos of them performing available on YouTube.

Opening the season on Saturday 3rd October is the musical genius that is Tim Edey, one of the most astonishing guitar players you will ever see. Tim had to cancel in January due to illness, but we are delighted to have been able to rearrange the show. Tickets from the original date are still valid and there are still tickets for sale.

On Saturday 24th October Jack Rutter appears. Jack last played Hepworth in 2009 as a 16-year-old supporting the legendary Roy Bailey. Since then, locally based Jack, has gone on to become a highly respected performer.

A hugely engaging stage presence, his soaring vocal, powerhouse guitar and bouzouki playing and masterful arrangements of traditional songs and contemporary covers have enthralled audiences from the largest festival main stages to the most intimate folk clubs. Jack is planning to record part of his new album live at this show so it would be great to have a full house in full voice.

We welcome Granny's Attic for their first visit to Hepworth on Saturday 14th November. This trio are renowned for their exceptional musicianship and boundless energy. They are much loved by audiences up and down the country, with bookings everywhere from Cambridge Folk Festival to Cecil Sharp House. Tickets for this are sure to be in high demand.

Closing the year with a very special seasonal concert on Saturday 19th December are Jackie Oates & John Spiers. Multi award-winning and hugely influential folk musicians they bring their breadth of experience to this finely matched duo.

Jackie (two-time BBC Radio 2 Folk Award winner and five-time nominee) is an exquisite singer, expressive fiddler and composer with a string of critically acclaimed albums and reputation as one of our most gifted interpreters of traditional song.

John (Bellowhead, Spiers & Boden) is a leading squeezebox player and composer who mixes infectious dance tunes with incredibly moving and sensitive slow airs. John expertly blends traditional squeezebox styles with contemporary dance music to create an infectious acoustic groove.

Two of the most recognised musicians on the British folk scene today will be combining their considerable talents to provide a beautiful and warm evening of the highest calibre music; the perfect antidote to the materialism of the festive season. With their understated brilliance, the duo invite you into their captivating world of English carols, wassails and other historical traditions, festive songs and tunes from the British Isles and far beyond.

Concerts include original music and selected covers, and a host of instruments are played - fiddle, melodeon, percussion, recorders and stomp box - creating a richly textured sound. By sharing insights into their own family traditions, the duo provide inspiration for a simpler and wholesome Christmas - one where tradition, family, ritual and celebration are the beating heart.

As usual more information is available at Hepworthlive.com and tickets are only available from: wegottickets.com/Hepworth

New! Mindfulness Pottery Classes Coming to Hepworth

Weekly Classes will run from 7th September at Hepworth Village Hall.

Amanda Ovington writes... I've lived in Hepworth for the past 20 years. Over five years ago, I discovered my love for pottery and have been hooked ever since!

Over the years I've developed my skills and have enjoyed selling my work through Art Week, Etsy and local artisan markets. My speciality is creating ceramic animals and clocks, but I love the freedom that working with clay gives you to create all sorts of things.

I've always found pottery to be a wonderful way to slow down, switch off from everyday life and simply enjoy the process of making something with your hands. I'd now love to share that enjoyment with others and introduce a new Mindfulness Pottery Class here in the village.

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The classes will be a friendly and relaxed hand-building pottery class held in the Village Hall on Monday evenings, 6–8pm, starting 7th September. This is not a wheel-throwing class — but we'll explore a range of hand-building techniques to create your own unique ceramic pieces, as well as learning about glazing.

The class will be suitable for complete beginners through to improvers, and my hope is to create a lovely, welcoming little group where local people can come together each week, learn something new, get creative and enjoy a couple of hours away from the everyday.

I have my own kiln at home, where your finished pieces will be fired. Once they have been fired and are ready, they'll be brought back to the class for you to glaze before their final firing.

I'm hoping the group will grow organically, so places will remain available to new members throughout the half-term, subject to capacity. If you can't make the first session, please don't worry — just get in touch to see if there's still a space for you to join us.

The cost will be adjusted depending on when you join. If you'd like to find out more or reserve a place, please contact Amanda on amanda.ovington@hotmail.co.uk or 07701 308664. I'd love to welcome you and share my love of pottery with you!

Mothers' Union Autumn Update: A Huge Thank You to Hepworth!

Margaret Overend reports...Wow, Hepworth, we cannot thank you enough! We knew when we launched our latest appeal for donations of toiletries that villagers would get behind us - but we really didn't foresee just how fantastic your response would be.

More than 40 specially made bags containing toiletries donated by Mothers' Union members, friends and the Hepworth community were handed over to Naomi Morrison and Katie Barnes, of the Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership, at a coffee morning organised by MU in the Village Hall.

The bags - as well as several large boxes of un-bagged toiletries - will be given to women and their children who turn up at PDAP refugees without even the basic necessities such as toothpaste or soap.

The Village Hall was packed for the coffee morning, which went on to raise a brilliant £320 for PDAP. The branch organised the coffee morning as part of its involvement in the Mothers' Union's Rise Up! campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse and the help that is available.

Several local organisations were represented, including Kirklees Community Connect, Women's Centre and Kirklees Domestic Abuse Services, the Red Flag Project and Kirklees Wellness Services.

Also, among those joining us was Kirklees councillor Damian Brook and Ann Bonner, a violence against women and domestic abuse insight analyst.

And our plans for the rest of the year? On September 22nd at 8pm, Gail Dooley will be giving us an insight into making ceramics.

From October, our meetings move to the afternoon, so on October 27th at 2pm, Rev. Sarah Cawdell will talk with us about Mothers' Union in Uganda.

And then, for our final official meeting of the year, we will enjoy a delicious faith lunch and then get all crafty with the help of Vikki Padgett on November 24th, starting at 12.30pm.

But it doesn't end there. We will be lunching again on Tuesday, December 1st, when we visit one of our local cafes to enjoy our Christmas celebrations.

Fancy joining us for any of our meetings? The door is always open.

Foodie Focus with Hepworth Mothers' Union

In each new edition, the amazing ladies at **Hepworth Mothers' Union** will open up their kitchens and share one of their most highly regarded recipes with us hungry Focus readers. You can't beat a slice of carrot cake with a cuppa, so why not try this recipe. It's perfect for Autumn and of course it is delicious!

Carrot cake

250g grated carrot
3 medium eggs
200ml vegetable oil
3tsp vanilla essence
125g self-raising flour

125g wholemeal self-raising flour
350g brown sugar
1/2tsp bicarbonate of soda
1tsp cinnamon
1/2tsp mixed spice
Chopped walnuts

Method

Set the oven to 150°C. Line a 20cm round tin and grease sides. Peel and grate the carrots then in a large mixing bowl, place eggs, oil, vanilla extract and sugar. Beat well and stir in carrots and walnuts. Pour into baking tin and bake for approx. 60 mins until skewer is clean when inserted into cake. Cool in the tin.

Lemon icing

30g butter
90g cream cheese
Zest of a lemon
200g icing sugar

Method

Cream butter and cheese until smooth, add the lemon zest and mix in the icing sugar. When the cake is cool, spread with the lemon icing. Try cutting the cake in half and spread half the mixture in the middle and half on the top. Sprinkle the top with chopped walnuts.

Hepworth Win Thriller with One Ball to Spare

The Maureen Buckley Village Cricket Challenge Trophy Scholes vs Hepworth, Monday 31st August 2026

The Maureen Buckley Village Challenge Trophy is again in the hands of Hepworth after they won another thrilling game against neighbours Scholes, meaning they now lead the long-standing series by ten wins to nine.

Dark clouds loomed, rain was forecast, and the Chapelgate ground was saturated, but as the annual fixture formed a major part of Scholes Cricket Club's 150-year anniversary celebrations, the captains, players and umpires eventually all agreed that the match must go ahead.

Amid heavy showers, Scholes skipper Nathan Hall won the toss and decided that the hosts would bat first. The Hepworth bowlers struggled somewhat with their run ups – there was barely enough sawdust to go round – and in their 20 overs Scholes posted a very challenging total of 162. Top scorer was the experienced Matt 'Tramp' Boorman with 30, while three other players retired after reaching 25, young debutant Stan Hall, Andy Bissett, and Bobby Firth.

The pick of the Hepworth bowlers were Joe Hinchliffe and Joe Wheelhouse with two wickets apiece, while Joe Clark, Arthur O'Toole, Ray Avery and James 'Keith' Noble all chipped in with one each.

The sun made a welcome appearance as Hepworth began their reply and they got ahead of the required run rate from the start. The top order acquitted

themselves well, with all of Mark Bradley, George Heathcote, James Webb, and Clark retiring on 25 or more.

Rob Black, with support from Steve Smith, dug in to get the visitors close to the target before the tension rose with a flurry of late wickets, including skipper Rob Lowson, Noble, and Richard Baxter, who was 'triggered' LBW by umpire Steve Booth on the first ball of the final over. With one run still needed to win, it was left to Avery, batting alongside Black, to slash the winning run off the penultimate ball, sparking celebrations in the pavilion from the Hepworth squad.

In a packed clubhouse, Maureen Buckley herself was there to present the trophy to the winning captain Lowson, marking the fourth time Hepworth have triumphed in the past five years.

He thanked Scholes Cricket Club for their hospitality, the groundsman, Mark, the scorers Charlie, Molly and Max, the umpires, Booth and Cuddy, and the Scholes captain Hall and his team for their sportsmanship in a fantastic, tight game. Stan Hall and Tramp were named the joint Scholes players of the match, while newcomer Black took the honours for Hepworth.

After the match, Lowson said: "To say the conditions were challenging would be an understatement. It was very tricky for the bowlers, but they kept going and then our batting was solid all the way through. It was a tough total to chase, but we got there and everyone in the squad contributed.

"It was great to be able to get the game on, and to play a part in what was a fantastic 150th anniversary weekend at Scholes CC. Thanks again to everyone who makes this fixture happen every year. Now that we've finally got our noses in front at 10-9, the aim is to stay ahead."

Hepworth squad: Rob Lowson (captain), Mark Bradley (vice-captain), James 'Keith' Noble, Joe Hinchliffe, Steve Smith, Joe Wheelhouse, George Heathcote, Joe Clark, James Webb, Ray Avery, Arthur O'Toole, Richard Baxter, Rob Black.



Our thanks go to Rob Lowson for this exciting report.

The scorers for the day, Charlie, Molly, and Max



News from Friends of Hepworth School

Kate Whitfield writes... Since last writing, we hosted a fantastic community coffee morning at the village hall. It was lovely to see everyone and, as always, the children helping out were amazing. We had some delicious cakes for sale, a chocolate/biscuit tombola, and a raffle. A big thank you to all those who helped run the coffee morning and a huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported us.

June was a very busy month for us! We began the month by providing an all-day food and drinks stall at the School's Sport's Day. Bacon butties, crisps, buns, teas, coffees and plenty of cold drinks were in high demand with the warm weather! Thank you to the parents who helped run the food stall and to all the parents, grandparents, friends, carers, and children who dropped by and bought food and drinks from us.

Then, later in June, we held our first ever FOHS Photobooth! Children used funky/silly/fabulous props and posed for photos, which were then printed, framed and gift-wrapped, so that children could give them as gifts to family/friends. The photobooth was lots of fun and the children really got into the spirit of things! Again, a huge thank you to the parents who helped in what can only be described as a crazy environment!

The photos were fantastic and we hope they brought smiles to all those who received them as gifts.

In July, we held the Festival of Fun, which involved Class 4 developing games for the rest of the school. We supported this event by providing prizes for the games and some snacks for the day. The funds raised from this event went towards supporting the Year 6 Leavers' Party.

During the spring and summer terms, we held Frozen Fridays on the days where we had good weather. This involved selling ice-creams after school. A big thank you to Rachel who co-ordinated this. Frozen Fridays were very welcome on some of the hot days we had!

Finally, we ended our school year with the Summer Fayre. We had lots of different stalls and games, including face-painting, hair-braiding, spin and win, a silent auction, glitter tattoos, various tombolas, a sweet shop, Pimms stall, café, raffle, and much more. So many people and organisations came together to make the fayre a success – thank you to all those who helped, donated prizes, and came along to support the event. The fayre would not have been possible without your support, and it was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves at the end of a very busy school year.



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Thank you as always to everyone who supports us, helps with these events, and contributes to making FOHS a success. We could not do this without you! If you have any fundraising ideas or would like to get involved with FOHS, please contact us at friendsofhepworthschool@gmail.com. We are always open to new ideas!

Holmfirth Artweek

Mick Kirkby Geddes reports... Holmfirth Artweek usually ends up competing for attention with a major sporting event or the weather, this year we had both plus the roadworks in Holmfirth. But despite all that we still managed to raise a total of £40,000, which will be divided equally between our charity partners The Kirkwood and Macmillan Cancer Support. This means they will each receive £20,000 this year. So, we owe a big thank you to all our volunteers, visitors, venues and artists for their continued support of Holmfirth Artweek in our 60th year.

I'll freely admit we weren't confident of achieving that earlier in the week when visitor numbers dipped because of the really warm weather. I mean let's be honest, who'd rather walk around an art exhibition in a somewhat stuffy Civic Hall than relax in their own gardens during the glorious weather. But the fact that we had 50 fringe venues on offer this year made the difference. It encouraged people to explore the area and go to see artists work in unusual locations like churches, gardens, village halls, houses, schools and of course bars.

What we have learnt as a committee after 60 years is that the way the event happens needs to change and evolve so it can continue. The workload for the volunteers who run it every year is getting too much so we've made the decision as a committee to reassess and refresh the event to future proof it for generations to come. To that end we are turning to you, our community, to get involved by helping us with fresh ideas for how to improve and evolve the event. If you are passionate about Holmfirth and Holmfirth Artweek, please complete the form on the link below to share your ideas with us - new ideas or anything you have seen that works well elsewhere - you don't need to be an artist or an expert, you just need to be interested in our community.

To have your say you'll need to type this link
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Hepworth Garden Show 2026 Results

A huge congratulations to Alison Booth and the rest of the Gardening Show committee for another fantastic event. The standard of entrees was brilliant as always! The committee members wanted to thank all the entrants for this year's superb display and the Focus team (along with a great many members of the village) would like to thank the hard-working committee members for their dedication and effort.

Children 1st prize winners

Up to 7 Years Old:

Vegetable monster: Thomas Gothard
 Edible necklace: Anna Booth Kurpnieks

Children 7-10 Years Old:

Cookery: Giles Broadbent
 Handicraft: Iona MacMillan
 Vegetable monster: Jenson Wheeler

Children 11-16 Years Old:

Cookery: Harvey Lea
 Handicrafts: Olivia Gallagher

Best children's exhibit (White Horse Shield): Thomas Gothard

Adults

Best photograph: Hilary Deakin
 Best craft item: Rebecca Gallagher
 Best cookery: Sue Dyson
 Best Fuchsia (Huddersfield Fuschia Society trophy): Nick Charlton
 Most points in roses (Hepworth Band Rosebowl): Alicia Mellor
 Most points in flower section (Fred Lindley Cup): Alicia Mellor
 Most points in vegetable section: Tony Willets
 Best exhibit in show (Fred Lindley Memorial Trophy): Rebecca Gallagher
 Most points in show (Charles Cardwell Memorial Trophy): Tony Willets

Regular Village Hall Bookings

Mondays 6pm to 8pm. **NEW.** Pottery Class. Amanda Ovington 07701 308664

Mondays (2nd in month, Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov) 8pm. Community Association meeting.

Tuesdays 7pm to 9pm - Badminton - contact Gillian Holsey. 07855 154093.

Wednesdays (2nd in month only) 10am to 12noon. Charity coffee mornings - contact Stella Southam 681600.

Wednesdays (2nd and 4th in month only) 2pm to 4pm. Art group - contact 684568

Wednesdays (April and November) 7:00pm. Hepworth Players play and pantomime rehearsals.

Thursdays (February to May) 7:00pm Hepworth Players play rehearsals.

Thursdays (September to November) 7:00pm Hepworth Players pantomime rehearsals.

Fridays (Second in month, September to June) 7:30pm Hepworth Film Night

To book the hall contact Ruth Brook via "Booking the Hall" on the website. <https://hepworthvillagehall.org.uk/hall-bookings/>



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Monday 9 - Late
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Wednesday 9 - 5.30
Thursday 9 - Late
Friday 9 - 5.30
Saturday 8 - 3
Sunday Closed

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Thurs: 8am 'til 5pm	Sun: 8am 'til 2pm
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A Rotten Trick

*I just don't know how it's been done,
'Cos we always lock our doors.
But somehow, they've sneaked in real quick,
And they've lowered all our floors.*

*If I dropped something on t' carpet,
I could pick it up with ease.
If I now want to retrieve it,
I must go down on my knees.*

*My back just cannot do it,
In spite of all the stuff
I must rub on it every day,
It still won't bend enough.*

*They've done a very thorough job,
So far as I can tell,
When I went into the garden
They've done it there as well.*

*I think I have the answer,
Should have thought of it before.
To shorten both my legs
Would bring my hands nearer the floor.*

*Or failing that just stretch my arms
Until they're fairly long.
What e're I do, I think, perhaps,
These solutions will be wrong.*

*I simply must put up with it,
Like when I got a limp.
With short legs, and arms much longer,
I'd be walking like a chimp. (chump?)-*

*I would simply be a laughingstock.
And sympathy they'd lack.
The floors are in their proper place,
It's just my aching back!!*

By Phillip Horn




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Hepworth Diary – What's On this Autumn!

Friday 11th Sept	Hepworth Film Night – 'The Christophers' 7:30pm, Village Hall. Bar opens at 7.00pm. Entry £5.00, pay on the door.
Saturday 12th Sept - Sunday 13th Sept	Holmfirth Food and Drink Festival. All stalls will be open 10am – 6pm on Saturday (all stalls in the Towngate area are open until 8pm) 10am – 5pm on Sunday
Sunday 13th Sept	Autumn Serenade Afternoon Concert 3.00pm, Scholes Methodist Church. (An A in Many Forms...) a feast of music with Hepworth Community Singers, a Piano Trio and New Mill Hand Chimes. For tickets please call: 07849740838
Monday 14th Sept	Community Association and Village Hall Meeting 8.00pm, Hepworth Village Hall - all welcome.
Tuesday 15th Sept	Charity Community Coffee Morning 9.15am – 11.00am, Scholes Methodist Church. Children from Scholes J & I School will come over to entertain at 10am.
Saturday 19th Sept	Holme Valley Mountain Rescue Annual Open Day 10.30am-3.30pm, HVMR HQ Manchester Road, Marsden. Equipment and rescue vehicles on display along with demonstrations for visitors. All welcome.
Saturday 19th Sept - Sunday 20th Sept	Art at the House. 10.00am- 4.00pm, Cliffe House, Shepley. Workshop sessions and entertainment. Free Entry.
Sunday 20th Sept	Harvest Festival Service 10.30am, Scholes Methodist Church. A traditional Harvest Display including dried and tinned goods for The Welcome Centre. Led by the worship team. Everyone Welcome.
Tuesday 22nd Sept	Come Singing 2.00pm-3.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church. Mothers' Union 7.00pm, Hepworth Church. 8pm Gail Dooley, local artist, talking about ceramics.
Saturday 26th Sept	Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.00am-12noon, Hepworth Church. Meet friends old and new and enjoy delicious cake. Friendly dogs welcome. £2.50 per person including refills. Yorkshire Wine and Cheese Tasting 7.30pm, Brockholes Village Hall. An evening of wine, cheese, charcuterie and conversation. A presentation by Helme Edge Vineyard, wines from Helme Edge and cheese from Holmfirth Cheese Shop. Tickets £25 per person to be booked in advance – contact Alison (Brockholes Village Trust) on 07455 126229
Saturday 26th Sept - Sunday 27th Sept	Holmfirth Children's Book Festival. A full weekend of live children's author and illustrator events from authors all over the U.K. www.holmfirthbookfestival.co.uk
Thursday 1st Oct	Online Ticket Sales Open for the Pantomime - Goldilocks and the Three Bears https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Hepworth-players

Thursday 1st Oct - Sunday 4th Oct	Holmfirth Walking Festival .Details are available from Holmfirth Library & Tourist Centre or email: holmfirthhikers@gmail.com
Saturday 3rd Oct	HepworthLIVE presents – Tim Edey 7.30pm Village Hall. Tickets: https://wegottickets.com/hepworthlive
Sunday 4th Oct	Yummy Yorkshire Makers' Market in the Barn 10.00am-4.00pm including homewares, gifts, clothing, treats for pets, ceramics, plants, lighting, artisan food & drink, artwork, woodwork, leatherwork, candles, crafts and more!
Thursday 8th Oct	Book Launch - Sleepers in the Snow 7.30pm (doors Holy Trinity Church, Holmfirth - tickets from https://to-be-read.co.uk/magical-events/
Friday 9th Oct	Hepworth Film Night – 'Nouvelle Vague' 7:30pm, Village Hall. Bar opens at 7.00pm. Entry £5.00, pay on the door.
Tuesday 13th Oct	Come Singing 2.00pm-3.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church.
Friday 16th Oct - Sunday 18th Oct	Penistone Film Festival , Penistone Paramount Cinema. Celebrate the heritage and legacy of this historical gem and bring the birth of cinema back to life on the big screen. For details: www.penistonefilmfestival.com
Saturday 17th Oct	The Big Breakfast 8.30am-11.00am, Village Hall. Self-service cereal, toast, tea & coffee. Full English breakfast cooked to order. Just turn up on the day or, to reserve a table call Richard Southam on 01484 681600
Sunday 18th Oct	Yummy Yorkshire Makers' Market in the Barn 10.00am-4.00pm including homewares, gifts, clothing, treats for pets, ceramics, plants, lighting, artisan food & drink, artwork, woodwork, leatherwork, candles, crafts and more!
Tuesday 20th Oct	Community Coffee Morning 9.15am – 11.00am, Scholes Methodist Church. Children from Scholes J & I School will come over to entertain at 10am.
Friday 23rd Oct	When Nature Needs a Voice 7.30pm, Brockholes Village Hall. A love for the wild and our duty to protect it. A presentation from PC Caroline Newsome (Wildlife, Rural and Heritage Crime Officer) and Sue Shaw (Huddersfield and District Badger Trust). Caution: some description of animal cruelty in the presentation. £5 including refreshments.
Saturday 3rd Oct	HepworthLIVE presents – Jack Rutter 7.30pm Village Hall. Tickets: https://wegottickets.com/hepworthlive
Tuesday 27th Oct	Mothers' Union 1.00pm, Hepworth Church. 2.00pm Mark Gibson talking about Scottish History Come Singing 2.00pm-3.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church.

Saturday 31st Oct	Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.00am-12noon, Hepworth Church. £2.50 per person includes delicious cake and coffee refills. Book stall.
Sunday 1st Nov	Yummy Yorkshire Makers' Market in the Barn 10.00am-4.00pm including homewares, gifts, clothing, treats for pets, ceramics, plants, lighting, artisan food & drink, artwork, woodwork, leatherwork, candles, crafts and more!
Monday 9th Nov	Community Association and Village Hall Meeting 8.00pm, Hepworth Village Hall - all welcome.
Tuesday 10th Nov	Come Singing 2.00pm-3.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church.
Friday 13th Nov	Hepworth Film Night – 'Finding Emily' 7:30pm, Village Hall. Bar opens at 7.00pm. Entry £5.00, pay on the door. Copy Deadline for Focus: Winter Edition
Saturday 14th Nov	Autumn Fair 10.00am – 2.00pm at Scholes Methodist Church. Cakes, Crafts, Christmas, Floral, Jigsaws and Books to mention but a few. Morning coffee and lunches. Come and shop early for Christmas. HepworthLIVE presents – Granny's Attic 7.30pm Village Hall. Tickets: https://wegottickets.com/hepworthlive
Tuesday 17th Nov	Community Coffee Morning 9.15am – 11.00am, Scholes Methodist Church. Children from Scholes J & I School will come over to entertain at 10am.
Saturday 21st Nov	Hepworth Christmas Market & Pop-Up Café 9.30am-2.00pm, Village Hall. Stalls, raffle, café, light lunches to eat in or take away. Admission free (see separate article)
Tuesday 24th Nov	Mothers' Union 12.30pm Hepworth Church. Bring and share lunch, followed by craft session. Anyone interested in the Mothers' Union is welcome to come along. Come Singing 2.00pm-3.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church.
Friday 27th Nov	Hepworth Community Singers Open Rehearsal and Social Evening 7.00pm, Hepworth Church (further details on posters)
Saturday 28th Nov	Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.00am-12noon, Hepworth Church. Last chance this year to enjoy good company, good coffee and delicious cake £2.50 per person. Back again on Saturday 30th January 2027
Friday 4th Dec	Lighting of the Community Christmas Tree. Coffee and Mince Pies from 5.15pm, Lighting of the tree and Carols at 6pm. Hepworth Film Night – 'Madfabulous' 7:30pm, Village Hall. Bar opens at 7.00pm. Entry £5.00, pay on the door.
Wednesday 9th Dec	Come Singing 2.00pm-3.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church.

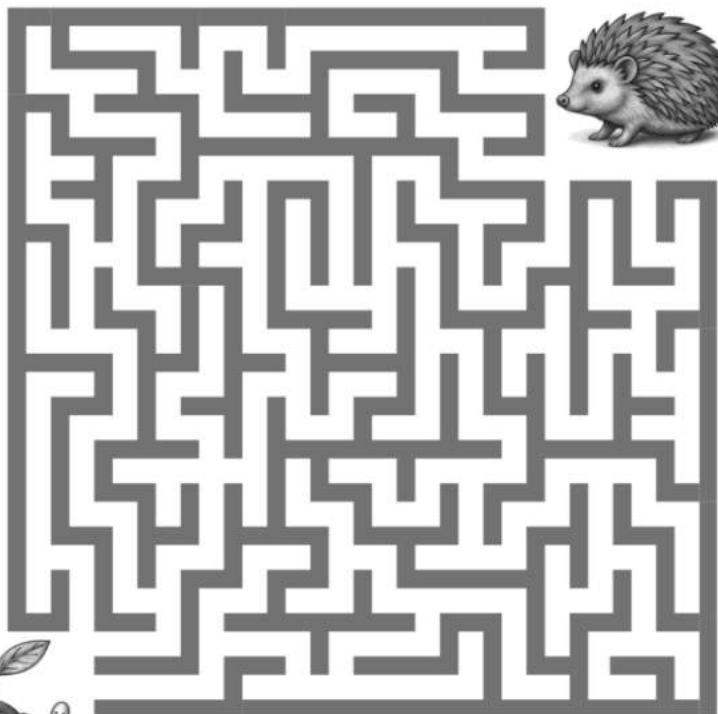
Wednesday 9th - Saturday 12th Dec	Hepworth Pantomime- Goldilocks and the Three Bears. by Alan Jackson, Wed 7.00pm start, Thurs/Fri/Sat- 7.30pm start, Saturday Matinee 2pm start. Village Hall. Online tickets only. https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Hepworth-players
Saturday 12th Dec	Christmas Exhibition 10.00am-4.00pm, Hepworth Church. Theme: Christmas Around the World. Seasonal refreshments. Admission free (See separate article)
Sunday 13th Dec	Christmas Exhibition 12noon-4.00pm, Hepworth Church. Theme: Christmas Around the World. Seasonal refreshments. Admission free (See separate article)
Tuesday 15th Dec	Community Coffee Morning 9.15am – 11.00am, Scholes Methodist Church. Children from Scholes J & I School will come over to entertain at 10am.
Saturday 19th Dec	HepworthLIVE presents – Jackie Oates and John Spiers 7.30pm Village Hall. Tickets: https://wegottickets.com/hepworthlive
Sunday 20th Dec	Carol Service 4.00pm, Hepworth Church with Hepworth Band and Hepworth Community Singers (Details to follow) Candlelight Carol Service 6.30pm, Scholes Methodist Church. Service followed by coffee and mince pies.

Please park and drive responsibly when visiting the village.



Children's Focus

Complete the autumn labyrinth....



Autumn Anagrams

Rearrange the letters to find all the tree names.

Clue: Deciduous

kao

irbhc

chebe

Clue: Evergreen

nipe

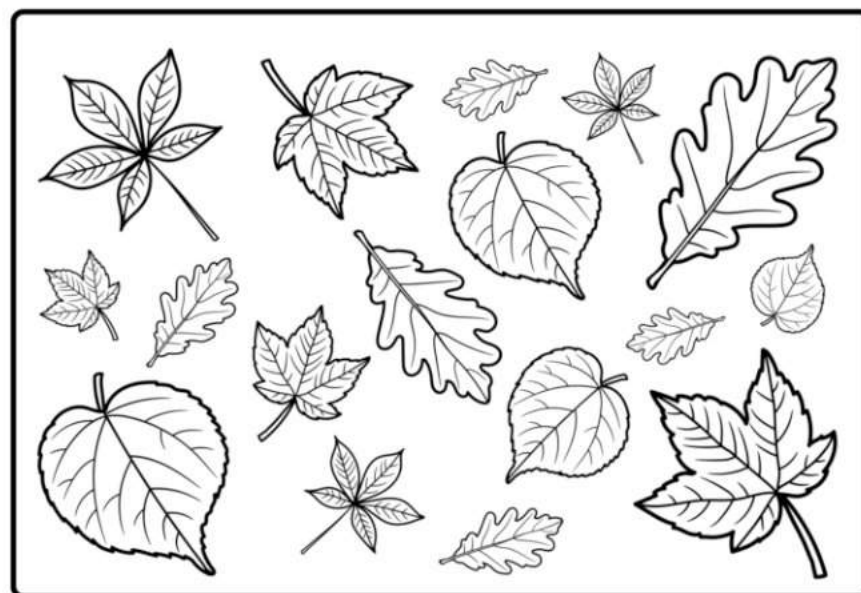
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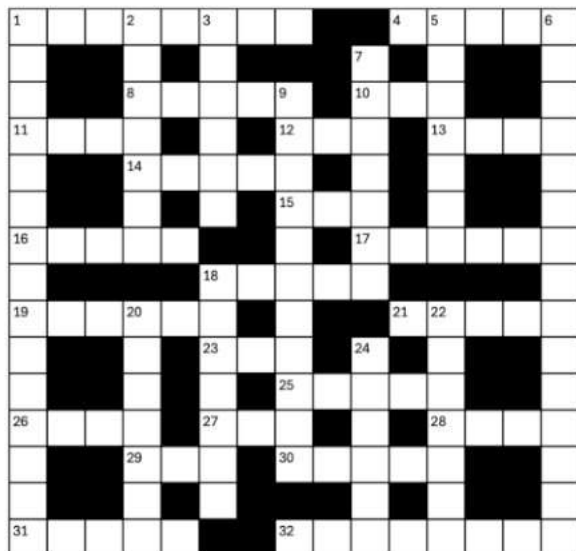


Children's Focus

Soon the autumn leaves will fall like colourful confetti from the trees, painting the ground with reds, yellows, and oranges! Colour each type of leaf in a different colour, and count them as you go. Record how many of each type of leaf you find in the boxes below.





PRIZE CROSSWORD

No.9 compiled by
Mitchell

A £20 Read Bookshop gift voucher is up for grabs. Winner will be selected at random from correct entries received before midnight on 31 October 2026.

Email solutions to
focushepworthcrossword
@outlook.com

Across

1/32 Queen's legacy is unconventional, free-flowing episode (8,8)

4 Allowance for rock band? Thanks! (5)

8 Sinful place of sulphur and addled doom (5)

10 Stopping system produces flat stomach (3)

11 Tidy inside stone attic (4)

12/26 A red bus, travelling? Sound good? (3,4)

13 Box a young bear with energy (4)

14 Mountain tiger loses time but gains energy (5)

15 Chemical company? Here in France? (3)

16 Outhouse: runny (not right, but down) (5)

17 Currently, sort of, negative hope (6)

18 Vodka? I downed lots before (5)

19 'Hairy D' got drunk in capital city (6)
23/21 Wind antlers? Warning devices (3,5)

25 Gore backside of collection (5)

27 Andy Burnham claims, initially, it's how we learn (3)

28 Oslo Palace contains gem (4)

29/30 Nerdy, sat clumsily on radius of the D (3,5)

31 Alarm of mythical singer (5)

Down

1 Dog, no saint, needs glasses after card game with Womble spokesman (7,8)

2 Trump's mate recording a litre of beer (7)

3 Bluey: go after endless country (6)

5 United Nations prison guard to take top off (7)

6 In comparison, he ties, so concocts pain relief (15)

7 Scorsese and I make cocktail (7)

9 Quality oxygen, carbon: sexy talent rules! (11)

18 Witch doctors in Masham? Answer! (7)

20 Paul, say, had beer outside after (7)

22 Headless cosmos is passing water (7)

24 Siberia? No, south; mainly Spain (6)