

JULY 2025**No. 525**

Wonderful news! Shelley Cricket Club has reached the semi-finals of the Sykes Cup. They have been drawn to play at home on July 13th, which was the original date of the Gala. Less wonderful news! The Gala has had to be moved to the 20th of July. Clearly the short notice of this change of date means that there have to be changes made to the original plans for the day, but it is too early to know what those changes will be.

The early months of the year have proved to be drier than usual with the result that our reservoirs are much lower than they need to be. If possible, don't use tap water to water lawns and plants – re-use water whenever possible. Flushing toilets less often can help save water; remember, if it's brown, flush it down, if it's yellow, let it mellow. I still remember the anxiety I felt in the mid 1970s when stand pipes were set up on our street. Fortunately they were never used, but it is a situation to be avoided if at all possible.

Julie Burnham
57 Far Bank
Shelley
07887774057

or

Denise Edinburgh
77 Westerley Lane
Shelley
602905

Please contact Lynn Parsley (see below) regarding the submission of adverts:

Please note that changes to cover and yellow page adverts can only be made in the January, April, July and October editions.

Advert changes for October 2025 MUST be notified by September 1st 2025

Copy for the magazine may be submitted in hand written or typed form. If you produce your work on a word processor, it would be helpful if you could e-mail it to us at shelleymag@hotmail.com rather than printed out, and **please avoid formatting your work** - we will set the article out appropriately.

Articles must be saved as a WORD file (.doc) or as a text file (.txt), NOT as a PDF file, otherwise we may have to return it and publication will be delayed or may not be possible. Please send any photographs as jpegs., (JPGs)

If you need any further help or information, please contact Julie or Denise. **Please ensure that you always give your name and a means of contacting you on any item intended for publication.** It is our policy not to publish anonymous copy, although names may be withheld on request. Please note that opinions and articles in the magazine are not necessarily those of the editors

Roving Reporter,
Advertising Manager

Charlotte Hall
Lynn Parsley 27 Cleveland Way Shelley
charlotte_hall@hotmail.co.uk
Lynn@theparsleys.me.uk

Magazine Distribution:

Claire Moore

07550 076 489

Bookings for the Village Hall to be made with the Bookings Secretary:

Carol Rowatt bookings-shelleyvillagehall@outlook.com 07901 701 868

NEW GALA DATE: 20TH JULY

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

SHELLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting Mon 9th June 2025

22 residents attended incl Cllr Bill Armer and P Cllrs Maureen Sykes and Ray Bray

PC Anthony Burn from West Yorkshire Rural Police and Martin Kenworthy from Safer Kirklees addressed the meeting:

Martin was able to explain that Safer Kirklees works closely with the Police and other partners such as the fire service to provide a coordinated response.

Issues they deal with include water safety, road safety, hate crimes and anti-social behavior along with many other things, and by partners working together can achieve better results.

The partnership approach works well, and Martin urged residents to report issues of crime and ASB on the West Yorkshire Police website or by calling 101 as this creates a record and helps identify any emerging hot-spots.

Another of their aims is to be aware of any community tension and how they impact on communities.

He explained that too often things are discussed on facebook but not reported through the official channels, so services are not always aware of the issues.

They explained that a successful way to report driving offences is by submitting video and photographic evidence through 'Operation Snap' and the Safer Roads Media Submissions portal, this can be found on the police website West Yorkshire Safer Roads - Op Snap | West Yorkshire Police., which has a high success rate. More information about reporting can be found on the Police website.

They also outlined Operation Trimborg which focusses on traffic offences. – an ongoing police operation in this ward funded by our Ward Councillors from their budgets. Ward Councillors can specify locations, and a recent operation resulted in 16 vehicles being stopped for speeding on Red Hill and Huddersfield Road – which was a significant result. The traffic offences they identify are not wearing a seat belt, driving while under an influence, using a mobile phone while driving etc. and this too has been a highly successful operation.

We were told that SIDs record the speed of cars -they don't just alert the driver – so a picture can be built of where speeding is a recurrent problem.

We were reassured that Kirkburton and Denby Dale wards have some of the lowest recorded crime of all Kirklees. There have been 4 burglaries in the last 3 months in Shelley, with suspects identified in all 4 cases. Unlocked house doors and insecure cars, garages and sheds have been part of the problem.

A good initiative is 'Community Alert' where you can register and receive regular updates from the Police and partners about crime and other issues impacting on the community

which seems to be a digital, highly responsive Neighbourhood Watch and worth signing up to.

We then asked about the three issues brought up at previous meetings:

Inconsiderate Parking – if wheelchairs buggies etc can't pass car using pavement this is an obstruction and is an Offence. Parking on bends can also be an Offence. Report on West Yorkshire Police website.

Anti-social behaviour – Log this on police website – it will be taken up by the police and Safer Kirklees who can identify 'hot spots' for intervention

Traffic – increase in amount and weight – many people identified this as a growing problem in Shelley although acknowledging it is not illegal and on the whole the lorries are being driven with consideration. The concern is with sheer number of all sorts of traffic and whether the Huddersfield Road should have a Weight Limit imposed – Cllr Bill Armer is going to ask Kirklees and residents put forward their own examples of how they feel the road is suffering – with potholes, cracking in pavements, shaking houses and it was noted that gabbions were put up by Kirklees in 2011 to shore up this road.

Many areas in Shelley have this increased traffic and it is from a few sources.

Cllr Taylor spoke with Shepley Spring who are trying to mitigate the impact of their lorries for which we are grateful – we are hoping a couple of us can meet with their management team

The meeting then asked their own questions:

Ash trees down Red Hill are obscuring the bus stop compromising bus-users safety – Bill to ask Kirklees to deal with

Overhanging foliage – to be reported online to Kirklees Council

Personalised number plates with wrong spacing – this is an Offence

Traffic calming – could end up being controversial

PC Anthony Burns and Martin Kenworthy were thanked for coming and telling us about the avenues open to us to deal with these problems and how to report them.

Chair's Report:

Len Hoare has stepped down as trustee of SCA – he was thanked for all his years of service right from being one of the Founders of the Community Association which turned the original village school into the community hub it is today.

Hanging baskets – it was agreed SCA will sponsor a double bracket.

Weeds along Far Bank – Bill explained that Kirklees will not tackle these – they are prioritizing arterial roads and footpaths. We will explore ways community can tackle this as the pavement will soon be impossible for pedestrians to use safely.

Treasurer's Report:

Bookings for Village Hall very healthy. Usual incomings and outgoings incl KPC Insurance paid. A card reader has been purchased using Garden Festival proceeds as have soft fruit trees for the Bridle's community orchard.

Village Hall report:

New hand dryer installed in Ladies, appreciated by the ladies!

Rainwater harvesting tank repaired.

Environment Report:

David reported on the visit by Shelley Cubs to the Bridle to plant the new soft fruit bushes and those kindly donated by Ian Woodhead.

The paths have been kept clear and David cleared the steps from the Hall to Far Bank.

The SEF gave permission for overhanging trees to be trimmed back over the bridle footpath and the branches have been used to line the paths.

Joel Auty and Nick Mitchell of Geckops were warmly thanked for repairing the wheel trimmer and for their support as we tackle environmental issues - it makes a big difference.

Kirkburton Parish Council: All committees now in place and Ray urged groups to think of projects to apply for grants in the autumn.

Social Report: Malcolm reported on one of the most successful French Sunday Lunches held and thanked all the helpers for ensuring the lunch ran smoothly. The lunch raised £1,102 for the Royal British Legion and in addition £457 raised from the sale of VE badges.

Next year's French Sunday Lunch will be on Sun 17th May at £31 pp on a first come first served basis.

Garden Festival – all set for Sun 6th July

Gala – CA stall to be developed.

AOB: It was reported that a hare has been spotted in Shelley – apparently it has been many years since there has been a sighting so good news to finish the meeting.

Date of next meeting: Mon 14th July at 7.30 in Shelley Village Hall – all welcome.

French Sunday Lunch 8th June 2025

102 people attended the 21st Sunday Lunch held at Shelley Village Hall. I would like to thank all those who attended and those that helped to set up and clear away. Andrea's family and friends once again reminded us what a superb catering team they are, and our Shelley team of 6 teenagers who waited on us just get better every year!

The event raised £1,102 for the Royal British Legion which this year marks 80 years since VE Day. This was a celebration of the peace!

The next French Sunday Lunch will be to raise money for the Forget me Not Children's Hospice. It will be held on 17 May 2026, 12.30 for 1pm and the price will be £31. Book your place early. First come first served!

Afternoon tea, Saturday 4 October 2025 at Shelley Shelley Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm. £15.

This is another charity fundraiser. This time for our new Mayor, Councillor Liz Smaje who is raising money for adults and children with autism and ADHD. Again, Andrea's family and friends will be catering. There will be a raffle. Donations for the raffle will be very welcome, in advance. Please contact me if you wish to attend.

Malcolm MacDonald

Welcome Information

Carole Hepworth would like to remind everyone in Shelley that Welcome Cards are available for new residents to Shelley. Please inform her if you know of anyone new who has moved into the area.

Her telephone number is 608963

Or email steve.carole1@btinternet.com

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Contact for venues in Shelley:

Shelley Village Hall bookings-	shelleyvillagehall@outlook.com	07901 701 868
Shelley Methodist Hall	Janet 605494	
Emmanuel Church	Stephen 605755	
Shelley Cricket Club	Donna 07703 837557	
Shelley Sports and Social Club	602935	
Georgie School of Theatre Arts	606994	
Sovereign Fitness	604174	
The Cabin HD8 Pre-School and Out of School Club	600519	

Neighbourhood Watch

2

Crime Prevention Checklist

Sneak-in Burglary

**Sneak in
burglars want
what's yours
Always lock
windows & doors**



"I'll lock the door when I've finished my tea."

"We just lock the door before we go to bed."

"I just leave my bags and laptop by the door when I get in....."

Sound familiar?

Supported by



Sneak-in Burglary - Key Facts:

- Doors and windows should be locked at all times – it only takes a moment for someone to reach through an open door or window.
- Lock the doors, take the key out, don't leave it on view or in reach of a letterbox or cat flap
- Always know where the house key is in case you need to get out in an emergency
- Don't leave bags, laptops or phones on show
- Mark your property with a postcode or forensic marking solution
- Consider setting up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme on your street
www.westyorkshire.police.uk/neighbourhood-watch

For further crime prevention advice contact your local Crime Prevention Officers on 101 and ask for your District Team

www.westyorkshire.police.uk

MAGAZINE NEWS

Shelley Magazine - Subscriptions

Yes its that time of the year again your annual magazine subscriptions are due. Over the next few weeks your Shelley magazine distributor will be knocking on your door to collect your money. The cost of the magazine is still £6.00 for the year, so please try to put cash on one side for them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers that distribute the magazine, and to everyone involved with anything to do with keeping this magazine running. Hopefully we can run it for a few more years.

Many thanks,
Claire Moore (Matthews).
#

Our cover illustration is by Bill Stokes, '

The annual cost of a 7cm x 7cm advertising box in the magazine is now only £60.00 for a whole year.

Ring Lynn on 07930 573 860 for details.

If you have a new business venture or are developing and growing an existing local business then we want to hear from you. We intend to promote local business by featuring information articles that will highlight the hard work that goes on in and around our village. These will be one-off articles that will be included in the Shelley Mag as and when we have space. To have such an article included, please contact our roving reporter, Charlotte Hall. Her e-mail is charlotte_hall@hotmail.co.uk

Our nearest recycling centre details:

- **Bromley Farm**, Upper Cumberworth (off Barnsley Road), Huddersfield, HD8 8N
- Open Friday - Tuesday, Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Summer

- Weekdays: 8am to 5pm
- Saturday: 8am to 4pm
- Sunday: 8am to 4pm

Winter

- Weekdays: 8am to 4pm
- Saturday: 8am to 4pm
- Sunday: 8am to 4pm

Shepley Health Centre

??? Frequently Asked Questions???

Why can't I have antibiotics for a viral infection?

Viruses are surrounded by a protective protein coating; they don't have cell walls that can be attacked by antibiotics like bacteria does.

How do you spot the signs of skin cancer

Some cancers appear in brown moles – you should look out for any changes in these. Others are like little ulcers that often crust over and do not heal, and so become cancerous. And finally, there is basal cell carcinoma, which is an unusual form of cancer because it grows very slowly and doesn't spread anywhere; it's usually an ulcer that doesn't heal, doesn't crust, and just gets bigger and bigger.

What should I do if I have diarrhoea and vomiting?

Stay at home and get plenty of rest, drink lots of fluids, such as water or squash – take small sips if you feel sick. Stay off school or work until you've not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days.

What is the difference between a migraine and a headache?

An ordinary headache which tends to be mild to moderately severe and affects both sides of the head. It usually feels 'pressing' or 'tightening' and is not affected by routine daily activities. A migraine is a moderate or severe throbbing headache affecting one or both sides of the head and made worse by ordinary daily activities.

7th – 13th July Alcohol Awareness Week | Alcohol Change UK

CHANGE GROW LIVE

Change Grow Live (CGL) is a UK-based charity that provides a range of social support services. Their mission is to help individuals, families, and communities affected by issues

like drug and alcohol misuse, homelessness, domestic violence, and lack of opportunity. CGL aims to help people "change their direction, grow as a person, and live life to its full potential". You can self-refer into this service or access it through your GP.

Shelley



Garden

Festival 2025

Sunday 6th July: 11am- 5pm

Tickets £5 pp from Shelley Village Hall and participating gardens on the day
or in advance from Morrison's Daily, Shelley.


SCAN ME

Shelley's Garden Festival looks to be better than ever as 22 gardens are now set to open – many supporting much-loved charities – and we are glad Shelley can help in this way.

The gardens range from small sun-traps to sloping hillsides but they all have one thing in common -the gardeners want to welcome you through their garden gate.

Tickets will be on sale a fortnight before from the Top Shop and from the Village Hall on the day – where we are so lucky MMG-Plants are having a stall. This Shelley grower specializes in Hostas which are sold and flown across the world! And you can buy one right here in Shelley!

Make sure you call at the Hall sometime during the day.

And plot your route taking advantage of the many gardens offering refreshments, with even a Prosecco Bar while you listen to live music.

Come and enjoy the day and support Shelley and the many charities the Festival is helping.

Sun 6th July 11am – 5pm with tickets kept at £5 per person. Children free and friendly dogs welcome.

Shelley Gala 2025

Sunday **20** July 1:30 to 4:30pm



Venue: Shelley Cricket Club, Westerly Lane, Shelley.

Please join the Gala procession from the Flying Ferret to the venue from 1pm including vintage car and marching band.

Admission....£2 for adults. Under 16's are free to enter.

Please note change of date!

CHURCH PAGES

SHELLEY PARISH CHURCH

Services July 2025

Regular Services:

- 6th Upper Cumberworth 11.15am – No Service at Emmanuel
- 13th Emmanuel 9.30am
- 20th Upper Denby 9.30am - No Service at Emmanuel
- 27th Emmanuel 9.30am

Wednesday 2.00pm 9th and 23rd A short service of Holy Communion at Emmanuel Church, followed by refreshments and a chat everyone welcome. If you need a lift to the Wednesday services, please ring Carol Robertshaw

This is a short informal service held in the south isle and we remain sitting throughout. Lifts can be arranged for anyone who has difficulty with transport. After the service we enjoy refreshments and a chat.

If you know of anyone who would like to come, please let Carol know, they will receive a warm welcome.

Church Contacts

Rev. Lindsey Barber lindsey.barber@leeds.anglican.org 07920687157

Baptisms & Weddings Carol Robertshaw 01484 860657

Funerals Stephen Hughes 01484 605755

SHELLEY METHODIST CHURCH

O for a hundred tongues to sing !

Celebrating 240 years - Shelley Methodist Chapel

On May 3rd 2025 we celebrated the 240th anniversary of Shelley Methodist Chapel by inviting a hundred voices to sing 24 hymns, one for each decade since the Chapel was opened on Whit Sunday 1785. The hundred voices was in reference to one of the chosen hymns by Charles Wesley "Oh for a thousand tongues to sing", which was written in 1739 and became the No.1 hymn in the Methodist Hymnal. We reduced the number to a hundred so that we could all comfortably fit in the Chapel ! Everyone was presented with a commemorative booklet containing a brief history of the chapel, some photos and the hymns to be sung.

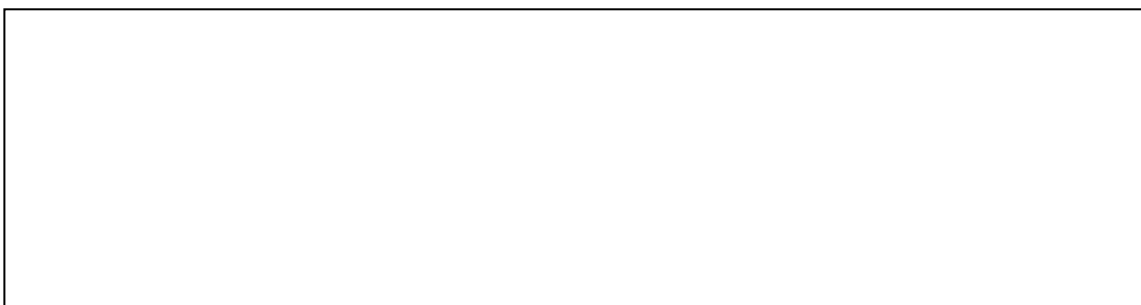
Included in the 100 voices were the Over60s Mens' Choir who performed the Hymns; Guide me O thou great Jehovah (1745), All Hail the power of Jesus Name (1780) and the aforementioned, O for a thousand tongues to Sing, all of which could have been sung when the Chapel opened in 1785. Another nine of the chosen hymns were also written prior to 1785 with the remaining 12 written before the Chapels Centenary in 1885 but all still favourites today.



The hymns were accompanied on the Chapel organ by Mr Graham Firth, although in 1785 there was no organ and the hymns would have been sung unaccompanied or to the sound of a Church Bass, we have records of strings been bought for bass in the early accounts. In between the hymns we were entertained with bits of history about the Chapel or Meeting House as it was when originally opened and which now houses the Shelley Village Museum. This summer the Museum will have an exhibition about the Chapel and other religious buildings in Shelley both past and present.

Also performing for us on the day were the Over60s Handbell Ringers who as well as playing pieces on their own, accompanied Les Parker, as he gave us a rendition of 'Going Home', sung to the tune of Dvoraks Largo from his fifth symphony or more commonly called the old 'Hovis' advert. This has now become a popular funeral hymn.

Thank you to all who attended and performed on the day. In the end though a few absentees and illness meant that only 96 voices were present. We'll try for a hundred at the 250th celebration !



Shelley Museum 2025

The Religious Buildings of Shelley

For our exhibition this summer we are going to be studying the buildings, past and present, that were built or used for religious purposes. Some are no longer there and others have closed and been re-purposed. Two remain in use, the Parish Church built and opened in 1868 and the Methodist Chapel which on May 1st will be celebrating 240 years since it opened in 1785.

If you have any information about any of the buildings or the people involved then we would like to hear from you. Contact Carol on 01484 603836 or if you have any pictures you can e-mail shelleydigitalphoto@yahoo.co.uk

Wedding Photos

Over the years these buildings have been used for baptisms, burials and many weddings. For our exhibition we thought it might be interesting to display peoples wedding photos.

Shelley Museum 2025 Summer Exhibition

Saturday June 28th 10.30am to 4.00pm

and

Sunday June 29th 12.00noon to 4.00pm

The Religious Buildings **of Shelley**

CLUBS AND GROUPS

SHEPLEY WI July 2025

What a privilege it was to host speaker Paul Whittaker at a recent members' meeting! Paul is a very talented and profoundly deaf musician, who had us both howling with laughter and deeply moved by the story of his career. He was extremely patient with us as he taught us to sign Bob Marley's 'Don't Worry'!

Mixed weather hasn't stopped any of our outdoor groups meeting over the last month. Striders stepped out along the lanes at Pot House Hamlet, Silkstone, whilst Strollers ambled around the lake at Newmillerdam and enjoyed lunch afterwards at the Fox and Hounds pub.



Our Gardening Group spent a satisfying morning tidying a border in the Shepley Methodist Cemetery, giving a special nod whilst there to the grave of the Reverend Ben Swift Chambers, the man credited with being the founder of both Liverpool and Everton Football Clubs.

Crafts and Crumbs group continued to create items both pretty and practical at their last session, including beautiful crochet scarves, pyrography patterns on keyrings and also constructing twiddle muffs for a local dementia group.

At the time of writing, our members were busily making preparations for our Spring Fair: crafting, baking cakes, potting up plants, stuffing tombola 'ducks', buying and wrapping prizes and publicising the event, amongst other activities. Events like this offer a great opportunity for members to share their wide range of skills, but we also appreciate the amount of precious time they give up to enable these occasions to run so smoothly, so here's a great big shout out to all our members who contribute to and support our social events!

In July we hold our annual summer members' lunch and to mark 110 years of the National Federation of Womens' Institutes, we'll be wearing or carrying something purple, white and green, the colours traditionally associated with the suffrage movement and the fight for women's right to vote.

Our next members' meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th July, and will be a social event at which we'll be celebrating the golden age of cocktails by experimenting with a range of mocktail recipes, as well as having a quiz. Members and visitors are asked to bring their own glass if possible, but 1920s/ 30s cocktail dresses are optional!

If you'd like to find out more about what we do, please contact Debra on 07773169535 or email Rosemary at rjandgeoff@tiscali.co.uk, have a look at our Instagram page @The_Shepley_WI or just pop along to one of our meetings. You can attend up to three meetings each year as a visitor, paying £5 per meeting (which includes a cuppa, cake and a raffle ticket). Hope to see you there!

SHELLEY OVER SIXTIES

Anniversary BBQ - July 3rd 2025

This years BBQ takes place at Shelley Cricket Club from 5.00pm. All members and friends are welcome to join us. Contact Carol on 07763149249 for more information.

Flower Arranging - Wednesday July 9th 2025

Our next Flower Arrangement Evening is on Wednesday July 9th at 7.00pm in the Methodist Hall. If you would like to attend or request further information on the event contact Carol on 07763149249.

Shopping Trip - Wednesday July 23rd 2025 - Bury Market

Our next shopping trip is to Bury Market on Wednesday July 23rd. Contact Fran on 01484 861540 for more information and to check on availability.

Yorkshire Pudding Day - Tuesday July 29th 2025

On Tuesday July 29th we are celebrating Yorkshire Pudding Day. Any villagers who fancy a light lunch of Yorkshire Pud, gravy and sausage should contact Sandra on 01484 608214. Admission including lunch is £5.00. Puddings will be served from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

On Tour 2025 - Tuesday August 5th 2025 - Lytham & St Annes

Our fourth coastal trip is to Lytham and Lytham St Annes on Tuesday August 5th. We are again taking two coaches; contact Fran on 01484 861540 to check on availability.

On Tour 2025 - Wednesday August 20th 2025 - Grange over Sands

Our August walking trip is on Wednesday August 20th. We will be calling at Grange over Sands with non-walkers also visiting Kendal. This year we are organising both a long and a short walk on these outings. We are again taking two coaches; contact Betty on 01484 606549 for information about the walks and to check on availability.

Over60s Digital Photography Competition 2025

Our Digital Photography Competition is open to members and villagers over 60. To compete you need to submit a digital picture taken in Shelley or of Shelley. All you have to do is take a digital photo with your phone or camera and e-mail it to us at shelleydigitalphoto@yahoo.co.uk . The picture should be un-edited and taken between September 1st 2024 up to closing date on August 21st. The finalists will be judged at our Coffee Day on August 26th.

O60s Mini-bus Draw

The May mini-bus draw winning number was 157. The July draw will take place on Thursday the 31st . Winning numbers can be accessed at www.shelleyover60s.org.uk/minibus-draw

FROM JADE BOTTERILL, OUR MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

The greatness of our area is kept alive by the local people, often volunteers, who go above and beyond to bring people together, keep our history alive, and look out for people. I have seen so much of that spirit in our community in recent weeks.

One way in which this really stood out to me was the annual French Lunch in Shelley. It was great to see everyone in their berets and stripey tops come together as a community to raise vital funds for the Royal British Legion. It is such a wonderful community event - family, friends and neighbours coming together for a good cause. Thank you to Malcolm, Lorna, and everyone involved in putting it together.

I also had the chance to visit Shelley Hedgehogs to discuss hedgehog highways and their work to support our beautiful area. I even got to meet Oliver, one of their rescue hedgehogs. Mel and Louise, as well as their 14 excellent volunteers, do great work, with an incredible 70% success rate. If you are keen to help, you can donate to their great work on their website.

I saw that spirit at the recent trip to see the Connecting Communities Exhibition in Skelmanthorpe, which is part of the Woven 2025 programme. It includes a beautiful quilt, which is made up of designs that pay tribute to our area's history and showcase local talent.

I also had the chance to visit St Aidan's Academy to meet the wonderful pupils and their hardworking teachers. Everyone in the community is rightly proud of the school, and I will do what I can to make sure it gets the support it needs - although the children told me the only thing that could be improved was more felt tips!

This follows new, vital funding to Kirkburton Middle School and Greenhead College, attended by children across our villages, to fix dilapidated roofs and improve fire safety infrastructure. Children deserve better than crumbling and cold classrooms, and parents deserve the knowledge that their children will be safe and warm at school.

I am glad that children in our community studying at Greenhead and Kirkburton Middle School will benefit from this vital funding - I will continue my work with the government to ensure children and their teachers get the support they need

I also have a positive update regarding bus services. You may have seen the recent good news that, after years of seeing money funnelled into London, the Government is seriously investing in the North, including £2.1bn in West Yorkshire. This will include vital funding to create six new 'transport' corridors, meaning new buses and bus stations, as well as seriously improved services in general.

As I have written before, people in our area have suffered for too long with poor bus services, denying people jobs, keeping the elderly isolated, and leaving children late to school. That's why I support this investment wholeheartedly - it's a clear commitment to the potential of our community and its people. Services won't become perfect overnight, but this is a real step in the right direction.

If you have any issues I can support with, please contact me at:
jade.botterill.mp@parliament.uk

KIRKLEES COUNCIL REPORT

Hello to all in Shelley

I flagged this up a couple of months ago, because it is so predictable, but the War of Weeds continues! Frankly, Kirklees seem to be actively doing their best to bewilder and bamboozle with their stance on weeds and errant vegetation. There are so many twists and turns that it is difficult to keep up, but my firm impression is that the council really doesn't want to get involved. All part of the ongoing cost-cutting measures of course.

At this point, let me be clear that I am not in the business of defending the current Administration (which in one form or another has been in sole charge since 2009), but neither am I looking to be unreasonably unfair to them. The simple facts are that Kirklees policy since 2016 is to cut back severely on non-mandatory, or discretionary, spending whilst encouraging "community involvement", and that simmering financial issues have come to a head in recent years. Just to complicate matters, it seems that there is no dedicated budget to deal with weeds. In consequence, much of Shelley (and the rest of Kirklees) is looking more and more neglected – as a result of council (non-)policy.

Kirklees MUST spend money on things like Education, child or adult Social Care, Public Health, Planning, Licensing, Libraries, Highways and Waste Management, and these make up about 85% of the budget. There is very little left for those things which many of us find desirable, but which are discretionary, such as weed control. The reasons for the present financial problems are a matter for intense political debate, but what is, I think, beyond debate is that were Kirklees to become effectively bankrupt the effects on all of us as residents would be unpleasant and unpalatable, going far beyond rampant weeds.

Recently a village resident contacted me about the abundance of weeds growing at the base of some of the walls (owned by Kirklees) in Far Bank, whilst a different, Shelley Park estate, resident contacted me about weeds there alongside some of the roads and also on the footpaths within the estate. In all innocence I passed these complaints to Kirklees, and ended up even more puzzled and perplexed than before.

After exchanging several emails with Kirklees about these complaints, it seems that when it comes to roadside weeds, the council "will only be attending to the main arterial routes", so presumably Far Bank will be ignored. On Shelley Park the situation is almost farcical, for there I am told that the paths around the estate will at least be sprayed, but that the vegetation growing alongside the roadside pavements "is on the highway" so will not be tackled. Some weeds are, it seems, more equal than others.

This arises from a division of responsibilities within Kirklees, with Highways being responsible for roadside pavements whilst a different department deals with the separate paths within the estate. These Departments have their own jealously guarded budgets. In the meantime, and again to repeat something I have said before, it would appear that there is need of a DIY approach from concerned residents regarding encroaching weeds and other vegetation. We do have an Environment Group in Shelley, but I believe that they would welcome further volunteers to help in their work. I can't speak for them, but I will certainly pass on the details of anyone who contacts me to ask about volunteering to help.

STOP PRESS!!! I am told that a Shelley resident has volunteered the services of his company to tackle the weeds in Far Bank. All credit to him and the firm.

With my best wishes to you all,

Bill (Bill Armer, Ward and Parish Cllr, tel 01484 314314, email bill@gmx.ca)

LETTERS

Good Morning

In response to comments made by Shelley Community Association regarding the increased use of Huddersfield road by heavy articulated lorries and poor parking , and issues identified by your leader article regarding carbon footprints , i would like to help inform the debate being a resident in that area.

The causes of the issues suffered by local residents are predictable and well known to the local council, its councillors and MP, and are not some seasonal blip.

- 1] increased heavily laden construction traffic is directly due to the housing developments from both ends of the village.
- 2] quarry rubble and the transport of machinery are a direct result of the quarry at Lower Cumberworth being extended.
- 3] the huge carbon footprint of the lorries supplying the garden supermarket and its associated visitors is immense and impacts on local footpaths , bus shelters and the deterioration of road safety throughout
- 4] the slurry lorries with heavy wheel based tractor traffic and articulated farm machinery increase the road load .
- 5] the frequency of articulated lorries particularly Barden freight trucks throughout the day further increase that.
- 6] the use of this B road as an A road by industrial delivery traffic also affects this.
- 7] add into this the anti social and downright dangerous driving by drink/drug drivers , and simply selfish motorists make this area completely hazardous for the local residents. There are near misses DAILY with drivers overtaking at speed into the blind bend and concealed entrance / exit to the garden centre.
- 8] however now it has been decided to build a kindergarten school right by the bus stop and the dangerous T junction to the farms and Emley.

These issues are daily 7 days a week from 0430 am to midnight and beyond.

KIRKLEES COUNCIL has been contacted in many and varied ways , but do not even reply to the e mails sent. e.g

HIGHWAYS the issue of signage for speed restriction and replacement of unreadable speed signs , slow concealed entrance , missed resurfacing work and the deterioration of the road surface ,provision of speed cameras ,local subsidence and the provision of a safe crossing to access the bus stops safely.

PLANNING the enforcement of planning laws namely the use of a residential road by traffic between 0700 am and 2300pm, the conflicting use and suitability of the road for such heavily laden traffic

HOUSING the provision of some kind of screening or soundproofing against the noise, pollution and light pollution. the replacement of unsafe access pavements due to the subsidence

PUBLIC HEALTH the deterioration in health due to sleep deprivation, constant low level and periodic high decibel noise , deterioration of the physical and mental health of the residents along this section of road

THE CEO of YORKSHIRE GARDEN CENTRE was also approached for help with screening from their activity , but despite the fact we were willing to pay for tree or fence screening , our requests for help were refused due to the fact that the area was a KIRKLEES COUNCIL PROPERTY.

This has been a common thread to all requests for help over the past year,with this "managed social decline" resulting in those being able to move elsewhere doing so.

i hope that helps informs the debate.

Thanks

Andrew Dunham Kirklea resident, Shelley

Dear All,

At the moment of writing this piece for our Shelley magazine, I must report that Parish Council business has been very slow. We have just had our annual meeting, and committees are now in place for this new financial year. Once again, I would like to encourage our local groups, who qualify, to apply for Parish Council grants, www.kbpc.co.uk. Our new Clerk, Alex Greenwood, has got into the job from the off. I have a feeling that she will be a great asset to the Parish Council, and I would like to wish her good luck for the future.

My preparation for the Shelley Garden Festival, which is on July 6th, is taking its toll on me. For weeks, I thought I was on top of the tasks I had to do, only to realise that three species of plants/weeds were taking over the garden. To quote Elon Musk, I had to disassemble the plot.

Since the end of January, I have been carrying an injury to my right wrist. I am still in some discomfort with this, but to add to that, some weeks ago, I injured my left elbow. Gardening has been, to put it mildly, challenging. In the meantime, I am strapped up as tight as an Egyptian mummy.

Many people will be aware that Kirkburton is having issues with parked traffic and traffic in general. This issue has been worsening over the years. Is there an answer? Car parks are virtually nil, and available land nearby to create one large enough to accommodate the number of vehicles visiting the village is nil. Shelley also has problems with parking and speeding. One thing to be pointed out is that many of Shelley's older houses were not built with off-street/road parking in mind, as people didn't own vehicles when they were built; therefore, these people have no alternative but to park on the road. Vehicles parked on Huddersfield Road have been losing wing mirrors at an alarming rate, and some replacement costs are huge, although I have noticed duct tape used as an alternative to replacement.

Shelley Cricket Club's 1st XI's recent results in the Huddersfield Cricket League Championship are mixed. If you would like to follow the club, you can find their website, www.shelleycricketclub.com, which has all the club's fixtures, events, and club information for the season. Our FFC (Friday Friendship Cafe) goes from strength to strength through the efforts of its helpers.

Huddersfield Town have made changes to both their playing staff and backroom staff. New players have been coming into the club, which we all hope will change their performances along with their results. The 2025/26 season will kick off over the weekends of 1-3 August in League One. Fixture release day was Thurs, 26th June.

On Wednesdays, I usually record PMQs and watch the program later in the day. However, I am thinking of stopping this weekly ritual, as nothing is to be gained by watching Keir Starmer or his deputy not answering a single question put to them. Holding the government to account for its actions looks like a pointless exercise. Makes me wonder why they still go through this meaningless weekly parliamentary meeting.

Operation SNAP is a response to increasing submissions of video and

photographic evidence relating to driving offences that members of the public have witnessed. More information can be gleaned from: www.westyorkshire.police.uk/SaferRoadsSubmissions . Driving leads me into another highway issue: carriageway markings? Have you noticed that road markings have in many areas nearly disappeared? The paint, which is now Eco-Friendly, wears away very quickly; this, of course, is no good for defining the centre of the highways or junctions, etc.

I have been forced, through a computer hard drive malfunction, to purchase a new computer with the updated Microsoft Windows 11 software. The transition has been tortuous as the screen layouts have been changed, and I have struggled to find applications and other essential programs. I had to phone a friend to find out how to shut down the system. Change is not my friend, so I am sticking with my steam-driven mobile phone.

Keep well, stay safe, and enjoy your holidays. Report problems; otherwise, people are unaware that problems exist. Fingers crossed for good weather on our Garden Festival date.

Ray Bray (PClr)

HATS BY ELIZABETH GALES!

Celebrating 15 years of millinery magic this summer.



It all began as a Saturday job while I was still at school, helping my grandma, Dora Barker — and 45 years later, I'm still doing millinery.

Dora ran a well-established hat shop in Dewsbury, founded in 1957. She had worked in the fashion industry her entire life and continued well into her 80s!

When I finished school, the shop was so busy that I started helping full-time — with no intention of staying! But the experience proved invaluable, and over time I became completely engrossed in the craft. What started as a job became a passion — I don't see it as work; it's a hobby I get to do every day.

During our years in Dewsbury, we moved between several shops in the town. But as times changed and major retailers like dress shops, shoe shops, and Marks & Spencer left, footfall declined, and we made the difficult decision to close Gales Milliners in 2010.

Soon after, while chatting with another Kirkburton business owner, I heard that a small shop below the Liberal Club on North Road was becoming available. The moment I saw it, I knew it was the perfect spot. Once my quirky furniture from the Dewsbury shops was in place, it became exactly the “old-fashioned shop” I had envisioned.

On 5th June 2010, I opened the doors — with just a sign above the door, very little stock, and no card machine! But from that first day, I knew I'd made the right choice. The shop was busy from the moment we opened, and the support from the community has been wonderful ever since.

Over the years, I've had the privilege of creating hats for many special occasions — including Royal weddings, garden parties, and even for TV appearances. My work has been worn by Edna from Emmerdale and cast members of Last of the Summer Wine.

The summer months are always the busiest, with orders for weddings and race days. This year, demand for Royal Ascot hats has been particularly high, with many locals attending.

Customers now travel from all over the country to find the perfect hat for their outfit. Some buy ready-to-wear, while others choose bespoke designs. With over 900 hats in stock, there truly is something for everyone!

I've loved every minute of my career, and I feel so fortunate that I've never really had a “proper job.” It has always been a pleasure to come to work, create, and meet so many lovely people.

“Step inside the cosy world of Hats by Elizabeth Gales — where there's a perfect hat waiting for everyone.”

Opening Hours:

Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

Out-of-hours appointments available upon request. Welcome to Village Art



We are a gallery located in the Denby Dale Parish Council/Community Library building in Skelmanthorpe, a village near Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. In 2018 the parish council had the building redecorated throughout, discarding its ugly institutional green in favour of a brighter and more pleasant dove grey. That's what I call it, anyway.

However, despite being lighter and brighter, there were now large expanses of bare dove grey wall. In a moment of inspiration a member of the Library Friends group suggested the art gallery idea, enthusiastically received. The proposal was then formally submitted to Denby Dale Parish Council which very generously agreed to fund the purchase of the modern, discreet and very flexible hanging system.

On October 16th 2019 Village Art opened 'Triptych', its inaugural exhibition. This comprised 'Land', ink and dye paintings by Holmfirth artist Ross Moore; 'Changing Horizons', photographs by Gill Sharps, ARPS; and 'All Our Own Works', a selection of paintings, photographs, ceramics and glass from a personal collection. Between then and the onset of Covid we hosted several more exhibitions, finding that our reach had extended as far as Barnsley and that our exhibition space allowed for a greater variety of 3D works, which could be housed in the four glass cases loaned to us by the Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre. In March 2020 we were forced to close because of Covid, curtailing very successful exhibitions by Shepley based ceramic artist Nigel Hoyle, Jane Middleton Connolly and Howard Asher, now sadly deceased. For the next two years, in an effort to keep Village Art alive, we went online, running 'Featured Artist', a series showing ten works from a different artist each fortnight, posted on Facebook and Instagram. These can still be explored at Village Art Gallery_Skelmanthorpe/villageart_shatgallery respectively. On re-opening in April 2022 we continued to exhibit the best of local artists and art groups, at the same time finding that our gallery space appeals to artists from much further afield - London, Sheffield, Manchester, Lincolnshire and Staffordshire. In 2023, as a result of a local appeal, a new curator was found for the gallery and what had been a one-man show became a duo.

Ruth Heaton is a professional artist, exhibited nationally, with previous curatorial experience in Sheffield galleries. Her expertise and influence have served to extend awareness of the gallery and what we have to offer beyond its previous confines while still maintaining its community remit.

Our policy is to present two themed Open Call exhibitions each year as well as an Open Call Summer Exhibition. The entrants to this latter will be judged by a panel and First and Highly commended prizes awarded. The prize will include an exhibition at the gallery in the following year. Also awarded will be the People's Prize, voted for by visitors to the exhibition.

Supplementing these exhibitions will be a number of invitation and community shows.

We are currently planning our programme for 2025 of which details will be mailed out as appropriate.

Village Art is run entirely on a voluntary basis by a team of two. We are funded by a small submissions fee from artists; we do not charge commissions or hanging fees and are always happy to assist with the installation of exhibitions, either unilaterally or to the preferences of the artist. This will enable us to improve the quality of our publicity and to provide refreshments at previews and other events.

For your information.

The gallery boasts approximately 60 linear metres of hanging space over two floors which can be doubled or trebled depending upon the size of submissions.

We also have four glass cases for exhibiting 3D works which have in the past held ceramics, small sculptures, jewellery and book art.

Ruth Heaton, MFA

Curator

www.ruthheaton.com

ruthheaton@ymail.com

Mike Roberts

Admin & Publicity

shatgallery@gmail.com

Dear Shelley,

We are really excited as ArtattheHouse 2025 returns to Cliffe House in Shepley on Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st September and we hope you'll come out in force to help us to build on the success we have had in establishing the weekend into a major annual community event in the Shepley calendar.

It will be our seventh multi-arts event that enables us as artists to be creative at every phase of staging something a bit different where our community can Meet, Try and Buy.

The grounds and woods at Cliffe House offer a great deal of potential and we have expanded the outdoor part of the show significantly where The Northern Potters come to make the woodland home for the weekend. We are making ArtattheHouse25 as interactive as possible with our brilliant workshops and demonstrations including crafts, textiles, pottery throwing, Raku glazing and firing as well as stone carving and Falconry. There will be a booking system on the website for the public to pre-book onto workshops.



The intention is for the public to discover artists, live performers and poets as well as installations and sculptures as they explore the grounds, a chance to take time to relax and enjoy these beautiful natural surroundings in our own village.

Look out for more news about ArtattheHouse25 next month with featured artists and activities for you to do!

Nigel Hoyle and the ArtattheHouse25 Team





PIMMS AND NEW HYMNS

Singing with others can help build our
self-confidence, reduce loneliness,
and impact levels of anxiety,
Join us for singing, drinks and
fellowship

SUNDAY 20TH JULY

AT 2.30PM

ST JOHN'S CHURCH UPPER DENBY

EMLEY SHOW

SATURDAY 2nd AUGUST 2025
Factory Farm, Emley Moor, HD8 9TE

A CHAMPION DAY OUT, UNDER THE MAST!

Children's section

Arts, cookery & crafts

Vintage tractors & cars

Artisan market

Sheep

Trade stands

Main ring entertainment

Cattle

Fun dog show

Bars and food

Goats

Horticulture

Horses





TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW



EMLEYSHOW.CO.UK

Preview 5th July 1-3pm

7th July-30th Aug

Skelmanthorpe Library
HD8 9DA

Summer Exhibition

@villageart_shatgallery

Shelley Museum

2025

Summer Exhibition

Saturday June 28th
10.30am to 4.00pm
and Sunday June 29th
12.00noon to 4.00pm

The Religious Buildings of Shelley