

# Heptonstall News

## Autumn 2023

**WELCOME** to this newsletter which includes information from within the Civil Parish of Heptonstall including:

- ◆ Parish Council Update
- ◆ Community News
- ◆ Local Events



**Newsletter funded and published by Heptonstall Parish Council**

I'll start off my first ever article by introducing myself. My name is Hannah and I am the new Clerk for Heptonstall Parish Council.

Firstly I'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone I've met so far in Heptonstall who have been so welcoming!

So here goes, welcome to autumn! The leaves will start falling from the trees and the days will start getting shorter but rest assured, the Parish Council will be just as busy as ever!

### **Traffic Issues:**

Recently the Parish Council has been informed of some traffic issues within the village. Please if you have any issues with traffic, report it to Calderdale Highways as they are best suited to deal with these problems.

### **Fly Tipping:**

The Parish Council have also been made aware of an incident of fly tipping. This needs reporting to Calderdale Council whenever this occurs.

Please don't fly tip! Lets keep this lovely historic village clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy!

That's all from me, now everyone wrap up warm and enjoy the beautiful autumn scenery!

**Hannah Sherriff-Jackson**

**Clerk – Heptonstall Parish Council**

**Email: [clerk@heptonstallpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@heptonstallpc.co.uk) Mob: 07908855677**

# Heptonstall St. Thomas The Apostle Church



We are pleased to announce that the Revd Ruthie Gibbons, currently serving as Strategic Lead of the Missional Youth Church Network in the Diocese of Sheffield, has been appointed as Interim Priest in Charge of Hebden Bridge and Heptonstall.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Church Services:** continue at 10.45am on Sundays.
- **Saturday 16th September:** Heritage open day; St Thomas' and at the Museum.
- **Saturday 30th September at 7pm:** Ceilidh at St Thomas' Church.
- **Thursday 26th October at 7.30pm:** Licensing service for Revd Ruthie Gibbons at St Thomas Heptonstall.
- **Friday 3rd November:** Silent Film Night (Tickets Sold Out).
- **Sunday 12th November at 10:30am:** Collaborative Remembrance Day Service at the Methodist Chapel.
- **Saturday 25th November 3pm:** Hepton Singers St Cecelia's Concert
- **Monthly Coffee Mornings:** last Friday of each month, 10am to 2pm

**For further information please contact the Church Wardens:  
Graham and Margaret Kidd on: 01422 845810**

# Heptonstall Village Team

We are deeply saddened and shocked to have lost our Jane Hartmann so suddenly. It's very hard to accept that she's no longer part of our lives; she will be hugely missed by so many in countless ways, and leaves an irreplaceable gap in our village life.

Jane was special; she worked so hard for our older and more isolated villagers. Especially during lockdown and covid restrictions, she replaced the socialising of the coach trips with frequent visits to all our Village Team regulars, bearing gifts, little treats, plus bringing the smiling face of her young assistant Rose Hardman to their doors and gates, sometimes in full face visors and masks! Her many many kindnesses will never be forgotten.

Just now our small Village Team committee is coming to terms with Jane's death. We know that Jane would want us to continue with the coach trips, which we are committed to doing, and will plan towards for 2024.

After consulting with our customers, we went ahead with the Southport trip that Jane had arranged, in the week that she had died. Those who wanted to go did so to remember her. We cancelled the September trip to Grassington as we needed time and space to get sorted but intend to try to go ahead with the three remaining trips booked to the end of the year:

- 12<sup>th</sup> October      **Chester. £15**
- 14<sup>th</sup> November    **Manchester City Rivers tour, £23**
- 7th December      **Castle Howard + Christmas Displays, £33**

We are going to contact people about their bookings and payments over the next few weeks. Please bear with us and be assured that we *will* get in touch with you. However, if you have a particular query or concern, please contact **Jacky Kelly on 07515 367744.**

## Heptonstall Lights and Planting Group (HeLP)

The winners of this year's Front of House competition were Jane Hartmann and Jane Birkett of Church Street who the judges felt had made good use of a small space with their choice of plants.

Sadly, Jane Hartmann has recently died, but Jane B was happy for us to publish the picture of them and their garden below.

Special mention should also go to gardens at 2 Smithwell Lane, Whitehall Fold and Caycroft Nook which all had lovely displays of colourful flowers and vegetables.

Thanks to all who supported our recent Jumble Trail. We were very lucky with the August Bank Holiday weather and after expenses the HeLP group raised just over £300.

We'd also like to thank the Heptonstall Fell Race organisers for a generous donation from money they raised from both of this year's well attended fell races.

Following the item in the last newsletter, we are still waiting to hear when the hole for the Christmas tree in Weavers Square will be reinstated, but hoping you'll enjoy the tree which should be there over the festive season.

**Eleanor Worley**  
(HeLP Secretary)

**Email:**

**[hicestleanor@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hicestleanor@yahoo.co.uk)**

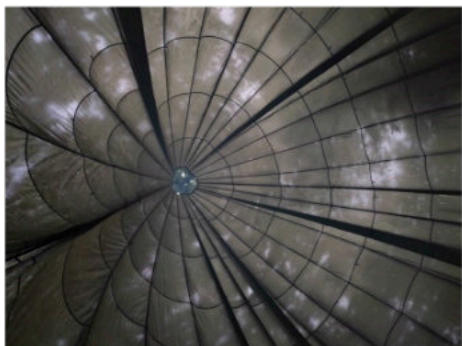


# 1st Heptonstall Guides and Rangers



We were about to go on a camp to prepare us for our trip to Sweden in the summer. The prep camp was to learn pioneering skills - the ability to make robust structures with just ropes and wooden poles.

Off we went to Bradley Wood Campsite and under the skilful tutelage of Graham from Scouts, the Guides and Rangers built their sleeping arrangements for the night, some build hammock stations, some built a rather fantastic two storey bunk bed to sleep 8 and others used tarps to wind and weather proof existing wooden structures and create bivvy shelters.



The weather was interesting and we wondered how these would stand up to the amber weather warning that had been issued... We watched the storm closing in from around the campfire and enjoyed the atmosphere beneath a parachute canopy. It was really rather lovely. The rain stopped and the tarp shelters had done their jobs.

Skills in hand and camp ready, we set off for Sweden in July. It was a large group, 7 Leaders, and 42 Guides and Rangers, in age ranges from 11 to 18.

Our trip got off to a good start, with the resilience of the group being tested early on, we departed from Heathrow with, it turned out, only 5 out of 42 rucksacks on the plane. One of the Leaders spied the remainder of our luggage on the runway as the plane took off. Arriving in Sweden we had the prospect of most of us only having the clothes we were wearing and scant hand luggage until our rucksacks turned up! Which they did thankfully, later that day. One of the Leaders had put an airtag in her luggage so we were able to track the progress of our stranded bags.

Pioneering skills finally honed, the girls set to work and built two large dining tables and seating, a food preparation area and tables and a very impressive washing up station. Guides and Rangers were divided into patrols for food preparation, cooking and washing up.



Named after Swedish Scout patrols they now have exclusive Swedish scout badges for their efforts. It was a brilliant week, every day was full of activities and interest, sailing, kayaking, climbing, rope courses, zip wires, swimming, sauna, cooking, crafts and more.

As ever, the night in the wyndskydds proved popular and character building! These are open sided shelters for an overnight bivvy camp. All the girls slept in different ones dotted around the island on the same night.



Older Rangers canoed to their own private island and camped there and our Leader Alex decided to get her 50 nights away milestone in style by a last minute decision to find a shelter and sleep there overnight too.

<https://vassaro.se/camp-information/program-possibilities/land-based-activities/>

Plans are afoot for the next International trip already, with selection ahead for a trip to Switzerland in 2025. Hopefully with just as much adventure but fewer mosquitoes.







One of the really special and unique experiences to this kind of trip is to meet people from other countries. We shared a campfire with some Swedish Scouts, some kind of musical flashmob with French Scouts and our Rangers enjoyed meeting a bunch of very dynamic Swiss Girl Scouts and

learning some new games and songs.

Plans are in hand for this coming term, we have a few changes ahead with Rangers moving to another day and introducing some new Leaders. Guides is remaining on Tuesdays and continuing to meet weekly. We've welcomed several new girls in the summer and have a new intake of Brownies coming up in September.



Guides and Ranger units are currently full, but you can register interest on the Girlguiding website as occasionally places do become available. Younger girls (aged 7 upwards) might be able to get a place in Brownies starting this September.

**Jayne Mackintosh**  
**Leader, 1st Heptonstall Guides and Rangers**

# Friends of Heptonstall Museum

## VISIT

We formally re-opened in May this year and been overwhelmed with the support shown for the Museum, particularly within the local community. Since then, we have welcomed over 1000 visitors and have also established regular events, alongside the Coiners' exhibition.



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## WHAT'S ON

Meanwhile, check out our own events presenting local performers and poets joining us throughout September:

### **Thursday, September 14 – The Offcumdens – Light Verse for Dark Nights** – Performance starts

- Doors 7pm – performance 7.30pm
- £8/£5 FOHM Members.\*

### **Saturday, September 16 – Heritage Open Day – Celebration of Ethel Carnie Holdsworth, The Undercroft**

- Exhibition/Talk/Walk over to Slack Top with unveiling of a blue plaque at Ethel's former home approx 3pm.
- Co-organised with Calder Civic Trust.
- FREE

### **Friday, 22 September – Michael Crowley & Chris Preddley – Poetry @ The Museum**

- Doors 6:45pm – poets 7pm
- £7/£5 FOHM Members\*

*(Photo opposite of Sammy Weaver's Poetry Workshop in June)*



## Sunday, 24 September – Michael Crowley – Poetry Workshop - Creating Dramatic Voices for Poetry

- 10am till Noon
- £15/£12 FOHM Members\*

\*We continue to welcome new Friends of Heptonstall Museum (FOHM) members who can support the Museum with a donation of £2 a month, giving free entry and discounted event tickets.

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## VOLUNTEER



We also have a wonderful team of regular volunteers keeping the doors open from Thursday to Sunday, though we always welcome others who can offer as little as an hour or have skills to share. We're also looking for those who can offer skills and want to invest those as a trustee.

*(Volunteer Duty: Scarf on Shift with Linda Maynard)*

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## VENUE HIRE

Having hosted a variety of events in the last year, we are now ready to offer the Museum space for hire and will be considering venue hire requests for booking either The Old School Room or The Undercroft.

Further information can be found by visiting our website at

[www.heptonstallmuseumfriends.org.uk](http://www.heptonstallmuseumfriends.org.uk)

linktr.ee and QR codes for further info below

Linktr.ee/heptonstallmuseum



# Friends of Heptonstall Chapel & Sunday School



Did you know that the Octagonal Chapel in Heptonstall is world famous? That fame is largely due to its strong connection with the founding Methodist, John Wesley, who laid the foundation stones for the Chapel back in 1764.

When it was first built the Chapel was used as a preaching house and literally as a school, teaching adults and children their three R's – as in Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic! When the Chapel building became too small for the number of people wanting to learn, the adjacent Sunday School was built. This was initially a single storey building that was later doubled in size to accommodate the >1100 pupils wanting to have free education.

Until 1891 Wesleyan Sunday Schools played a hugely important role in providing free education, teaching poor folk that they could improve their lot. The message was that living by a better 'method' would make a difference. In fact this led to major changes in British society that ultimately improved all our lives. For example did you know that five of the six Tolpuddle Martyrs were Methodists and three were preachers? As were many of the early trade union leaders. Methodists also made significant contributions to the suffrage and co-operative movements.

The Chapel building has also been famed for being the oldest Chapel in continuous use in the world. Since May this year that claim can no longer be made as the Chapel has been designated as a Heritage Chapel so, instead of every week, there will now be at least six services per year. Nevertheless the Chapel and adjacent Sunday School are still treasured as jewels in the crown of Wesleyan and Methodist history, which is to be celebrated by a double organ recital on 14th October 2023

Sadly damaged during building work the Chapel's organ has been out of action for some time. Happily though it has now been repaired and will be put through its paces by a double-bill of expert organists at our 'Organ Revival' event. Tickets are now available at £6 each, all proceeds going towards reviving the Sunday School for community use. Please watch out for news of this exciting project..

**The musical programme to go from Wesley to Williams, hymns to hits will be performed by Professor David Baker & Chris O’Gorman to Include:**

- ♪ Ned Rorem - There is a Spirit that Delights to do no Evil
- ♪ Edward Elgar – Nimrod
- ♪ Jean Français – Mère Mairie de l’Incarnation
- ♪ James MacMillan - White Note Paraphrase
- ♪ Ralph Vaughan Williams - Prelude
- ♪ Abide with me and (of course!) Jerusalem

For those who know about organs the one in Chapel is described as a ‘Pipe Rack’ and was built in Manchester by Jardine & Co who installed it in 1914. Even though installation coincided with the start of the First World War, it would actually have been under construction for 2-3 years so the timing is not as peculiar as it might seem. Please come and enjoy hearing this gorgeous old organ played at its best. As always with our Chapel events tea and home-made cake will also be available.



**Please save the date:**

- **Heritage weekend** opening 16-17<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- **An Organ Revival** at 2pm on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023. (Advance Tickets recommended - Available from Jean Crowther or Heptonstall Post Office)
- **Remembrance Service:** Sunday 12th November at 10:30am
- **Cake, Candles and Carols** - on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

**For further information please contact  
Jean Crowther on 07947 612560 or email at  
[jean.crowther02@gmail.com](mailto:jean.crowther02@gmail.com)**

*NB. The Chapel is still available for weddings and funerals, for any of these please contact the Minister, Rev Kathie Heathcoat at:  
[katthie.heathcoat@calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk](mailto:katthie.heathcoat@calderdalemethodistcircuit.org.uk)*

For other chapel enquiries please contact Margaret Coupe on 01422 842550

# Heptonstall Social and Bowling Club

## SNOOKER SUCCESS!

HSBC celebrated the success of our snooker team this season with Jonjo Hill and Steve Goldsack winning the Calder Valley Snooker league pairs competition, with Steve also taking away the Cartlidge cup. CONGRATULATIONS here's to continuing the success next season!

### *What's On - September/December*

#### **Mondays**

- Playgroup (during term time): 10am - 11:30am
- Zumba: 6pm - 7pm

#### **Tuesdays**

- Choir re-commences on 12th September. Contact Ann Hudson on 07799268966

#### **Wednesdays**

- Line dancing: 7pm - 8pm

#### **Fridays**

- Chair yoga (over 75s): 11am
- Bowling until the end of the season (all abilities 'come and have a go'): from 6pm

### *Other happenings for September:*

#### **Friday 15th September - 7pm**

A meeting is to take place for anyone interested in continuing or starting Bowling next season (2024), either informally at the 'Club' or in forming a much missed village team to play in the local bowling league.

Please do come along if you're interested and join us, it's a great way of socializing!

***\*\*Pie and Pea supper and bar available\*\****

#### **Sunday 17th September**

Car Boot Sale in aid of Andy's Man Club –see posters in the village Post Office for more details.

*Please contact us for private meetings, functions, overnight parking and membership enquiries via:*

**Email at [heptonstallclub@live.co.uk](mailto:heptonstallclub@live.co.uk) or telephone: 07517394389**

# Heptonstall Repair Café

*Bin it? No way!*

## Where

Heptonstall School, HX7 7NX

## What

Help, advice and assisted repairs with skilled volunteers plus tea, coffee and cake for sale

## What can I get repaired?

Clothes, leather items, bags, furniture, computers & software, electrical appliances (not microwaves), toys, bikes, knife & tool sharpening etc

## Costs?

A voluntary donation



## When

10am-1pm

Held on the 2nd Saturday of each month  
(except Dec, April & August)

Saturday 9th September  
Saturday 14th October  
Saturday 11th November

2024

Saturday 13th January  
Saturday 10th February  
Saturday 9th March  
Saturday 11th May  
Saturday 8th June  
Saturday 13th July  
Saturday 14th September  
Saturday 12th October  
Saturday 9th November

## Contact Us

@Heptonstall Repair Café on Facebook  
E: heptonstallrepaircafe@gmail.com

If you would like to contribute to the content of this newsletter then please get in touch. Closing dates for submitting content to future editions:

- **Sunday 3rd December 2023 (Winter)**
- **Sunday 3rd March 2024 (Spring)**
- **Sunday 2nd June 2024 (Summer)**
- **Sunday 1st September 2024 (Autumn)**

Contact Andrea Baldwin at:

**Email: [HPCnews23@outlook.com](mailto:HPCnews23@outlook.com)**

or

**Telephone: 07727338300**



**Pinfold stone donated and carved by Garth Baldwin.**

**Erected by Norman Bailey.**