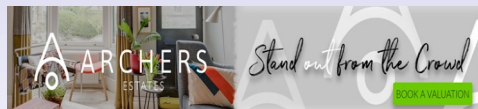


The Official Newsletter of the Crosspool Forum
Having a voice . . . Making a difference

CROSSPOOL CLARION™



CROSSPOOL NEWS - crosspool.info

3000 copies delivered quarterly

Editor: Ian Hague BEM



CROSSPOOL 2024 SUMMER FAYRE

Crosspool festival opened on Friday 28th June with a parade by the Rainbows and a blessing of the Olympic sports well dressing by Rev. Tracey Morris. The sports were hidden in a word search which was surely a first in well dressing history. This well-dressing theme, inspired by the Olympic Games, was skilfully created by a dedicated group of volunteers using natural materials to craft an intricate design that paid homage to the Olympic athletes and the diverse cultures they represent. Their tireless efforts culminated in a stunning display that captures the essence of the Olympic spirit.

The continued support and enthusiasm of the community will make this event a success and keep our traditions alive for future generations to celebrate.



The week continued with numerous events including open gardens, a street market, a fashion show, an exhibition, summer fayre, family fun, a cake competition, concerts, talks and much more. The festival aims to bring together the community of Crosspool and provide entertainment and fun for all ages. Thanks to the generosity of Crosspool residents, the festival makes a profit which is an unexpected bonus. The calculations aren't yet complete but around £1,000 will be shared by the 2 nominated charities, Assist and Médecins sans Frontiers. The open gardens raise money for charities of their own choice and some festival events raise money for their own charities too. These events were marked with an asterisk in the festival programme. The festival team have been putting together a festival since 2010, trying provide a range of events and activities to suit all ages. This is not easy and they would welcome suggestions for events to include in the programme. Please email The Forum with your ideas and a team member will get in touch with you. Likewise, if you would like to get involved with planning the festival in 2025, contact the Forum. The festival team are a friendly bunch who meet monthly from Jan to May. Please come and join us to make the 2025 festival even better.

The Forum can be contacted on crosspoolforum@gmail.com



Crosspool.info

CROSSPOOL FORUM

OPEN MEETING

Friday 25th October 2024 at 7:00pm

St Columba's Church, Manchester Road, Crosspool

Guest speakers - local councillors, the police and council officers, are generally on hand to listen to your concerns on local issues.

Keep your eye on the 'Spar noticeboard' & 'Crosspool News' website

Email:- crosspoolforum@gmail.com or Tele:- 07713 687 955

In This Issue

- TV Series (Crosspool)
- British Gymnastic Champion
- House & Gardens
- Friends of Lydgate Green
- Parking Safely
- Meet your local Business
- Local Champion Athlete

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BRITISH TELEVISION SERIES SET IN CROSSPOOL

The city of Sheffield is currently experiencing a surge of excitement as it becomes the focal point for the production of the new BBC thriller series 'Reunion'. This development highlights Sheffield's burgeoning status as a sought-after filming destination, boasting a variety of landscapes and urban environments that perfectly suit cinematic needs. The choice of Crosspool and other Sheffield locations, including Doncaster, as the setting for 'Reunion' is a clear sign of the city's scenic charm and versatility.

The local community of Crosspool, eagerly anticipated the chance to observe the filming process, a rare opportunity to see the magic of television production unfold before their eyes. This buzz of activity is not only thrilling for drama aficionados but also brings a sense of pride and curiosity to the wider community, as they become part of a narrative that will soon captivate audiences nationwide.

'Reunion' stands out for its commitment to inclusivity and representation, particularly in its casting. The series features a diverse group of actors, many of whom are deaf or users of British Sign Language (BSL), marking a significant stride towards diversity in the entertainment industry. With talents like Lara Peake, Anne-Marie Duff, Eddie Marsan, and Rose Ayling-Ellis, the show is set to offer a rich tapestry of characters and performances that reflect the real world.

At the heart of 'Reunion' is the story of Daniel Brennan, portrayed by Matthew Gurney, whose journey of reintegration into society after incarceration is a central theme. This narrative is poised to explore the complexities of life after prison, the challenges faced by those in Brennan's position, and the social undercurrents that come into play.

The production, under the helm of Warp Films, is penned by William Mager and directed by Luke Snellin. Sheffield's role as the primary filming location is not just a logistical choice but also a symbolic one, as the city's character and spirit are set to be interwoven into the fabric of the series.

'Reunion' is more than a drama; it is a cultural statement, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and the influential role of storytelling in shaping public perceptions and fostering understanding. As Sheffield embraces this creative venture, 'Reunion' is poised to become a groundbreaking show that resonates with viewers and contributes to the ongoing conversation about diversity and representation in the media. The anticipation surrounding its release is a testament to the power of inclusive storytelling and the universal appeal of well-crafted drama. Sheffield's involvement in this project is sure to leave an indelible mark on the city's cultural landscape and its reputation as a vibrant hub for the arts and entertainment.



OPEN MEETING-BULLET POINTS-THURS 25TH JULY2024

18 Crosspool residents & 8 members of the Forum Management Committee attended..

Guest: Ivy Heart designer Jenny Hill. On top table, Cllrs Ruth Milsom & Tim Huggan; Gillian Drinkwater (hon.min.sec.); Steve Reynolds (vice chair) & Ian Hague (chair) who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1/ Manchester Rd semi; bay windows removed. These are to be re-instated but the owner has appealed against this Council Planning Dept ruling..

2/ The Festival & Fayre were vibrant community events – thanks to all puddlers & petallers, & residents & businesses of Crosspool.

3/ Car boot sale had decent weather (15th June), precinct flags went up on 23rd June & will stay for the Paris Olympics..

4/ Year 7 KES pupils planted up all the flowers for the precinct on 13rd June – thank you!

5/ Monthly litter picking taking place – new table bought for the team..

6/ New tables also bought by the Forum for the CDYST (one) & Benty Lane scouts (two).

7/ Work has finally started on the Motorworld site (6 units to be built) & empty Varanasi Inn taken back into the owner's hands.

8/ The death of Sandra Cox, Manchester Rd resident; a member of the Forum Management Committee, has been sadly announced.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Provisionally the Fayre made £300 towards Forum funds, & Festival about £1200 to go to its chosen charities -Assist Sheffield & Medecins sans Frontieres. All those involved were formally thanked & names Minuted. (Sally Turnbull – Festival nominal chair & secretary – is standing down – please contact the Forum if you'd like to be involved next year).

CROSSPOOL IVY HEART SLIDE SHOW

Jenny Hill & Jo Richards took over decorating this unique Sandygate Rd feature in 2019, & to date have produced 24 different displays to mark eg Christmas, summer, the Queen's Jubilee & King Charles' coronation – now the Paris Olympics. Look out for some of the past designs to appear as cards available from Charisma - & possibly in the 2025 calendar!

POLICE REPORT

A gang of lads on electric bikes has been doing the rounds looking to target local properties – please phone 999 immediately if seen. The Police are eager to have any CCTV camera shots of them.

COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS & REPORT –

1/ Safety? Residents asked about why there is no budget to allow PCSOs to patrol in the evenings? Answer – the numbers of PCSOs has gone up but more are being recruited – & Alan Billings when in office went above & beyond to attract more officers – many of which are now fully trained as police but possibly working behind the scenes - . cyber crime etc..

2/ Shop lifting – Spar & Tesco? . Although some shop assistants have been given bodycams they have not received the training to go with these!

3/ Parking?. Amazingly the very successful Operation Park Safe has been pulled. The police say they would need 8 more officers to process all the tickets sent out! (Pavement parking in the city centre is now banned)

4/ Precinct builders' vans etc on DYLS? The residents need to ask for a 2 week parking warden operation to target shop workers using the shoppers' car parking bays & DYL parking.

5/ Good quality drone purchase?. Sadly a recent meeting between councillors & the S Yorks Crime Panel appeared to show the police were not keen on providing one.

6/ The new PCC (Mayor Oliver Coppard) will be asked to make more PCSOs & evening shift work part of his next year plan..

7/ The responsibilities of the Highways Dept were brought to Councillors' attention – they have powers to enforce eg unmarked street skips & overhanging hedges. Is there no longer a Council officer with these responsibilities? (Fixmystreet does work as an avenue to report problems & get action).

8/ Amey has moved repair work expected in June to late August – Lydgate Lane & Benty Lane etc.

CLLR ANNE MURPHY MEMORIAL

John D. updated the meeting on this. The stonework (plaque wording & now a carved owl to represent our famous 'Crossie of Lydgate Lane) is underway at Stoneface – Loxley sculptor & stonemason & will be erected at Lydgate Green, as part of the housing for a much-needed water tap.

EVENTS

1/ Easy Exercise & Tai chi numbers are picking up nicely.

2/ Car Boot sale – Crosspool Tavern Car park Sat 7th Sep.

3/ Hagg Cope – some light strimming has been done & wildflowers left to seed further. Bench-oiling is the next task. If anyone knows of other patches of land that could be wildflower areas please tell the Forum.

4/ Orchard – sadly this never got its spring trim & is looking untidy, but the trees are healthy. It will not be a very good apple year – as compared with last year's crop.

5/ Lydgate Green – "it's the best he's seen it looking for the last 50 years" said a resident!

6/ Calendar 2025 – pictures to the Forum by the end of August please..

7/ Remember the Friendship lunches – second Mon of the month at Crosspool Tavern & 3rd Friday at The Sportsman. (Two course plus entertainment!)

AOB.

1/ St Columbas preparing to host a Dementia Friendly café; if this is of interest to you please contact the church.

2/ Possible coach trip – somewhere within an hour & half travel radius – with meal. Ideas for destinations please.

3/ Cocker & Carr gable wall – Hallam University might be interested in this as a project – repainting the ugly pink & conserving the original advert that is now visible on it.

4/ At saturation point for barbers in the precinct! There was a query as to how the area could support these.

Next Open Meeting - NOTE Friday – 25th October 2025 plus AGM.

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Saturday 9:00-13:00 | Sunday Closed

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POLICING

The South Yorkshire Police online portal offers a variety of services that are essential for maintaining community safety and well-being. While some services are not directly available through the portal, they can be accessed through the official website. These include submitting Freedom of Information requests, providing feedback or complaints about the South Yorkshire Police, completing NHS referrals, and reporting various concerns such as Covid-19 regulation breaches, domestic abuse, fraud, and lost or found property. It's crucial to report even seemingly minor incidents, as they contribute to the overall analysis of crime reports, which in turn influences resource allocation and police response strategies. Not every report may lead to an officer's visit, but collectively, they help form a comprehensive picture of local issues, allowing for a more effective police response. Additionally, for those wishing to report anonymously, Crimestoppers offers a confidential service, accessible via phone 0800 555 111 or crimestoppers-uk.org online form, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the safety of their community without revealing their identity.

We reserve the right to edit pieces for both length and contents



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CROSSPOOL COMMUNITY SUMMER FAYRE

It was a delight to see our wonderful community come together once again to have lots of fun and enjoy the Crosspool Summer Fayre. After a short sharp shower the afternoon was blessed with good weather. With musical entertainment from the fabulous Cobalt Tales and everything from the Bric-a-Brac, Craft, Book, and delicious Food and Drink stalls, to a wide range of fun activities, games, and competitions designed for families to have lots of fun, a couple of superb bouncy castles/slides and children's entertainer Barney Baloney for the children. the Holly Hagg Alpacas were kept very busy throughout the afternoon. So much so, that despite some of the usual outdoor entertainment being indoors due to predicted wet weather that didn't materialise, the day was a huge success for the community. Thank you to the many people and businesses, who donated prizes, bought raffle tickets, and came to supported us on the day. We would also like to thank the many residents, their families, and friends who helped on stalls and who attended or volunteered at this year's Summer Fayre. A fantastic achievement for all involved, especially Steve and Ian who worked incredibly hard coordinating all aspects of the day to ensure that the event was a huge success.

MASTERS GYMNASTICS WORLD CUP

(British Champion, Suzy Kerfoot)

"At the end of May I made my way to Boston USA to compete in my first International competition as a member of "Team Great Britain" at the "Masters Gymnastics world cup."

The competition day was the most incredible day for me, as I knew I would get my own personal ranking in the world - not just a Team GB position. The team came 4th which is fantastic and frustrating at the same time! We were just 0.8 marks from achieving a medal.

I competed on all four pieces of apparatus, the Vault, Bars, Beam and Floor. I was disappointed with my bars and beam performance; however, my Floor and Vault performances were the best of my life. I got an almost perfect score, on both, which resulted in my ranking of number 5 - IN THE WORLD - on the vault. This achievement, I am extremely proud of. My experience has been incredible, giving me lifelong memories. From the support, encouragement and generosity of local people, clients at Aspects of Beauty, family, a couple of celebrities and an official sponsor from my home county of Ken (www.completefamilylawltd.co.uk), to my fellow teammates, the build-up of all the training sessions, the social media posts, the Radio and TV interviews, right up to the moment I put on my Great Britain tracksuit suit and leotard. It's been dreams come true. At 45 years old, a mum of two and owner of Aspects of Beauty, I never, in million years thought I'd be the Masters British gymnastic champion and a member of Team GB". "You can follow my experience on Instagram, [gymnast_suzy_kerf_](#)"

> Suzy's recent victory at the Adult Gymnastics British Championships, 2nd August, is a powerful reminder of the resilience and dedication required to excel in the sport of gymnastics. Suzy competed in four disciplines—beam, floor, bars, and vault—and won overall on three of them with moves that included somersaults and backflips. Suzy was crowned British champion once again, proving that age is but a number when it comes to pursuing one's passions.



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 Web Page: roombookings@stephenhillmethodist.org.uk

Email: admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk
 Web Page: www.stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk



29 Sep 2024 St Columba's	Harvest Festival:- 10.30am Come and join the celebration! Open to all ages. Collecting for the Archer Project
18 Oct 2024 Stephen Hill	The One World Choir concert starts at 7.30pm and is free entry , donations split between our 2 Church charities and the work of The One World choir.
26 Oct 2024 St Columba's	The Altonators:- 7.30pm Back by popular demand! Playing popular songs from 60s to the present day.£5 per ticket on the door or contact us in advance. Bring your own drinks & snacks.All proceeds to church supported charities.
3 Nov 2024 St Columba's	Celebrating our Church Covenant10.30am Open to all ages Celebrating the covenant that was made between the two churches. Archdeacon Malcolm and Superintendent Romeo will be joining us. Come along and join the celebration.
10 Nov 2024 Stephen Hill	Remembrance Sunday Service10.30am Open to all ages.Help us to celebrate, remember and give thanks for all those who gave their lives for us over the years.

CROSSPOOL CARERS CAFÉ- A WARM WELCOME TO CARERS!

We usually meet on the fourth Monday of the month around 10.30 am at Stephen Hill Methodist Church where we are made very welcome with coffee and biscuits.

If you are looking after a friend or family member with any illness or disability you can join us whether you call yourself a carer or not. Since we started to meet over two years ago, we've grown into a relaxed and friendly group. We always have time to chat and talk about our concerns and quite often we can help and reassure each other, too. Most of us live locally and we're often joined by carers from other parts of Sheffield.

In September, we'll hear about new activities for carers and have dates for the speakers you've requested, so please come and join us and if you know someone- a friend or neighbour who is a carer or former carer, bring them too.

For more information, contact

Jan Outram jan@sheffieldcarerscentre.org.uk
 tele: 0114 278 8942 or

Briony Broome briony.broome@hotmail.co.uk
 mobile :07801532954

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Salvation Army

The annual Christmas concert at Stephen Hill Church in Crosspool is a cherished tradition, marking the season's festivities with the melodious brass of the Salvation Army Band. This event, set for 7:45 pm on Wednesday, 11th December, invites the community to gather and revel in the spirit of Christmas through timeless carols and music. It's a heart-warming occasion that brings together the joy of music and the warmth of community during the most wonderful time of the year.



CROSSPOOL LUNCHEON CLUB (5* RATED BY THE COUNCIL)



The Club is open to all over seventies. It is partially funded by the Sheffield City Council and meets every Wednesday at Stephen Hill Methodist Church. Lunch is served at 12.30pm and is usually finished between 1.30 and 1.45 pm. Come and join us in the Oxford Hall for a main meal and a pudding followed by a cup of tea for £5.00. Here is an opportunity for you to come and meet others in a friendly environment. We do have 2/3 weeks off around Christmas to give our cooks, helpers and washers-up a well-deserved break.

We are very grateful for the team of helpers who regularly cook, set and clear tables and wash up. Their reliability, good humour and hard work make providing lunches a pleasure. Their meals are pretty good too! We always have room for more helpers if you can spare the time. We provide transport for those who are less mobile but at the moment we do not have any spare places available. For more information contact Kath Smith 0114 2667089.

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The Rock Project is an after-school Rock School focusing on teaching children how to play their instruments or sing as part of a band. We take a fun first approach by focusing on songs they already know and love while promoting social skills and self-confidence through interaction with like-minded kids. Our sessions are split into two parts, firstly small group tuition in their chosen instrument before coming together with everyone to play as part of a band. All abilities welcome including complete beginners, instruments provided, and a free first session to try us out. sheffield@therockproject.com Tele: 07960192392



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AQUABOX

AQUABOX is a charity which sends water cleaning filters to disaster areas. Our two churches continue their support of the Aquabox charity bringing clean water to areas of the world where there is desperate need. The need continues to grow with the increasing frequency of natural disasters and countless long running conflicts. The Aquabox filter provides an environmentally friendly way of supplying much needed water. Using locally sourced water avoids the use of plastic bottles as well as transport emissions. The filters last for many years in constant use. A hammer and nails, some tarpaulins, a saw and other DIY equipment are included with each box to help with the immediate provision of shelter. Our churches send cash as well as the items of aid. For more information please contact Bob Hodges or Trevor Wilson at Stephen Hill Church.



ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH

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PROPOSED MONTHLY DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CAFÉ

Dementia cafes offer a unique and valuable service, providing a supportive environment where individuals with dementia, along with their family carers, can gather for social interaction. These cafes serve as a crucial element in the post-diagnostic support system, facilitating the sharing of experiences and knowledge, and helping to maintain community connections.

We are hoping to start a monthly early afternoon café at the St Columba's Church site which will be open to the whole community, especially aimed to be a warm and friendly space for those living alone, those with memory issues and others who wish to engage with and support them. As we plan, it would be good to gauge the level of interest there might be in such a venture. It would be great if anyone who might see this as something that is for them, a friend, family member, neighbour etc. could indicate interest, obviously with no commitment.

If you wish to do so, please either phone 01142670006 or email admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk

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**Contact Rachel for information
Rachel Quinn BWY Dip**

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Volunteering at local churches can be a fulfilling way to give back to the community. Why not check out the many weekly activities we have at our two churches, Email or ring for details.

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ART3 PRODUCE NO WASTE

(CIARÁN MCINERNEY)



Last time, I tasked you with noticing when the outputs of one thing ends up as inputs elsewhere. What did you notice. I was fortunate enough to gain a winged-backed chair from someone who was throwing it out as part of a spring clean. And, while I tipped old plaster and rubble from our renovations into a skip, I met a couple scooping it out, one afternoon. What for? They needed some filler for their raised beds. The permaculture principle of 'produce no waste' helps us keep costs down and avoids unseen build ups that come back to haunt us (...think of sewer fatburgs and oceans of plastic bottles that we threw "away").

If you are looking for a way to reduce waste in your kitchen and bathroom, look locally to Unwrapped, in Crookes, or Trixie's Pantry in Broomhill. They are pay-by-weight shops where you only pay for whatever food and cleaning products you need. Perfect for trying new recipes!

Not producing waste does not mean not enjoying life. It's about getting maximum use of what you have, and enjoying every last drop. Getting more bang for your buck. Can your empty bottle be used as a refillable watering reservoir in a planter? Can the empty compost bag be used as a potato sack? Can you gift your unwanted wardrobe on Freecycle?

A task before the next Clarion is for you notice when action to produce no waste accrues additional benefit. (Hint, summer is growing season, but what do you use to grow the plants)

HOMES AND GARDENS

Taking pride in our homes and gardens is more than just a matter of aesthetics; it's a reflection of the community spirit and personal responsibility. A well-kept garden or a tidy front garden not only enhances the curb appeal of a single home but can also uplift the entire neighbourhood. It's the little things that make a big difference—like pruning overgrown bushes, painting a fence, or even picking up litter. These small acts of care can foster a sense of belonging and pride among residents, encouraging others to follow suit. Moreover, it's a fantastic way to engage with nature and add a touch of greenery to our daily lives. In a world that's increasingly urbanized, these personal oases are vital for our well-being, offering a serene retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. So, whether it's planting a new flower bed or simply sweeping the path/drive, every effort counts in creating a more beautiful and harmonious environment for all to enjoy.

PARKING YOUR VEHICLE SAFELY

The Highway Code, Rule 242, states that drivers must not leave their vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road. This rule is crucial for ensuring road safety and preventing accidents. Violating this rule can result in a £100 fine and points on your licence, which can affect your driving record and insurance premiums. It's always important to be mindful of where you park or leave your vehicle to avoid causing any hazards or inconveniences to other road users. If you're ever unsure about the legality of your parking spot, it's best to find a safer location. Stay safe and drive responsibly!

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Meet your local business

A quarterly spotlight on Crosspool businesses



THIS QUARTER WE CAUGHT UP WITH NICK AT PIPERS ARTISAN SAUSAGE SHOP.



How long have you had the Sausage Business in Crosspool?

* I think we had the building from May 2022 but opened August of that year. It took a long time to convert the space as we did most of it ourselves.

How is business going?

* OK, I think. We're getting new customers at the shop all the time and wholesale has been steadily increasing.

How many staff do you have?

* Currently 2 part time staff on sausage production. Kez helps out on a Wednesday and a Thursday, and Paul is my Saturday boy (he's actually a year older than me).

Do you employ local people?

* Yeah, Paul and Kez are both local but I am also on the lookout for casual staff for washing up/serving. I am also looking to take on an apprentice.

What makes "your produce special?"

* I use the best ingredients I can source and I'm fanatical about technique.

What are your best sellers at the moment?

* Käsekrainer, an Austrian style smoked sausage with Emmental cheese goes very well. My pork and pepper sausages also prove popular and we only use single origin pepper like Sarawak.

Any plans for the future?

* I'd like to open more days and build a bigger retail cliental.

Do you think local business is good for the community?

* Of course, people talk to each other and have a laugh in my shop. Many customers bend over and telling me I should write more labels.

What do you think about people using local shops?

* Well, it's down to us shopkeepers to provide what people want or at least offer the best of what we do. I think buying local is hard for some people who might be time and/or cash poor though.

What do you like about Crosspool?

* It's my home. A lovely place to raise a family.

What do you think of the summer display in the precinct?

* Very thoughtful and eye-catching as usual. Would like to see a sausage shaped flower display though!

What has been your favourite moment so far?

* I get them all the time when customers tell me how much they enjoyed their meal. Also seeing people eat a pastry, I'll never tire of seeing people really enjoy their food.

What would you like to see improve around the precinct?

* I think shoppers and business owners would generally like better parking. But that's not the way we're going as a society. A fully pedestrianised Crosspool would be really amazing for many reasons too.

Any general comments?

*Thanks for having my business mention this quarter. Huge thanks to all Crosspool residents that support the shop. A special mention to Layers and Roses for taking packages while I wrestle my kids at home.

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FRIENDS OF LYDGATE GREEN

Lydgate Green is a testament to the power of community spirit and the shared love for nature's beauty. It stands as a beacon of collective effort, where each plant and flower blooms not just from the soil, but from the care and dedication of a group of unsung heroes. The weekly gatherings to tend to the flowerbeds are more than a routine; they are a ritual that strengthens community bonds and a sense of pride and ownership among all who participate.

Each Saturday morning, as the clock strikes ten, a small yet mighty force convenes on the green, armed with gardening tools and a resolve as sturdy as the spades they wield. For those interested in joining this crew, the invitation is open, the welcome is true. Just come with your gear, and join in the effort to keep the green clear. It's more than just gardening; it's a community's heart, where every small effort is a vital part. It's a wonderful opportunity for community members to connect with nature and each other, enhancing the local environment while forming lasting bonds. For inquiries or to lend a hand, the group can be reached at crosspoolforum@gmail.com



VISITOR TO LYDGATE GREEN

*Can I Just express my appreciation to all the volunteers who have been working on the flower beds in the two little parks near to Lydgate Infant school. They are looking Lovely.
Thank you for all your hard work
S A Benison*

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COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteering in your local community can be a rewarding experience, offering a chance to make a positive impact while also benefiting personally. Imagine the satisfaction of tidying up the neighbourhood with a band of merry volunteers, all while soaking up some vitamin D and swapping stories. It's like a workout with a heart, where every squat and sweep leaves the streets and Lydgate Green a bit brighter and your social circle wider. So, grab a litter picker from outside the Spar at 10am on the first Saturday of each month or join the local heroes gardening on Lydgate Green every Saturday at 10am to enjoy an hour of bliss, just look for the smiles they're hard to miss!

THE JOURNEY OF A CROSSPOOL ATHLETE AT THE PARIS 2024 OLYMPICS

Louie Hinchliffe, a promising British sprinter, displayed a remarkable performance throughout the Paris 2024 Olympics but narrowly missed qualifying for the 100m final.

The Paris 2024 Olympics have been a spectacle of human achievement and resilience, and among the standout performers was Britain's own Louie Hinchliffe. This young Crosspool athlete, with his dedication and speed, has captured the attention of the athletics world.

Louis's journey in these games was nothing short of dramatic. Making his Olympics debut, the 22-year-old sprinter clocked an impressive 9.98 seconds in the heats, outpacing American world champion Noah Lyles. This victory in the heats was a clear statement of intent from the Crosspool lad, who has been under the tutelage of sprinting legend Carl Lewis.

Despite his strong performance in the earlier rounds, Louis faced a challenging semi-final where he gave it his all but fell just short of qualifying for the 100m final. The disappointment was palpable, but the narrow miss does not overshadow his achievements in the preceding rounds.



The British sprinter's performance in Paris has been a culmination of a remarkable season. After approaching Carl Lewis last August, Louie has lowered his personal best from 10.17 to 9.95, run a wind-assisted 9.84 for the second-fastest all-condition 100m in British history, and become the first European man to win the prestigious NCAA Championships.

While Louie may not have made it to the final this time, his performance at the Paris 2024 Olympics has been a testament to his potential and the bright future that lies ahead. His journey is a reminder that sometimes, it's not just about the medals, but also about the spirit, the effort, and the promise of what's to come.

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