

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

CROSSPOOL CLARION

CROSSPOOL NEWS - crosspool.info

3000 copies delivered quarterly Editor: Ian Hague BEM



CROSSPOOL CAFÉ : A LITTLE MORE HEAT THAN ANYONE WANTED

Aesthete café's Crosspool team have been left shaken and heartbroken after a serious overnight fire tore through their Sandygate Road venue in the early hours of Sunday 26 July. Fire crews arrived at around 2.30am, responding to what is believed to have been an electrical fault in the kitchen. By daylight, the scene was sobering: doors and windows hastily boarded up, the smell of smoke lingering in the air, and a much-loved community meeting place suddenly silent.

Thanks to the quick actions of the resident in the upstairs flat, who alerted the fire and rescue service, no one was injured. Even so, the damage is extensive. The kitchen has been completely destroyed, the front-of-house area is heavily smoke-damaged, and the apartment above has suffered severe damage. The flat is now uninhabitable, leaving its occupant temporarily homeless. a distressing outcome that has added a deeply personal dimension to the incident.



The Crosspool café will remain closed for the foreseeable future while the owners assess what can be salvaged and begin planning the rebuild.

For many residents, Aesthete is far more than a café, it's woven into the daily rhythm of Crosspool life. The owners, who also run the Walkley café on South Road, are encouraging the community to rally round by visiting their second venue while repairs get underway.

Aesthete has always been a place where neighbours gather, friendships grow, and Crosspool's character shines. With the support of the community, they will recover, rebuild, and return stronger

Waterless Oasis

It's taken Yorkshire Water over two years to deliver a single water tap for Lydgate Green. Apparently installing basic plumbing now qualifies as an epic quest.

The pipework is in, the tap is fitted, the housing is ready... all we need is for YW to grace us with the grand ceremonial act of turning it on. Any day now. Probably.



Crosspool.info

CROSSPOOL FORUM

OPEN MEETING

Thursday 29th October 2026 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

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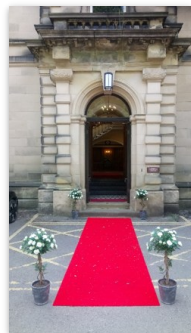
LOCAL HISTORIC BUILDING OPENS ITS DOORS

Built in 1855, "Tapton Hall" woven into the history of Sheffield since the 18th century opened its doors on the 1st August to allow visitors to look around its superb building and see its fine architecture and décor at first hand.

The original house was originally known as Tapton Lodge, the home of Mary Shore, then from 1855 the Vickers Steel magnate family rebuilt the Hall before George Wilson the famous snuff manufacturer moved in in 1867. Historical data shows connections with the "Lady with the lamp" Florence Nightingale and latterly connections to the "Home of Football", and recently been under the custodianship of the Free Masons since 1965.

The open day drew an impressive flow of visitors throughout the afternoon. People settled in for the history talks, wandered through the lodges on guided tours, and soaked up the atmosphere of a building that wears its heritage with quiet pride. Many rounded off their visit with cream teas in the Hunter Room, a fittingly elegant finale to a leisurely and engaging day

Today, the building has taken on a new life as a versatile, multi-functional venue, beautifully suited to almost any occasion, from weddings and banquets to community gatherings, celebrations, and corporate events. Its blend of historic character and modern adaptability makes it a standout choice for memorable moments of every kind.



To find out more about any of the local events and classes taking place at Tapton Hall or for more information get in touch with the team.

Call 0114 266 0051 Email:

enquiries@taptonhall.com

Police (Non emergency) 101

NHS advice line 111

Crosspool Pharmacy 0114 266 1744

Royal Hallamshire Hospital 0114 271 1900

Northern General Hospital 0114 243 4343

Sheffield Council 0114 273 4567

Yorkshire Water 03451 247 247

CROSSPOOL AT PRAM SPEED

A day in the life on maternity leave By Flora Kozma

Crosspool wasn't where we meant to end up. We spent months trying and repeatedly failing to buy in a neighbourhood that "rhymes with grey bones," losing out so often that I stopped admitting we were house-hunting at all. Then, one summer afternoon, we viewed a place here, and the decision made itself almost instantly. After years of staring at tired brick terraces and concrete, Crosspool sold itself in under two minutes. Our best stroke of luck arrived disguised as failure.

Four months later, a baby arrived, and with him a new way of seeing the area. Since February, my son has been pushed around Crosspool for miles, offering no opinion whatsoever, which I consider ungrateful, given the mileage. Our days begin with Lydgate Green, kept immaculate by volunteers far more competent than I am (the state of our garden rules me out of joining them). We pass Lydgate Park, waiting for the day he learns to walk, and often end up in the cemetery: wide paths, excellent trees, sweeping valley views, and a reliably quiet clientele perfect for naps. Other days we wander Manchester Road, admiring front gardens that put ours to shame.

Coffee comes from Aesthete, Hudson's or Crosspool Social, chosen at random. Somewhere along the way, once the newborn fog lifted, I started carrying a litter picker. Now I can't walk past anything. The jennel to Tesco and Tipton fields is the worst: crisp packets, chocolate wrappers, drinks cans, all dropped within yards of where they were bought. You could reconstruct an entire school lunch break from a single hedge.

Errands fill the rest of the day: endless Vinted parcels through GT News, chats at Spar (home of the friendliest woman in Crosspool), the pharmacy, the post office, and occasionally another coffee. Layers did our carpets with the kind of service big chains don't bother with. Manchester Road Surgery has been a steady presence too, with quick appointments and receptionists who defy the stereotype.

Lunch is usually Ellie's tuna melt panini, the best in the city, or pub grub at Crosspool Tavern or The Sportsman. I've even begun researching schools, absurdly early but strangely grounding.

Maternity leave can be lonely, but Crosspool softens it with baby groups, chance conversations, held doors and small kindnesses. The festival, the fayre, the Clarion, the flowers on Lydgate Green, all signs of people choosing to look after the place they live.

We came here by accident. We're staying for the panini and the neighbours.





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OPEN MEETING-SUMMARY-THURSDAY 30TH JULY 2026

The Crosspool Forum and local residents gathered on a bright summer evening for its July open meeting, chaired by Ian Hague, with Steve Reynolds Vice Chair, Carol Hanson Min Sec, and John Drinkwater Treasurer supporting in their usual roles. We were joined by **PCSO's** Pam Thompson, Jasmine, Cameron; -Cllr. Tim Huggan, and community guests Bethan Robinson & Rene Meijer CEO. Apologies came from Cllr. Ruth Milsom and Cllr. Minesh Parek. The **April minutes** were approved, and the meeting settled into its familiar rhythm of updates, thanks, and shared enthusiasm for all things Crosspool.

Celebrating Festival Effort and Community Spirit

Ian opened with reflections on the end of this year's festival.

The flags that brightened the precinct have now been taken down, many showing their age after years of service. Replacements will be needed, but their cheerful presence throughout June was appreciated by all.

A heartfelt and unanimous vote of thanks was given to Steve Reynolds and the team of volunteers who have transformed the precinct with their planters and hanging baskets. Their creativity has turned Crosspool into a patchwork of colour, and their dedication, watering, tending, refreshing, has not gone unnoticed. Many residents assume the Council is responsible, but this is entirely a labour of local love.

The meeting paused to acknowledge the recent fire at the Aesthete Café. Although the building suffered significant damage, we are grateful no one was hurt. The owners hope to reopen fully in the autumn, and the community will no doubt rally round when they do.

Festival Highlights: A week of Colour, Creativity and Togetherness

This year's Well Dressing, sponsored by Layers Flooring, stood proudly at the Watt Lane/Selborne Road junction. Now in its fourteenth year, the tradition continues to be one of Crosspool's most cherished festival features. Inspired by Care in Crosspool, the artwork, crafted by volunteers under Sherryll's gentle guidance, was a beautiful tribute to community care. The dedication ceremony, led by Steve Ellis, brought neighbours together in a moment of shared pride. Donations were passed directly to Care in Crosspool.

The Scarecrow Trail once again filled gardens with humour and imagination. Co-ordinated by Chloe and Paul, entries from households, Scouts and Brownies produced everything from cheeky characters to football legends. Following the trail was a joy, with each scarecrow offering something new to admire.

The Open Gardens event on 27 June was met with warm praise. Visitors enjoyed wandering through lovingly tended spaces, thanks to the hard work of homeowners and the Lydgate green team.

Selborne Road came alive on 28 June for the Street Market, co-ordinated by Lisa Ellis of Hallam FC. With food, crafts, gifts, Irish dancing, school singing and live music from Cellar V band, the day had a wonderful festival buzz. Local shops opened specially, adding to the sense of celebration.

An illustrated talk on Exquisite Cutlery at Stephen Hill Church drew a keen audience, shining a light on the craftsmanship of three distinguished local firms.

Summer Fayre: On Saturday 4th July the Coldwell Lane CDYST sports field came alive in the brilliant sunshine for our annual summer fayre. A celebration of friendship community and early summer cheer. Huge thanks to CDYST stall helpers, the music and the hard work of the organiser Steve Reynolds and the forum team. It was a day full of sunny skies, a field full of activity and a mix of indoor and outdoor games for everyone to enjoy. From stalls and games to refreshment and displays and a couple of bands. There was a real community vibe with people lingering, chatting and enjoying being together. The Fayre became the perfect opportunity for neighbours and friends to meet, mingle and enjoy the summery day.

Local Projects and Community Growing

Carver Fields is now the site of major Yorkshire Water works to improve the sewer network and help protect the River Rivelin. Hagg Lane will be closed from 20 August to 29 September, with limited access to the allotments for part of that period. Back Lane remains open. Yorkshire Water will not need access to residents' homes.

Food Works coordinator Bethan Robinson met residents recently to discuss the new community growing space planned for Carver Fields. She encouraged ideas for crops, shared learning areas and community involvement. Rene Meijer CEO also spoke passionately about the

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environmental and social benefits of growing together, hoping to involve schools, Scouts and other groups. Volunteers are warmly welcomed

Community Notices:

• Boot Sale: Saturday 5 September – bookings via emailing: crosspoolforum@gmail.com

• Clarion Autumn issue: progressing well, with new adverts including Crosspool Dentist and Northern Lights Theatre production company It's a Wonderful Life. 3 performances at Walkley Community Centre and a further 3 performances at Stephen Hill Church.

• Hallam FC: larger crowds are creating parking pressures; discussions continue.

• Bench request: a suggestion to have a bench on the pea's sign wall, similar to the new one in front of the chip shop was noted, though land ownership is unclear.

• Picnic Benches for Carver Fields: installation will wait until Yorkshire Water's works are complete.

Financial Update: The Forum currently holds around £2,000 earmarked for picnic benches at Carver Fields. Over £500 has been spent on gardens and over £300 on a defibrillator battery.

Fundraising totals: £3,687.63 from the street market, WI fashion show, scarecrows and open gardens £1,234.79 from the Summer Fayre. Surplus funds have been donated to local charities.

Police & Safety: PCSO Pam Thompson reported one burglary and one car theft, Crosspool remains the lowest-crime area in South Yorkshire. Illegal parking is difficult to enforce unless witnessed directly. Blocking driveways is an offence and can be reported. The police substation Lydgate Lane is no longer in use. Pam also outlined Food Works' redistribution of surplus food, including veg boxes available to buy.

Councillor Update Cllr. Tim Huggan responded to concerns about a damaged dog waste bin on Tapton School Fields and will look into replacement. He noted future plans for cemetery signage allowing dogs on leads, ongoing work on the Selborne/Manchester Road junction, and the £2 bus fare cap. A new city-centre stop for the 51 may be considered. Residents are encouraged to report blocked drains and potholes via Fix My Street.

Activities & Volunteering

• Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 10.45–11.45 Scout Hall.

• Easy Exercises Tuesdays, 10–11 Scout Hall.

• Art-For-All Fri., 10.30am–12.30pm Scout Hall.

Volunteers needed for orchard maintenance at Coldwell Lane and other community projects.

Next Meeting: Thursday 29 October, 7pm.



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DECLUTTER YOUR WAY TO A HAPPIER HOME

Many of us reach a point where the house feels a little fuller than it should. Cupboards groan, surfaces gather “bits”, and the thought of tackling it all can feel overwhelming. The good news is that decluttering doesn’t need to be dramatic or exhausting. Small, steady steps can make a remarkable difference, and the results are both calming and liberating.

The simplest approach is to work one space at a time. Start with an easy win: a drawer, a shelf, or the kitchen counter. Clear everything out, give the area a quick clean, and only return the items you genuinely use or love. The rest can be donated, recycled, or responsibly disposed of. These small victories build momentum and make larger areas feel more manageable.

In the kitchen, remove duplicate utensils, expired food, and appliances you rarely use. In the living room, tidy books, magazines, remote controls and decorative items that have multiplied over the years. Bedrooms benefit from a clothes review: anything unworn for a year, uncomfortable, or “saved just in case” can go. Bathrooms often hide expired toiletries and half-used bottles that simply take up space.

Storage helps, but only after decluttering. Baskets, drawer dividers and labelled boxes keep everyday items accessible and stop clutter creeping back. A simple “one-in, one-out” habit prevents future build-up.

Most importantly, decluttering isn’t just about tidying; it’s about creating a home that supports your wellbeing. A clearer space feels calmer, more welcoming, and easier to live in. Whether you tackle one drawer a week or dedicate a morning to a room, every small step counts.

If you’re looking for a summer project that brings instant satisfaction, a gentle declutter might be just the thing.

COMMUNITY FOOD-GROWING

Sunday, 26 July, Bethan Robinson, a Food Growing Co-ordinators at Food Works, spent time at Carver Fields with local residents to listen to their thoughts on the proposed community food-growing site. She outlined how the project could take shape, explain the practicalities, and answer a wide range of questions, all while encouraging people to get involved and help guide the next steps.

Bethan is particularly keen to understand what the community would like from the space: the kinds of crops people might enjoy growing, ideas for shared learning areas, and any concerns or suggestions residents feel are important. This is a valuable opportunity for local voices to shape a project that could bring fresh produce, hands-on learning, and a welcoming green space for everyone.

If you have ideas, hopes, or questions about the site, now is the perfect moment to share them and help influence a project with real community benefit. <https://thefoodworks.org/>



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CROSSPOOL SCARECROW COMPETITION A GREAT SUCCESS

This year's Crosspool Scarecrow Competition was another fantastic community event, with a fun World Cup theme inspiring an impressive display of creativity throughout the village.

We were delighted to receive nine fantastic entries, each bringing its own unique take on the theme. A huge thank you goes to everyone who took the time and effort to create and display a scarecrow – your enthusiasm helped make the event such a success.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

- 1st Place: Gazza – The Turton Family
- 2nd Place: Three Lions – Rose, Ella, Owen and Rafe
- 3rd Place: The World Cup Legends – The Cartledge Family

Well done to all of our winners, and thank you to everyone who took part. The standard was incredibly high, making the judging no easy task.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to our generous local businesses who kindly donated prizes: Hudson's, Crosspool Fish & Chip Shop, and Crosspool Pet Supplies. Their support is greatly appreciated and helps make the competition even more special.

We hope the event continues to grow, and we'd love to see even more scarecrows popping up around the community next year. If you've been thinking about taking part, we'd be delighted to welcome even more entries in 2027.

Thank you once again to everyone who supported this year's competition. We look forward to seeing what next year brings!



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**Contact: J B Senior
(secretary)
Tele: 0114 4182395**

Email: secretary@crosspoolprobus.co.uk



Stephen Hill Methodist Church
 547 Manchester Road, S10 5P
 Church Office Tele: 2667073

Email: shilladmin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk

Web Page: www.stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk



St Columba's Church Crosspool
 503 Manchester Road, S10 5PL
 Tele: 0114 267 0006

Email: admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk

Web Page: www.stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk



Crosspool Memory Café, Monthly on Wednesdays from 2-4pm, dates below

The café is held at St Columba' Church and is especially aimed to be a warm and friendly space, welcoming those living alone, those with memory issues and their supporters, and others who would like to be involved.

If you would like more information, please contact us either by phone 01142 670 006,

or email admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk



Crosspool
Memory Café

Memory Café Autumn Dates

September 23 rd 2-4pm	October 28 th 2-4pm	November 25 th 2-4pm	December 16 th 2-4pm
Activities are yet to be arranged but often include music/singing, nostalgia, movement, quizzes and a chance to relax and chat over coffees, teas and snacks.			

Memorial service

In addition to our normal 10.30 morning service, on Sunday 1st November at 4pm in Stephen Hill Church we will be conducting a short reflective service remembering those who have died in recent years.
 All are welcome.

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At The Rock Project, we teach children to play their instruments as part of a band from day one. All new students get a FREE first session to try us out. Complete beginners to advanced students welcome and instruments provided. We teach by playing songs they know and love, slowly building up a setlist to perform for friends Corporation. and family at our end-of-year gig. The 2-hour sessions include an hour of tuition on their chosen instrument and an hour of playing songs as part of a band. Make music, have fun and socialise with like-minded children all while learning. sheffield@therockproject.com
 Tele: 07960 192 392
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 4:30pm-6:30pm for ages 7-11
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PURL'Y QUEENS KNIT & NATTER GROUP

Knit one, Purl one and Chat two. Are you a knitter? Then why not join our small group of Crosspool W.I. ladies who meet every Friday 10am to 12noon in our forum at Stephen Hill and enjoy our hospitality, friendship and a cup of coffee, whilst having a chat.



CROSSPOOL CARERS CAFÉ- A WARM WELCOME TO CARERS!

We meet on the third 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. 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 tel: 0114 278 8942 or Briony Broome briony.broome@hotmail.co.uk mobile :07801 532 954

STEPHEN HILL & ST COLUMBA'S – SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES

Did you know that the church offers something for all ages across both our sites?

Activities during the week include groups for babies and preschoolers.

For school age children there are weekly theatre and music groups, uniformed organisations, and for families there is a monthly Family Fun Friday.

Activities for adults include Yoga classes, keep fit, Pilates, chess club and choir.

For the older generation, we have a monthly Memory Café, a Carers' Café, and weekly Monday Morning Coffee and Wednesday Lunch Club.

For more information, please contact us by phone 0114 2667073

or email admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk



**Hatha Yoga classes at
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Wednesday 10.45 am to 12.15pm

A combination of physical postures (asana), breath awareness & breathing exercises (pranayama) mindful awareness of the physical and subtle bodies, guided relaxation.

The awareness that we cultivate is what makes yoga a practice, rather than a goal or task to be completed. Your body will most likely become more flexible and so will your mind.

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 Rachel Quinn BWY Dip**

Lodge Moor Children and Youth Choirs

Do your children love to sing? Our two well-established choirs offer a fun and inclusive environment to explore and develop vocal skills. Come along to a free taster sessions to try choir for yourselves!

Friday, 4pm-5pm (children 6+) and 5pm-6pm (youth 12+)
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JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Looking for a friendly way to start your week or ease into the weekend? Come along to one of our welcoming coffee mornings at Stephen Hill, held every Monday and Friday from 10am to noon. It's not just about good coffee and great company, all proceeds go to support our Church Charities. This year, we're proud to introduce two new partner charities: "Shaped" and "Embrace", both doing fantastic work in our wider community. Further details can be found on the notice board in the Forum at Stephen Hill. We'd love to see you there!

SUITABLE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

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.

We are always looking for new volunteers in all the lovely groups we run. So if you are interested in volunteering please contact: childrens@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk

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Ladies and gentlemen, Northern Lights Theatre invites you to tune in for a very special Christmas broadcast...

It's a Wonderful Life! A Live Radio Play, adapted by Anthony E. Palermo.

When George Bailey loses hope on Christmas Eve, an unlikely guardian angel gives him the chance to see what life would have been like without him. What he discovers is a moving reminder of the difference one ordinary life can make.

This Christmas, experience the beloved film as you've never seen it before, as a live broadcast from the golden age of radio! A small company takes on the story's many characters, with music and live sound effects bringing Bedford Falls to life before the studio audience.

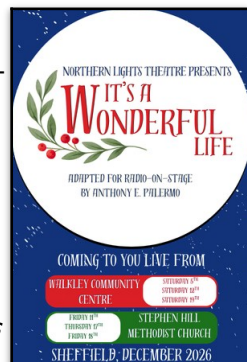
Performances at Stephen Hill Methodist Church:

Friday 11, Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December 2026

Tickets: £15 / £14 concessions **Doors open:** 19:00

Suitability: suitable for family audiences*

**As in the original film, the story includes references to suicide and portrays a character experiencing severe emotional distress. Parents may wish to bear this in mind when booking for younger children.*



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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CROSSPOOL WELL DRESSING

Well dressing is believed to have begun in pagan times as a way of giving thanks to water gods for fresh water. By the Victorian era, it had developed into a Derbyshire village tradition, sometimes spreading across county borders. They have even been displayed in London and several other towns and cities.

Crosspool has displayed a well dressing for the past 14 years. Although the area does not have a well, it once had several pools, giving the area its name, as a place where travellers crossed the pools.

Preparations start early in the year, when the theme is chosen and then picture is designed. This year's well dressing celebrated a special milestone: 40 years of Care in Crosspool, a local charity founded in 1986 to provide voluntary support for people in the Crosspool area.

In June, the wooden frames are soaked in water for up to 10 days. Five days before the display opens, on the Monday, the frames are taken to the workspace and the creative work begins.

The men press clay into the frames and smooth it before other volunteers lay the paper design on top. The details are outlined and pricked through with cocktail sticks, then the paper is removed, leaving a dot-to-dot pattern. The outline is then marked with wool.

Traditionally, well dressings are created entirely from natural materials such as grit, moss, leaves, petals, seeds and even eggshells. Everything is either foraged or grown with the display in mind. If we see suitable flowers in someone's garden, we always ask the homeowner's permission before taking anything, you could call it "community pruning"!

The well dressing must be completed by Friday afternoon. It is then carefully loaded onto a trailer, with extra help needed for the lifting, and taken to the grass at the junction of Selbourne Road and Watt Lane to be erected. That evening, a local vicar blesses the well dressing, marking the start of Crosspool Festival week.

With thanks to Layers, a local floor coverings business, for sponsoring the well dressing, and to all the volunteers who help.

RIVELIN VALLEY CONSERVATION GROUP Web: www.rivelinvalley.org.uk

Open meetings held at Stephen Hill Methodist Church, Manchester Rd. S10 5PL, take place at 7:30pm. Entry fee is £3 for members and £4 for non-members. Refreshments are included. non-members are always warmly welcomed.

Next open meeting Thursday 10 Sept, Speaker: Paul Hobson: an engaging evening exploring the remarkable life and travels of Henry Seebom, Ornithologist, Steelmaker and Traveller.

Next Task Day, Sunday 27 Sept. If you'd like to lend a hand and support local projects, please contact Graham Appleby at taskteam@btinternet.com.



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BRIGHTENING OUR PRECINCT

A huge thank-you to the Crosspool Forum for brightening our Precinct with planters and hanging baskets this summer. From the neat arrangements around the big tree to the full cascades of colour spilling from the planters, your creativity has transformed our neighbourhood into a cheerful patchwork of blooms.

What you've done shows how small touches can reshape a place. The hanging baskets, the carefully tended planters in the precinct, the displays outside the Crosspool Tavern, together they lift the whole area and reflect the pride we take in our community. These aren't just flowers; they're a sign of care, commitment, and the belief that shared spaces deserve to be loved.

Massive thanks to Steve Reynolds and all the gardeners, waterers, and quiet behind-the-scenes helpers who make it happen. Your efforts are noticed, appreciated, and admired. Every early-morning watering, every tidy-up, every thoughtful planting choice adds up. Your dedication shows, and our community is all the brighter, friendlier, and more welcoming because of it.

Crosspool feels better because of you and we're grateful.



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Crosspool Clarion



Got a story to share?

If you've got an article, a local tale, a memory from years gone by, or even just a spark of an idea you think neighbours would enjoy, the next issue of The Clarion is the perfect home for it. We're always looking for voices from across Crosspool, whether it's something heart-warming, thought-provoking, or simply a moment that made you smile. Please email Ian or Steve on crosspoolforum@gmail.com. Your stories help keep our community connected, and we'd love to hear from you.



2026 SUMMER FAYRE

It is usually a dank early January morning when the preparations for the Crosspool Summer Fayre start each year with the booking of pitches, the bouncy castles, musical groups and entertainment, and invitations sent out to prospective stall holders, all this work and preparation culminates in the annual family summer fun day coming alive on the CDYST Sports Field each year.

This year's funday was on the 4th July and the day started early with helpers drifting in throughout the morning to set up the field for the 1pm start. The 11am drizzle did not deter the enthusiasm of help and everyone did their bit to make sure the site was prepared and the event went ahead.

What unfolded was one of those golden Crosspool days: sunny skies, a field full of activity, and a wonderful mix of outdoor and indoor fun for all ages. From stalls and games to refreshments and displays, there was a real sense of people lingering, chatting, and enjoying being together, and making the most of the season.

The ever-popular Barney Baloney and his mischievous monkey gave a fantastic show of magic and mayhem. Music throughout the afternoon was provided by Sheffield pop and rock band "The Runaways", our local "Grand Ukelele band" and the wonderful Holly Hagg alpacas popped by to meet everyone.

Coconuts were won, faces painted, tin cans knocked over, balls thrown into buckets, moms and dads had wet sponges thrown at them, tombola prizes snapped up and burgers and refreshments galore through the afternoon. At 4pm the winners of this year's Crosspool Festival Scarecrow competition were announced and the winners proudly collected their prizes. A good-humoured day that showed our community at its best.

Thank you to the CDYST for the use of their fantastic facility, to Valley Side Garden Centre, and to the WI for providing much-appreciated refreshments. A huge thank-you also to everyone who took part in this annual event, your dedication is what keeps this spectacular tradition thriving year after year. If you'd like to be involved in next year's event, please get in touch with the Crosspool Forum team.

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