

Hepworth Herald

Issue 44~December 2024



Julie Radway



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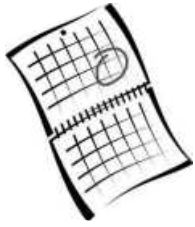


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What's On?

This is what we know about at the moment. Please share any other events you have planned, or that you hear about. Send them to hepworthherald@gmail.com

Hepworth Art Group	Every Mon @1000-1300 » Hepworth Pavilion
Hepworth Angels	Every Mon @1930 » Hepworth Pavilion. p15
Hepworth Coffee Morning	1st & 3rd Thu @1030 » Hep. Pavilion. p4
Village Service	1st December@0930 » St Peter's
Christmas Arts&Crafts Fair	1st December@11 - 1500 » Hep. Pav. p10
Last Day to Purchase Tickets for Christmas Lunch	» 3rd December. See p20
Suffolk Mobile Library	5th December@1540 - 1605 » See p4
Carol Service	8th December@1830 » St Peter's
Hepworth Christmas Lunch	10th December@1200 » Hep. Pavilion. p20
Suffolk Mobile Library	2nd January 2025@1540 - 1605 » See p4
Holy Communion	5th January@0930 » St Peter's
Parish Council Meeting	16th January@1945 » Hep. Pavilion
Suffolk Mobile Library	30th January@1540 - 1605 » See p4
Village Service	2nd February@0930 » St Peter's

Events in Hepworth?

Many village events are supported by **Hepworth2Enjoy**. This is an engaged, friendly collective of Hepworth villagers who come together to put on village events and to help others put on village events, providing people-power, experience, and bags of enthusiasm! We now have a small budget to help. Please contact Clare (250 660)



Do you have a new neighbour?

The Parish Council has prepared a Welcome Pack for people new to the village.

It can be found on the Village Website at

<http://hepworthvillage.co.uk>

Many thanks to our printers, The Community Workshop, Bury St Edmunds. 01284 702937

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

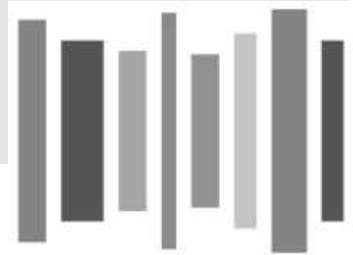
Did you know about the Suffolk Mobile Library Service?
It visits Hepworth every 4 weeks on a Thursday, and stops at:

Half Moon, The Street between 1540 and 1605

The coming village visits will be on

- 5th December,
- 2nd and 30th January 2025.

Do stop in, say hello, and
borrow a book or two!



Hepworth coffee morning



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Thursday of each month at
1030 -1200.

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Speed Indicator Devices



Device No. 1 at A143 end of The Street

61 days from 01/09/2024 to 31/10/2024.

Vehicles **arriving** into village from the A143:

Total number of vehicles:- **27867**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **28.6mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **7698 (27.62%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **277** 50mph and above:- **8**

Highest speed recorded:- **55mph**

Vehicles **leaving** the village toward the A143:

Total number of vehicles:- **21755**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **29.5mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **8695 (39.93%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **482** 50mph and above:- **13**

Highest speed recorded:- **65mph**

Device No. 2 at Barningham end of The Street

61 days from 01/09/2024 to 31/10/2024.

Vehicles **arriving** into village from Barningham:

Total number of vehicles:- **24798**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **26.0mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **3572 (14.4%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **79** 50mph and above:- **1**

Highest speed recorded:- **51mph**

Vehicles **leaving** the village towards Barningham:

Total number of vehicles:- **26655**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **26.2mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **4419 (16.58%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **137** 50mph and above:- **7**

Highest speed recorded:- **58mph**

Speedwatch Along The Street:



For more information about Speedwatch, or to get involved, call Richard on 07979745990

Sept. 2024: 1 sessions 1 vehicles logged max speed = 35 mph

Oct. 2024: 4 sessions 10 vehicles logged max speed = 38 mph

From the Rectory

Dear Friends,

It seems crazy to me that we are in December already ! The Churches across the Benefice are all preparing for Christmas and prepare to welcome you all into our Carol Services; the choir, singers and band are already busy rehearsing to lead our carol singing.

“Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright...” is just one of the many carols that is loved and sung every year.

One of the reasons I think that this carol is so popular is because of the way it invites us right into the heart of Christmas... into the still centre of the Christmas story, to contemplate Mary holding the new-born Jesus, the Light of the World.

It's that time of year when the streets and shops are full of bright, festive lights and we start to think about getting our own Christmas lights down from the loft to see if they still work ready for this year's Christmas tree. It's easy to connect with the 'bright' part of this theme from the carol but what about the 'calm'? As we join other frantic shoppers, looking for the perfect but affordable gift, as we stock up our cupboards the best we can with foody treats and begin the countdown to Christmas, it's easy to lose any sense of calm.

As we watch the news and look at events in other part of the world. 'calm' doesn't seem to be the right word to describe what is going on at the moment. Bethlehem certainly isn't calm this Christmas. In the midst of all the noise and hurry, both around us and within us, the call of Advent is to pause — to make space for stillness. The image of Mary holding her newborn child in a quiet stable is a reminder that even in the most unlikely of places, peace can be found. The star that guided the wise men to Bethlehem, shining brightly in the dark of night, offers more than just light; it points the way to something greater than the chaos of the world.

Perhaps this Advent and Christmas, more than ever, we need to recapture that sense of calm. To allow ourselves time to reflect, to breathe deeply, and to remember that the Christmas story isn't just about busyness and preparations, but about the quiet moments that speak of hope and renewal.

In a world often marked by uncertainty and unrest, these quiet moments offer a sense of peace that can't be found in the noise. We may not be able to change the circumstances of the world but we can choose how we respond. So, in this season, let us metaphorically follow the star shining brightly in the darkness... to discover afresh the peace and the calm and the hope that lies at the centre of Christmas... that is Jesus, and then let us take that hope, that calm and that peace with us into the New Year to come.

We'd love to invite you to come and join us at our Carol Services this Christmas...

Come and enjoy the sense of hope there is in them and rediscover the true meaning of Christmas as you hear the familiar Christmas story and sing some of your favourite carols.

I hope you have a calm and bright, peaceful Advent and Christmas and then a really blessed New Year

God Bless
Rev Cathy x

Death Notice

Rosemary Margaret Vernon of Amical, The Street, Hepworth passed away peacefully at home on 6th November, aged 79. Beloved Mum to daughter Victoria (Vicky) and son Matthew. Lover of wildlife, nature, animals and this village who will be sorely missed by family and friends past and present. Ashes to be interred alongside her soulmate, Dennis, in St Peter's churchyard in due course. Vicky would like to be able to invite anyone who knew Rosemary to an event in the new year to remember and celebrate her life. If you would like to receive an invitation please email vickyvernon3@gmail.com

STANTON W.I.

Stanton W.I. usually meet on the second Wednesday evening each month in the village hall, where we enjoy a varied evening, often with a speaker or another interesting activity. We always have refreshments, a competition and a draw. We also organise outings and workshops, particularly during the summer months. Once a month we visit a local coffee shop and we are always very pleased to find a new one to try. For November we will be visiting Dobbies in Bury St Edmunds. Our main November meeting will be a shopping evening with various stalls and a bring and buy table.



We are a large, friendly group and always warmly welcome new members and guests. There is initially no charge.

To find out more about us please telephone.

Jane on 01359 250347 or 07762549963

Letter to the editor



A lovely day cycling round the local churches was enjoyed this year. The weather was perfect and it's always so lovely meeting everyone en route. Many thanks to the cyclists and volunteers manning the church. I have sent £180 to the Suffolk Historic Churches trust, which means £90 will be coming to St Peter's. Looking forward to next year already!

Heather Shelley

**HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL - DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING
HEPWORTH PAVILION - THURSDAY 17th OCTOBER 24 @ 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair), Councillor Nicholas Bennett (NB) (Vice Chair), Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM), Councillor Louise Robinson (LR), Councillor Hollie Williams (HW)

IN ATTENDANCE: Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO), Two members of the public were also in attendance

24/102 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: MM declared an interest in agenda item 8b, DC/24/1324/HH planning application.

24/103 APOLOGIES: Cllr Perry Penn sent apologies which were accepted.

24/104 PUBLIC FORUM: a. Clarkes of Walsham Sign. The sign at the junction of Clay Lane/A143 erected on 5 October was queried. It was agreed that the Clerk would clarify with West Suffolk Council whether express consent had been given for the sign.

b. Bidwells Sign. MM highlighted that the Bidwells sign had been in place for a while, it was agreed that the Clerk would clarify the consent given for this sign with West Suffolk Council

c. Glamping Pod. An email update from District Cllr Carol Bull confirmed that this application would be reconsulted due to new information being provided.

24/105 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO BOTH DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS County Cllr Joanna Spicer and District Cllr Carol Bull email updates had been previously circulated. a. Save Our Buses. LR updated the meeting with recent discussions from the Save Our Buses Working Party. It was noted that Hepworth were currently included in a bid being put together for bus services in 2025 once the current interim service funded by Suffolk County Council ends. Communities using this interim solution, including Hepworth, were encouraged to use service to support the future bid. There will be gap from January to April 25 when the interim service ends and any new service starts. The meeting agreed that if a bus cannot be provided in the longer term a shuttle service to a bus stop, ie Stanton, should be provided. The current situation of young people using unlit and non-existing footpaths to bus stops was noted as being unacceptable.

Continued on p13



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Christmas

ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

*Let's spend a fun afternoon buying gorgeous gifts
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1st December 2024

From 11 am to 3 pm

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VILLAGE HALL IP22 2PU**



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- Reviewing potential tax savings through a variation of the Will within 2 years of the date of the death
- Claiming appropriate IHT reliefs and exemptions calculating the IHT payable and arranging for the payment of IHT
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- Paying legacies and distributing assets to the beneficiaries
- Applying for and obtaining the grant of representation
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Continued from p8

24/106 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 24 had been previously circulated and it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.

24/107 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: The Chair confirmed all actions from the last meeting had been completed or would be covered in later agenda items.

24/108 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: a. Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £6,742.64, savings account balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £4,000 current account and £7,000 savings account). The following payment was authorised: SALC Payroll £22.80; NB agreed to provide 2nd bank authorisation. A final payment of £760 plus VAT to Ashtons Legal for work on the lease renewal was also agreed

b. Parish Council Meeting Dates 2025/26. The proposed meeting dates for 2025/26 were agreed.

c. Lease Renewal. MM reported that the final signatories were being obtained on behalf of Hepworth Recreation Ground Management Committee to allow the renewed lease to come into force on 1 November 2024.

24/109 PLANNING MATTERS: a. DC/24/0475/FUL. The meeting agreed to support this application.

b. DC/24/1324/HH. The meeting agreed to support this application.

c. Feedback on face-to-face meeting with West Suffolk Council. GB and NB provided an update on the recent meeting with West Suffolk Council over the management DC/22/2190/HYB planning application. It was agreed that the Clerk would: (1) Generate a FOI request to West Suffolk Council seeking a copy of the legal advice used following the withdrawal of COPART from this planning application. (2) Seek an explanation from West Suffolk Council of the reasons for the delay in determining DC/23/1154/OUT and the planned date when it would be determined. The continued delay in determining this application was causing unnecessary concern and anxiety within the village

24/110 HIGHWAYS MATTERS: a. Roads Repairs. The meeting noted recent repairs conducted on The Street could increase standing water on the road. This would be reported on the Suffolk Highways Reporting tool by the member of the public raising the concern.

b. Drainage Issue. LR highlighted a potential drainage issue on The Street and agreed to report on the Suffolk Highways Reporting tool.

c. Clay Lane Potholes. HW agreed to report potholes on Clay Lane.

24/111 CORRESPONDENCE: None

24/112 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIR: None

24/113 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was agreed that the next Parish

Council meeting will be on Thursday 21 November 24 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.37 pm.

Andy Osman - Parish Clerk

24 October 24

Planning issues discussed above:

DC/24/1324/HH - Fourways, North Common

DC/24/0475/FUL - Land Adjacent To Duke Of Marlborough, Bury Road

DC/22/2190/HYB - Land At Shepherds Grove, Bury Road

DC/23/1154/OUT - Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate, East Sumner Road

Save Our Buses

The Task Force continues to work hard to ensure that our rural villages will have an ongoing bus service. Thanks to Suffolk County Council we have a bus service until 27th December and by working collaboratively with the service provider, Simonds, this is now working well.

Currently, we are focused on our submission to Suffolk County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan fund to enable the Bus service no 73 to continue, as well as vital funding to support buses for students not eligible for Suffolk County Council school transport. Without these bus services school children, students and workers will face difficulties in getting to school, college or work. Some people have already told us they could lose their jobs. The 73 is also a lifeline for all those people without cars, as this bus service is the only public transport through the villages.

We are heartened by the political support and the service provider's willingness to work with us to find ways to achieve a sustainable bus service. We need people to use the buses so that they can become commercially viable as soon as possible. We also need Suffolk County Council to help us to bridge the financial gap which currently exists.

We shall continue to work proactively and constructively with all parties to achieve a solution for our rural communities.

Karen Witton - Chair Task Force

Hepworth Weather (as measured on The Street)

September 2024:	Max. Temp:	28.1°C	1st
	Min. Temp:	3.1°C	28th
	Total Rainfall:	58.3mm	
	Wettest Day:	17.3mm	26th
October 2024:	Max. Temp:	21.1°C	16th
	Min Temp:	1.9°C	11th
	Total Precipitation:	51.2mm	
	Wettest Day:	23.5mm	1st

September 2024: Unsettled start to the month. Fine, dry and settled mid-month. Unsettled and wet towards the end of the month. Overall, rather warm with rainfall slightly below average.

October 2024: A very wet 'day' (23.5 mm) which amounted to 46% of the month's total rainfall. Most of this falling overnight 30/9 - 1/10. Apart from the 1st, it was a relatively dry, mild, cloudy, benign month. High pressure dominant during the second half of the month.

Kindly provided by Richard Hinton. See the latest weather and historical Hepworth weather data at <http://j.mp/HepworthWS>

Hepworth Angels

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We are a local, informal, friendly garden club. Green Fingers meetings are held at Hinderclay Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in the evening. Annual membership subscription is £15 and our monthly meeting fees are £3 for members (and £5 for non-members) with refreshments included. You would be most welcome to join us.

11th December - CHRISTMAS SOCIAL & Finger Buffet

15th January - GRAVEL GARDENS

By Marc Mayhern of Beth Chatto's Garden

19th February - THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ORCHIDS

By Rob Brett, Curator of RHS Hyde Hall

+ much, much more.

For more information, ring Val Hobson: 01359 251977

TRAVELS DOWNUNDER - A REMINISCENCE

Part 23

Having left them at the scenic Carnarvon Gorge, our travellers are nearing the end of their adventures...

We are nearing the end of our epic trip now and are only a couple of weeks away from our starting point at Maroochydore.

After leaving Carnarvon Gorge we carried on southwards passing through Injune to the town of Roma, a large Outback Queensland town. This is cattle country and Roma boasts the largest cattle sale yards in the southern hemisphere. We made a point of going along to the sale yards on a sale day and it was truly fascinating, a really entertaining free day out! We got talking to an old fella who told us he was a hobby farmer, meaning he only had a small property and only about a hundred head of cattle, which is considered small by Aussie standards. He was there to sell some of them. He used a local agent who handled the sale for him and his sale took barely a minute or two. It is all very fast and furious and the auctioneer walks on gangways above the cattle pens and before you know it another herd is sold.

From Roma we made our way to Toowoomba up on the Darling Downs, and after a couple of nights there we finally returned to the very first campsite we stayed at right at the start of our trip ten months before, at Crows Nest. When we checked in there we told the manager the story of our epic trip and that we had started and finished at their campsite, and that evening in the communal camp dining room we got a round of applause from the other campers amid shouts of “well done to the Poms who have just completed a circumnavigation of our wonderful country”.

From Crows Nest we decided to take a few days R & R at the beach and headed for the wonderfully named Tin Can Bay. Three nights, and a couple of days lazing on the beach watching the fishing boats, we finally headed off back to our son's home in Maroochydore, job done, we had successfully encircled the whole country. What an epic adventure, the memories will stay with us forever, and also the many friends we made along the way and are still in touch with to this day.

Some statistics:

We traveled a total of 38,000 kilometres.

We used 4,850 Litres of fuel

Which cost Au\$ 6,800

It took us 10 months, and, apart from when I played golf, we were together 24/7 for 10 months, a true test of any marriage!

So that's the end of my reminiscences, and as they say Downunder, “catch ya later”.

John Carpenter

PASSION FOR PIGEONS - Part 5

Just to give readers an insight into how pigeons are raced. There are 2 basic methods Natural and Widowhood.

With Natural system the pigeons are paired together and sent to the races either sitting on eggs or feeding babies.

The widowhood system both sexes can be raced with the sexes being kept apart and only get together for some fun on the return from the race. (Anyone who has worked away from home will get the gist of what I mean).

Pigeons are really resilient to survive and hold up if lost, and survive feeding from bird feeders etc until they feel fit enough to leave. A change of wind direction or a thunderstorm that clears the heat out of the air usually results with birds returning after said events.

Regarding racing there are 3 main levels in this country.

1. Club racing where fanciers race against other fanciers in their area.
2. Federation racing against other fanciers in their county and finally
3. National racing which is self-explanatory.

My son and I race all 3 which most fanciers do. We belong to The Diss & District for club racing, The Norfolk & Suffolk Championship Club for Federation racing, and The North Road Championship Club which broadly covers from Retford down to London.

The preferred route at the present time is North into Scotland as far as Lerwick approximately 550 miles.

We used to fly South into France with The British International Championship Club as far as Pau - 623 miles, but due to legislation since leaving The EU, this has become too expensive for us.

So locally, who have we that has done exceptionally well? Our own Jimmy Davis won the BICC when racing in London. Pete & Terri Rogers of Hopton won the NRCC twice when living at a different location. Mauri Ward from East Harling won the NRCC from Lerwick. The late great Brian Long from Gipping won the BICC twice - once being from Barcelona! One of the best sprint men (up to 200 miles) lives at Attleborough - Bob Fenech.

Sadly the best we have done to date is win 3 separate Federation races with 3 different pigeons all on the same day.

May I take this opportunity of wishing everybody a very Happy Christmas.

Next time Snowy and the knocking shop, and an old school fanciers' methods

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Merry Christmas

Hepworth Pensioners' Christmas Lunch



10th December
12.00 for 12.30 at the Pavilion

Join us for:

Christmas turkey lunch with vegetables

Christmas pudding and custard or trifle [pre booked on ordering tickets]

Tea and coffee

Please bring along the drinks of your choice

It is our intention, through *Hepworth 2 Enjoy's* fund raising this year, to offer a free lunch to those over 65. However, if you feel able, we would appreciate a donation at your discretion.

Tickets available from *Linda Walsh* on 01359250014 by no later than 3rd December.