

# Hepworth Herald

Issue 46~

April 2025



Kishore Rajput

POTTER'S

ALL SEASONS GARDEN SERVICES

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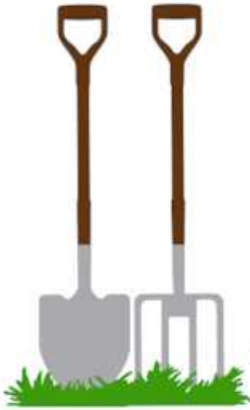
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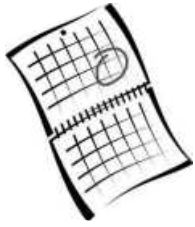
collection also available from

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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](mailto:hepworthherald@gmail.com)

<b>Hepworth Art Group</b>	Every Mon @1000-1300 » Hepworth Pavilion
<b>Village Voices</b>	Every Mon @1900 » Hepworth Pavilion. p12
<b>Hepworth Coffee Morning</b>	1st & 3rd Thu @1030 » Hep. Pavilion. p14
<b>Village Service</b>	6th April@0930 » St Peter's
<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	17th April@1930 » Hepworth Pavilion
<b>Hepworth Recreation Hall AGM</b>	22nd April@1900 » Hepworth Pavilion. p9
<b>Suffolk Mobile Library</b>	24th April@1545 - 1600 » See p4
<b>Holy Communion</b>	4th May@0930 » St Peter's
<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	15th May@1930 » Hepworth Pavilion
<b>Suffolk Mobile Library</b>	22nd May@1545 - 1600 » See p4
<b>Lazybones Carboot &amp; Table Sale</b>	1st June@1000 » Hepworth Pavilion

## 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>

# 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 1545 and 1600**

The coming village visits will be on

- 24<sup>th</sup> April
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May

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



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.

**16th April** - CONTAINER PLANTING

By Helen Hillier (Talk and Demo)

**21st May** - `THE LODGE`

at Bradfield St. Clare (Afternoon Visit)

+ much, much more.

For more information, ring Val Hobson: 01359 251977

## From the Rectory



Dear Friends,

As I sit down to write this in the middle of March I'm struck by how much uncertainty fills our world at the moment. Every time we turn on the news, there seems to be more and more to worry about. The cost-of-living crisis is affecting us all. I know many in our villages are feeling the pressure, whether it's the cost of heating, the price of food, or the uncertainty of jobs... life feels like a struggle.

And it's not just the economy that unsettles us. We live in a time of global instability, political upheaval, and social change that can feel overwhelming. Many fear for the future, fear for loved ones, fear they will not having enough and it's hard to hold on to hope.

As Christians, we are called to be people of hope... not a shallow, wishful thinking kind of hope, but a deep and certain hope rooted in the very heart of our faith. That hope is what we celebrate at Easter. Easter tells us that, no matter how dark things seem, the story is not over!

The disciples must have thought that everything was lost on Good Friday when Jesus was crucified. Their dreams were shattered. They were afraid, uncertain, and in despair. And yet, in the quiet of the tomb, something beyond their understanding was happening. Death was being undone. Life was stirring. And wonderfully on Easter morning, the impossible happened... Jesus rose from the dead!

The resurrection of Jesus is not just a historical event; it is the foundation of our faith. It tells us that darkness does not win, that fear is not the end, and that God is still at work even when we cannot see it. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the power that sustains us today.

This does not mean that life will suddenly become easier or that all our troubles will disappear. But it does mean that we do not walk through them alone. Jesus is risen, and because He lives, we can face tomorrow. Because He lives, we can have hope... not in the economy, not in governments, not in things that fade, but in the unchanging love and faithfulness of God... a God who loves and cares for each and every one of us.

So, as we journey through this season of uncertainty, let's hold onto that hope. Let's be a community that lifts one another up, that offers kindness in hard times, and that reminds the world around us that the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... and know that because of Jesus we can have hope.

Happy Easter,  
God Bless, Cathy

# Spring & Summer on the Farm

Spring is my favourite time of year. Especially late spring, when the grass is growing tall and everything feels very green all of a sudden. We are in one of the driest parts of the country though and, spring growth has been hit hard in many of the past few years by hot, dry weather. Our heavy clay soil soon turns to rock and roots find it hard to penetrate it.

This is where our new herbal leys seem to be coming into their own, We began to include them in our rotation as a source of nectar for pollinators, but they also include deep rooting species that help to break up our clay and reach the water beneath. With any luck, a drought proof crop that lasts into the autumn.

Shetlands do well on rougher grazing, but when the ewes need a pick me up after lambing, the variety, and drought resistance that the leys provide has been invaluable. The crop is a mix of grasses, herbs and legumes. The grasses for energy, the legumes for protein and the herbs for micronutrients and minerals. The mix also contains anthelmintics such as Chicory and Birdsfoot trefoil which are helping to keep our worm burden down without drugs and drenches.

As part of our Countryside Stewardship agreement we need to make sure that the mix of plants remains varied throughout the life of the crop. Leys can last for many years if looked after. We use a rotation system to balance the need for grazing with our agreement to provide a source of nectar throughout the summer. This way there are always sections in flower from May through to the end of July. Moving the Shetlands on regularly avoids them eating out their particular favourites, like Sainfoin. The sheep love browsing through the growth and always know when it is time to move on. Electric fencing has been the key to sectioning off fields and most of the sheep follow the rules.

We are still working out the timings and sometimes the growth of the herbal ley gets away from us, or the sheep stay in a particular section for a bit longer than they should. My father constantly reminds me that sheep should only hear the church bells once between moves and he is generally right. I will admit it is not the simplest system, and until we get it right we will be putting up and taking down a lot of fencing. However, the sheep are really enjoying the variety and the lambs are growing on well. The ewes are also recovering from lambing quickly. We do need to make sure that sheep are not going straight onto the rich growth from poor ground but so far haven't found this to cause a problem. Putting the ewes onto the ley earlier in the year will also help the transition. Lambing rates don't seem to have been affected by the clover included in the mix, but often the ewes have moved on to rougher grazing by tugging in November. It might take a bit longer to tell whether the leys have had a direct impact on the quality of our fleeces but we are happy with the last few year's shear.

Next year we will aim to lamb in the herbal ley fields rather than by the farmhouse. I am almost confident enough to do that now! This will give the ewes a head start before the lambs arrive and they can move around the fields until the autumn when we will give the leys a break.

Kath Shearer – Lings Shetlands, Hepworth, Suffolk

[A version of this article originally appeared in the magazine of the Shetland Sheep Society]

# Speed Indicator Devices



## Device No. 1 at A143 end of The Street

105 days from 11/12/2024 to 25/03/2025.

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

Total number of vehicles:- **46653**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **28.5mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **12277 (26.32%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **420** 50mph and above:- **8**

Highest speed recorded:- **63mph**

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

Total number of vehicles:- **38356**

Average speed for ALL vehicles:- **29.2mph**

Total number of vehicle speeds above 30 mph:- **14688 (38.29%)**

No. of incidents 40mph and above:- **781** 50mph and above:- **18**

Highest speed recorded:- **60mph**

## Device No. 2 at Barningham end of The Street

This device has developed a fault, and we are awaiting repair or replacement.

## Speedwatch Along The Street:



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

Jan. 2025: 2 sessions 7 vehicles logged max speed = 41 mph

Feb. 2025: 1 session Nil Return

## **HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HEPWORTH PAVILION - THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2025 @ 7.30pm**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO), District Cllr Carol Bull (CB), One member of the public

25/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

25/14 APOLOGIES: None.

25/15 PUBLIC FORUM: The member of the public complained about the strong smell from the farm at the top of Church Lane. CB agreed to discuss this with West Suffolk Council Environmental Health.

25/16 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO BOTH DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS: The meeting noted the update from County Cllr Spicer which had been pre-circulated. District Cllr Bull provided the following update:

- Devolution and Local Government Review. The main work of West Suffolk Council is focused on this review which could see elections for a Mayor covering Norfolk and Suffolk in 2026, for a shadow unitary council(s) in 2027 and for any new unitary structure in 2028. The review would see no changes to Town and Parish Councils.

25/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the meetings held on 16 January 2025 had been previously circulated and it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.

25/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Minute 25/04: 16 January 2025 – Support Our Buses. LR reported the new 73A route would start on 24 February 2025 and will come through Hepworth in the morning and afternoon to facilitate transport to Thurston College. Leaflets showing the new route and timings would be distributed by volunteers.

Minute 25/09: 16 January 2025 – Signs. CB agreed to discuss the positioning of the Clarkes sign with Planning Enforcement to reflect visibility concerns raised at the meeting.

Minute 25/09: 16 January 2025 – ‘Stables’ Field. The meeting noted the response of West Suffolk Council Planning Enforcement dated 10 February 2025 to the Parish Council’s earlier Note of Concern in relation to activity at ‘stables’ field. CB agreed to clarify why the response cannot be made public.

Minute 25/11: 16 January 2025 – Events Noticeboard. The Chair highlighted that the new events noticeboard only came with a single key and required magnetic holders. It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase 20 magnets and 3 extra keys for the board.

25/19 HIGHWAYS MATTERS: It was agreed that:

- The Chair would report overhanging trees on Church Lane via the Suffolk Highways Reporting tool.

- LR would report overgrown hedges on pavements along The Street via the Suffolk Highways Reporting tool.

25/20 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £4,205.35, savings account



balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £3,100 current account and £7,000 savings account). No payments required authorisation.

25/21 PLANNING MATTERS: Shepherds Grove Masterplan. The meeting noted that Jaynic were developing a Masterplan for the Shepherds Grove site to align with the objectives of the relevant West Suffolk Council concept statement (part of the Local Plan).

25/22 CORRESPONDENCE: a. Devolution and Local Government Review. The meeting noted the update from Suffolk County Council that had been previously circulated. Future review updates can be found at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/devolution/>.

b. West Suffolk Civic Dinner. The meeting noted the invite from West Suffolk Council that had been previously circulated.

25/23 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN: • Bus Shelter. LR queried whether the bus shelter needed to be repositioned following the change in bus route. The Chair agreed to discuss the issue further with County Cllr Spicer.

• Flowers. It was agreed to refund LR the cost of flowers for the planter near the old village sign up to £30 on production of receipt.

25/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was agreed that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 20 March 2025 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm.

Andy Osman, Parish Clerk

27 February 2025

## **AGM**

Hepworth Recreation Hall Management Committee

**Tuesday 22nd April 2025 at 7pm in the Pavilion**

Please do come along - we need your support

We are lucky in Hepworth to have organisations meeting regularly in the Pavilion - the coffee morning, the singing Village Voices, the Art Club, the Parish Council and 2 football clubs (moles allowing!), and the Hall is always available for hire for other private functions.

Our Village Hall cannot legally function without a minimum of 5 volunteers on the management committee to organise the day to day running, and also to make improvements to the fabric of the building. We would love to welcome new volunteers so that we can keep the building open and thriving to support everyone that uses it

We look forward to seeing you all on the night and hearing any suggestions for the future

**Thank you!**

## Hepworth Weather (as measured on The Street)

January 2025:	Max. Temp:	12.4°C	1st
	Min. Temp:	-5.7°C	12th
	Total Rainfall:	45.6mm	
	Wettest Day:	7.7mm	4th
February 2025:	Max. Temp:	16.6°C	21st
	Min Temp:	-3.6°C	6th
	Total Precipitation:	35.1mm	
	Wettest Day:	8.4mm	26th

**January 2025:** A rather dull and cold month with average precipitation. Some sharp frosts at night in the first 12 days. 11th - an ice day; maximum temperature -0.1°C.

**February 2025:** A dry, calm anticyclonic month although often cloudy. Temperatures around average with some frost at night when skies cleared. Mean pressure was high at 1022.5 mb. (30.19") Some warm days occurred towards the end of the month. 6th: One of the highest pressure readings ever recorded at this station. 1045.6 mb (30.88")

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

## Rosemary Vernon

The internment of the late Rosemary Vernon will be taking place at St Peters Church in Hepworth on 10th April 2025 at 2.30pm.

A gathering will be held at Hepworth Pavilion afterwards, where we can remember Rosemary over refreshments.

Anyone who knew Rosemary and wishes to attend the internment or gathering are welcome. For more information contact Matt Vernon 07752 953316.

# Services across the Benefice for Holy Week

**MAUNDY THURSDAY - 17th APRIL**

**Market Weston - 7pm - Reflective Holy Communion**

**GOOD FRIDAY - 18th APRIL**

**Stanton - 10.30am - The Easter Story - Crafts - Hot Cross Buns**

**Coney Weston - 2pm - Hour at the Cross**

**EASTER SUNDAY - 20th APRIL**

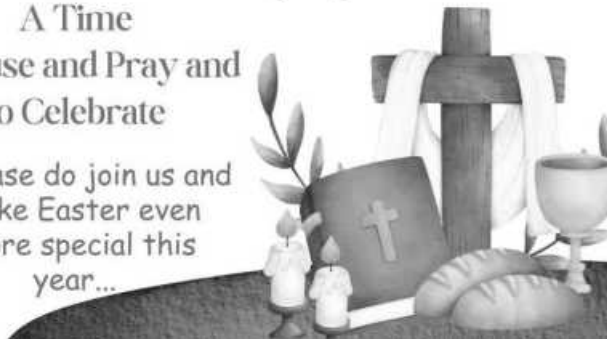
**Barningham - 9.30am - Family Holy Communion**

**Market Weston - 11am - Family Holy Communion**

**Stanton - 11am - Family Holy Communion**

A Time  
to Pause and Pray and  
to Celebrate

...Please do join us and  
make Easter even  
more special this  
year...





## Village Voices

Announcing the relaunch  
of the Hepworth Angels!



This is an open invitation to join **Village Voices** our welcoming group of local people from Hepworth and surrounding villages who enjoy singing and/or playing an instrument as an accompaniment.

No auditions required. All abilities welcome.

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## **PASSION FOR PIGEONS - Part 7**

By the time you read this our breeding season will be in full swing. Our first bred young birds will be flipping about the garden learning how to use their wings. Our birds at this time of year are at their most vulnerable with birds of prey mainly the sparrowhawk and the peregrine. The sparrowhawk seems to attack them as they alight the loft or whilst walking around the top of the loft using surprise as it's main form of attack whereas the peregrine seems to take them straight out of the air. I watch the sparrowhawk daily attack my neighbours bird feeder where blackbirds, starlings, finches etc are taken on a regular basis. This is all part of nature and although I accept it I don't like it.

I first met Snowy 30 odd years ago. As my mother-in-law got older her 4 daughters would take it in turns to visit her on Sundays, help out with the house and cook her a Sunday roast. Lamb and pointy cabbage would always be on the menu followed by apple pie and custard. I would always go and visit my best friends in London, Ling Bros. Snowy would always turn up and have a Sunday dinner. A retired dustman or bin man as they were called, he was in his 60s but was fit as a fiddle. He raced pigeons to his 1st floor flat in Canning Town. There was no access to his garden so everything had to be carried up the stairs from his garden, through his flat and down the stairs to his front door. He trained and raced his birds everyday so he made the journey about 10 times a day. Snowy had lost his wife a few years earlier but always had an eye for the ladies. On meeting Snowy his opening line was "How's Josie? You looking after her" I knew exactly what he meant and just smiled. A few years later he started visiting the local knocking shop once a week and openly spoke about his encounters.

Now all pigeon fanciers have too many birds at the end of the year and Snowy would ask me for them. I put the word out locally and agreed to take them to London in 4 weeks time. They had to be alive and I think they ended up at the local Chinese or Indian. This particular weekend I turned up with a basket of pigeons. He only got £1 a piece but it saved us culling them. "How many you got" Snowy asked."28" I replied. "Shame you could not find another 2 and I could visit my favourite place" He laughed. Can't remember if I gave him the other £2. Snowy died in his late eighties and is a character I will never ever forget

Until next time



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or 07763 720 591

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