

SEPTEMBER 2025**No. 527**

Autumn seems to have come early this year. Many of the plants in my garden are already “over” and some are looking decidedly desiccated. The hosepipe ban has, of course, prevented any rescue mission to re-hydrate so I trust to nature that most, if not all, will recover and re-appear next year. Yorkshire Water has recently been allowed to draw water from the Rivers Wharfe and Ouse. This should protect customers from further restriction, but it is unclear what effect it will have on the wildlife and natural balances of those rivers. Whilst we trust that nature will serve us by returning to balance in the long term, it is a gamble that we have put into the hands of a company motivated by financial gain. Yorkshire Water’s responsibility lies directly with financial reward for investors, not our water security or our natural world. Whilst we all trust that nature will protect and preserve us, are we so sure that Yorkshire Water will do the same?

Julie Burnham
57 Far Bank
Shelley
07887774057

or

Denise Edinburgh
77 Westerley Lane
Shelley
602905

Please contact Lynn Parsley (see below) regarding the submission of adverts:

Please note that changes to cover and yellow page adverts can only be made in the January, April, July and October editions.

Advert changes for October 2025 MUST be notified by September 1st 2025

Copy for the magazine may be submitted in hand written or typed form. If you produce your work on a word processor, it would be helpful if you could e-mail it to us at shelleymag@hotmail.com rather than printed out, and **please avoid formatting your work** - we will set the article out appropriately.

Articles must be saved as a WORD file (.doc) or as a text file (.txt), NOT as a PDF file, otherwise we may have to return it and publication will be delayed or may not be possible. Please send any photographs as jpegs., (JPGs)

If you need any further help or information, please contact Julie or Denise. **Please ensure that you always give your name and a means of contacting you on any item intended for publication.** It is our policy not to publish anonymous copy, although names may be withheld on request. Please note that opinions and articles in the magazine are not necessarily those of the editors

Roving Reporter,
Advertising Manager

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Claire Moore

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Bookings for the Village Hall to be made with the Bookings Secretary:

Carol Rowatt bookings-shelleyvillagehall@outlook.com 07901 701 868

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

SHELLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please note there was no meeting in August.
Next meeting Monday 8th September.

Afternoon tea, Saturday 4 October 2025 at Shelley Shelley Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm. £15.

This is another charity fundraiser. This time for our new Mayor, Councillor Liz Smaje who is raising money for adults and children with autism and ADHD. Again, Andrea's family and friends will be catering. There will be a raffle. Donations for the raffle will be very welcome, in advance. Please contact me if you wish to attend.

Malcolm MacDonald



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The nights will soon be drawing in and it's time to get winter ready.
No need to worry, we've got you covered.

From 1st September 2025
Pregnant women
All children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2025

From 1st October 2025
Those aged 65 years and over
Those aged 18 years to under 65 years in clinical risk groups

Appointments are now available now for you to book online.
If you do not have online access, please speak to Reception

We have enough vaccinations for all our eligible patients

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Shelley Educational Foundation

If you are about to go into
Higher Education
or start an Apprenticeship
and live in Shelley

you may be eligible for a small grant to help you buy
books, tools, specialised clothing or other materials
necessary for your course.

Grant Application Forms can be downloaded from
<https://shelleyvillage.org/History-of-Shelley-Educational-Foundation/>

Requested via email from

shelleyeducationalfoundation@gmail.com

Or from the SEF secretary Ann Priestman, 18 Cleveland Way
Tel: 01484 604486

The small grants are available regardless of family income and available
to those under the age of 25

Closing date for applications Friday 3rd October 2025

The grants are targeted at continuing education beyond A Levels and B Tecs

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Have Your Say on Police Social Media

We want to hear from YOU!

How do you use social media to stay informed about policing in your area? What works well—and what could be better?

Take just a few minutes to complete the national survey and help shape how your local police connect with communities online.

<https://www.police.uk/.../2025/survey/social-media-survey/>

With the warmer weather, many of us are spending more time in our gardens — but so are opportunistic thieves.

Whether it's bikes, tools, or garden equipment, sheds often contain valuable items. Please take a moment to check your shed security:

- ✓ Use a strong padlock
- ✓ Keep valuables out of sight
- ✓ Consider motion-sensor lighting or alarms
- ✓ Lock up after use — even during the day



Bev Wilson
Force Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator (Kirklees)
West Yorkshire Police
Holmfirth Police Station
Huddersfield Road
Holmfirth. HD9 3JL

To report a crime, please ring 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency or report to



MAGAZINE NEWS

Shelley Magazine - Subscriptions

Yes its that time of the year again your annual magazine subscriptions are due. Over the next few weeks your Shelley magazine distributor will be knocking on your door to collect your money. The cost of the magazine is still £6.00 for the year, so please try to put cash on one side for them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers that distribute the magazine, and to everyone involved with anything to do with keeping this magazine running. Hopefully we can run it for a few more years.

Many thanks,
Claire Moore (Matthews).

Our cover illustration is by Bill Stokes

The annual cost of a 7cm x 7cm advertising box in the magazine is now only £60.00 for a whole year.

Ring Lynn on 07930 573 860 for details.

If you have a new business venture or are developing and growing an existing local business then we want to hear from you. We intend to promote local business by featuring information articles that will highlight the hard work that goes on in and around our village. These will be one-off articles that will be included in the Shelley Mag as and when we have space. To have such an article included, please contact our roving reporter, Charlotte Hall. Her e-mail is charlotte_hall@hotmail.co.uk

Our nearest recycling centre details:

Bromley Farm, Upper Cumberworth (off Barnsley Road), Huddersfield, HD8 8N

Open Friday - Tuesday, Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Summer

Weekdays: 8am to 5pm
Saturday: 8am to 4pm
Sunday: 8am to 4pm

Winter

Weekdays: 8am to 4pm
Saturday: 8am to 4pm
Sunday: 8am to 4pm

CHURCH PAGES

Services September 2025

Regular Services:

- 7th Upper Cumberworth 11.15am – No Service at Emmanuel
- 14th Emmanuel Shelley 9.30am
- 21st Emmanuel Shelley 9.30am
- 28th Upper Denby 9.30am - No Service at Emmanuel

Service times correct at time of going to press. Check on church web site for up to date information: www.emmanuelchurchshelley.co.uk

Wednesday 2.00pm 3rd^h and 17th A short service of Holy Communion at Emmanuel Church, followed by refreshments and a chat everyone welcome. If you need a lift to the Wednesday services, please ring Carol Robertshaw

Thursday 18th September 2pm – 4pm Handbell ringers and Open Tower please see separate ad.


Saturday 18th October Artisan/Bric-a-brac sale. If you would like a table £10 please contact any Church member or email Sue Holden at holdensuesy@aol.com

Church Contacts

Rev. Lindsey Barber lindsey.barber@leeds.anglican.org 07920687157

Baptisms & Weddings Carol Robertshaw 01484 860657

Funerals Stephen Hughes 01484 605755



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18th September 2.00pm to 4pm
EMMANUEL CHURCH SHELLEY INVITE YOU
TO:
A HANDBELL DEMONSTRATION AND OPEN
TOWER



VISIT THE RINGING CHAMBER AND HAVE A
GO AT TRADITIONAL BELL RINGING
YOU WILL BE MADE VERY WELCOME



Come and listen to the Handbells and enjoy
refreshments.



CLUBS AND GROUPS

Shepley Bird and Wildlife Group New Programme for 2025 -2026



On Wednesday 3rd September we start our new programme of talks and field visits when members gather at Cliffe House, Coach House to hear a talk by Wildlife Photographer Ray Brown on The Art of Living Together.

If you are interested in wildlife and enjoy programmes like Springwatch and the new series narrated by David Attenborough called Parenthood, why not give our meetings and field visits a try? We are a friendly and informal group with a mix of knowledge so you can join as a complete beginner, [we all started this way] and we will guarantee that it will not be long before you are enjoying the thrill of seeing beautiful birds and wonderful wildlife close up, and in glorious colour. We can even supply you with binoculars to help you enjoy the experience which, like all of our field trips is free.

Our village group was founded in 1987 and its popularity remains undimmed. In fact, there are some founder members who regularly attend the meetings and also participate in the field trips and mini breaks to sites further away. So, if you want to improve your mental and physical health the Shepley birders would seem to have found the perfect recipe for success.

The new programme will be available in all the local libraries from the beginning of September so why not come to our first meeting on Wednesday September 3rd. For a £3.00 contribution you are welcome at any of our meetings or £15.00 will give you annual membership.

Our indoor talks are of the highest calibre but are always accessible and informal. The topics will be varied including getting a better understanding of the flora and fauna that we all enjoy in the U.K. This season we are fortunate to have secured an internationally recognised wildlife photographer as well as keynote speakers who will be able to improve our knowledge and understanding of endangered species that we can all assist by learning some basic conservation skills.



The 2025/2026 indoor season of talks commences on Wednesday September 3rd 2025, at 7.30pm in the Coach House at Cliffe House and runs from September to April.

Membership is £15.00 per year, or you can just dip into individual talks as a visitor for £3.00.

Field visits are open to everyone free of charge and full details of these and all our talks will be available in our monthly magazine articles and programmes that will be distributed to local libraries or by request using the contact details below. We look forward to welcoming you.

Contacts details: email: shepleybirders@yahoo.com Tel: Chris Marks 01484 608652

Shepley WI September 2025

Midsummer mocktail madness was in the air at our July members' meeting, at which we worked in teams to mix and sample a range of refreshing, fruity mocktails, with the favourite being a close call between Sangria and 'Sham-pagne'.



As is our custom, we celebrated the 'end of term' with a delicious buffet lunch, this summer marking 110 years of the WI. Members wore purple, white and green corsages and outfits, the colours traditionally associated with suffrage.



Striders enjoyed good weather and a cultural experience on their perimeter walk around Yorkshire Sculpture Park, whilst Strollers ambled along the old railway line and had lunch at Pot House Hamlet, Silkstone.



Always keen to plan ahead, some of our Crafters were already thinking about Christmas at the July Crafts and Crumbs meeting. Woolly hats for chocolate oranges proved a very popular idea!

Following the summer break, our next members' meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 17th September, at which we will be learning about apiculture with Steve Thompson and Derrie O'Sullivan from the Huddersfield and District Beekeeping Association.



If you'd like to find out more about what we do, please contact Debra on 07773169535 or email Rosemary at rjandgeoff@tiscali.co.uk, have a look at our Instagram page @The_Shepley_WI or just pop along to one of our meetings. You can attend up to three meetings each year as a visitor, paying £5 per meeting (which includes a cuppa, cake and a raffle ticket). Hope to see you there!

FROM JADE BOTTERILL, OUR MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

I wanted to share a few highlights from what I've been up to locally.

I had the pleasure of visiting Highburton First School, where it was clear just how much care and effort goes into creating a brilliant learning environment. The staff are doing an incredible job, and the children were an absolute credit to them, polite, clever and confident (and eager to debate cats vs dogs!). A lovely reminder of the strength of our local schools.

I also want to congratulate the organisers of Shelley Gala and the Shelley Garden Festival, especially given the unforgiving weather! Events like this - which bring together young and old members of our community - are vital to our area. From the First School Choir to Scissett Youth Band and the Gala Queen, it was brilliant to have local young people entertaining the community while raising money for good causes.

I was proud to mention the Gala, and the volunteers who run it, in the House of Commons last month. Without the hard work of these dedicated volunteers, these events wouldn't be possible. Thank you to each and every one of you - from clearing up the smash crockery to making contingency plans for the weather - our community would be less vibrant without you.

I met with the fantastic team at Natural Kirklees who support more than 100 voluntary groups across our area. It was so inspiring to hear about the work they're doing to protect and grow local green spaces, so future generations can enjoy them. If you would like to get involved, their website has a section where you can find your local group and get in touch.

I also had the opportunity to sit down with local bus operator, Transdev to discuss the challenges and opportunities around public transport in our area. We talked about local routes and the importance of keeping our villages connected, especially for those who rely on buses to get to work, school, medical appointments, or simply to stay in touch with friends and family. I'll continue working closely with Transdev and local communities to push for services that are dependable and meet the needs of residents across our villages.

This meeting was followed by the announcement of West Yorkshire's Bus Service Improvement Plan, which sets out an ambitious vision for better buses in our area. I was pleased that, following conversations I have had with our West Yorkshire Mayor, as well as the great campaigning of people locally, Kirklees will be one of the first areas to benefit from enhanced bus services.

If you have any issues I can support with, please contact me at jade.botterill.mp@parliament.uk. Take care and enjoy the rest of the summer.

KIRKLEES COUNCIL REPORT

Hello to all in Shelley

Writing in mid August, we are now firmly in the midst of what the media has for long termed the “silly season”. This came about because August is, for many, prime holiday season when government and local authorities operate on minimum staffing levels. Essentially, they just tick-over and we do not usually see major policy initiatives, which leaves the media scrambling around to fill column inches (or broadcast minutes) with whatever stories come to hand. Kirklees council is no exception, and is in semi-hibernation as I write.

Nonetheless I do hear rumours and whispers, from many different sources, and some at least are credible. Most importantly, I have been told by two different, well informed and absolutely unconnected people that it seems that Kirklees Council will escape functional bankruptcy. If true, and I have no reason to doubt this, that will bring great relief to the people of the Borough. The consequences of insolvency have been seen elsewhere to be dire, with government-appointed commissioners swooping in, pressing for staff redundancies and severe cuts in “discretionary” services (which means anything the council does over and above what it is obliged to do by law), and selling-off municipal assets such as sports facilities, community buildings and town halls before departing again.

These external commissioners have no remit to consider local sensibilities, traditions or aspirations, just the single-minded task of balancing the books before returning whence they came. They are most often senior accountants, an honourable profession but not one much noted for sentimentality. The Commissioner process, essential as it may be, is not a pretty one and nor is it painless. It will be in the best interests of us all to forego that experience!

Whilst the talk of avoiding effective bankruptcy is very welcome, I also hear that Kirklees is likely to seek further savings and reduce spending yet again. We are already seeing a marked reluctance to tackle “discretionary” issues such as weed control, and with two different departments (Greenspace and Highways) involved I have received sometimes contradictory advice on what will or will not be done. The path down the Whins to the school has recently seen encroaching weeds dealt with (Greenspace), but my request to have the shrubs down Red Hill (a crossover between Greenspace and Highways) cut back has so far generated nothing more than silence. In my experience, such silence often presages a changing policy, which does not augur well there.

Naturally, Shelley is not alone in experiencing cut-backs and delays in provisions. I have ten villages in my ward, and all have similar issues to confront. Likewise, Kirkburton ward is by no means unique in Kirklees. I have said several times now that there is a need of a DIY approach to many things. Truly, we are now in Lord Kitchener territory: **Your Country Community Needs You!**

There is scope for further cuts in Kirklees discretionary provisions, although it is likely that none would prove painless. Broad areas such as “community support” and ward funds might be vulnerable, as may be some sections of Highways spending. There is little to be gained by speculation, but some further reductions seem inevitable.

Meanwhile, I was talking to a senior Highways engineer about, amongst other things, the junction of Far Bank with Huddersfield Road. He readily agreed that the road markings there are in need of renewal, and seemed confident of being able to get on with that soon (we spoke on 11th August). The engineer was sincere, but I won't be celebrating that until I see the gleaming new markings!

With my best wishes to you all,

Bill (Bill Armer, Ward and Parish Cllr, tel 01484 314314, email bill@gmx.ca)



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This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

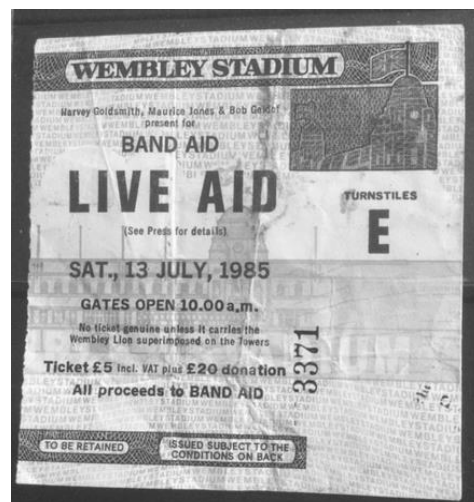


In the seemingly quiet town of Bere Knighton there is never a dull moment for Dr. Richard Forth. Not only does he have a hectic work schedule and an awkward friendship with his ex-girlfriend, but his wife, Barbara, is constantly ill and nobody knows what is wrong with her.

When Eric Dawson, a stranger, claims to have known Richard's second fiancée - a woman Richard claims does not exist, Barbara's health worsens and she isn't the only one. With bad luck spreading almost as quickly as bad news, it seems somebody is out to kill Barbara, and anyone else who gets in their way.

LETTERS

During her teens, Fiona's popular music resounded throughout our house! Among her favourites were David Bowie, Sting, Phil Collins and the Boom Town Rats. A few weeks after her 20th birthday Midge Ure and Bob Geldof got together to plan a pop concert to support people in Ethiopia suffering from a dreadful famine. It turned out to be the one biggest pop concert the world has ever seen! They had very little time to plan, recruit and rehearse acts to appear at their chosen venues, Wembley Stadium and JFK stadium, Philadelphia. At the time, my workplace was in Olympic Way, just 300 yards from Wembley Stadium. It was an opportunity not to be missed! At first I bought 2 tickets for Fiona and a friend and a week later, realising that this was going to be a huge, historic musical event, I bought tickets for myself and some work mates.



The concert started at 12 noon. First on were Status Quo with "Rockin' all over the world." Immediately, the crowd which had been building, with eager anticipation erupted and within seconds we were singing and dancing on the field and the terraces with people we had only just met! That set the tone for the the whole day! Fans had travelled from all over the country and abroad. Throughout the early afternoon we witnessed familiar pop stars perform and we became blaze as there were so many of them. At one point cameras panned on to a familiar couple in the stands and we saw the then Prince Charles and Diana on the large screen by the stage. At 3.18pm Phil Collins took to the stage, not with his band Genesis but he sang with three other pop stars and solo with his own piano accompaniment. He was on stage for 21 minutes before rushing off and taking off in Noel Edmond's private helicopter to Heathrow. Not long after, Concorde flew low over the stadium with Phil Collins on board bound for New York. His journey was not yet done, he was helicoptered the 150 miles to the JFK stadium in Philadelphia, to join the concert there. When he appeared on stage, he said, "Earlier today I was performing at Wembley Stadium, London, and now I am at the JFK stadium, Philadelphia. Funny old world innit?" Back at Wembley, it was a very hot afternoon. The fans were wearing tea shirts and thin apparel. For safety reasons, to keep us cool, we were sprayed, liberally, with cold water. This had a remarkable transforming effect!!

In the late afternoon, it was Queen's turn. Freddie Mercury had been advised by his doctor not to attend as he had a cold virus. Freddie ignored the advice and what transpired over the next 21 minutes was lauded as being the best pop gigs of all time! The sound engineer turned up the volume, the fans responded, singing and dancing to their favourite songs, clapping and punching the air in unison to "Radio Gaga". In his typical flamboyant, yes, arrogant style, Freddie Mercury made us believe that all that we had previously witnessed were merely warm up acts!

The concert continued with live coverage from the JFK stadium Philadelphia with the Beach Boys singing "Wouldn't it be nice?" The effect was uncanny! We had all been watching the acts on the big screen and continued to do so, singing and dancing to the music, it was as if the Beach Boys were actually in the stadium at Wembley!

The day never seemed to end! At dusk, the concert in Wembley ended with the grande finale, "Do they know it's Christmas? The fans carried on singing the chorus as they poured down the stadium steps on their way home to carry on watching the concert in Philadelphia on t/v until the early hours.

Recently Live Aid has been severely criticised on a number of issues. This is most unfair! The concert was cobbled together with the minimum amount of time by a handful of people. The performers and organisers gave up their time for nothing. It was a snapshot in a time 40 years ago!

It's worth saying that it was so easy to buy a ticket, just cash at the counter of the Wembley box office, no booking fee, no need to pay by card and no ballot for tickets! Recently, it was announced that a Concorde style supersonic plane is being considered to be put into production which could fly from Heathrow to New York in 4 hours. 40 years ago, Phil Collins did it in Concorde in 3 and a half hours!

Malcolm MacDonald

The Move

In 2007 I made the brave decision to move with my wife, daughter, son and dog from Rugeley in Staffordshire to West Yorkshire; anecdotally I was born in the West Midlands. As for West Yorkshire? Were the top three things on our list duly ticked? Firstly, the countryside and views were ticked immediately, as anyone would guess. Secondly, the people; proved to be as welcoming as I thought they would be. Literally every day or three I always get questioned about my broad 'Brummie' accent. Even after 18 years the all too recognisable West Midlands accent (Verbal scar) has not diluted in any way at all. But, not once has it been queried in a condescending way, in fact it's a great and fun topic of conversation. Last but not least is the food and great local produce especially if you have a passion for cooking.

The town of Rugeley was in decline becoming a shadow of the town it was when we had moved there. I do not apologise for admitting that in the 18 years of residing in Huddersfield me and my family have witnessed a similar decline, notably shops closing and restaurants simply re-naming their selves and so forth. I have mixed opinions regarding the Blueprint. That matters not other than to say if it 'doesn't work', I'm off.

Finally, I agree with some of the wonderful comments / contributions from folk and I too am amazed that such resources as the library for example is having to move to a new place for the second time! Bus station re-vamp? Money that could arguably be best spent elsewhere?



20th & 21st September 10-4

Art event, Cliffe house Shepley HD8 8DB

Free entry

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