

Meltham Mercury

Meltham Town Council's Newsletter - Autumn/Winter 2021

The Council offices are temporarily closed.
Please email the Clerk:
townclerk@melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk



 /AroundMeltham



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The Clerk to the Council is Michelle Chard.

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The Council offices are on the first floor of
The Carlile Institute (access via lift or stairs).

WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN/WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Autumn/ Winter edition of the Meltham Mercury. As summer draws to a close and we slowly emerge from the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, I hope that you have all been able to meet up with friends and family again. Your Town Council is now able to meet again on a face-to-face basis, so we are gradually getting back to normal. In this edition you will find information about our very first Picnic in the Park and an article by Alice Barker about her campaign to raise awareness of mobility issues; you can read about our school poster campaign on Road Safety Heroes and the July Litter Pick, an update on the Robert Ashton Memorial Park plans and details of services and events leading up to Christmas.



Civic Sunday – Report from the Town Mayor Clr Roberta Bampton



Town Mayor Clr Roberta Bampton

The Civic Sunday Parade and church service was held on Sunday 12th September. The parade was led by Meltham and Meltham Mills Band and included representatives from Meltham Fire Service, the Deputy Mayor of Kirklees Councillor Mahmood Akhtar (below), our local MP Jason McCartney, and Town Mayors and Chairs from several of our local Town and Parish Councils. The theme of the service in St Bartholomew's was to celebrate Meltham's community spirit, and also how people had found comfort in nature and our beautiful countryside during the COVID pandemic. I read a beautiful poem by local poet and Poet Laureate Simon Armitage written as a response to the restrictions imposed on us all during the pandemic. It is entitled 'The Song Thrush and the Mountain Ash' and describes the pain of a loved one who has forgotten the name of their favourite bird and favourite tree. Deputy Mayor Cllr Richard Noon spoke about the importance of the community spirit in Meltham. The service was led by the Reverend John Dracup, who delivered an entertaining and thoughtful service. The service was followed by a buffet for invited guests held in the Church Hall.



Deputy Mayor Clr Mahmood Akhtar

Meltham in Focus: Heritage Open Day



EDIBLE ENGLAND



heritage open days



Part of the Sweet Memories Exhibition

Meltham Town Council (MTC) was delighted to contribute to the Heritage Open Days at the Carlile Institute on 11-12 September 2021. The theme was Edible England and the Carlile's contribution was entitled **Sweet Memories**, a wonderful exhibition created by Ann Jurzyczyn from Meltham residents' comments, memories and artefacts of sweets and sweet shops.

Two other exhibitions were on display at the Carlile on 12 September: Meltham in Focus and Small Worlds: Meltham in Lockdown, a photographic exhibition by Olivia Hemingway which had been part-funded by MTC.



Meltham in Focus: folders and a selection of photographs

The collection of articles and photographs known as Meltham in Focus was digitised by MTC last summer and is now available to view online via the Council's website and Huddersfield Exposed. Unfortunately the planned live launch in the Summer of 2020 could not take place due to lockdown restrictions. Copies of the original folders were made as part of this project and will be stored in future in Meltham Library for all to view. For the occasion of the Heritage Open Days, MTC loaned a copy of the folders to the Carlile Institute plus a selection of photos which were enlarged and displayed in the Jubilee Room. The response was extremely positive and many people came by to view the exhibitions and enjoy a cup of tea.

Reducing Plastic Use at Christmas

Did you know that the majority of Christmas wrapping paper can't be recycled because of the plastic or foil content? The more expensive the paper is, the less likely it is that it can be recycled, you can test this by applying the scrunch test - scrunch a piece into a ball, if it stays scrunched up then it will most likely be recyclable but if it springs apart then unfortunately it can't be recycled. It is possible to buy both recyclable wrapping paper and environmentally friendly crackers, these are now available at many high street retailers as well as on the internet, or why not use brightly coloured pages from magazines to wrap up small gifts?



Pride of Meltham

We welcome nominations for Pride of Meltham Awards 2021-2022. They can be submitted at any time and are to recognise people in the local community for their outstanding achievements in all walks of life. Recipients are awarded a wooden shield depicting Meltham's Coat of Arms.

Detailed guidelines are available on the website or by contacting Michelle Chard, Clerk to the Council, townclerk@melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Picnic in the Park - Report from Town Mayor

We were delighted to be able to hold our Picnic-in-the-Park over the Bank Holiday weekend and see so many of you enjoying the wonderful weather and supporting the local traders and stall holders.

Big thanks to Meltham & Meltham Mills Band who excelled themselves with a varied programme of music much enjoyed by all. The event included a wide range of stalls, craft activities, Dixons ice-cream, Bewley's coffee and 3 Fiends Horse Box bar. The sports activities led by Kirk Jacob were hugely enjoyed by children (of all ages). There was also representation from several local community groups including Walkers are Welcome, Meltham Library volunteers and Crossroads. Our thanks to volunteers from the Friends of RAMP and Councillors for their work to make the day go smoothly. Special thanks to Bewley's for their pop-up coffee shop. All proceeds from the sale of Bewley's refreshments were given back to the Friends of RAMP for improvements to the park. We intend to hold a similar event next year so watch this space for further details.



Mobility Mindful

My name is Alice Barker. I'm 26 years old, a Meltham resident and have cerebral palsy and use a powered wheelchair.

If you've looked in the windows of the businesses on Huddersfield Road in the past few weeks, there's a chance you might have seen this poster (pictured right). It is part of Meltham's Mobility Mindful campaign which I started and I'd like to let you know a little bit more about what I'm trying to do. I'm an avid nature enthusiast and am a brand ambassador for the world-renowned N/a'an ku sê Foundation - a conservation organisation based in Namibia, Africa. Fortunately, I am lucky enough to have the beautiful Meltham countryside on my doorstep and nothing gives me greater pleasure than wandering around the village and surrounding hillside. On Tuesday, 27 July 2021 I delivered Proud to be Mobility Mindful flyers to the main businesses and public locations in Meltham and shared them on social media. To my surprise, the response was overwhelmingly positive; all the businesses agreed to put them up; the library asked if they could make photocopies and people were messaging me online asking if they could have one for their window. I was printing out flyers faster than I could keep up!

PROUD TO BE



MOBILITY
MINDFUL



The Mobility Mindful campaign is now visible all over Meltham. Its intention is simply to make the residents of Meltham more 'mindful' of the difficulties disabled people face: making sure entryways and walkways are clear with enough room for a wheelchair to pass; being more considerate where and when you park and being accommodating to disabled people if they need help are all ways to make Meltham more Mobility Mindful.

I am looking forward to working with Meltham Town Council to continue to raise awareness about these issues. If you would like to request a Mobility Mindful flyer, you can email me at: alicebarker145@gmail.com. As a community, we can work together to make sure that an exemplary standard of access is available to all disabled people.

Make Meltham a Destination of Choice

Meltham Town Council is working closely with Meltham Walkers are Welcome (MWA) to create opportunities to make Meltham a destination of choice for all those who love walking and being in the outdoors. Meltham was the feature town in the National Walkers are Welcome Newsletter in August. It highlighted the fact that MWA runs monthly free guided walks including the Blue Plaque trail which explores its rich architectural history.



On 14 May 2022 Meltham Walkers are Welcome (MWA) will be the host for the Northern Area Get Together. Meltham Town Council is delighted that MWA has been selected and look forward to working closely with them.

Meltham Litter Pick

After a long wait, Meltham Walkers are Welcome in conjunction with Meltham Town Council was able to hold a Litter-pick on 24 July 2021. We were delighted to welcome 17 volunteers who donated their time to collecting litter in areas central to Meltham. We chose the paths leading from Towngate, Station Street, Sunny Heys and Hey Doorstep Green towards to Morrisons supermarket and the paths around the store. In total our volunteers collected seventeen bin bags of rubbish which were promptly taken to the tip. Our thanks to Natural Kirklees for the loan of litter picking tools.

If you have an area that would benefit from a Litter Pick, please let us know. We would also like to expand the scope of the Pick so if you are interested in helping, please contact us via email: townclerk@melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk



Road Safety Heroes Poster Competition

Meltham Town Council is inviting all primary school children (between the ages of 4 to 11yrs) in Meltham, Helme and Wilshaw to design an A4 poster which celebrates the heroic work of road safety professionals. There will be a number of prizes contributed by ABG and Rosenbauer which will be presented by the Town Mayor at a prize giving event.



Information

Design an A4 poster using the tag line Road Safety Heroes using any materials (e.g. felt pen, pencil, crayon or paint). It needs to be eye catching. There are two age groups: KS1 (5-7yr olds) and KS2 (7-11yr olds). Submit your posters to participating schools or send to the Town Clerk, Meltham Town Council c/o Carlile Institute, Meltham HD9 4AE. Don't forget to write your name, age and contact details on the back so we can contact the winners. Unfortunately, we are unable to return the posters.

Deadline

Mon 29 November (for participating schools the deadline is Fri 26 November)

For further information please contact townclerk@melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk or look under the Notices section of the website.

Cllr Roberta Bampton, Town Mayor comments:

"This competition provides children with the opportunity to celebrate the work that road safety professionals undertake every day of the year and we hope that the winning poster will help get the message out."



Road Safety Heroes: Our supporters

Anthony Barnett of ABG said: 'We are excited to be supporting Meltham Town Council's poster competition about Road Safety Heroes. Some of our geosynthetic products are used to reinforce roads and provide a long-term repair of potholes and reflective cracking, so helping to improve road safety is something we have some relevant experience of.'

ABG Geosynthetics has been based in Meltham for over 30 years and is a market leader in the design, development, manufacture and technical support of high performance geosynthetic systems for use in a wide range of civil engineering, environmental and sustainable building projects. ABG uses 100% renewable energy for the manufacturing of its geocomposite and geocellular products such as Pozidrain and Erosaweb and it has recently been named on the Kirklees Top 100 companies list.



ABG wildflower green roof

ABG has many career opportunities for young people and is keen to inspire interest in sustainability and carbon saving through the greater adoption of geosynthetics instead of traditional construction methods. The company has this year been awarded a prestigious British Institution of Landscape Industries (BALI) award for its work to design and install the green roof at the recently opened Leeds Skelton Lake Motorway Services.



Ian Robertshaw from Rosenbauer UK said: 'We are delighted to be supporting the Road Safety Heroes project. We are offering a first prize of an on-site experience at our workshop in Meltham for the winner and their family. During the experience you will be able to look around our factory and get up close and operate the World-famous PANTHER airport rescue firefighting vehicle. The winner will also be provided with some Rosenbauer goodies to take away with them!'



Part of a global group, Rosenbauer UK has been based in Meltham since 2016. The company develops, produces and services fire vehicles and fire equipment for professional, industrial, plant and volunteer fire services. The PANTHER is one of the vehicles produced by Rosenbauer and is currently celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Over 70s Christmas Gift



Monday 6 December 10.00 - 4.00pm at Meltham Church Hall, Greens End Road

If you're 70yrs or over, come and collect your small Christmas gift on Mon 6 December in the Church Hall. Enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or hot chocolate and a mince pie in our pop-up Christmas café provided by local business Bewley's and meet some of your Town Councillors.

Wilshaw Village Hall Update from the Trustees

'We are pleased to report that we were successful with our application to the Common Good Trust for Grant Aid. They have pledged us a sum of £5,000. The Crossroads Centre has also given us a grant of £908.00 towards regeneration of the Hall. We have been busy with external and internal repairs and refurbishment

The original step and pedestrian gate have been salvaged and re-purposed which will make the former school yard safe for children as it will be fully enclosed. Stone flags have been laid to the front and side of the Hall, downpipes and gutters have been repaired, moss has been removed from the extension roof, stone mullions inside the Hall have been stripped and all walls in the main Hall have been stripped and replastered. The front door has been refurbished and coping stones and pinion have been re-seated. The emergency lighting has been brought up to current regulations.

All the above work has been done by volunteers apart from the electrical work!



Robert Ashton Memorial Park (RAMP)

Plans to refurbish the Robert Ashton Memorial Park which is owned and managed by Meltham Town Council (MTC) are coming together with assistance from landscape architects and Kirklees Council. MTC appointed Kirklees officers to develop strategic plans to support the refurbishment of key areas of the park which followed on from feedback collated in a survey earlier this year. Once we have draft plans in place they will be published in the Mercury and online when we will once again be seeking your feedback.

A number of small pieces of work are being carried out in the park, for example the removal of fencing around the play area, further repairs to equipment and play surfaces following the annual inspection of the play equipment. Funding for the refurbishment works is coming from money received from contributions from developers linked to the recent housing developments in Meltham (section 106 contributions) combined with funds from MTC reserves. The initial phase of works is estimated to be around £250,000.

ST BART'S CHURCH
Christmas MARKET
SATURDAY 4th DECEMBER
10am - 2pm
AT MELTHAM CHURCH HALL

- Perfumes/Cosmetics
- Jewellery
- Clothing
- James/Chairtyrs
- Cremicas
- Socks
- Unique Wood Gifts
- Cakes & Sweets
- Candies
- Hand-made Soaps
- Cards/Garland
- & Lots More!

Come along to get your unique Christmas gifts and support our local businesses

£1 ENTRY includes a FREE COFFEE or MILLED WINE AND A MINCE PIE

Christmas at the Carlisle
Sunday 5th December 2021
12pm till 4pm

Stalls include: Gifts, arts & crafts, beauty products and much more.

Featuring Santa's Snowglobe and the Gingerbread Cafe

JOIN US FOR A UNIQUE FESTIVE CONCERT

Far Cry Acapella & friends

Saturday 11 December
Carlisle Institute
Huddersfield Road
Meltham, HD9 4AG

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm START

Tickets £5 to include glass of mulled wine or fruit juice and a mince pie



What's On
in Meltham
Nov - Dec 2021

Christmas Church Services

- 27 November**, Christmas Tree Service
4.00pm, Meltham Methodist Church
- 12 December** All Age Nativity 10.30am, Meltham Methodist Church
- 12 December** Carol Service, 6.00pm St Mary's Church, Wilshaw
- 18 December** Christingle, 4.00pm Christ Church, Helme
- 19 December** Carol Service, 4.00pm St Bartholomew's Church
- 19 December** Carols by Candlelight,
6.00pm, Meltham Methodist Church
- 24 December** Crib Service, 4.00pm St James Church, Meltham Mills
- 24 December** Midnight Communion,
11.30pm St Bartholomew's Church
- 25 December Christmas Day**
9.30am St James Church, Meltham Mills
10.00a, Meltham Methodist Church (joined by Meltham Baptist)
10.00am Christ Church, Helme
11.15am St Mary's Church, Wilshaw

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 November

Christmas Tree Festival Meltham Methodist Church, Mill Moor Road
Craft stall, Christmas goods, a chocolate tombola
Refreshments including a soup lunch on Saturday 27 Nov

Friday 3 December, 6.30pm

Christmas Lights Switch-On outside St Bartholomew's Church
Some local businesses are remaining open in the town centre on the evening of Fri 3 December.
Check out bargains for Christmas. Please support your local businesses

Saturday 4 December, 10.00am-2.00pm

Christmas Fair Meltham Church Hall (opp St Bartholomew's Church)

Sunday 5 December, 4.00pm

Carols in the Park, Robert Ashton Memorial Park (off Huddersfield Road/ Meltham Mills Road)

Monday 6 December, 10.00am-4.00pm

Over 70s Gift Meltham Church Hall (opp St Bartholomew's Church)

Saturday 18 December, 7:30pm Carols in the Pub

Waggon and Horses Pub, Huddersfield Road

Carlile Institute

Saturday 13 Nov, 7.45pm*

Luke Daniels: award-winning singer/ songwriter formerly a member of Riverdance Orchestra **£7.50**

Sunday 5 Dec, 12.00 - 4.00pm

Christmas Fayre, Meltham Community Choir performs at 1.00pm Gifts, arts & crafts, beauty products.
Refreshments available **Free**

Saturday 11 Dec, 7.30pm*

Far Cry Acapella and Friends includes glass of mulled wine, fruit juice & a mince pie

*Tickets available from The Flower Box, on the door and online: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/carlile> **£5**