

Make Meltham Sparkle Continues to Fundraise for a Brighter Future



The volunteers behind Make Meltham Sparkle are continuing their fundraising efforts throughout 2026, we aim to further enhance our village and create an even more Christmassy feel for residents and visitors alike.

Our goal for 2026 is to install decorative silhouettes on flag posts and lampposts throughout Meltham, adding to the village's festive atmosphere and helping to create a distinctive sense of community pride.

This year, our volunteers have already organised a number of successful fundraising activities, including coffee mornings and a sponsored walk, with many more exciting events planned over the coming months.

We are always keen to welcome new members and supporters. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 6.30pm at the Meltham Liberal Club. Whether you would like to share ideas, support fundraising activities, or simply learn more about our plans, we would be delighted to see you.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday 29th August – Look out for our stall at Picnic in the Park. We'd love you to stop by, learn more about our work, and support our fundraising efforts.

Friday 25th September – Get into the festive spirit early at our Christmas Party for children and adults alike. Put

on your Christmas jumper, add a touch of sparkle, and join us for an enjoyable evening of festive fun at The Libs.

Stay Connected

To keep up to date with our latest events and activities, follow our Facebook page, Make Meltham Sparkle. You'll also find information displayed on posters throughout the village. Our email address is info@melthamsparkle.com

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us so far. Your generosity and community spirit make these projects possible.

Together, we look forward to helping Meltham shine even brighter in 2026.

Make Meltham Sparkle Bringing our community together and helping our village shine.

Meltham Fringe 2026 - Celebrating 60 years of Holmfirth Art Week!

Holmfirth Art Week is a local event with a national reputation, and one of the UK's Largest Open Art Exhibitions, Featuring over 400 exhibitors and over 2,000 artworks, plus dozens of fringe venues across the local area with thousands more works of art and craft.

Monday 6th July saw the return of the Meltham Fringe event for Art week, which is now in its fifth year. This year there were 50 venues taking part in fringe events across both the Holme Valley & Colne Valley, and Meltham was proud to host five of them, at The Carlile Institute, The Crossroads Centre, The Fourth Fiend, Wilshaw Village Hall & St Mary's Church.

Mayor of Meltham, Lisa Coates was invited to officially open this year's Meltham Fringe Event, Lisa was also thrilled to be re-introduced to volunteer & local artist Gilly Markham, who was Lisa's art teacher and form tutor during her time at Colne Valley High School

"As Mayor, it is an absolute honour to stand here and celebrate an event that brings so much vibrant creativity, energy, and community spirit directly into the heart of Meltham."

What makes Holmfirth Art Week truly remarkable, now incredibly celebrating its 60th anniversary year, is that it is so much more than a showcase of incredible talent. It is an event with an enormous heart, which has raised thousands of pounds for charity.

Firstly, I would like to thank our phenomenal artists: for sharing your passion, your vision, and your hard work with us. And secondly, a massive thank you to the volunteers, your dedication is the backbone of this entire week. You give your time so generously, and your dedication is what helps make Meltham Sparkle & Makes Meltham an awesome place to live.

Please explore & enjoy the incredible talent on display, Thank you."



Pictured here is Kate Buchanan (volunteer & organiser), Town Mayor Lisa Coates, Gilly Markham (volunteer & local artist) and Pat O'Brien

Floral Displays

Once again Meltham Town Council have had beautiful hanging baskets and planters installed around the centre of the town. Residents who took part in the Ask Meltham Consultation requested these, as part of our enhancement programme.



Mayors Charity

The Council is delighted to recognise the outstanding fundraising efforts of our Former Mayor, Cllr Ann Jurczyszyn, who selected Crossroads Food bank as her chosen charity during her Mayoral year in 2025/26.

Collections were raised at the Civic Service, the Civic Dinner, the Community Day (for refreshments) and the Christmas Karaoke Bus and with the generous support of residents and local dignitaries, Cllr Jurczyszyn, raised an impressive **£1,130.25 for the charity.**

Crossroads Food bank provides vital support to individuals and families experiencing hardship, helping to ensure that those most in need have access to essential food and household items. The funds raised will make a valuable contribution to the Food

bank's ongoing work within our community.

On behalf of the Council, we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who supported the Former Mayor's fundraising efforts and congratulate Cllr Jurczyszyn on this wonderful achievement. Her dedication to supporting local causes and championing the work of Crossroads Food bank has made a positive difference to many people across the community.

Cllr Jurczyszyn has also donated £50.00 to the ongoing Sculpture Project outside Meltham C of E School.



Civic Reception and Pride of Meltham Awards

The Mayor's Civic Reception was held at Meltham Golf Club and was attended by the outgoing Mayor of Kirklees, Civic Dignitaries, local councillors and representatives from many of the volunteer groups and organisations. The Master of Ceremonies was Cllr Richard Noon.

Kirklees Cllr, Charles Greaves thanked the members of Meltham Town Council for their service and Deputy Mayor Cllr Lisa Coates gave the response. The outgoing Town Mayor, Cllr Ann Jurczyszyn, thanked the volunteers for their wonderful contributions to our community and

was delighted to present the Pride of Meltham Awards to 3 worthy winners, Kate Buchanan, Matt Hepworth and Paula Spittlehouse. There was also a raffle which raised £700 for Meltham Crossroads Food bank. Prizes were generously donated by several local businesses.



Kate Buchanan was nominated for her outstanding contribution to the arts. Matt Hepworth was commended for his service to the community and his cheerfulness in all weathers as he keeps the streets of Meltham clean. Paula Spittlehouse received 2 nominations, for her outstanding contribution to brass tuition at Meltham C of E School and for her work with Meltham and Meltham Mills Brass Band. Nomination letters can be found on our website:

www.melthamtowncouncil.gov.uk/community/pride-of-meltham-awards/

**What's on
in Meltham
Summer-Autumn 2026**

Saturday August 29th 11am-4pm
Picnic in the Park

Friday 25th September,
Kids 6:30pm - 8pm, Adults after 8pm
Christmas Party, The Libs

Saturday 24th October 6pm - 8pm
Meltham Pleasure Grounds

Civic Events
Sunday September 13th 10.15am
Civic Parade and Service

Sunday November 8th 10am
Remembrance Parade and Service

SAVE THE DATES

Meltham Annual Civic Service 2026

The Town Mayor of Meltham, Councillor Lisa Coates, is delighted to announce that this year's Annual Civic Service will take place on Sunday 13th September 2026.

The Civic Service is one of the highlights of Meltham's community calendar, bringing together residents, local organisations, volunteers, councillors and public servants to celebrate all that is good about our town.

This special occasion provides an opportunity to recognise and thank the many individuals and groups whose dedication, kindness and commitment help make Meltham a vibrant, caring and welcoming place to live. From community volunteers and charitable organisations to those serving in public roles, their contributions enrich the lives of others every day and strengthen the spirit of our community.

The service will reflect on the importance of service, community and working together, while celebrating the people who generously give their time, skills and support to others.

The traditional civic procession will assemble at the Carlile Institute from 10.15am, departing at 10.30am, led by the wonderful Meltham & Meltham Mills Band. The procession will then make its way to St Bartholomew's Church, where the Civic Service will begin at approximately 10.45am.

Formal invitations will be issued in due course, but for now please save the date. Everyone is warmly welcome to attend and join us in celebrating the people and organisations whose efforts help make Meltham such a special place.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Remembrance Parade 2026

As is customary in our Township, the Remembrance Parade will take place at 10.30am from The Carlile Institute and march to St Bartholomew's Church where the Remembrance Service will be held at the memorial outside, lead by Reverend John Dracup.

This Remembrance Sunday let us come together as a community to honour the courage, service and sacrifice of those who have served in conflicts past and present.

Everyone is welcome to attend and show their respect. Whether you're marching, observing or simply standing in solidarity, your presence matters.

Let's ensure their sacrifices are never forgotten.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Lest we forget.





Light up the Pleasure Grounds

Saturday 24th October 6pm-8pm

This event is hosted by Meltham Walkers are Welcome and The Friends of Meltham Pleasure Grounds.

We've now held 6 of our "Light Up" events and they were a resounding success! We aim to make our 2026 event even bigger and better.

Anyone, or any school or group in the area is welcome to join in the event. If you would like some ideas, take a look at our Facebook page "Light Up The Pleasure Grounds" or look online for ideas on sites such as Pinterest or YouTube. The rules are simple - make lights and lanterns from waste, recycled, up-cycled materials, such as plastic bottles, milk cartons, plastic cups etc, let your imagination run riot. (no glass bottles or jars).

Then, provide light by LED lights, outdoor battery lights, or solar lights (make sure they're fully charged!) **NO NAKED FLAMES PERMITTED.**

Arrive on the day to set your lanterns up at the Meltham Mills end of the Pleasure Grounds, anytime after 3pm, then come back after 8 p.m. to take them down.

The event is free, however donations are welcome and our volunteers will have collection buckets on the night. This helps us to buy lights, batteries and craft materials.

There is on-road parking available in the area, please show consideration to residents. We aim to have all the lanterns in place throughout the Pleasure Grounds by dusk, then

you can walk through our magical woodland setting.

If you don't get a chance to make a lantern, come along anyway and join in the fun!

We welcome interest from those with ideas to help grow the event.

We also welcome volunteers who could help us set up the displays and then take them down on the day. We remove all the lanterns and strings, etc, immediately after the event, to avoid injury to wildlife.

In the next few weeks we will be posting lots of lantern making ideas and tips, on our "Light Up the Pleasure Grounds" facebook page.

For more information, email:
info@walkingmeltham.co.uk.

