

The Official Newsletter of the Crosspool Forum
Having a voice . . . Making a difference

CROSSPOOL CLARION™



CROSSPOOL NEWS - crosspool.info
3000 copies delivered quarterly
Editor: Ian Hague BEM 

THE FUTURE OF CARVER FIELDS

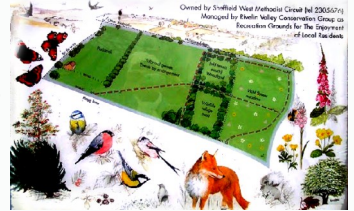
The Stephen Hill Methodist Church recently facilitated a community meeting to discuss the current and future use of Carver Fields. The Sheffield Methodist Circuit is seeking a better understanding as to the role and potential of this cherished local asset.

The aim of the meeting was to create a transparent conversation about the site's future, considering the needs and costs involved. A wide invitation had been extended to ensure diverse community participation and gather a range of perspectives.

The outcome of the meeting was a number of proposals for submission to the Sheffield Methodist Circuit leadership that reflected a positive outlook for Carver Fields.

Proposed ideas included: development as a space for sustainable living, physical activity and social interaction, creation of a playground, sports field, and walking trails. Installation of permeable pavements for better accessibility, ensuring that the site is accessible to all, including those with disabilities, promote inclusivity and a volunteer program for site maintenance and community events. This initiative highlights the significance of involving the community in decision making to ensure developments reflect local interests and values.

WELCOME TO CALVER FIELDS



FLY-TIPPING FINES INCREASED

The recent statutory changes granting councils the authority to impose increased fines mark a pivotal moment in local governance. This shift empowers councils to enforce regulations more effectively, aiming to uphold community standards and deter regulatory infringements. The specific focus on combating fly-tipping and litter through steeper fines reflects a proactive approach to environmental stewardship. The decision by Sheffield City Council to adopt harsher penalties for such offences demonstrates a response to public concern, aligning with the broader intent to preserve the cleanliness and safety of public spaces. The anticipated revenue from these increased fines is expected to bolster enforcement services, thereby reinforcing the council's commitment to addressing these environmental challenges. This strategic move could serve as a model for other councils facing similar issues, potentially leading to a nationwide enhancement of environmental policies and enforcement mechanisms. The new fines for fly tipping will rise to £1000 (up £600) and the penalty for littering is doubled to £160 (up £80). These new fines are expected to raise an additional £100k per year which will be channelled into enforcement services.





CROSSPOOL FORUM
OPEN MEETING
Thursday 25th July 2024 at 7:00pm
St Columba's Church, Manchester Road, Crosspool
Guest speakers - local councillors, the police and council officers, are generally on hand to listen to your concerns on local issues.
Keep your eye on the 'Spar noticeboard' & 'Crosspool News' website
Email:- crosspoolforum@gmail.com or Tele:- 07713 687 955

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Thursday 10-11am (Crosspool) (PAD FITNESS CLASS - WOMEN ONLY)

Thursday 6-7pm (Crosspool) (ALL ABILITIES)

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Saturday (Crosspool) 10.30-11.45 13 years to Adult

For more information contact Jo 07708 795172 or Scott 07970 597800



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CROSSPOOL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



The Crosspool Women's Institute (CWI) is excited to announce its full participation in the upcoming Crosspool Festival in July 2024. The highlight of our involvement is the Charity Fashion Show, set to take place on Saturday, 29th June at Stephen Hill Church from 3-5 pm. This event will showcase a selection of affordable high street clothing provided by the Complete Clothing Company. Attendees can look forward to an array of refreshments, a sales table, and the chance to win raffle prizes. Admission is set at £5, payable at the door.

Additionally, CWI will be offering its customary refreshments at the Crosspool Fayre on Saturday, 6th July. We invite everyone to join us in the main building for this festive occasion.

Our regular meetings offer a great opportunity for community engagement and personal progress. Evening meetings are held at St Columba's Church on the third Monday of each month from 7 to 9pm, and afternoon meetings take place at Stephen Hill Methodist Church on the fourth Monday of each month from 1 to 3pm. Both members and visitors can attend one or both meetings, where a warm welcome is always guaranteed. For those interested in joining our vibrant community, now is the perfect time. A 12-month subscription is available for £48, valid until 31st March 2025. We look forward to welcoming new and familiar faces alike to our events and meetings.

Pick up a programme from either of the Churches or follow us on:

facebook.com/CrosspoolWI Alternatively email us at wicrosspool@gmail.com



MILL HOUSE ANIMAL SANCTUARY HAS MOVED

The Mill House Animal Sanctuary, previously located in Fulwood, has now relocated to the sanctuary's new home at Thorne Royd, Thurlstone, near Penistone. Nesting in a serene setting on Hornthwaite Hill Road, the sanctuary's new home offers an even more conducive environment for the animals' well-being. This move underscores the sanctuary's dedication to enhancing the lives of its residents, ensuring they receive the best care in a comfortable and loving environment.

This new setting continues to be a haven where the welfare of animals in need remains the paramount concern of a dedicated team who work tirelessly to ensure that every animal that comes through their doors receives the highest standard of care. Their commitment to animal welfare is unwavering, and they constantly seek innovative ways to enhance their facilities and services.

Mill House believes that every creature deserves compassion and a chance at a better life, and they are devoted to making that belief a reality.

The sanctuary's contact number, 07980 992 589, serves as a lifeline for those who wish to support their cause, be it through donations, volunteering, or providing a loving home for an animal in need. The unwavering dedication of the Mill House team ensures that every animal that comes through their doors is given a chance to thrive in a nurturing environment.

OPEN MEETING-BULLET POINTS-THURS 25TH APRIL 2024

Eighteen Crosspool residents, and nine members of the Forum Management Committee attended. Guests were Cllr Ruth Milsom, Sam Beaton (SCC Principal Rights of Way Officer), and Rachel Reeson (Co-op Pioneer). Jude Murphy (Care in Crosspool) Ian Hague (chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chairman's Report

Both Tapton Masonic Hall & Hallam Football Club are keen to be more involved in the community – they both have bars and run clubs

Friendship lunches; some 50-60 people attend these monthly – look out for further info.

Sheffield Hospitals Trust – New governors are being recruited – contact Wendy Bradley email: wendy.bradley.42@gmail.com or for more info Crosspool Forum.

Tai chi, Easy exercise and Art are going well – Council funding received.

See the Crosspool Festival brochure – delivered with the Clarion this month.

Broomhill Library is running local walking classes – see their website.....

Treasurer's Report.

John Drinkwater said money had been coming in for street market pitches, Council grants such as for the Cllr Anne Murphy memorial in Lydgate Green, etc, but also money being spent! The stone carver Stoneface has been paid a deposit for Anne's memorial, some folding tables bought, contributions to the Art Group for materials, and to Suzy Kerfoot (Aspects of Beauty) for her upcoming USA gymnastics competition. If the RVCG wants to propose a project as part of repairing the Rivelin Valley damage this can be looked at.

Police Report

PCSO Pam Thompson had hoped to send in a report but nothing has been received.

Councillors' Questions & Report –

LAC community plan receives its money in May and it starts being distributed in October - feed in any priorities you may have now.

Progress of Manchester Road crossing? It is very difficult to get lollipop men replaced, but Ruth was "slightly hopeful" that Crosspool would get a new crossing at the junction of Selborne Rd/Manchester Road. Even the "temporary battery operated" crossings cost £1k a week! & still need a lot of committee work & consultations.

The Council has a backlog of jobs which is accelerating faster than they can get done - and fewer officers.

Lost post boxes – knocked-down one on Manchester Rd, and now one on Moorbank has gone. Even the intervention of the MP has had little effect on getting the Post Office to respond!

Despite worries that postal ballots for the local Elections in May might not get through there is a swell of all boxes and sorting offices that evening to collect any late ones and ensure they are counted. (Individuals can drop their completed ballot papers in a Polling Booth – but only their own).

Hagg Copse is too small to show up on the Green Belt but can be listed as an open space for protection.

Update On Rivelin Valley: Storm Babet Oct.2023 Destruction

Sam Beaton (prow@sheffield.gov.uk) said damage had occurred from Wyming Brook down to Malin Bridge – big stepping stones totally washed away, weirs, fords, footbridges & paths. The continuing very wet weather meant although he visits weekly it has been very difficult to inspect the river bottoms & assess some of the work needed. They can only repair like-for-like – not widen existing paths to form cycle tracks or bridleways. They have funding to start with the stepping stones but need more manpower, and then move onto the weirs & fords. The Rivelin Valley Conservation Group have already started doing small repairs, and the Council is working with them. Other local groups could ask for funding – Heritage Lottery perhaps -or crowdfunding – as there is a £4m backlog of jobs across the city. Their first statutory priority is to get the paths that they had to close as unsafe repaired and open again.

Co-op Member Pioneers

Rachel asked everyone to go online coop.co.uk/membership & choose their local Co-ops to support Care in Crosspool – enough voted for this could win £5k for the group! Jude of Care in Crosspool then reminded everyone of the support her group gives to carers since 1988, visiting or taking them out and about – meaning that insurance and petrol etc. needs covering.

Their AGM is on 21st May, 2pm (Stephen Hill Methodist Church).

Rachel wanted to thank Geraldine's litter picking team for their "fantastic job"

Carver Fields Meeting

Roger Kite attended this along with seventy other residents a couple of weeks ago, he said there had been a lot of positive feedback, with everyone wanting to see full use made of this by the Church and community. Originally a Private Limited Company with shares, it is now owned by the Sheffield Methodist Circuit. Historically, the land featured stabling, a paddock, and a hay field, indicating its suitability for community events.

(There was a suggestion of a picnic to mark the end of the festival week could take place here. a A picnic and the service previously held in in Lydgate Green was often rained-off this is now held either of the local churches).

Events

Festival Week starting on June 28th, with the Summer Fayre on 6th July.

Car Boot sale, Crosspool Tavern Car park 15th June.

Hagg Copse, newly seeded wildflower areas showing! Some bench work and grass strimming to be done as required.

Orchard, now pruned and will be strimmed as necessary.

Planters and twelve new hanging baskets will be done for the summer once the danger of frost is over.

Thanks are due to the ladies who look after the flower bed round the base of the precinct tree outside Spar, and to Mrs. Sharpe for the floral display at the junction of Watt Lane and Sandygate Road.

Lydgate Green, many thanks to the hard-working volunteers, all over 80! who work on a Saturday morning and often on Wednesday afternoon. There has been lot of feedback on how lovely the green looks.

Next Open Meeting Thursday 25th July 2024...

RELEVANT REGULATIONS

Modifying windows and doors is a significant aspect of property renovation that requires careful consideration of both aesthetics and legal standards. While certain changes may fall under 'permitted development rights, which allow for modifications without formal planning permission, this is not universally applicable.

Factors such as the property's location, historical significance, and specific local regulations can influence the need for planning consent. Engaging with local planning authorities or seeking advice from architectural professionals can provide clarity and ensure that any alterations are compliant with the relevant regulations.

It's important to note that unauthorised changes can result in legal consequences, including the requirement to revert the property to its original state. Conducting thorough research and adhering to the appropriate guidelines is crucial to maintaining the integrity of the property and avoiding potential disputes or financial penalties.



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AREA POLICING

Between 25th Jan and current date. 12 burglaries in the area of Crosspool. Majority of the Mo's are snapping the euro locks and smashing rear patio doors and windows. Items stolen are several vehicles, jewellery, camera and mobile phone. Theft of four vehicles reported where they have been stolen without keys. Toyota Auris, Mercedes, Lexus and Ford Fiesta.

There has been a suspect arrested for a burglary and is been dealt with. Crime reduction information: We have a 15% discount code for a disklock for your vehicle to deter crime. Email: pamela.thompson@southyorkshire.police.uk for the voucher.

Warmer weather is just around the corner, remember to keep doors and windows locked at all times, even if you're in the garden. Protect your shed with a robust closed shackled padlock or door bar. Make sure you lock your gate. Check your door locks are the current standard Anti-snap lock TS007. Visit the South Yorkshire police website for more info www.southyorkshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention

We reserve the right to edit pieces for both length and contents



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POTHOLE PANDEMIC

Here's what you should do immediately after hitting a pothole, according to the AA: Pull over as soon as it's safe to do so. Look for any visible damage to your wheels and tyres. Check for any vibrations while you're driving. Check if your steering wheel doesn't centre properly or if the car pulls to one side.

If you see any damage or the steering doesn't seem right, get your car checked by a garage or tyre specialist as soon as possible. It can be costly and dangerous to ignore tracking or steering damage. If your car has been damaged by a pothole, it's important to take immediate steps to document the incident, if you intend seeking compensation. Firstly, ensure your safety and the safety of others; if necessary, move your vehicle to a safe location. Document the damage to your car with clear photographs, and note the date and time of the incident. Also, take pictures of the pothole, including close-ups and wider shots to show its location. Measure the pothole, if possible, as this can be crucial evidence. Generally, a pothole needs to be at least 40mm deep to be classified as such. Report the damage to your insurance company, and check your policy for coverage details. Then, report the pothole to the local council or highways agency responsible for road maintenance; preferably within 14 days of the incident. Keep a detailed record of all communications and retain any receipts or quotes related to repair costs. Submit a formal claim to the responsible authority, including all your gathered evidence and any additional required forms. The process for claiming compensation can vary, so it's advisable to consult the specific guidelines provided by the local authority or seek legal advice if necessary. Remember, the success of your claim may depend on the quality and thoroughness of the evidence you provide.

COUNTRY ROAD SAFETY

Navigating the countryside roads requires a heightened sense of awareness and adherence to safety regulations. The rustic charm of rural landscapes often comes with unexpected road companions such as tractors, which move at slower speeds and require ample space for passing. **Cyclists**, enjoying the scenic routes, share the road and necessitate cautious overtaking. **Wildlife**, from sheep grazing near the roadside to pheasants that may suddenly take flight, adds unpredictability to the drive. Even smaller creatures like rabbits and hares can dart across the road, creating potential hazards. **Hikers**, too, may be close to or on the roads, especially where trails intersect or the lack of a footpath.

Beyond the living obstacles, the very terrain of the countryside presents its own challenges. Mud from adjacent fields can create slippery surfaces, reducing tyre traction and vehicle control. Potholes, often the result of weathering and less frequent maintenance, can cause significant damage to vehicles if hit at high speeds. Therefore, maintaining a safe speed within the legal limits is not just a matter of compliance with traffic laws; it's a necessary practice to ensure the safety of all road users and the preservation of one's vehicle.

It's also important to be mindful of changing weather conditions, which can further impact road safety, and to adjust driving speed accordingly. In essence, driving in the countryside is about expecting the unexpected and being prepared to react calmly and safely to whatever may come your way. It's about enjoying the journey while respecting the unique aspects of rural driving. By doing so, one not only safeguards themselves and others but also contributes to the serene and unspoiled nature that makes the countryside an enchanting place to drive.

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Web Page: roombookings@stephenhillmethodist.org.uk

Email: admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk

Web Page: www.stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk



STEPHEN HILL OXFORD HALL

The Oxford Hall at Stephen Hill Methodist Church indeed stands as a historical monument to community spirit and service.

Since its inception in 1952, it has witnessed countless gatherings, celebrations, and events that have strengthened the bonds of the Crosspool community.

The hall's ongoing use for youth and community activities is a reflection of the church's foundational commitment to fostering a sense of unity and support among its members and the wider community. This enduring legacy is a tribute to the foresight of its founders and the sustained efforts of the congregation.

CROSSPOOL CARERS CAFÉ - A WARM WELCOME TO CARERS!

Anyone caring for a friend or family member with any illness or disability is welcome to join us. It doesn't matter if you don't call yourself a carer- we'd love you to join us.

Since we started to meet 2 years ago, we've grown steadily into a friendly and relaxed group and we are joined by new carers all the time. Recently we've had speakers on nutrition, diabetes and a visit from South Yorkshire police to hear about their work supporting people living with dementia.

However, there's always time to chat and talk about our concerns and for most of us, it's the most important part. We share our ups and downs and quite often we can help each other, too. We usually meet on the fourth Friday of the month at Stephen Hill Methodist Church where we're made very welcome.

In the summer months we'll be organising a meal for carers and some other activities well as our regular coffee mornings. Carers Week takes place on June 10 th - 16 th across the UK. In Sheffield, there will be a programme of events and meetings which we'll publicise as soon as it's available.

Please come and join us and if you know someone- a friend or neighbour- who is a carer or former carer, bring them too.

For more information, contact Jan Outram
jan@sheffieldcarerscentre.org.uk tel: 0114 278
8942 or Briony Broome briony.broome@hotmail.co.uk mobile :07801532954

COFFEE MORNINGS

Why not come to one of our friendly coffee mornings at Stephen Hill.

Every Monday and Friday 10am to noon.

All proceeds to our Church Charities....

The Smile Train and Family Works.

ALTERNATING CHURCH SERVICES

The practice of alternating church services between two locations, such as Stephen Hill and St Columba's, is a thoughtful approach to accommodate congregations from different areas, fostering a sense of unity and community. By hosting services 10.30am on the first and third Sundays at St Columba's and on the second and fourth at Stephen Hill, the church ensures that members have the opportunity to attend and participate in the spiritual life of their community regularly. The provision for a fifth Sunday service to alternate between the two also reflects a considerate planning for those occasional months.

The open invitation to join any service or event without the necessity of membership underscores the church's commitment to inclusiveness and hospitality. This welcoming stance is vital in today's diverse society, as it allows individuals from all walks of life to explore their faith in a supportive environment.

The availability of event details on the church's website www.stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk/events, provides easy access to information, ensuring that anyone interested can find out about upcoming services and activities. Such transparency and openness are commendable, as they help to build trust and encourage wider participation in church events.

Overall, this approach not only caters to the logistical needs of the congregation but also embodies the inclusive spirit that many religious communities strive to achieve. It is initiatives like these that can strengthen the bonds within a community, creating a welcoming space for spiritual growth and fellowship.

CROSSPOOL LUNCHEON CLUB (5* RATED BY THE COUNCIL)



The Club is open to all over seventies. It is partially funded by the Sheffield City Council and meets every Wednesday at Stephen Hill Methodist Church. Lunch is served at 12.30pm and is usually finished between 1.30 and 1.45 pm. Come and join us in the Oxford Hall for a main meal and a pudding followed by a cup of tea for £5.00. Here is an opportunity for you to come and meet others in a friendly environment. We do have 2/3 weeks off around Christmas to give our

cooks, helpers and washers-up a well-deserved break.

We are very grateful for the team of helpers who regularly cook, set and clear tables and wash up. Their reliability, good humour and hard work make providing lunches a pleasure. Their meals are pretty good too! We always have room for more helpers if you can spare the time. We provide transport for those who are less mobile but at the moment we do not have any spare places available. For more information contact Kath Smith 0114 2667089.

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CARE IN CROSSPOOL



Care in Crosspool is a remarkable initiative that began in 1986, connecting local volunteers with those in need within the Crosspool community. Their mission is to assist anyone they can, with a particular focus on supporting the elderly. Here's what they offer:

Befriending Services: Volunteers regularly visit individuals who may be alone, providing companionship and a friendly presence.

Transport to Appointments: They help arrange transportation for community members who need assistance getting to medical appointments or other essential destinations.

Shopping Assistance: Care in Crosspool lends a hand with shopping tasks, ensuring that residents have access to groceries and necessities.

Respite Sitting Service: When caregivers need a break, volunteers step in to provide respite care, allowing them to attend to other matters.

This registered charity, Charity Number 702628, plays a vital role in fostering a sense of community and compassion in Crosspool. If you'd like to volunteer or need their assistance, feel free to contact them at careincrosspool@gmail.com 0114 267 004512. Their commitment to serving the common good is truly commendable, and the collaboration between medical staff, church members, and the community is an unforgettable experience.

Their AGM is on 21st May, 2pm (Stephen Hill Methodist Church). everyone welcome

PURL'Y QUEENS KNIT & NATTER GROUP

Knit one, Purl one and Chat two

Are you a knitter? Then why not join our small group of W. I.

ladies who meet every Friday

10am to 12noon in our forum at Stephen Hill and enjoy a cup of coffee whilst having a chat.



SUITABLE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

Why not check out the many weekly activities we have at our two churches, Email or ring for details.

We are always looking for new volunteers in all the lovely groups we run. So if you are interested in volunteering please contact childrens@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk

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The Rock Project is an after-school Rock School focusing on teaching children how to play their instruments or sing as part of a band. We take a fun first approach by focusing on songs they already know and love while promoting social skills and self-confidence through interaction with like-minded kids. Our sessions are split into two parts, firstly small group tuition in their chosen instrument before coming together with everyone to play as part of a band. All abilities welcome including complete beginners, instruments provided, and a free first session to try us out. sheffield@therockproject.com Tele: 07960192392



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ART.2: INTEGRATE RATHER THAN SEGREGATE



In my previous article on permaculture, I tasked you with noticing the things you enjoy, and designing a setup that facilitated them. I enjoy flowing water, wildlife, and a lively, friendly precinct. One of many options to mutually facilitate these is to direct rainwater from shop gutters into trickling water features that feed planters that bloom flowers that attract wildlife, all of which makes for a pleasant walk among the flora, fauna, and friendly faces. This is classic permaculture: minimal effort to kickstart events that self-support and grow opportunities.

There's a lot going on in my example but it illustrates a core concept in permaculture: integrate rather than segregate. Our world of data and digital is heavily focused on progress through analysis. But did you know that "analyse" comes from a Greek word meaning to break apart? This can be useful to understand some things, but to implement new understanding, we need to put things back together, into context, and into practice.

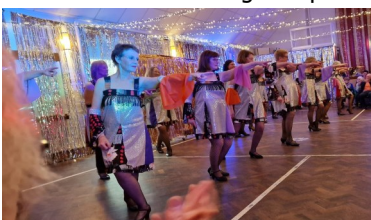
Consider Crosspool's Piper's Artisan Sausages, who integrate the processing, flavouring, seasoning, cooking, and selling all under one roof. This ensures that Piper's and their customers know exactly what went into making the sausages, which facilitates trust, responsiveness, variety, and high-quality. As I said in the previous article: cultivating multiple benefits, mutually and simultaneously.

A task before the next Clarion is for you to notice when the effects, outputs, and odd bits of things find a use elsewhere, such that they are brought back into context.

HELLO BROADWAY


The St Francis's dance company's production of "Hello Broadway" was a re-sounding success, showcasing the vibrant and diverse talents of its performers. Grazyna Swales, with her deep passion for musical theatre, orchestrated a show that was both entertaining and artistically enriching.

The performance featured a variety of musical themes, each delivered with a unique flair and punctuated by Monsieur Swales's humorous commentary. The children's rendition of "Dancing through the Decades" & "Barbie" was particularly moving, demonstrating their skill and dedication. The ladies' performances, including "Dream Girls," "Save the Day" from Newsies, "Copacabana," a Motown Medley, and "All That Jazz," captivated the audience with their dazzling interpretations.



The commitment to excellence was evident across all age groups and levels of dance experience, setting a new benchmark for future productions. The solo performances by Serena, Richard, Isabel Isabell, Julia, and Agnes highlighted the individual artistry within the company. Sarah Bennett's expert direction and choreography brought together these myriad talents into a cohesive and memorable experience, leaving the audience with a lasting impression of the joy and power of performance art.

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Meet your local business

A quarterly spotlight on Crosspool businesses



This quarter we caught up with **Stuart at Newton Ceramics**.

How long have you been trading in Crosspool?

39 years, my father set up the business in 1985 and I took over when he retired in 2010.

What is your main source of business?

Mainly, we work in conjunction with local dentists within our local area.

What services do you supply?

Making bespoke dental appliances for NHS/Private patients and dental repairs direct to the public.

How many staff do you have?

Two, and we always prefer to employ local if we can.

How has your business changed over the years?

We've moved over into CAD/CAM dentistry software, trying to do more digitally wherever possible.

What plans do you have for the future?

We are looking to purchase a 3D printing machine this year, so we can make all our dental models in house.

Do you think local business is good for our local communities?

Absolutely, when you support a small business, you're not just supporting the owner and their employees, you're also supporting the local community as a whole. Local businesses are more likely to use local suppliers and service providers which helps to keep money circulating within the community.

What makes Crosspool special?

The strong community spirit and variety of independent shops. I also love the stunning views over the city, our laboratory looks out onto Ringinglow.

What do you think of the summer display in the precinct?

Beautiful, and a great effort from everyone involved.

What is your favourite season?

Autumn, the crispness of autumn mornings and the beautiful scenery as leaves change colour.

What would you like to see improve in Crosspool?

Nothing, the only gripe I can think of is the unreliable bus service.



MARKET

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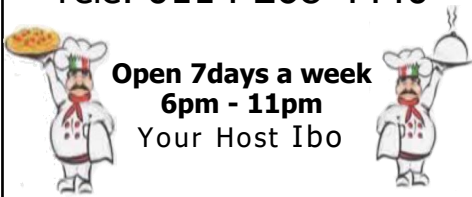
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FROM DUMP TO COMMUNITY HUB

The transformation of Crosspool Juniors' Football Club is a testament to the power of community spirit and collaboration.

Faced with inadequate facilities, the parents of the young footballers took matters into their own hands, demonstrating remarkable initiative and perseverance. Their efforts not only improved the conditions for their daughters but also revitalized a communal space, turning it into a hub of activity and celebration.

The story of Crosspool Juniors is an inspiring example of how collective action can overcome challenges and create lasting positive change, ensuring that the growing popularity of girls' football is matched by the quality of its infrastructure.

Girls' football has massively taken off in recent years – but facilities have not always developed with the sport's popularity, as the parents of Crosspool Juniors' Football Club came to realise when their daughters moved to bigger pitches in Myers Grove.

"There was a single toilet in the club house – and that didn't have a seat", remembers Hannah Wright, mum of Hollie (10) and Olivia (8), who both play for the club. Everything was covered by thick layers of dirt, spider webs and discarded old tyres.

"It was an absolute dump", says Hannah. She convinced other parents of the Under-11 team that there was only one way to deal with the problem: "We clearly had to do it ourselves." The parents started an ambitious renovation project to install a range of additional toilets, a new kitchen, give the rest of the house a good clean and clear up the overgrown outside area.

"It was a bit hit and miss at times", admits Hannah. "We used the wrong paint and it washed off in the rain, so we had to do it all over again", she laughs. "There was also a lot of bureaucracy involved." But the parents persevered, dedicating many weekends to the project.

Tom Smith (father of player Maisie) runs local building company Downing and Smith Developments and took over most of the building work: "We were overwhelmed by how helpful local businesses were and we managed to source a lot of free materials. Toilets, wash basins, gravel & timber were donated by local companies like Pagets, MKM, Timber Specialist, Plumbco, Hargraves and Dan @ Rivelin Plant Hire lent us a mini digger along with a dumper." A whole new kitchen was donated by Howdens which Neil Goodwin installed.



FRIENDSHIP LUNCH EASTER CELEBRATION

The resounding success of the Friendship Lunch Easter Celebration Tea Dance, held at Tupton Hall on April 8th, 2024, organised by Kathy Marwick, demonstrated the vibrant community spirit of Sheffield to combat loneliness. The event, kindly sponsored by Age UK Sheffield and the Sheffield City Council South West Local Area Committee, brought together 70 guests.

The Afternoon Tea, complemented by Janet Thornton's home-made cakes, provided a charming backdrop for the festivities. The dance session led by Aubrey Robinson, alongside the performance by singer musician Oliver Harris, added a dynamic and entertaining element to the occasion. The presence of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Sheffield, Cllr Colin Ross and Susan Ross, as special guests, added a touch of distinction to the festivities. The event was made even more memorable by the impeccable service of Becki Hastings and her team, earning high praise from all those in attendance. The support of local organizations such as Twelve Trees, Care Sheffcare, Crosspool Forum, SCCC Music Makes Memories, and Westbourne School Sheffield, was instrumental in the event's success, highlighting the collaborative efforts of the community to create lasting memories. Held locally at the **Crosspool Tavern** on the second Monday of the month – 0114 266 2113.

Sportsman. Crosspool on the third Friday of the month – 0114 268 8011.

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This season Hallam FC are working with the Sheffield & Hallamshire FA to offer more for the local community.

The aim of the project is to improve and increase what we offer for the local community both for existing supporters and members and to attract new individuals and groups that are not currently engaging with the club. Already we have commenced a monthly quiz night and darts evenings and we have plans for walking football.

To help shape this project we want to hear from you! What would you like to see the club do more of or start to offer? This could be a casual kickabout for fans or something away from football such as a walking group, fitness, dance or a quiz night!

Please follow the link to complete the questionnaire:

docs.google.com/forms/d/1Q3fkNLmbp1MuDj8eARsemH7gJ4U6FbP8pQ9COwM96fs/edit?usp=sharing_eil_m&ts=64e36099

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You can try your luck at the Coconut Shy, Tombola, or test your skills at Splat the Rat, or Archery. If you prefer something more relaxing, you can enjoy a cuppa and a slice of cake in the refreshment area, or browse the Books and Bric-a-Brac.



Barney Baloney
Children's Show

There is something for everyone at our Summer Fayre, so come along and join the fun!



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COMMENT FROM A VISITOR TO THE PRECINCT

"Came through the shops today and noticed how well the planters are looking also the flower bed outside the pet shop. Lovely to have some bright cheerful colours on a wet day. Thanks and well done to all concerned."

Anne Barrett



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