

Community and partners driving progress

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As all of our readers know Holbeck is a very special place – our warm community spirit and strength is always a real inspiration for myself and the team at Holbeck Together. However, we also recognise and understand that underneath this resilience lies a variety of challenges faced by many of our local residents – around issues such as housing, loneliness, employment, mental health.

We are a small charity with a huge need on our doorstep and in this edition I wanted to use this space to recognise the impact that our partnership work has on making vital differences for the community.

Partnerships have been absolutely pivotal in helping us grow—not just as an organisation, but in our ability to meet the complex and pressing needs of the community we serve. From local businesses supporting our family play sessions to volunteers from the community, our progress is truly a combined community effort.

There is no better way to show that a city cares than when businesses and volunteers step forward with genuine support. When organisations and corporate partners get involved—not just financially, but in-kind, by sharing expertise, and even answering phones—it transforms our capacity. When local residents sign up to help at events or in our shop or with litter-picks it reminds us that we are not alone. Together, we are a team.

Our partnership work has brought not only resources and resilience, but also ambition. We often talk about our mission being to make Holbeck one of the best places to live, work, thrive and play. These collaborations help us elevate the voice of our community—ensuring that we are seen not as passive recipients of help, but as equal partners in conversations about how to develop our area.

At the recent UK Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum (UKREiIF) I was asked to speak alongside other partners, such as British Library North, working in South Leeds on exciting new

regeneration projects. I highlighted that we are proud to work with businesses who don't just assume what's needed—but who consult, listen, and respond. They've shown us that they're not just investors—they are changemakers. And in communities like Holbeck, that makes all the difference.

Holbeck Together will continue to bring the 'heart' to these projects—ensuring that it's not just about structures, but about people. About creating places where communities feel seen, heard, and supported. It's about ensuring that regeneration in Holbeck is inclusive, meaningful, and lasting. That's what levelling up should look like: transformation with communities, not around them.

To every volunteer, local resident, business, and partner who contributes to making Holbeck the best it can be I want to express a sincere thank you.



Elissa Newman
Chief Officer

Stay updated with latest news and events
www.holbecktogether.org

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Celebrating 80 Years Since VE Day: A Special Afternoon to Remember



At the beginning of May, Holbeck Together was proud to host a special event marking the 80th anniversary of VE Day – a heartfelt honouring of the spirit, sacrifice and resilience of those who lived through the Second World War.

One of the most popular features of the event was our wartime dress-up station, where guests could try on vintage-style hats, helmets and even an authentic gas mask! It was a fantastic way to connect with the past – and provided plenty of fun photo opportunities, too.

The highlight of the afternoon was a live performance by Jo Lancaster, whose wonderful renditions of wartime favourites and swing tunes transported us back to the 1940s.

No celebration is complete without food, and we were treated to a fabulous buffet, prepared and served by our team, with commemorative cupcakes adorned with Union Jacks and VE Day decorations – almost too beautiful to eat, but too delicious not to!

We also welcomed special guests including serving military personnel from Carlton Barracks in Leeds, who shared in the celebrations and spent time chatting with attendees – a reminder of the enduring connection between our community and the armed forces.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day so memorable, from our volunteers to our guests and everyone in between.



Nourishing Minds and Bodies: Mental Health Awareness Week Breakfast

As part of May's Mental Health Awareness Week, Holbeck Together hosted a calm, welcoming breakfast event designed to offer a safe space for people to talk.

With meditative music playing softly in the background, guests were invited to take part in a 'one-word check-in', where they could share how they were feeling in a single word. The breakfast spread also provided guests with a healthy range of fruit pots, croissants, yoghurts, teas and juices. Information was also available about local mental health and wellbeing services, ensuring everyone had access to helpful resources, whether for themselves or for someone they care about. Let's keep the conversation going – because mental health matters, every week of the year.



New Summer Menu for Meals on Wheels – delivered to your doorstep

Whether you're looking for a helping hand with cooking or simply fancy a freshly prepared meal, we're here to bring healthy, home-style food straight to your door.

Enjoy a freshly prepared two-course meal (main and dessert) packed with summer flavours, delivered to your door Monday-Friday, all for £6 per meal.

For further information, please call 0113 245 5553



Fresh



Meal Delivery

Support & Advice

We're thrilled to share some exciting updates and brand-new initiatives happening in Holbeck as we head into summer.



MEN'S GROUP LAUNCH



Looking to make new connections, improve your overall sense of wellbeing or even just get out of the house and have a few laughs?

This July, we're launching our new Men's Group, where men can chat, play games, share experiences and just unwind in a friendly, relaxed space.

Start date to be confirmed, but will run on Fridays at Ingram Gardens 2pm – 4pm.

Contact Chris to register interest.
Call 07731 033770 or email chris@holbecktogether.org

Last wellbeing event at Ingram Gardens

Our last wellbeing event takes place on 23rd July 10:30-11:30am at Ingram Gardens. The event will talk about '5 ways to Well-Being'. Free event. Everyone welcome. Refreshments provided.



Age Friendly Ambassador

Well done to Chris who has recently become Holbeck Together's Age Friendly Ambassador.

Age Friendly Ambassadors take action to raise awareness and promote age-friendly initiatives and issues within the community.

Befrienders Needed

Do you love chatting to people? Do you have a friendly attitude and skill for listening?



We are looking for new befrienders to join the team and support older local residents in LS11 via weekly visits or phone calls. Many of our older community live alone or have limited social contact and your regular visit could brighten their day.

You will talk to them and through regular friendly conversations ensure they feel supported and able to access any additional services if required. Some volunteers carry out regular short walks with the person they support although this is not a requirement.

Time commitment is flexible and we can work around your availability.

Interested in finding out more call Chris on 07731 033770

Building Bridges: New Partnership with Local Men's Hostel

We're proud to announce a new partnership with a nearby men's hostel, supporting ex-offenders with respect, compassion, and practical guidance. This collaboration is all about second chances, trust, and creating real opportunities for change. We look forward to sharing how this project goes with you in future editions.



Safer Streets: Teaming up with West Yorkshire Police

We're working closely with West Yorkshire Police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Holbeck. By sharing local knowledge and community insights, we're helping shape a safer, more supportive community for everyone.

The police will be popping along to St Matthews every Thursday between 10am-1pm, for people to voice their concerns about any issues within the community. If you don't feel comfortable speaking to the police directly our Support Worker Chris will be there who you can pass on your concerns or feedback too.

Thank you for being a part of Holbeck Together. Your support helps us keep moving forward - one connection, one conversation, one community at a time.

Volunteering

Celebrating the Heart of Holbeck: Our Volunteers

As we reflect on the past year of volunteering at Holbeck Together, one word stands out above all: admiration.

Each day, our volunteers - the heartbeat of everything we do - quietly, consistently and compassionately make a difference in the local Holbeck community.

From delivering essential meals and offering companionship to vulnerable older people, to supporting every event and service that Holbeck Together provides (including our charity shop and Social Supermarket), their efforts have been nothing short of inspiring.

In the last 12 months:



7,710 volunteer hours
were contributed
across our programmes



41 regular volunteers
supported a range of
activities each week



Over 800 Wellbeing Breakfasts were served
with a side of warmth
and connection



Thousands of items
were sold through the
charity shop, and the
Social Supermarket
directly supporting
local people in the
community.

The Power of Partnership



At Holbeck Together, we're lucky to work alongside a range of incredible partners who help us to deliver vital services and events throughout the year.

A big shout out to some of our regular partners including:

- Northern Monk, whose support of our monthly Wellbeing Breakfast helps create a warm and welcoming space for connection and community. Their outstanding hospitality

experience helps us serve up a continental breakfast, hot drinks and fresh fruit to over 80 people every month.

- Boutique Media, a Leeds based marketing agency who continue to be a vital part of the team at our charity shop every Wednesday, bringing energy, organisation and friendly faces to help keep things running smoothly. Two members of staff pop down twice a month to help sort through

donations, price up garments, support customers and replenish stock.

- Leeds staff at Corstorphine & Wright, the award-winning architectural practice, go the extra mile by stepping away from their desks to litter pick around the streets of Holbeck, helping keep our neighbourhood clean and cared for.



WITH
Nicole

Are you an International resident living in Holbeck?

Do you need support or advocacy? Arrange an appointment with Nicole, who is available at St. Matthews Community Centre on Mondays 9-5pm, or drop in to chat with us.

We're here to help you navigate these processes in a new country and connect you with the resources you need.

Email Nicole on
nicole@holbecktogether.org

Thank You

Whether you gave an hour or a hundred, baked a cake or ran an event, sorted stock or shared stories, thank you to all those who help us to do everything we do here at Holbeck Together.



WITH
Sean

Safe Internet Browsing Tips

1. Use strong, unique passwords Use different passwords for each account if possible. Easy to remember things that only you might know, like the name of a pet or favourite team, can be good password examples.

2. Recognise and avoid scams Don't click on suspicious links or download attachments from unknown sources. Too-good-to-be-true offers (lottery wins, "You've won an iPhone!", etc) are almost always scams. Requests for money or information should be verified with a phone call or in person.

3. Shop safely online Look for the small padlock in the top left corner of the address bar that indicates a secure site. Use credit cards instead of debit cards for better fraud protection.

4. Social media safety Don't overshare personal information, and be cautious of friend requests from strangers.

5. Ask for help If something feels off or confusing, ask a trusted friend or family member - or alternatively speak to Sean, our Digital Inclusion Worker at the Digital Hub located at St. Matthews Community Centre.

New data retrieval service available at the Digital Hub

A lot of people don't realise how much their data means to them until it's gone.

Do you have an old device such as a phone or laptop that has irreplaceable family photos or important documents on it, or a device that no longer works?

Holbeck Digital Hub now offers a data retrieval service that can recover your data and transfer it to another device free of charge.

The Digital Hub is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm, and offers help and assistance with all your digital support needs.

Call Holbeck Together on 0113 245 5553 or email sean@holbecktogether.org for more information.

— Bringing Generations Together in Holbeck

Monthly Pop Up Soft Play sessions in partnership with Soft4Tots

We love working with **Natalie from Soft4Tots**. Now our exciting collaboration is being supported by funding from **Yorkshire Children's Charity** to offer monthly pop-up soft play sessions. These sessions offer our youngest community members play experiences which develop gross motor skills (crawling, walking or throwing a ball), improve co-ordination and provide endless imaginative opportunities.

Visit www.soft4tots.com for more info.
See our parent and baby groups times on p10.

Leanne, our Community Development Worker says:
"It's been a wonderful opportunity for our group to have this experience. It's great to see all the smiles, climbing, jumping and fun that our under fives have had exploring the high-quality play equipment"

Established in 2012, **Soft4Tots** is a family-run soft play hire business which provides soft play packages for parties, from kids' birthday parties and christenings to weddings and more.



International Day of Families

Every year, May 15th marks the **International Day of Families**, which highlights the importance and diversity of family structures and promotes the wellbeing of families around the world. To find out why charities like Holbeck Together are so important for families, we spoke to a local parent.

How has Holbeck Together supported you and your family?

"As a family with four children, we've been accessing services provided by Holbeck Together for over ten years. When your

children are all different ages it's difficult to find activities that entertain them all, but Holbeck Together has given us spaces to enjoy family time all together.

We've been on the amazing summer trips with other local families - I don't drive, so we've been to places we'd never be able to get to.

As a working mum, the Healthy Holidays club has meant I can still go to work knowing my children are looked after and enjoying great activities. Feeding four kids is not easy; the community supermarket really

helps me top up my weekly shop. It's helped me so much personally as well - I've made friends, grown in confidence and been able to access courses and groups to learn new skills."

What would your advice be to a family who might want to get involved?

"Being a parent is hard, but knowing you have a support circle in the community really helps. Just drop in to St. Matthews Community Centre - it's so friendly and you can find out what's on and get involved."

New Allotment Group in Holbeck!

We're excited to announce the start of a new allotment group in Holbeck. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a beginner, this is a great opportunity to connect with others and nature, get involved in growing your own plants and food, and help to create a thriving green space in Holbeck.

Drop by, or contact Marie for more details. Call 07484 911 171, or email marie@holbecktogether.org

Every Tuesday
10am – 12pm.
Starts Tuesday
10th June 2025

Meet at St.
Matthew's
Community Centre
for the first week.

For all ages (16+)
and skill levels



Baby Massage

New course starting
September 2025

Register your interest now
by contacting Leanne
at 0113 245 5553

Summer Outings for Holbeck Families

All outings are priced at:
Adult £5
Child £3

Payment essential when
booking. Please contact
0113 245 5553 for further
information.

Bridlington

Friday 1st August
*Parents and Tots
Group only*

Gulliver's Theme Park

Friday 22nd August

Scarborough

Friday 29th August



Holbeck Together: Have Your Say

Join Our Community
Consultation Group
Are you passionate about
Holbeck and want to help
shape the future of the
community?

We're re-launching our
community consultation
group Holbeck Together:
Have Your Say, and we'd
love you to be part of it!

Take part in monthly
meetups in a welcoming
space in the heart of the
community and share your
thoughts and experiences
about living in Holbeck whilst
connecting with other locals.
Whether you've lived here
for years or just arrived, your
voice matters.

Last Wednesday of
the month, 10-11:30am
at St. Matthew's
Community Centre.

Please speak to Matthew
on 0113 245 5553 for further
information.

Healthy Holidays is back!

Healthy Holidays Summer 2025

What is Healthy Holidays?

Healthy Holidays is the
Department for Education's
Holiday Activity and Food
Programme. This summer,
Holbeck Together is working
with Premier Education and
Lane End Primary School to
deliver a FREE holiday club
that provides delicious food
and amazing activities for

school-aged children who are
eligible for income-related
free school meals.

This is being delivered
**Monday to Thursday 8:30am-
3pm for four weeks over the
summer holidays (28th July
to Thursday 21st August).**

To book, sign up via www.healthyholidays.leeds.gov.uk
or contact 0113 245 5553 for
further information.

Each meal service, shopping outing and event has limited availability and therefore must be booked in advance. All other services on the weekly schedule are available on a drop-in basis. For further information please call 0113 245 5553 and speak to Matthew.

Weekly Schedule



All events are at St Matthews Community Centre unless otherwise stated.


MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Parents & Tots (Term time only) St Matthews 9:30am-11:00am	Digital Hub – Drop In St Matthews 9am – 1pm Community Cafe St Matthews 9:00am-12:30pm Various Prices Allotment Group Meet at St Matthews 10am – 12pm	Coffee Morning Ingram Gardens 10:00am-12:00pm Various Prices	Digital Hub – Drop In St Matthews 9am – 1pm Holbeck Community Shop St Matthews 9:30am-2:00pm £4.00 for 14 Food Items Line Dancing St Matthews 11:30am-12:30pm £2.50 per person	Digital Hub – Drop In St Matthews 9am – 1pm Community Cafe St Matthews 9:00am-12:30pm Various Prices
Community Cafe St Matthews 9:00am-12:30pm Various Prices	Chair Based Exercise Wellness Activity St Matthews 10:45am-11:30am £3.00 per person	Shopping to Crossgates 9:30am collect 1:30pm return- £7.00 Transport 2 Jul, 23 Jul, 13 Aug, 3 Sept. 24 Sept Shopping to Morley Town Centre 9:30am collect - 1:30pm return £7.00 Transport 9 Jul, 30 Jul 20 Aug, 10 Sept		Baby Steps: Parents and Buggies Walking Group St Matthews 9:30am onwards
Charity Shop St Matthews 11:30am-3:00pm	Charity Shop St Matthews 10:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-2:00pm	Shopping to Middleton Shopping Centre 9:30am collect - 1:30pm return £7.00 Transport 16 Jul, 6 Aug, 27 Aug, 17 Sept Charity Shop St Matthews 11:30am-3:00pm	Community Cafe St Matthews 9:00am-12:30pm Various Prices Charity Shop St Matthews 10:00am-2:00pm	Dance On Yorkshire Dance St Matthews 10:00am-11:00am Free of Charge
2-Course Lunch Delivery 55+ 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00 Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	2-Course Lunch Delivery 55+ 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00 Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	2-Course Lunch Delivery 55+ 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00 Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	2-Course Lunch Delivery 55+ 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00 Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	Fish & Chip Lunch Delivery 55+ 12:00pm-1:30pm From £6.50 Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50
2-Course Lunch 55+ St Matthews 12:00pm-1:00pm £5.00	3-Course Lunch 55+ St Matthews 12:00pm-1:15pm £6.00	3-Course Lunch 55+ Ingram Gardens 12:00pm-1:15pm £6.00	Baby Massage Jamyang Buddhist Centre 10:30am-11:30am Call Leanne on 0113 245 5553 for further details	3-Course Fish & Chips 55+ St Matthews 11:30am-1:15pm From £6.50
Community Support St Matthews 1:00pm-3:00pm Please book with Nicole on 0113 245 5553	Friendship Club Afternoon St Matthews 1:15pm-2:45pm £2.50 per person	Craft Group Afternoon Ingram Gardens 1:15pm-2:45pm £2.50 per person	Memories Café St Matthews 2:00pm-3:30pm Fortnightly	Bingo Afternoon St Matthews 1:15pm-2:15pm £2.50 per person

Return Transport Available from your home for £5.00 per person

Events and Outings

Call Matthew on 0113 245 5553 for further info

Date	Event Information	Charge
Mon 7 th July	Group Outing – Selby Town Centre and Market, over 55's Pick-ups from 9:00am at St Matthews. Return approx. 3:00pm	Return Transport £16.50 per person
Tues 8 th July	Music Quiz and Karaoke Afternoon with Sue & Geoff – please book, Overs 55's Refreshments available. St Matthews. 1:30pm-3:00pm	Free of Charge
Thurs 10 th July	Wellbeing Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews. 10am-11am	Free of Charge
Mon 14 th July	Group Outing – Southport, over 55's Pick-ups from 8:30am at St Matthews. Return approx. 4:00pm	Return Transport £26.00 per person
Tues 15 th July	Friendship Club – Make Your Own Pizza Afternoon St Matthews. 1:30pm-2:45pm. Please book by calling 0113 245 5553	£2.50 per person
Wed 23 rd July	Wellbeing Wednesday – 5 ways to wellbeing - supporting your mental health Ingram Gardens C.C. 10:30am-11:30am	Free of Charge
Mon 28 th July	Group Outing – Scarborough, over 55's Pick-ups from 8:30am at St Matthews. Return approx. 4:00pm	Return Transport £26.00 per person
Wed 30 th July	Holbeck Together - Have your say! Community consultation morning – free cuppa and selection of biscuits! No booking required everyone welcome. St Matthews. 10am-11:30am	Free of Charge
Thurs 31 st July	Group Outing – Leeds Central Library to view the British Library Exhibition 'Voice of the Fans' Pick-ups from St Matthews. at 10:00am. Return approx. 2:00pm	Return Transport £7.00 per person
Fri 1 st August	Family Group Outing – Bridlington (Parents & Tots Group Only) Departure at 9:00am from St Matthews. Return 4:00pm – email leanne@holbecktogether.org	£5.00 Adult £3.00 Children
Mon 4 th August	Meal Outing – Heathfield Farm, Cleckheaton, over 55's Pick-ups from 10:00am at St Matthews. Return approx. 2:30pm	Return Transport £12.50 per person
Tues 5 th August	3-Course Yorkshire Day Lunch, over 55's St Matthews. 12:00pm-1:30pm. Booking Essential	£6.00 per person
Tues 12 th August	Music Quiz and Karaoke Afternoon with Sue & Geoff – please book, over 55's Refreshments available. St Matthews. 1:30pm-3:00pm	Free of Charge
Thurs 14 th August	Wellbeing Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews. 10am-11am	Free of Charge
Mon 18 th August	Group Outing – Whitby, over 55's Pick-ups from 8:30am at St Matthews. Return approx. 4:00pm	Return Transport £27.00 per person
Fri 22 nd August	Family Group Outing – Gulliver's World of Adventure Theme Park Departure at 9:00am from St Matthews. Return 4:00pm – email leanne@holbecktogether.org	£5.00 Adult £3.00 Children
Tues 26 th August	Lunch with Live Entertainment, over 55's St Matthews. 12:00pm-2:45pm. Please book by calling 0113 245 5553	£6.00 per person
Wed 27 th August	Holbeck Together - Have your say! Community consultation morning – free cuppa and selection of biscuits! No booking required everyone welcome. St Matthews. 10am-11:30am	Free of Charge
Fri 29 th August	Family Group Outing – Scarborough Departure at 9:00am from St Matthews. Return 4:00pm – email leanne@holbecktogether.org	£5.00 Adult £3.00 Children
Mon 1 st September	Group Outing – Junction 32 Retail Park & Meal Outing at The Singing Chocker, Castleford Pick-ups from 9:00am at St Matthews. Return approx. 2:30pm	Return Transport £15.00 per person
Mon 8 th September	Group Outing – Roy's Mystery Tour Pick-ups from 8:30am at St Matthews. Return approx. 7:00pm	Return Transport £30.00 per person
Tues 9 th September	Music Quiz and Karaoke Afternoon with Sue & Geoff – please book, over 55's Refreshments available. St Matthews. 1:30pm-3:00pm	Free of Charge
Thurs 11 th September	Wellbeing Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews. 10am-11am	Free of Charge
Tues 16 th September	Friendship Club – Big Prize Bingo Afternoon! Over 55's St Matthews. 1:30pm-2:45pm. Please book by calling 0113 245 5553	£2.50 per person
Mon 22 nd September	Group Outing – Blackpool Pick-ups from 8:30am at St Matthews. Return approx. 4:00pm	Return Transport £28.00 per person
Wed 24 th September	Holbeck Together – Have your say! Community consultation morning – free cuppa and selection of biscuits! No booking required everyone welcome. St Matthews. 10am-11:30am	Free of Charge
Thurs 25 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning – cake and coffee St Matthews. 9:30am-12:00pm	Donations Welcome
Sun 28 th September	2-Course Sunday Lunch – please book, everyone welcome St Matthews. 12pm-2pm – Home delivery also available	Adult £6.00 Child £3.00



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