

Trigger warning: this article discusses suicide

As we step into Autumn, I find myself reflecting on what has been a truly memorable and meaningful summer for Holbeck Together. From beach trips that brought the joy of the seaside to families and older neighbours alike, to our regular Well Being Breakfasts, walking and cycling groups and our 'Healthy Holidays' programme keeping our young people active and occupied during the Summer! (see page 8)

These moments have reminded us of the simple but profound power of connection. Our community has come together in so many ways, and it has been a privilege to witness the laughter, conversation, and sense of belonging that filled each event.



Summer Seaside Family Outings

One particularly powerful moment this September was Holbeck Together's role in hosting the Baton of Hope, a national suicide prevention initiative that visited Leeds for the first time on World Suicide Prevention Day. It was humbling to see Chris, our staff ambassador proudly carry the baton through Holbeck, joining others across the city to share a message of hope, solidarity, and support.

The moving performance of Men's Talk at St Matthew's Community Centre, created by men with lived experience of mental health challenges, reminded us how vital it is to speak openly, break down stigma, and show up for one another. The turnout at St Matthews underlined the strength of our community coming together to show solidarity as we walked the baton through the streets of Leeds.

We know that a quick chat on the street, a familiar face at lunch, or the bonds built over years of volunteering are not small things—they are the threads that hold our community together.



Baton of Hope

We value being able to create spaces where everyone feels part of something bigger and strengthening the sense of belonging across generations, something we have seen time and again in Holbeck. As we move into the Autumn, we hope that everyone, across all generations, finds a point of connection in our events, advice and support programme over the coming months.

Read on to find out more about what's happening at Holbeck Together in the run up to Christmas.

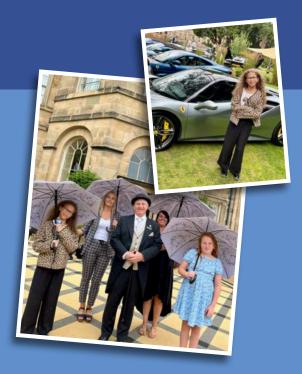


Elissa Newman Chief Officer

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— News & Events



Holbeck youngsters enjoy day out at Grantley Hall supercar festival

Two families from Holbeck had the experience of a lifetime this summer thanks to the generosity of Yorkshire Children's Charity, who kindly gifted them tickets to 'Yorkshire Elegance', the North of England's most prestigious motor car event at Grantley Hall.

Set against the stunning backdrop of the country house and grounds the families spent the day exploring the grounds, enjoying the entertainment and, of course, admiring the roar and shine of the incredible cars. As a bonus, the youngsters also got to judge the best car vocal competition.

Thank you to Yorkshire Children's Charity for the opportunity, and to Grantley Hall for making everyone feel so welcome.



CELEBRATING LUFC'S PROMOTION

There was an extra buzz of excitement at Holbeck Together's Lunch Club recently, as we welcomed a very special visitor: the EFL Championship trophy, won by Leeds United in their triumphant promotion season.

LEEDS LEEDS LEEDS!



As part of the club's city-wide celebrations, the silverware made its way to Holbeck, giving our Lunch Club attendees the chance to share in the historic moment. For lifelong supporters and casual fans alike, seeing the trophy up close made for a proud and emotional experience.

Oh, we do like to be beside the seaside...

Between July and August, Holbeck Together's minibuses travelled far and wide, with our older people's groups getting to experience the sandy shores of Bridlington, Scarborough and Southport, the historic charm of Whitby, and the bright lights of Blackpool.



Over the course of the Summer, 25 people came along on our coastal getaways. Pauline, who joined us on our Whitby outing, summed up that trip perfectly:

"It was such a treat –
I loved the nostalgia of
the seaside, it takes me
back to my childhood.
I simply wouldn't be able
to go without the team
at Holbeck Together".

A huge thank you goes out to the drivers, volunteers and staff who make these outings possible, and to everybody who joined us to make some special memories.







Summer coach trips bring joy to local families







This summer, Holbeck
Together was thrilled to take
72 families – 224 people,
in all – on coach trips to
Bridlington, Scarborough and
Gulliver's Valley theme park.
With community vibes and
energy high, the trips offered
a fantastic opportunity for
families to unwind and enjoy
some well-deserved days out
together.

We understand that the school holidays can be a financially challenging time for many families, which is why we're passionate about being able to offer inclusive trips that create great memories without breaking the bank. Many of the children on the trips were visiting the coast or enjoying a theme park with their family for the first time and while the children made new friends, parents and carers also had the chance to connect, share stories and support one another.





A parent-of-two who came along for one of the coach trips said:

"discounted trips like this are very affordable, and my children get an experience which I could not otherwise afford".

One of our nine-year-old attendees, meanwhile, said one seaside trip was the "highlight" of their summer: "I've flown a kite for the first time!"

We'd like to thank our amazing partners, Yorkshire Children's Charity and Yorkshire Charitable Property Trust, whose invaluable support allowed us to heavily subsidise these experiences, ensuring that more children and families could take part and enjoy time together without financial barriers. Thank you, also, to everyone who came along, and to the staff and volunteers who help make these days possible.

We're already looking forward to next year's adventures!









Support & Advice



Our partners at Groundwork Yorkshire have received a £50,000 donation from the NextDoor Foundation to enhance the work of their Green Hub at Lady Pit Lane, LS11. The funding will enable them expand use of the allotment as a community hub and deliver more training on their 'Green Skills' course.

But let's 'backpedal' for a moment. Earlier this year, we began working with Groundwork Yorkshire to deliver cycling sessions for people in the Holbeck community. These sessions were so successful that extra funding to deliver more sessions was secured, along with a donation of bikes to help remove barriers to participation.

Some of these cycling sessions have been delivered for offenders in a nearby hostel, in order to help them integrate back into the wider community.

Chris from Holbeck Together and Luke from Groundwork Yorkshire have been talking about expanding the partnership in other ways that would benefit the community, and the donation for the Green Hub is that next step, with a green skills course set to be delivered to a cohort of men across 12 weeks. Topics will include planting, weeding and tool use, and will help improve participants' future prospects.

Friendship group





Every Tuesday afternoon

1:15-2:45pm St Matthews

Stay connected with a day full of warmth, connection, and engaging activities.

To find out more or to get involved, contact Holbeck Together on 0113 245 5553.









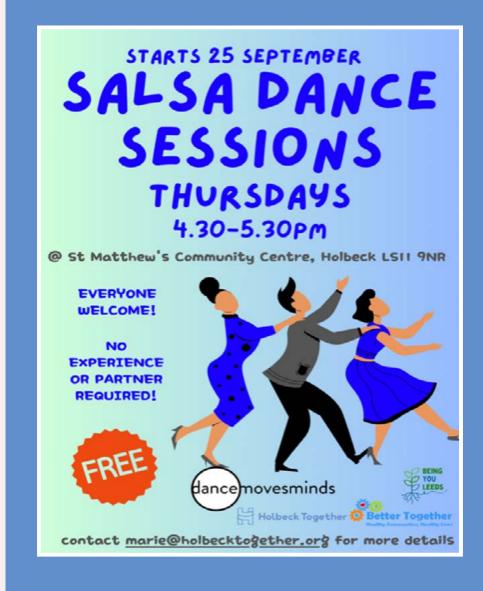
Having recently acquired a rundown plot in Holbeck, we're excited to share our bold new vision for our allotment space. More than just a place to grow food and flowers, we see this plot as a space where local people can grow connections; reconnect with nature; explore their creativity with outdoor art sessions and workshops; and potentially host family-friendly events.

Since June of this year, some amazing people have rolled up their sleeves to help clear the land and plant the first seeds of what we hope will become a thriving community allotment.

Do you have time to lend a hand (or some green fingers) to help the allotment flourish?

To find out more or to get involved, contact Marie at Holbeck Together.
0113 245 5553
marie@holbeck together.org





- Digital Hub



We're looking for volunteers.

We require volunteers across a range of services including:





Befrienders

Lunch club volunteers





Minibus and meal delivery drivers

Health and appointment buddy

We're currently seeking enthusiastic, reliable individuals to support our services and events.

Whether you can spare a few hours a week or just want to get involved occasionally, your time and talents can make a big difference.

Contact us to find out more about the roles and registration info:

0113 245 5553 admin@holbecktogether.org

WARM WELCOME SPACE

Every Tuesday 4 Nov – 24 Feb 2026 10am –1pm

As darker and colder days creep in, it can be tempting to go into hibernation mode – but for anyone looking to stay active and connected during the winter months, we've got you covered.

Holbeck Together is introducing a 'Warm Welcome Room' at St Matthews Community Centre. You'll find practical advice, friendly faces, access to digital support services and board games, as well as complimentary hot drinks with biscuits.

DIGITAL HUB

OPENING TIMES

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

If you need assistance
with your laptop,
smartphone or tablet
or support with
apps, online forms or
household bills, pop in
and speak to Sean at our
Digital Hub.

DATA RETRIEVAL SERVICE

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

People don't always realise how much their data means to them until it's gone. Holbeck Digital Hub now offers a data retrieval service that can recover your data and transfer it to another device.

LEEDS BECKETT RESEARCH TEAM WANTS TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR DIGITAL EXPERIENCE

Our Digital Hub team has partnered with Leeds Beckett University School of Health to research older people's experiences of taking part in and learning about digital activities. The want to gain an understanding of how it affects their wellbeing in community spaces.

If you're interested in taking part or would like to find out more about the research, please contact Sean in the Digital Hub.

Digital Hub Out & About

For more information about our digital hub services email sean@holbecktogether.org



Digital drop-ins at St Peter's Court

Holbeck Together has partnered with St Peter's Court sheltered accommodation in Beeston. On the first Friday of each month, our Digital Inclusion Worker Sean will deliver a digital drop-in session at St Peters to support people with their digital inclusion needs.



Interested in having a drop-in session near you?

If your organisation is interested in hosting a digital support session in the local area, then contact Sean.

Pudsey Civic Hall dementia awareness event

This summer, Holbeck Together Digital Hub team attended the Pudsey Civic Hall dementia awareness event, which featured a creative showcase, disco and a discussion about a new play centred on dementia experiences.

It was a great opportunity for our Digital Hub team to have conversations with partners such as the Alzheimer's Society, Adult Social Care and dementia friendly groups about the vital role our digital hub plays in supporting people with dementia.



We know that helping individuals to use digital devices in their everyday lives helps them not to be excluded or isolated.

If you are interested in finding out more about how we can support you or a loved one in using their digital device please get in contact - 0113 245 5553.

Age Without Limits at Leeds City Museum

Holbeck Together also attended an inspirational day to celebrate Ageing Well across Leeds. This took place at Leeds City Museum and was a chance to meet lots of people and other community organisations from across the city that support older people in lots of different ways.











Bringing Generations Together in Holbeck



The Healthy Holidays programme enjoys its biggest summer ever

This summer, we delivered our most varied and engaging Healthy Holidays programme yet. Reaching 95 local primary-aged children and their families.

Nutritious meals were, as ever, a key part of the programme, with children staying energised with healthy breakfasts, snacks and twocourse lunches throughout.

As well as easing some of the financial and childcare pressures that come with summer, the Holbeck Together Healthy Holidays programme also brought parents some much-needed routine during the six-week holiday in 2025.



OUR SUMMER 2025 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE INCLUDED:

An assortment of sports and games led by Premier Education

Creative crafts

A week-long street dance workshop, culminating in a performance by the children for their parents

Boxercise led by the Holbeck Together team

NEW AUTUMN – WINTER MENUS ARE HERE!

Warm up this winter season with our freshly prepared, hearty meals – delivered straight to your door or served at our friendly Lunch Clubs.

The new menu runs on a 4-weekly cycle (Mon-Fri) and includes favourites such as Chicken Casserole, Beef Mince and Dumplings and Roast Dinners.

Contact the office to receive a copy of our menu.







Christmas Healthy Holidays returns Visit healthyholidays.leeds.gov.uk

Family Events Schedule

Date	Event Information	Charge
Thurs 9 th Oct	Well-Being Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 10:00am-11:00am	£2.00 per person 'Kids Eat Free'
Fri 24 th Oct	Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraising Coffee Morning, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 9:30am-11:30am	Donations Welcome
Mon 27 th Oct	Family Friendly Pumpkin Craft Afternoon – booking essential – please book via leanne@holbecktogether.org - St Matthews C.C. 1:00pm-3:00pm	£3.00 per child
Thurs 13h Nov	Well-Being Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 10am-11am	£2.00 per person 'Kids Eat Free'
Sat 29 th Nov	Holbeck Christmas Market St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-4:00pm– Stalls Available	Free of Charge
Thurs 11 th Dec	Well-Being Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 10:00am-11:00am	£2.00 per person 'Kids Eat Free'
Mon 15 th Dec	Parent's & Tots – Breakfast with Santa Morning, 10:00am-11:00am Booking enquiries – leanne@holbecktogether.org	Donations
Mon 22 nd Dec	Family Group Outing – Sundown Adventure Land with Visit to Santa Booking enquiries – leanne@holbecktogether.org – Departure 9:00am. Return Approx. 4:30pm	£10.00 per person

Applications open for Christmas Gift Support for Families 2025

At Holbeck Together, we know that
Christmas can be a difficult time
financially for many families. If you
need some extra support this festive
season, you can apply for our Holbeck
Together Family Christmas Gift Support
by completing our online form.

Apply by Friday 7th November using the QR CODE



This Christmas gift support is only available to families living in the LS11 Holbeck postcode area.

All forms submitted are treated with care and confidentiality.

Please note: We have a limited number of gifts available and will support as many families as we can.

Family Friendly Pumpkin Craft Afternoon



email leanne@holbecktogether.org

Wellies in PLAY the Woods!

LEARN TO EXPLORE NATURE

ENCOURAGE

A brand-new eight-week outdoor play and learning opportunity for Holbeck families.

Come and join us for Wellies in the Woods, an exciting family group that brings little explorers and their grown-ups together for fresh air, healthy snacks and story time activities!

- Storybook inspired outdoor activities
- For children aged 0–5 years
- Nature-based crafts
- Sensory play

BOOST CONFIDENCE

Register your interest with Leanne. Call 0113 245 5553 or email leanne@holbecktogether.org

MEET FAMILIES

Come dressed for rain or shine!

Holbeck Christmas Market 2025

Saturday 29th November 12:00pm-4:00pm

Action packed day of festive entertainment:

- ·Face painting
- ·Tombola
- ·Festive food
- Community market stalls

Interested in having a stall at this event? Space available for a small fee. Contact admin@ holbecktogether.org to enquire about booking a stall for the day.



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

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 ${\bf All\ events\ are\ at\ St\ Matthews\ Community\ Centre\ unless\ otherwise\ stated.}$

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY I	FRIDAY
Parents & Tots (Term time only) St Matthews 9:30am-11:00am	Coffee Shop St Matthews 10:00am-12:00pm Various Prices	Coffee Morning Ingram Gardens 10:00am-12:00pm Various Prices	Holbeck Community Shop St Matthews 9:30am-2:00pm £4.00 for 14 Food Items Line Dancing	Coffee Shop St Matthews 10:00am-12:00pm Various Prices
Coffee Shop St Matthews 10:00am-12:00pm Various Prices	Chair Based Exercise Wellness Activity St Matthews 10:45am-11:30am £3.00 per person	Shopping to Owlcoates Shopping Centre 9:30am collect 1:30pm return £7.00 Transport 8 Oct, 29 Oct, 10 Dec Shopping to Crossgates 9:30am collect 1:30pm return £7.00 Transport 15 Oct, 5 Nov, 26 Nov, 17 Dec, 29 Dec	St Matthews 11:30am-12:30pm £2.50 per person	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 Morley Town Centre 9:30am collect 1:30pm return £7.00 Transport 22 Oct, 12 Nov, 3 Dec, 22 Dec	Coffee Shop St Matthews 9:45am-11:30pm Various Prices	Dance On Yorkshire Dance St Matthews 10:00am-11:00am Free of Charge
		Charity Shop St Matthews 11:30am-3:00pm	Charity Shop St Matthews 10:00am-2:00pm	
2-Course Lunch Delivery 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00	2-Course Lunch Delivery 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00	2-Course Lunch Delivery 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00	2-Course Lunch Delivery 11:45am-1:00pm £6.00	Fish & Chip Lunch Delivery 12:00pm-1:30pm From £6.50
Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additional £3.50	Supper Sandwich Meal Deal available for additiona £3.50
(55+)	55+)	55+)	55+	55+
2-Course Lunch St Matthews 12:00pm-1:00pm £5.00	3-Course Lunch St Matthews 12:00pm-1:15pm £6.00	3-Course Lunch Ingram Gardens 12:00pm-1:15pm £6.00	Baby Massage Jamyang Buddhist Centre 10:30am-11:30am	3-Course Fish & Chips St Matthews 11:30am-1:15pm From £6.50
(55+)	55+	55+	Call Leanne on 0113 245 5553 for further details	55+)
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 – for people experiencing dementia St Matthews 2:00pm-3:30pm Fortnightly	Bingo Afternoon St Matthews 1:15pm-2:15pm £2.50 per person

Events and Outings

Date	Event Information	Charge
Tues 7 th Oct	Friendship Club – Music Quiz and Karaoke Afternoon with Sue & Geoff – please book, Overs 55's Refreshments available. St Matthews C.C. 1:30pm-3:00pm	Free of Charge
Thurs 9th Oct	Well-Being Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 10:00am-11:00am	£2.00 per person 'Kids Eat Free'
Mon 13 th Oct	Group Outing – Pub Meal at Bridgewater Arms and Bowling at Hollywood Bowl, Kirkstall Pick-ups from 10:00am at St Matthews C.C. Return approx. 3:30pm	£10.00 Return Transport
Mon 20 th Oct	Group Outing – Pontefract Races, Afternoon of Horse Racing with Lunch Pick-ups from 10:30am at St Matthews C.C. Return 5:15pm	Sponsored by Pontefract Races
Fri 24 th Oct	Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraising Coffee Morning, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 9:30am-11:30am	Donations Welcome
Sun 26th Oct	2-Course Sunday Lunch. please book, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-2:00pm – Home delivery also available	£6.00 per person
Mon 27 th Oct	Group Outing – Barnsley Market Pick-ups from 9:00am at St Matthews C.C. Return approx. 3:30pm	£15.00 Return Transport
Tues 28th Oct	Friendship Club – Big Prize Bingo Afternoon! Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 1:30pm-2:45pm. Please book by calling 0113 245 5553	£2.50 per person
Tues 4 th Nov	Friendship Club – Music Quiz and Karaoke Afternoon with Sue & Geoff – please book, Over 55's Refreshments available. St Matthews C.C. 1:30pm-3:00pm	Free of Charge
Weds 5 th Nov	Bonfire Night 'Pie and Peas' Themed Lunch, Over 55's Ingram Gardens C.C. 12:00pm-1:30pm	£6.00 per person
Mon 10 th Nov	Group Outing – Toby Carvery, Oulton, Over 55's Pick-ups from St Matthews C.C. at 10:30am. Return approx. 2:30pm	£10.00 Return Transport
Tues 11 th Nov	Armistice Day 3-Course Lunch and Activity Afternoon, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-2:30pm	£6.00 Lunch £2.00 Activity
Thurs 13 ^h Nov	Well-Being Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 10am-11am	£2.00 per person 'Kids Eat Free'
Mon 17 th Nov	Group Outing – Tong Garden Centre, Over 55's Pick-ups from 10:00am at St Matthews C.C. Return approx. 3:00pm	£13.00 Return Transport
Tues 18th Nov	Lunch with Live Entertainment, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-2:45pm. Please book by calling 0113 245 5553	£6.00 per person
Weds 19 th Nov	Group Outing – Roys Mystery Tour, Over 55's Pick-ups from 9:00am at St Matthews C.C. Return approx. 4:00pm	£20.00 per person
Mon 24 th Nov	Group Outing – York Christmas Market, Over 55's Pick-ups from 9am at St Matthews C.C. Return approx. 3:30pm	£17.00 Return Transport
Sat 29 th Nov	Holbeck Christmas Market St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-4:00pm – Stalls Available	Free of Charge
Tues 2 nd Dec	Friendship Club – Create your own Christmas Wreath Afternoon, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 1:30pm-3:00pm – Limited Availability – Please Book	£3.00 per person
Thurs 4 th Dec	Leeds United Celebratory Festive Lunch, Over 55's Norman Hunter Suite, Elland Road. 12pm-2:30pm – please book by 28 th Nov	Free of Charge
Fri 5 th Dec	One Day at Christmas Event – Festive meal with entertainment at Royal Armouries, Leeds, Over 55's Pick-ups from St Matthews C.C. at 10:00am. Event 11:00am-4:30pm. Limited Availability – Please Book	Return Transport - £7.50 per person
Mon 8 th Dec	Oswaldtwistle Mills Shopping and Christmas Party – Lunch with Entertainment, Over 55's Pick-ups from St Matthews C.C. at 9:00am. Return approx. 4:00pm – Booking Essential	£40 per person inc. Lunch & Transport
Tues 9 th Dec	Friendship Club – Music Quiz and Karaoke Afternoon with Sue & Geoff – please book, Over 55's Refreshments available. St Matthews C.C. 1:30pm-3:00pm	Free of Charge
Thurs 11 th Dec	Well-Being Breakfast Morning. No booking required, everyone welcome St Matthews C.C. 10:00am-11:00am	£2.00 per person 'Kids Eat Free'
Mon 15 th Dec	Group Outing – Carlton Lanes Shopping Centre and Castleford Market, Over 55's Pick-ups from St Matthews C.C. at 9:00am. Return approx. 3:30pm	£15.00 Return Transport
Tues 16th Dec	3-Course Christmas Lunch followed by festive performance from St Lukes Choir, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm onwards	£6.00 per person
Tues 23 rd Dec	Christmas Social Party with Festive Buffet, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-2:30pm	£6.00 per person
Tues 30 th Dec	Welcome in 2026 with a 3-Course New Years Celebratory Lunch, Over 55's St Matthews C.C. 12:00pm-1:30pm	£6.00 per person

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*Offer available on respite stays booked between 1 October 2025 – 31 January 2026. Stays between 20 December 2025 to 2 January 2026 are excluded from this offer. Minimum two week stay required to qualify for the offer.

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