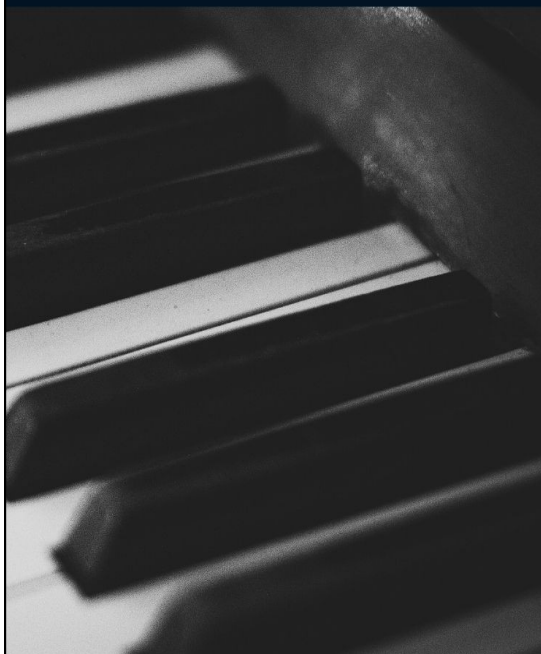


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## **Reader Licensing Service**

Some church members were at the Cathedral on Saturday afternoon, 13th November, to see Adam Grey's licensing as a reader and Alison Shacklady's retirement as one. Her title is Reader Emeritus, I believe. Alison has and continues to be a great servant to our parish and Adam has shown us how gifted he is when covering our zoom services during Covid.

It was a lovely service, covering the coming in and going out of readers. It was very surreal, as visitors/tourists continually wandered around us, which made it really different from the normal church service. I did an all night rave at the cathedral many years ago now, along with Carol Blakeborough. It was for church youth club members around Merseyside. It was a special night and I reminisce about it on every visit, this one included.

Some of those who attended have sent pictures which are on the next page. Geoff Bullen

## Adam Grey and the other Readers at the Licensing



## A Notable Church found by luck!

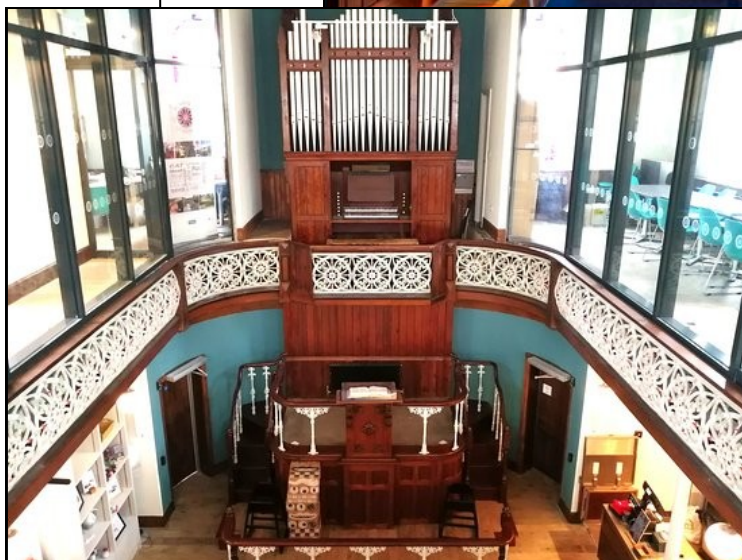
Nenthead is a small village just inside Northumbria rather than Cumbria that was visited after we have been to Hexham. It's one of the highest villages in England (about 1500 ft) and was built around lead and silver mining. We had intended to look around the mines on the surface, but even that was closed so we decided to visit the 'Hive' just across the road. It had been a Methodist Chapel but was now an art and craft centre for the local community and a café. We went to the upper floor which allowed us to see all of the ground floor and the organ. The wrought iron decorative balcony had etched glass panels giving a detailed history of the village and the church.

The Quakers formed the London Lead Company in 1704 and recognised a moral responsibility to their workforce. In order to develop the mines they constructed the first purpose built industrial village in England and laid foundations for today's social welfare system. The village had a free lending library and compulsory schooling for all children. As well as good housing, a school and a reading room there were public baths and a wash house for the miners and their families. It was the first village to have electric street lights from the excess power produced by the mines. Workers were encouraged to read and study, especially technical subjects and chemistry to help the company maintain its reputation for the best quality lead and silver on the market. A post

office was built in 1848 and water supplies provided in 1850.

When metal prices fell the mines were sold to Vielle Montagne Company, Belgium and zinc was mined until the 1940s. The mines closed in 1961 but were developed into a tourist attraction by the Nenthead Mines Heritage Centre in 1996 as there is an extensive underground network of tunnels. This failed in 2013 and the mines are now run by the Nenthead Mines Conservation Centre. So having read the history of the village we moved on to the Methodist Chapel. It is a Grade III listed building situated on the main road, so easy to find. The area was strongly Methodist and John Wesley preached here in 1748 and 1770, with the Quakers keen to encourage nonconformist faith in the community. They gifted the site for a Wesleyan Chapel to be built and the present Chapel was constructed in 1873.

I enjoyed buying some of the craft work and I enjoyed the bacon and sausage butty even more.



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## Knowsley- Borough of Culture 2022

The Borough of Culture title is awarded annually on a rotational basis to one of the six local authorities that make up the LiverpoolCity Region.

The purpose of the Borough of Culture award is to stimulate new cultural and creative opportunities; highlighting the unique character and distinctiveness of its people and places, and developing the skills and talents of its residents in order to create an exciting year of cultural events and activity that everyone can enjoy and take part in.

Each host borough will create its own programme of cultural and creative events, activities and opportunities, but all will include five key elements:

**Children and Young People** – accessing, enjoying, learning through culture and creative engagement, developing skills and talents.

**Positive outcomes** – wellbeing, health, education, cohesion and future world of work.

**Communities** – increased opportunities for participation and involvement

**Distinctiveness of place** – promoting the creative and culture offer to local people and visitors

**Infrastructure and Legacy** – building future cultural and creative opportunities beyond the Borough of Culture year.

In 2019 Wirral hosted the award, followed by Sefton on 2020 and Halton in 2021. In 2022 the honour comes to Knowsley and the theme of Knowsley's year is based around 'Stories' with the strapline

*'Everyone has a story to tell. It's time to tell ours'*

There will be a range of events taking place around Knowsley throughout the year starting in January with a programme of public light spectacles in each of Knowsley's areas, including Halewood. Details of these are currently being finalised and further details can be found on the newly created website

<https://www.cultureknowsley.co.uk/>This will be regularly updated

Another event will be 'The Owl and the Pussycat' Sculpture Trail, celebrating the fact that Edward Lear actually wrote that poem whilst living at Knowsley Hall as well, of course, as the much anticipated opening of the Shakespeare North Playhouse in Prescot

We are looking at how we link some of the events in our annual Halewood CultureFest into all that will be happening around the Borough. Watch this space.

## Edward Lear

A background to Lear seems appropriate as he is going to feature in several events in 2022.

Some time ago, 28 Apr 2012—30 Sep 2012, The Walker Art Gallery had an exhibition related to Lear as Artist, explorer and poet.



## **The Exhibition**

'Edward Lear: Artist, Explorer and Poet' reveals five of Lear's most stunning watercolours from his years spent travelling from 1837 to his death in 1888. This display marks the bicentenary of Lear's birth..

Edward Lear had a vast and varied career as an artist spanning six decades. Today he is best remembered for his nonsense poetry and caricatures, which demonstrate his offbeat humour and personality.

When Lear was 25 he moved to Italy. He spent the rest of his life based in Europe but travelled worldwide to remote and beautiful places. He created numerous sketches and works of the places he visited that many of his patrons and friends in England would never see.

To share his experiences with others Lear documented and intricately described nearly every day of the 50 years he spent travelling. He stated that he wanted to 'topographise the journeyings' of his life, recording his movements in sketches, diary entries, letters and journals, some of which he later published.

Lear annotated his sketches with notes and descriptions, giving the works a highly personal quality. He deliberately misspelt words and played with repetition and senseless phrases, creating his own unique language.

### **Edward Lear the explorer**

At the age of only 25, Lear was forced to give up his early career drawing intricate studies of ornithological species due to failing eyesight. Lear's health problems, including epilepsy and asthma, would prove to shape his entire life.

In a bid to improve his physical well-being he moved to Rome in 1837 and went on to base himself in southern Europe. Lear spent the next 50 years exploring the world, creating and selling his watercolours, drawings, paintings and journals wherever he went.

He travelled as far as Palestine, Egypt and India, studying each location's unique topography and characteristics before creating his sketches. These landscapes were well received in Britain and Lear managed to live on commissions and private patronage. He often survived on very little money and slept in tents during his travels.

His poor health meant he was often exhausted and he suffered from bouts of depression, but Lear did not let this hold him back. He constantly challenged himself, spurred on by a passionate interest in discovery and continuously sought out new and exciting scenery. He espe-

cially favoured working from high vistas, looking across open landscapes, and would often hike for hours in blistering heat to reach them.

## **Lear and William Holman Hunt**

Lear's sketches and watercolours were popular during his life but he wanted very passionately to become more skilled in translating these into oil paintings. Embarrassed by his lack of formal artistic training, he briefly joined the Royal Academy in 1850, sitting the exams with men 15 years his junior.

By 1852 Lear had decided that he needed special tuition and turned to the Pre-Raphaelite artist William Holman Hunt for advice. Hunt explained to Lear that it was extremely difficult to paint detailed oil paintings from sketches and drawings. Instead he suggested that Lear could develop his travel sketches into more detailed scenes using the British countryside. Hunt took Lear to Fairlight on the Sussex coast to paint directly from nature. In return Lear taught Hunt to speak Italian.

Hunt drew a portrait of Lear in 1857 as part of a series depicting his artist friends. Including Lear in this series was a huge compliment from one of Britain's most renowned Pre-Raphaelite painters. Lear had huge respect for the artist, who he affectionately referred to as 'Pa', although Hunt was his junior.

Hunt presented the portrait to the Walker Art Gallery in 1907. Hunt said that the gift was to mark his gratitude to the city of Liverpool for its academy's support of his career.

## **Edward Lear the poet**

As a teenager, Lear developed a great skill drawing zoological subjects, such as birds, monkeys, squirrels and turtles. On the strength of this he was invited by Lord Stanley, the 13th Earl of Derby to Knowsley Hall, Merseyside, to draw in detail the animals in his much loved menagerie.

Whilst residing there, Lear sought to amuse Lord Stanley's grandchildren and created caricatures and cartoons accompanied by playful and often nonsensical tales. Initially Lear was sent to eat with the servants of the house but he charmed and befriended the family and began what would become a life long friendship with the Earl.

His humorous illustrations and musings would eventually be published as 'The Book of Nonsense' in 1846.



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## Parish Walking Group

We had a great walk today, Saturday 27th Nov, the morning after storm Arwen had done its worse. The wind had halved to around 39 mph gusts, so it gave us the green light to go ahead.

It was a strange journey from home to our meet at The Centre, with tree carcasses scattered about, particularly a giant one uprooted near to the Okell roundabout. Apparently Olly Harrison had cleared fallen trees in Cartbridge Lane and near to the Eagle and Child pub.

The walking group numbered 11, which was a great turn out, considering the shaky media coverage of storm Arwen.



Our first port of call was Strawberry Fields Cafe and there we met Colin and Jean Critchley, daughter Gemma and family. It was great to see Colin in his trademark Yellow jacket, even if it was just a guest appearance for refreshments.

Onwards, from the iconic Beatles site, we went to Sefton Park and parked near to the metal bridge, sometimes known as the Fairy Glen. There was a hive of activity in the park with runners everywhere, part of the British Athletics Cross Challenge series of events. Once through the park and used to the wind we were off and out across two roads and into Princes Park.



After a photo call at Princes Park gates we headed down the newly refurbished Princes Avenue walk and cycle way. There we encountered quotes from Nelson Mandela and a beautiful L8 sculpture, commemorating the seafaring history of the area.

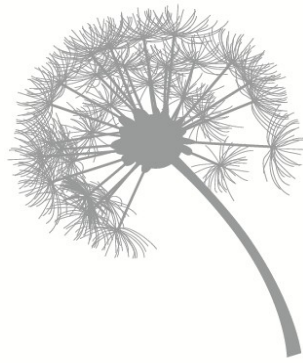


We went at a good pace and we were soon at the Anglican Cathedral, resting and refreshing in their grounds, just past the Huskisson memorial building. The sun shone on us and a little Staffordshire terrier turned up, seizing the opportunity of crumbs from our butties. We couldn't resist a half hour spell inside the Cathedral, where some of us had a further warm drink, others browsed around the shop and generally took in the peaceful atmosphere.



Like every return journey this one seemed much faster than the outgoing one and before we knew it we were at our cars again, near the metal bridge.

We had covered between 5 and 7 miles, depending on what Fitbit or phone you had, but by anyone's standards a fair stretch, particularly when you consider that the weather reports would have put a lot of people off. Well done to Penni Conlon, our team leader, for her sound assessment of the walk and conditions and rock on to the next. Geoff Bullen



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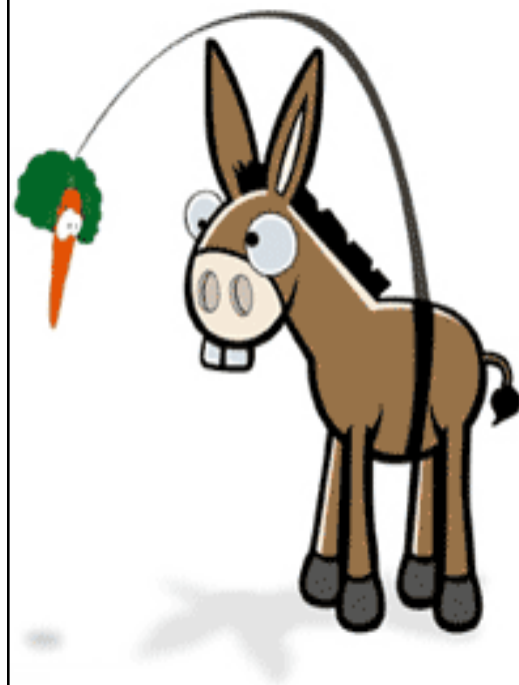
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Thanks everyone Alison



**From: Andy Radford** Bingo at 3pm (Every Thursday )

Hi Alison - I am forwarding you the details of a weekly bingo event Diane Richardson is doing. This is in case you can think of anyone who might like to join in. They are very friendly. Diane & Evelyn invite you to a ZOOM meeting. [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8893789982?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8893789982?pwd=eEN3QTdNd25QVHBnSTc5REhoVEFpQT09)

[pwd=eEN3QTdNd25QVHBnSTc5REhoVEFpQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8893789982?pwd=eEN3QTdNd25QVHBnSTc5REhoVEFpQT09)

Meeting ID: 889 378 9982 Passcode: BINGO

<b>BINGO</b>				
12	25	41	51	63
3	30	37	54	66
7	21	FREE	56	74
1	26	35	50	69
10	17	45	47	64

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## Regular Meetings of Groups

**Please contact groups for latest details as some have re-started from September**

<b>DAY</b>	<b><u>Venue</u></b>	<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>St Nicholas' Centre</b>	<b>Junior Church</b>	<b>11.00-12.00</b>
	<b>WI Hall Bailey's Lane</b>	<b>Drama Group</b>	<b>19.00-21.00</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>St Nicholas' Centre</b>	<b>Rainbows</b>	<b>18.00-19.00</b>
		<b>Bible Studio Group (Alternate weeks)</b>	<b>13.30-15.00</b>
	<b>St Nicholas Centre</b>	<b>Painting Club</b>	<b>13.00-15.30</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>St Nicholas' Centre</b>	<b>CATERPILLARS</b>	<b>09.15—11.00</b>
		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> H'wd Brownies</b>	<b>17.00-18.30</b>
		<b>Guides/Rangers</b>	<b>19.00-20.30</b>
	<b>St Mary's</b>	<b>100% Boss Club (Alternate weeks)</b>	<b>17.30-19.00</b>
		<b>Next Level (Alternate weeks)</b>	<b>18.45-19.45</b>
<b>Scout Hut</b>	<b>Beavers</b>	<b>18.00-19.30</b>	
<b>WED</b>	<b>St Nicholas' Centre</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> H'wood Brownies</b>	<b>17.30-19.00</b>
		<b>Drama Group</b>	<b>19.15-19.00</b>
	<b>St Nicholas' Church</b>	<b>Bell Ring Practice.</b>	<b>20.00-21.00</b>
		<b>Jam Club</b>	<b>15.30-17.00</b>
	<b>St Nicholas' Church</b>	<b>Knit &amp; Sew</b>	<b>10am-12</b>
	<b>Scout Hut</b>	<b>Cubs</b>	<b>18.00-20.00</b>
<b>THURS</b>	<b>St Nicholas' Centre</b>	<b>Coffee Shop</b>	<b>10.00-12.00</b>
		<b>Mothers' Union (1<sup>st</sup> of the month)</b>	<b>13.30-15.30</b>
		<b>Vestry Hour</b>	<b>19.00-19.45</b>
	<b>St Mary's</b>	<b>Stroke Club (2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> of Month)</b>	<b>19.30-21.45</b>
		<b>Scouts</b>	<b>19.00-21.00</b>
	<b>Scout Hut</b>	<b>Scouts</b>	<b>19.00-21.00</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>St Nicholas' Centre</b>	<b>Vineyard Youth Club</b>	<b>19.30-21.30</b>
<b>SAT 14.00</b>	<b>St Mary's</b>	<b>Coffee Shop/Foodbank</b>	<b>10.30-</b>

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