



**As The Fund Grows - the Fun Keeps on Coming!**

Just take a look inside to see how the Out o' Space fundraising is going - through fantastic work by Chris Starling on bidding to grant funders but also by the Centre team creating fun events that keep on giving.

See inside to see pics from the Garden Trail back in July. The weather was moderately kind, many hundreds of people toured the village and enjoyed the 14 beautiful gardens opened especially for their delight.

**More Events Coming Up**

Summer's over (!) and it'll soon be time for our eighth Scarecrow Trail on 14/15 September - if you'd like to join in and create a scarecrow contact Beth at [info@poppletoncentre.org.uk](mailto:info@poppletoncentre.org.uk) or download an Entry Form from our website [poppletoncentre.org.uk](http://poppletoncentre.org.uk) - or just put the date in your diary.

Then there's lots of fabulous Hallowe'en Spooky Fun with Mike's Magic Kingdom coming

up at, er, Hallowe'en (more details inside); our annual Bonfire and Firework Spectacular - this year generously sponsored by Hudson Moody and Inglis Accountants - and, of course, the Christmas Market kicks off your gift buying - with Community Film Night returning in November. So banish those winter blues and join in our fun fundraisers.

**Blue Plaque for Austin**

At Children's Sports Day, in May, the "first blue plaque outside the city's ring road" was unveiled with a number of celebrities on hand to witness the event including the May Queen.



May Queen, Elodie Roderick, with attendants Isabella Roderick and Poppy Young

FREE INSIDE



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**What's On in Poppleton**

Saturday 7 September  
MILLENNIUM GREEN  
COFFEE MORNING  
At the Tithe Barn



Weekend 14/15 September  
SCARECROW TRAIL  
All round the village



Thursday 31 October  
HALLOWE'EN  
SPOOKY FUN  
At The Centre



Tuesday 5 November  
BONFIRE & FIREWORK  
SPECTACULAR  
Tickets on sale 1st October



Friday 15 November  
COMMUNITY FILM NIGHT  
At The Centre

Saturday 16 November  
ST LEONARD'S HOSPICE  
FUNDRAISER  
72 Millfield Lane



Friday 22 November  
CHRISTMAS MARKET  
At The Centre

Saturday 30 November  
MILLENNIUM GREEN  
CHRISTMAS SALE  
Methodist Church Hall



Friday 13 December  
COMMUNITY FILM NIGHT  
At The Centre



# News from Upper Poppleton Parish Council

From Chairman Neil Lawrence  
**August Meeting**

The summer months are generally a quiet time for the Parish Council. Normally there is no meeting in August but this year we made an exception and held a short meeting to discuss some planning applications. Back to normal in September.

## Merged Councils

Little progress has been made on grouping the two Parish Councils. In early August all the City of York Councillors received an email from the Parish Councils working group, which included a document which explained the historical timeline. On the same day a mail was also sent to City officials. This included the same document as sent to the councillors and also a sample 'grouping order' which could be used as the basis for the eventual legal document. These actions were done to try and speed up the process. Replies have been received from some city councillors. We wait and see if this action will lead to anything positive.

## Biodiversity

The Environment Act 2021 placed a duty on all local authorities to take biodiversity into account in decisions and actions. The consequences of the biodiversity requirements will become more apparent in future decision making and also requires the Parish Council to develop a proper biodiversity policy. More about this in the future.

## Maypole Refurb



You may have noticed that a break in the weather in June lasted long enough for the Maypole to be painted and it once again looks splendid.

## Local cycle repairs and servicing

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# Out o' Space Project Update

## Fund Hits £230,000

We reported in the last edition of Centrepiece that



the Out o' Space Project, to significantly enlarge The Centre to ensure it's able to satisfy the needs of the village in the future, had just topped £200,000 and we are delighted to say that we have now secured a grant of £20,000 from the National Lottery Fund.

This, along with Parish Council grants for 2024, local store NISA, takes the total fund up to £230,000 - a huge step towards the £300,000+ that we need.



## Boost from Garden Trail

The Poppleton Garden Trail in late July gave another boost to the fund, raising just over £4,000. Some 850 visitors toured the 14 open gardens during the weekend and it was not only a great fundraiser but a really lovely community event. Enormous thanks to the hard working gardeners who so generously opened their gardens; to our sponsor Hudson Moody; to Askham Bryan College for putting on their horticultural demonstrations; to Dobbies for their help in promoting the event; to all the volunteers who got involved; to the advertisers in the programme and, of course, to everyone who took the Trail and lent their support to the event. We may be getting closer to our goal but we still need all the help we can get, so please make a note of the other events coming up and read on for other ways you can contribute.

## Make a Donation

Our GoFundMe page is still up and running and you are invited to contribute to the Fund by going on-line to [gofundme.com/f/autospace-project](https://gofundme.com/f/autospace-project) and making a contribution, no matter how big or small - every little helps.

## Your Name on The Building

If you'd like to help by having your name, your children's and grandchildren's names emblazoned on the side of the new building it couldn't be easier. For just £25 each your name, those of your family and friends can be included for display on the building for all time. Use the QR code or go to [poppletoncentre.org.uk](https://poppletoncentre.org.uk) and follow the links or ask Beth at The Centre to take your details and pay by card, cash or cheque.



## The Garden Trail in Pictures



# Thank you, Emma

Due to work and family commitments, Emma Lamer has regrettably resigned from Poppleton Community Trust having been a Trustee for six years,

Emma has been an invaluable member of the team, bringing her knowledge and expertise in HR to the fore on many issues, contributing to, and leading on, such things as employment law, contracts and remuneration policy.



Trust Chairman, Robin Tomlinson, said that "Emma's commitment and input across all aspects of Trust activity have been greatly valued and we are very sorry to lose her."

**Poppleton Centre Trek to Everest**  
16 October - 2 November 2025

If you'd like to join our 16 intrepid trekkers on the trip of a lifetime and help raise funds for the Out o' Space Project, call Beth on 01904 797478 or email [info@poppletoncentre.org.uk](mailto:info@poppletoncentre.org.uk) for details

## Happy Fifth Birthday, Poppleton Social



Hard to believe it was five years ago that Louise and Sam Gallagher opened the doors of the Poppleton Social - and what a success they've made of it.

To celebrate they hosted a Fun Day in August with two huge bouncy castles, face painting and fun and games for all the family - well, the kids, anyway.



Congratulations and here's to many more happy years with you and your team serving awesome food and drinks to the Poppleton community.

Come and join the fun

**POPPLETON'S EIGHTH SCARECROW TRAIL**

Saturday and Sunday  
14th and 15th September 2024  
10am-4pm

Maps and Question Sheets  
£3 each, available on the day from The Poppleton Centre

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# Do You Appreciate The Arts?



**HELP US KEEP ARTS APPRECIATION ACTIVE IN POPPLETON**

Poppleton Arts Society is a small, thriving association in the village which has enjoyed and shared talks for those with an interest in all the Arts for the past forty-two years but...

## WE MAY HAVE TO CLOSE DOWN AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR !

Both Roger and I, the present treasurer & chair, need to step down in December 2025. Thus we need two individuals to join us by next spring as Chair-Elect and Treasurer-Elect to help plan and manage our annual programme of ten guest speakers & outings for 2026 onwards .

For more information on either role or if you would just like to talk it over please contact Roger Backhouse or myself:

Roger: [arbe1950@googlemail.com](mailto:arbe1950@googlemail.com)  
Richard: [rbeaton026@gmail.com](mailto:rbeaton026@gmail.com)

Thank you  
Richard Beaton  
Chair, Poppleton Arts Society

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## Poppleton Millennium Green

### 2025 POPPLETON CALENDAR

We have produced a calendar for 2025 with lovely photographs of Poppleton. Just £10 each or two for £18. Available at the events below, Cardland and The Lemon Tree in the build up to Christmas.

### COFFEE MORNING

**Saturday 7th September**

Tithe Barn

9.30 to 12.00

AGM to follow at midday

Preserves and 2025 Poppleton Calendar will be available to buy.

### CHRISTMAS SALE

**Saturday 30th November**

Coffee on the Green

Methodist Church Hall

10.00 – 12.00noon

Homemade produce and

2025 Poppleton Calendars for sale.

Jigsaw swap.

Do come along to support us.

Please note, cash only at our events - sorry!

**the Poppleton centre**

# Poppleton Christmas Market

**Friday 22 November 2024**  
Stalls 6-9pm  
at The Poppleton Centre

**£3 Admission**  
includes mulled wine and mince pie

Tickets available only on the door

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## Remembering Austin Wright

A plaque to celebrate the significant post-war sculptor Austin Wright, whose personal and professional lives were deeply intertwined with Upper Poppleton and the wider city, was unveiled in Poppleton as part of the village's May Children's Sports Day celebrations.

Wright, who lived from 1934 to 1997, made sculptures using different types of materials, but mostly aluminium. His sculptures are in many national collections, including the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the Tate, and the National Museum of Wales. Some of his most recognised works are located at the University of York.

From the 1960s onwards, his art found new direction from interest in plant forms. He drew particular inspiration from his garden in Poppleton which also became an exhibition space, with large aluminium works to be found among trees and fauna. The plaque is therefore at Green View, on the Green: his home, studio and inspiration.

The Wright plaque is the first blue plaque outside of the city's ring road. It's one of over 150 blue plaques in the city erected by York Civic Trust, a membership organisation whose other plaques include the first 'rainbow' plaque in the world (Anne Lister, aka "Gentleman Jack") and the only 'stained-glass' blue plaque (Lawrence Sterne).

The plaque was unveiled by the newly crowned "May Queen" and was attended by around 100 people – a record for a Civic Trust blue plaque unveiling – and included Austin's son, Crispin Wright, and University of York's Art Curator, Helena Cox (pictured, above), who both gave insights into the life and work of Austin.



## News from Nether Poppleton Parish Council

*From Chairman Sean Barry*

### New Councillor

Since the last update, we have welcomed Andrew Walker onto the Parish Council. Andrew has many good ideas and a fresh perspective, so we are thoroughly looking forward to having him as part of our team.

### River Bank Update

In the last report, I updated you on the tree planting and spiling that was planned to strengthen the river bank adjacent to Saxe Dane Lodge. Alas this area was vandalised, within a week of the work being carried out. We are seeking further advice from the Environment Agency regarding more robust, practicable, measures. Planned work in the coming months include the installation of an additional bench adjacent to the War Memorial. The funds for this have been kindly provided by the family of a previous resident of the village.

### Parish Councils Merger

The Upper Poppleton Parish Council Chair has reported, elsewhere in this issue, on the limited engagement from City of York Council regarding the grouping of the two Poppleton Parish Councils. A single, grouped Parish Council will undoubtedly be more efficient. Given CYC's parlous financial position, as evidenced by the introduction of garden waste charges, for example, one would hope that they would have the foresight to see the benefits of assisting us with this work.

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# Poppleton History Society

News from Julian Crabb

## Meeting and AGM 1 May 2024

The format of the evening was firstly the talk: "Inside China: Living on the economy of China" by Jane McKeown, followed by the AGM. Jane's modest description of herself was: "Combines a very large family with the research ethics of generations of journalists on both sides".

She first described the book, '1421: the year China discovered the world', by Gavin Menzies, a retired Royal Navy Submarine Commanding Officer born in 1937 in China. He served from 1959 to 1970 and sailed the world in the wake of Columbus, Dias, Cabral and Vasco de Gama. He also followed the routes of Magellan and Cook. In his research of 1421 he visited 120 countries, over 900 museums and libraries and major seaports of the late Middle Ages.

In brief, Menzies proposes that the Chinese had circumnavigated the world a century before Magellan, reached America seven-



Emperor Zhu Di

ty years before Columbus and fifty years before Cook. On 8 March 1421 a vast Chinese fleet, some ships nearly 500 feet long, sailed under the command of Emperor Zhu Di's loyal eunuch admirals.

Their task was: 'to proceed all the way to the ends of the earth'.

The voyages lasted two years but on return China was reduced to self-imposed isolation from the world and the ships left to rot and written records destroyed. The latest evidence describes an entire Chinese fleet wrecked on

the South Island of New Zealand but many other places in the world show evidence of the settlement of Chinese sailors, for example the west coast of Norway where genetic sampling has revealed Chinese origins.



Author Gavin Menzies

Menzies compiled evidence over some fifteen years using ancient maps, navigational knowledge, surviving accounts of Chinese explorers and later European navigators as well as traces of the fleets left behind.

Jane added that her granddaughter worked in China and spoke mandarin. She visited the Great Wall and Xian but her overall impression was that the majority of Chinese lived in poverty. She compared the populations of India with China and the falling birthrate of the Chinese, such that the economy would suffer badly in the future. Although most transport was by train and buses, cars were creating gridlock in the bigger cities and towns.

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM followed the talk and details will be available for members. Briefly the current officers of Ted Kendall, Julian Crabb and Mark Nicholson agreed to stay in their posts but a new committee member, Roger Backhouse was elected. The programme for members, 2024-2025, would be sent out in late summer. The secretary reminded those present that no club could survive without new members and volunteers for offices.

### Next Meeting Tuesday (not Wednesday) 15 October 2024

in the Dodsworth Room at 7.30pm  
**'The Baedeker Raid on York  
by Malcolm Brooke**



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### SCARECROW TRAIL WEEKEND



Poppleton Methodist Church Hall  
Coffee on the Green Opening Times  
Saturday 14th September, 10am - 4pm  
Sunday 15th September, 12noon - 4pm

We will be providing our Full Menu, to  
include Morning Coffee, Bacon butties,  
Scones, Cakes, Lunch and  
Afternoon Tea.

On your route around the village looking  
at the Scarecrows, why not pay us a visit  
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Mmmm - Poppleton Social  
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# News from Poppleton Sports Clubs

## Poppleton Lawn Tennis Club News from Hilary Spencer

### Win for Belinda

Congratulations to our Head Coach Belinda and her doubles partner on winning the British Open Masters Clay Court Championships in Bournemouth.

Ladies team tennis has had a great season. It's not completed yet but Team 1 have already gained promotion to Division 1 as the clear leaders of their division. Team 2 and Team 3 are also well placed in their respective Divisions with some matches still to complete. The four Mens' teams and four Mixed teams are all either mid table or close to the top.

### Pickleball

Pickleball is now established in Poppleton. Pickleball is the world's fastest growing sport and is a cross between tennis, table tennis and badminton. It is a fun, low-impact sport suitable for all ages and abilities. We support 3 sessions every week which are played in all weathers in the Community Centre Hall. Equipment is provided and the sessions are as follows:

Monday 10.30am – 12.00 noon  
Tuesday 2.00pm – 3.30pm  
Wednesday 11.30am- 1.00pm

Come and join us. Contact Sally Bell-Syer 07792 452 675 or just turn up to a session. Everyone is welcome!

### Summer Camp

What an incredible week we have had for Summer Camp 1. It was a week packed full of fun, tennis, ice lollies and splashing in the paddling pool to cool down. Thanks to the coaches and everyone who attended. Summer Camp 2 is 12-16 August, see you then!

[www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/  
PoppletonLawnTennisClub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/PoppletonLawnTennisClub)  
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For details of all  
the activities  
available at  
The Centre see  
opposite page

## Poppleton Football Club

### New Football Club!

Poppleton Junior Football Club is delighted to announce a new and exciting partnership with Poppleton United. We have joined forces to form a new club, with the aim of developing our young footballers from five years old through to adulthood, providing a clear pathway for all of our young players, with a wealth of experience, top quality coaching, and fabulous facilities.

The newly formed Poppleton Football Club is in an enviable position, able to drive football forward in Poppleton and give our young girls and boys fantastic opportunities to develop, learn and grow.

### Juniors News from Rich Fox

#### Fancy Running Our Cafe?

We're on the look out for a new cafe manager, to serve our hungry and thirsty punters on match days and during training on Saturdays and Sundays. If this sounds like you, please get in touch.

#### Girls' U11s Team

Our U11s girls' team is looking for new players - join us to form new friendships, learn new skills, play in matches and make lasting memories!

For more information about any of the above, to join the team or enrol your young footballer, please contact Mike Walter:  
[mikewalter@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mikewalter@tiscali.co.uk)  
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### Seniors News from Alex Janes

#### Eyecatching Performances

Poppleton F.C. Seniors have continued their form into pre-season with some eye catching performances in the friendlies so far. The retention of the vast majority of last season's squad alongside a few quality additions means that they are in positive spirits for the season ahead. The 1st team season will have kicked off their campaign on August 17th with an away trip to neighbours Tockwith, whilst the 2nd team season begins against Tadcaster Magnets on September 14th. The senior side also have a new social media page on Instagram so please give it a follow

@Poppletonfcmen

for all the latest club updates, fixtures and results

Further information from  
Alex Janes  
[alex.janes1@hotmail.com](mailto:alex.janes1@hotmail.com)

## Poppleton Bowls Club News from Colin Robinson

### Season Ending

Before we know it the season is coming to an end with about a month to go. It has been pretty hectic with a lot of bowling in both club and league competitions. It would be fair to say that results have been somewhat mixed. The evening league team is struggling to avoid relegation. The good news being that the team had a good win over one of our rivals for the drop with three more matches to go. Watch this space! In the Vet's league again it is mixed fortunes. The B team is currently third in Division I. Top place is probably not possible but runner up is! In the same division our A team is also struggling to avoid relegation. In Division 4 our C and D teams are holding their own. Poppleton C could, possibly, win the division.

The Ladies are doing rather better currently in the middle of the evening league

and at the top of the Challis league, albeit with other teams having some games in hand. All in all it is proving to be another good season for the ladies.

In addition the club competitions, under the supervision and guidance of our Vet's member, Alan Taylor, continue apace. There are a lot of them and Alan has a tough task getting everyone to play their matches on time.

Anyway it is all good fun and the fifty or so active bowling members of the club have enjoyed a very full season and continue to do so. As always this friendly club welcomes new members. Just get in touch and we will take it from there.

or more information contact  
Colin Robinson, Secretary  
01904 783281  
[colinanddee.robinson@btopenworld.com](mailto:colinanddee.robinson@btopenworld.com)



Find out more at [poppletoncentre.org.uk](http://poppletoncentre.org.uk)



Contact Centre Manager 01904 797478 [info@poppletoncentre.org.uk](mailto:info@poppletoncentre.org.uk)

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# Centrepiece

If you would like to **advertise**, have some **interesting news** to share or want to promote an upcoming event and would like to reach the 5,000 residents of Upper and Nether Poppleton in one of our quarterly issues contact

Bob Wood at [centrepiece@poppletoncentre.org.uk](mailto:centrepiece@poppletoncentre.org.uk)  
or Beth Kirkham at [info@poppletoncentre.org.uk](mailto:info@poppletoncentre.org.uk), 01904 797478

Most of these activities are currently running at The Centre - ring contact for more information

## Add some sparkle to your day



Organisation	Days/times (24 hour clock used)	Contact	Contact No
Ballet with Miss Gemma	Saturday 09.00-12.00	Gemma Thomaz	07428 644219
Baby Band	Monday and Friday 9.30-10.30	Charlotte Hill	07789 005477
Badminton	Monday 19.00-20.00	John Riley	07742 034346
Bloom Sensory	Friday 9.00-12.00	Fiona Price	07720 966438
Bowls		Colin Robinson	01904 783281
Bridge Club	Thursday (twice a month) 19.00-22.00	Lesley Holroyd	07840 704379
Ebor Lacemakers	Monday 10.00-14.00	Hilary Davies	01904 795984
Easy Aerobics	Wednesdays 13.30-14.30	Rachael	07882 076754
Football - Veterans	Friday 19.00-20.30	Pete Moss	07525 655116
Football - All Stars Football Academy	Monday 16.00-18.00; Wednesday 16.00-18.00	Christian Fox	07711 871170
Keep Fit - Men	Wednesday 20.00-21.00	John Millington	01904 794455
Lisa Marie Performing Arts	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday	Call for details	07872 508651
Move It or Lose It	Friday 10.45-11.30	Hannah Carter-Brown	07375 950315
Pickleball (all welcome)	Monday 10.30-12.00; Tuesday 14.00-15.30 Wednesday 11.30-13.00	Sally Bell-Syer <a href="mailto:sembellsyer@gmail.com">sembellsyer@gmail.com</a>	
Pilates - Beginners	Tuesday 10.00-11.00 and 19.45-20.45	Gill Crane	07903 756682
Pilates - Intermediate	Tuesday 11.30-12.30	Gill Crane	07903 756682
Poppleton Arts Society	Monthly, 1st Tuesday, 19.30 Sept-June	Jean Graystone	01904 795914
Poppleton History Society	Monthly, 3rd Tuesday	Julian Crabb	01904 798868
Poppleton Probus	Alternate Wednesdays 10.00-12.00	Roper Langford	01904 786565
Poppleton Social	For opening hours check their Facebook page	Sam Gallagher	07869 755083
Rugby Tots	Tuesday 9.30-11.30	Rob Brining	0345 313 6716
Sing and Sign	Thursday 10.00-13.00	Anne Gibbeson	07811 651720
Stretch and Mobility	Mondays 10.30-12.30	Tish Bolton	07850 156555
Tai Chi	Thursday 14.30-15.30	Iain Keegan	07852 881937
Tennis - Membership and Enquiries		John Lister	07800 699897
Tennis - Junior and Adult Classes		Belinda Turnbull	01904 750778
The Little Yorkshire Dance Academy	Friday 9.30-10.30	Joanna Harker <a href="mailto:joanna@thelittleyorkshiredanceacademy.co.uk">joanna@thelittleyorkshiredanceacademy.co.uk</a>	
Tumbletots	Thursday 10.00-14.00	Jenny Hampton	07907 711871
Walking Netball	Wednesday 10.00-11.00	Maggie Wilson	07989 256345
YCSG Cardiac Rehab Exercise Class	Monday 13.30-14.30; Friday 13.30-14.30	Ray Schofield	07703 199207
Yoga	Mon 19.30-21.00; Tues 13.00-14.15; Weds 13.45-15.15	Maureen Payne	01904 861564
York Photographic Society	Wednesday 19.00-21.00	Chris Hart <a href="mailto:chrishart@sky.com">chrishart@sky.com</a>	
York Tuition Centre	Wednesday 15.30-18.30	Rachael Holmes	07968049406



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**Poppleton Centre**  
**COMMUNITY FILM NIGHT**  
 2024/25



We're back for our 2024/25 season, bringing you the very best movies and just a stone's throw from home.  
 Put the dates in your diary now!

Friday 15th November  
 Friday 13th December  
 Friday 10th January  
 (more dates to come)

Film starts at 7.00pm  
 Snacks available in the interval and The Poppleton Social will be open.

**Are you looking for an in-person tutor in York?**




**tutorfox**  
[www.tutorfox.co.uk](http://www.tutorfox.co.uk)

Scan here to Request a Tutor



**Poppleton Tithe Barn**  
 Open for Bookings

Exhibitions, Craft Fairs, Meetings, Social Gatherings, Dinners, Christenings, Wedding Breakfasts  
 Private Garden and Kitchen facilities  
 See our website - [poppletontithebarn.co.uk](http://poppletontithebarn.co.uk)

*Poppleton* SOCIAL

# Christmas Party Venue Hire

Give yourself the treat of a hassle-free Christmas Party experience this year!

Our large hall measures **22.5m x 16.5m** and with the addition of the stylish marquee interior it becomes a perfect venue for **parties!**

Our in-house Chef's menu selections will suit your needs and take that extra pressure off your event planning!

## CONTACT US

-  [events@poppletonsocial.com](mailto:events@poppletonsocial.com)
-  [www.poppletonsocial.co.uk](http://www.poppletonsocial.co.uk)
-  Poppleton Social, Poppleton Community Centre Main Street, York YO26 6JT



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