
Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Information for the meeting on Monday 21 September 2026

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

II To receive a report on success of the Lewis Creighton Exhibition 31 July to 2 August 2026

Lewis Creighton Exhibition

The exhibition was opened at 2pm on Friday 31st July. As the Town Mayor Joe welcomed everyone to the event. I said a few words about how the exhibition had come about and thanked the Creighton family for their support and all those who had loaned paintings. Joe and Lewis Creighton's great grandsons then declared the exhibition open. Lewis's children John and Elizabeth were present along with his granddaughter Lucy and her husband. Most of the people who had loaned paintings were also there and the Mayor of Pickering.

Initially twenty five paintings had been promised for the exhibition but as the date approached more people came forward and there were thirty six on Thursday when I printed the catalogue. On Friday morning Elizabeth Creighton arrived with four more paintings! I was able to hang one of them and displayed the others on stands on a table. Several people had sent me information about their paintings and I included this in the catalogue.

John Creighton had said that he would like to see a cardboard cut out of his father in the exhibition and sent me a suitable black and white photo. I was able to source one from a company called My Cardboard Cut Out! John was delighted with it and it was a great talking point! The History Group are now storing it for use in future events.

Numbers visiting the exhibition were: 31 July between 2 and 5pm 108, 1 August between 10am and 5pm 275, 2 August between 10am and 3pm 117. Total visitors 500.

Visitors were a mixture of local people, some of whom remembered Lewis Creighton and those who had travelled some distance for the music festival. There were also people from York and Scarborough who had come to Kirkbymoorside solely to see the paintings. Several people had never visited the Moorside Room before and were very impressed. Two people suggested subjects for future exhibitions.

I am delighted to be able to tell you that Chris Feather has very kindly donated one of his large paintings to the Town Council. His paintings had been in storage for 27 years following the sale of the Feathers Hotel and he was very pleased to see them hanging as part of the exhibition.

My thanks must go to the following people:

Lisa for organising the refreshments for the opening and assisting me with the preparations.

Hilary Shields for storing 30 chairs at very short notice and organising their return after the event.

Di Wightwick and her husband for taking photos at the opening and helping to hang some exhibits.

John Paul and Antony Bentley for finding a way to hang seven of the paintings that arrived unframed and helping to hang the exhibits. Antony also spent two hours as a steward on Saturday afternoon.

Jean Stewart for stewarding for two hours on Sunday morning.

Kirkbymoorside History Group for the loan of two pull up banners and a copy of John Creighton's book about his father.

Chris Dowie

16 September 2026.

Expenditure

Minute **26032** Agenda item 8. Moorside Room

Ordinary meeting of the Town Council dated 15 June 2026

b. Lewis Creighton Exhibition

- I. An update on progress of arrangements for the Lewis Creighton exhibition was **received**. The official opening of the exhibition will be at 2pm on 31 July. Cllrs Grounds and Moffat and the clerk provided apologies for absence in advance of the event. Cllrs Coughlan and Riby confirmed their availability to assist Cllr Dowie with the event.
- II. The cost of £55.52 for the insurance endorsement applicable to loaned art works was **agreed**.
- III. A budget of £100 for associated expenses was **agreed**.
- IV. Purchase of a Lewis Creighton painting for the town was considered. Cllr Riby proposed a budget of £300 for purchase of a painting, to be chosen by the Town Council. **Agreed**.

Description	Cost	
Insurance endorsements	55.52	
Exhibition Posters	17.50	
Refreshments	35.42	
Lifesize Cardboard cutout of Lewis Creighton	47.65	
	£100.57	£0.57 overspend



Lewis Creighton Exhibition

31 July-2 August 2026

Catalogue of Exhibits

Painting number	Loaned by	Title/Information
1	Chris Feather	North York Moors. This painting and 2, 5, 7, 12 and 28 were displayed in the ballroom at the Feathers Hotel, Helmsley for many years
2	Chris Feather	North York Moors
3	Lesley Temple	Ashleigh House, Middlesborough. Lesley's father and Lewis were contemporaries. Lesley remembers her father saying that Lewis was a very clever man. Her uncle asked Lewis to paint the family house in Middlesborough.
4	Russ Grayson	North York Moors
5	Chris Feather	North York Moors
6	Jean and John Stewart	Rosedale Chimney
7	Chris Feather	North York Moors
8	Phil Gospel	North York Moors
9	Sue Gospel	North York Moors
10	Janet & Philip Coe	Janet's father managed a garage in Pickering and knew Lewis well.
11	Anthony Bentley	North York Moors. Anthony knew Lewis very well and often framed his paintings. Lewis would come to Kirkbymoorside on market day and sit and chat to Anthony in his workshop.
12	Chris Feather	The River Rye in Duncombe Park, Helmsley. Chris remembers seeing this painting at his grandparent's house. He always used to try to find the blackbird.
13	Anthony Bentley	Cow House Bank

14	Anthony Bentley	North York Moors
15	Lesley Temple	Lesley Temple's mother asked Lewis to paint this moorland scene for her.
16	Ann Pennock	When she was 15 Ann worked at The Crown at Hutton le Hole. She saw Lewis painting in the village and was inspired by him to become an artist herself.
17	Sue Gospel	Farndale. Sue and her husband used to farm in Farndale and Lewis painted this especially for them
18		This picture was painted by Lewis in the 1960s for a good friend who asked for a scene "without sheep's bottom's"!
19	Anthony Bentley	North York Moors
20	Jean & John Stewart	North York Moors
21	Jean & John Spewart	North York Moors
22	Lesley Temple	Ashleigh House Middlesborough in Winter
23	Simon & Frances Woodhams	North York Moors
24	Andrew & Carol Graham	North York Moors
25	Chris Feather	North York Moors
26	John & Brenda Paul	North York Moors. John and Brenda had a picture framing business and knew Lewis well. John remembers diving off Filey Brigg and taking Lewis with him to stay in the dinghy while John was diving.
27	Andy Carnell	Andy wishes to sell this painting. Please ask the steward for his contact details
28	Chris Feather	
29	Barbara McPherson	Noah's Ark. This painting was done especially for Barbara's children also paintings 30 and 33
30	Barbara McPherson	The Farm
31	Tony Riby	Pencil drawing. Mr Blackbird comes to see me.
32	Simon & Frances Woodhams	Low Tide
33	Barbara McPherson	A Kitchen scene
34	Lesley Temple	Still Life with flowers
35	Chris Feather	Mr Pickwick. Lewis painted Chris's grandfather who was dressed as Mr Pickwick for the Helmsley Dickens Festival.
36	Joe Coughlan	Landscape near Wombledon

Kirkbymoorside Town Council wishes to thank the Creighton family for their help and all those people who have generously loaned paintings for this exhibition.









The Moorland Artist

Lewis Creighton was born in 1918 and grew up in Appleton-le-Moors near Kirkhymoorside. As well as being a remarkable landscape artist he was a musician, astronomer, philosopher and a pilot in the Royal Air Force.

"As a father he was
the best friend any
son could have."

John Creighton

"...a good and kind and
generous and warm hearted
man; a man with the most
wonderful sense of humour
and fun."

Major D. A. Wood of The Grange, Lasingham

"A man of many and varied
talents and skills; a painter, a
musician an engineer, an
aviator an astronomer."

"He achieved success in all
that he attempted and
practised."

"Truly he was a legend in his
own time."

"A man of profound intellect:
a polymath. Indeed, he was a
great man; a genius, a very
giant among his fellow men."

Major D. A. Wood of The Grange, Lasingham



