

Press Release – 23 May 2016

THOUSANDS ENJOY THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD'S
5TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS 21-22 MAY WEEKEND

5 PARTIES, 2 DAYS, 17 HOURS, 7,000 VISITORS, 1 GIANT HERON



*L-R: David Liddiment, Simon Wallis OBE, Frances Quinn and Cllr Peter Box with 'Patrick the Heron'
Photo: Nick Singleton. Courtesy: The Hepworth Wakefield/www.hepworthwakefield.org*

More than 7,000 visitors enjoyed five parties across two days as Yorkshire's major gallery The Hepworth Wakefield celebrated its 5th anniversary.

A 17-hour spectacular programme during the weekend, 21-22 May marked the milestone in collaboration with a diverse range of Yorkshire and Wakefield-based arts organisations who have worked with the award-winning gallery during the last five years.

The gallery's biggest Baby Rave began proceedings on Saturday 21 May, followed by afternoon performances create an immersive arts experience of visual arts, dance and song in the award-winning gallery spaces.

In honour of the riverside gallery's resident heron and mascot (affectionately known as 'Patrick the heron'), Faceless Arts brought their giant heron puppet to the family picnic on Sunday 22 May. Former BBC Great British Bake Off winner Frances Quinn presented her special bake to the crowds, featuring a giant number 5 with sugar candle and a hand-piped dark chocolate sketch of David Chipperfield's first drawing of the gallery.

The gallery has attracted over 1.5m visitors and contributed over £20m into the local economy since it opened in May 2011. The Hepworth Wakefield has attracted £7 million worth of art to Wakefield's Permanent Art Collection through acquisitions and gifts from individuals and trusts, from The Hepworth Family Gift to the

recent Tim Sayer Bequest, one of the UK's largest bequests in recent years and one of the most significant gifts to Wakefield by a private collector.

Cllr Peter Box, Leader of Wakefield Council said: "I am very proud that Wakefield is home to The Hepworth. There is no doubt that that the city and wider area benefit from its success as well as giving local people the opportunity to enjoy one of the finest contemporary art museums in Europe, right on their doorstep. What has been achieved since 2011 is not just a world-renowned art gallery but a catalyst for creating culture-led regeneration. The reputation and success of The Hepworth Wakefield was fundamental in attracting the developer for the Rutland Mills complex, which is now set to become the creative hub of the North."

David Liddiment, Chair of The Hepworth Wakefield Trust since 2010 said: "As a local lad from Huddersfield I'm immensely proud of what has been achieved at the gallery. The enthusiasm and dedication by Simon and his team have helped the gallery to exceed all initial expectations and establish Wakefield as a cultural destination, putting it firmly on the national and international map. The success of the gallery is evident in the numerous repeat visitors and the excellent satisfaction rating from our visitors which have helped us to reach the 1.5 million visitor milestone. It's great to see visitors travelling from all parts of the UK and further afield to see the gallery, I recall that our 1 millionth visitor was from Australia!"

Simon Wallis OBE, Director of The Hepworth Wakefield said: "It's been an amazing five years and I'm very proud of what the staff and volunteers have all worked so consistently to achieve. We're on the cusp of significantly building on that success with our forthcoming exhibitions and plans for the wider site that are now coming to hard-earned fruition with a developer now secured for the Rutland Mills complex opposite the gallery. I look forward to the forthcoming 5th anniversary programme which continues with our Stanley Spencer exhibition, the Hepworth Prize for Sculpture and further announcements on the Hepworth Riverside Garden."

Frances Quinn, former winner of BBC's The Great British Bake Off Winner said: "It was wonderful to be back at the gallery again, I enjoyed meeting the team when I baked for the 1 millionth visitor and it's great to be here to help celebrate this milestone occasion."

A special programme of exhibitions and projects to commemorate The Hepworth Wakefield's 5th anniversary opened earlier in the year with *The Rhubarb Triangle and Other Stories: Photographs by Martin Parr* (until 12 June) and continues with *Stanley Spencer: Of Angels and Dirt*, the first major survey in 15 years of the work of one of Britain's best loved painters, which opens on Friday June 24. Turner Prize nominee Anthea Hamilton will be exhibiting from September when the artist will 'remix' the Kettle's Yard collection with some of her own contemporary art works and an exhibition of the four shortlisted artists in the £30,000 Hepworth Prize for Sculpture award will be on show from in the gallery from 22 October.

ENDS

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For further details, interview requests or to attend the Stanley Spencer press preview on 22 June contact:

Naomi Roberts, PR and Media Manager
T: +44 (0)1924 247392
M: +44 (0)7717 807512
E: naomiroboterts@hepworthwakefield.org

EDITOR'S NOTES:

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD 5TH ANNIVERSARY SUPPORTERS:

Phillips
Grand Central Rail

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD 5TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND SUPPORTERS:

Litestructures
Heart

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

The Hepworth Wakefield takes its name from the internationally acclaimed sculptor, Barbara Hepworth, who was born in Wakefield in 1903. At 5,000 square metres, The Hepworth Wakefield is one of the largest contemporary art spaces outside London.

The gallery showcases Wakefield's nationally important collection, which includes major works by Barbara Hepworth and her contemporary Henry Moore, born nearby in Castleford in 1898. The Wakefield Permanent Art Collection also holds key works by other leading British artists including Ben Nicholson, Jacob Epstein, Ivon Hitchens, Graham Sutherland, John Piper, Paul Nash, Patrick Heron, L.S. Lowry and Lucie Rie. The displays are enhanced by loans from the collections of Tate, the Arts Council, the British Council and private lenders.

The Hepworth Wakefield's temporary exhibition programme features the world's leading contemporary artists. Past shows have included Eva Rothschild, Franz West, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Haroon Mirza and Anthony Caro.

The gallery is a major cultural asset for Yorkshire, enhancing the region's reputation as one of the world's leading centres for the exhibition and appreciation of sculpture and is at the heart of Wakefield's regeneration. In 2013, Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle was established by partner venues, The Hepworth Wakefield, the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds Art Gallery and Yorkshire Sculpture Park as an umbrella brand to celebrate this heritage and to promote sculpture in Yorkshire.

Designed by the internationally acclaimed practice, David Chipperfield Architects, The Hepworth Wakefield is the UK's largest purpose-built gallery since The Hayward in London was built in 1968. It acts as a catalyst for tourism and has attracted in excess of £350 million inward investment. The ambition is to further develop the historically important Waterfront area of the city, with its listed mills and warehouses.

The Hepworth Wakefield is funded by Wakefield Council and Arts Council England and an increasing number of charitable trusts, private individuals, Patrons and Members. The gallery opened on 21 May 2011.

The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, Wakefield WF1 5AW
Tuesday – Sunday 10am – 5pm
Closed Mondays (except Bank and local school holidays)
Late night opening - third Thursday of every month, 10am – 9pm.
Free admission (except for ticketed events)
Twitter: @HepworthGallery
Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheHepworthWakefield
Instagram: [hepworthwakefield](https://www.instagram.com/hepworthwakefield)

THE CALDER

The Calder is The Hepworth Wakefield's new contemporary art space which opened to the public on 30 August 2013. Located on the ground floor of a 19th century former textiles mill, the new contemporary art space is situated adjacent to the main gallery site, on the banks of the River Calder. The Calder adds 600 square metres of exhibition and event space to the existing 10 gallery spaces within The Hepworth Wakefield and presents a mixed programme of art, music and events that runs in parallel to the visitor offer at the main gallery.

The Calder, Gallery Walk, West Yorkshire, WF1 5AW
Free admission (except for ticketed events)
Twitter: @HepworthGallery #TheCalder
Instagram: [instagram.com/thecalder](https://www.instagram.com/thecalder)

END OF ALL