

## Who we are

Creative Cullompton is funded by Historic England as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone to create and deliver a community-led three year programme to breathe new life into the High Street and celebrate Cullompton's heritage by bringing new exciting creative and cultural activities to the heart of Cullompton. The programme is led by a Consortium of local organisations with the aim of delivering interactive art, history and culture within the town to engage the whole community.

## Community Artwork Project

As part of the Creative Cullompton programme we would like to create and install three pieces of community artwork along the High Street and a further piece in the garden of The Hayridge. We are excited to be working with established local ceramics artist Chris Speyer who will be guiding the creation of these artworks. Each piece will be created with and by the community and we would like the whole community to get involved.

## Our Proposal

We would like to propose that one of the artworks be located on the outside wall of the Cullompton Baptist Church.

### The Artwork

**'Wool Wall'** celebrates Cullompton and the surrounding countryside's long history of wool farming, spinning and weaving through a collaborative community artwork.

Each ceramic tile in the artwork will be press-moulded from a cast taken from a knitted or crocheted woollen square. The squares will include traditional patterns and original designs created by Cara-Jane Brameld of Fudges wool shop. Cara's designs will be based on motifs found on buildings in the High Street and on imagery appropriate to the Baptist Church where the finished artwork will be situated. Knitters and crocheters of all ages will be invited to take part in the project.

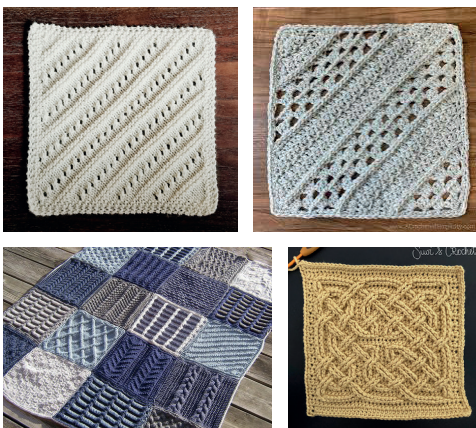
The finished artwork will be made of frost-proof stoneware tiles, the tiles stained in subtle shades of autumnal colours. The overall design of Wool Wall and the production and assembly of the ceramic tiles will be overseen by local artist Chris Speyer.

Installation will be undertaken by a professional, fully insured builder under the supervision of Chris Speyer.

## Chris Speyer – Artist

I have been working in the arts since graduating from the National Institute of Dramatic Art in Sydney almost fifty years ago. My practice has two streams; ceramic art on the one hand, writing, directing and designing for professional and community theatre on the other. My ceramics have been exhibited and sold through galleries in the UK and abroad and my large-scale, outdoor sculptures can be seen in Bath and at Devon Sculpture Park. My theatre work has played in theatres all around the country and toured to Canada and the USA. In recent years I have turned from making art for communities to making art with communities, writing songs and plays with school groups and young people and creating visual art with people of all ages. I have an MA in Ceramic Design from Bath School of Art and Design and I am a Fellow of the Craft Potters' Association.

### Artists Impression



Casts would be taken from the knitted squares and then tiles would be pressed moulded from the casts.

The colours would be similar to those shown here. Stains and oxides will be used to colour the actual clay body rather than glazing. This will ensure that none of the woven detail is lost and it will give the tiles a 'softer' finish.