

Signs of the times..

Part 2

As mentioned in the last issue, one of the priorities of the Parish Council has been to replace or renovate the signs within the village. Hopefully, by now you will have noticed the latest - and most prominent - fingerpost sign in the centre of the village.

For those interested in such things there is a history to 'period style' signs, and much of the inspiration for them being re-done has come from the LCC Countryside Officer, David Oyston, together with the well-known local historian Duncan Armstrong. Following government directives in the mid-60s all signs of this type were replaced by the now standard 'Transport Modern' style. However, in 2002 it was felt that these modern ones were 'visually unacceptable' in sensitive rural locations and communities could revert back to earlier styles.

The iron post has been in-situ, close to the chapel for many years and now has a coat of black & white hooped paint. The fingers are made out of hardwood, painted white with cast aluminium letters, to the 1930s design, mounted by Duncan.

Higham's sign follows a path set up a few years ago by Mr Oyston & Mr Armstrong. The first to be renovated was the one at the Higher Trapp in Simonstone. This was to an earlier design with tall letters, capped by a circular finial. Next in line were two in Roughlee which feature a unique style with pointed fingers and a serif typeface. Newchurch quickly followed with the renovation of their central sign - similar to Higham's. They then repainted their other one, opposite Witches Galore and this too is a unique design. The final update in the Pendleside villages came with Barley replacing all three of theirs - one similar to the one at Simonstone and the other two being different again, unique designs, carefully crafted & produced by Padiham's own, Mr Duncan Armstrong.



Higham People Susan Hughes



After 32 years on the Bench, Burnley, Pendle & Rossendale Magistrate, Susan Hughes has retired.

Susan, who has lived with her husband Peter in Higham for 41 years, was first appointed to Reedley Bench in 1976, since when she has been a regular member of the local legal scene.

In 2000-2001, when Susan was Bench Chairman, the Burnley & Pendle Bench merged with Rossendale. During this time, she successfully campaigned to increase the numbers of British Ethnic Minority magistrates.

Susan's Bench responsibilities have also included membership of the Lancashire Probation Committee and Board, the Family Panel and as Co-ordinator of the Primary School Project.

On Susan's last day in Court, tributes were paid on behalf of fellow Magistrates, the Crown Prosecution Service, Defence lawyers, the Probation Service and Her Majesty's Court Service, and by the Mayor of Burnley.

There will be no time for Susan to put her feet up just yet. As a Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire she has several responsibilities as prescribed by the Lord-Lieutenant. These include presiding at Citizenship ceremonies, and being Chairman of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Lancashire Panel. She also chairs Social Service Reviews, is a Lay Member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal for England and Wales, is the Honorary President of 352 [Burnley] Squadron ATC, a Trustee Board member of Emmaus, the charity that helps the homeless, and has been co-opted to the Trustee Board of The Council for Voluntary Service. As relaxation, Susan also gives silk painting and embroidery workshops. Susan said, "I have found my time on the Bench most rewarding and fulfilling, and the retirement event was really a most wonderful send-off".

HIGHAM Spout

News & Views from the Village of Higham

Spring 2009



Well, here it is - the Second Issue of Spout!

We received many many messages of congratulation after the first issue and we were very grateful to hear that you approved. It certainly seemed to achieve its aim - that of highlighting how much that does happen in Higham and hopefully - bringing the whole village together. Coinciding with the first issue was the erection of the small plaque (superimposed above) onto the actual Spout. Doubtless some may dispute the actual date when the first waters ran but we think it's close enough! By the way, if you've never tasted it - you should, it's delicious! (The Editor distinctly remembers, as a child, filling up a pair of jugs every week to go along with Sunday dinner). Even now you'll see many people filling containers to drink, and even to make beer & wine.

Lest we forget..

The Village fell silent in more ways than one on Remembrance Sunday when the local Constabulary stopped the traffic for two minutes. The Service was conducted by Rev. Philippa Shooter and Wreaths were laid by Cllr. Ingham on behalf of the Parish, Cllr. Starkie on behalf of Pendle BC, Vivian Derwent on behalf of Shelagh/ Lancs CC & Ron Smith on behalf of St. John's Church.

BONFIRE NIGHT

It was definitely a case of good news, then not so good news before, during & after the event. The good news was that the weather held off all day; this allowed the building team to erect what must have been one of the biggest fires ever burnt in Higham. It was a dry, albeit cold night and the estimated



Photo courtesy of Nelson Leader

attendance was over 800. Further good news came in the fact that private fireworks weren't allowed and thankfully there were no reported injuries. The actual firework display was spectacular and lasted well over 20 minutes. So the bad news? - purely financial but one that has a major bearing on this year's event. Collections on the gate only raised 2/3 of the costs so alternatives will have to be sought; - charging / a suggested donation / sponsorship - you tell us! Whichever way it was an excellent event, ably planned by John Birkett & Mick Tetley (pictured bottom right, below) with an army of helpers, as was the

Annual Visit of Santa!



Held on the pub car park, in the company of the Mayor & Unity College Brass Band over 130 children went into the Grotto to see the great man himself.

Seniors Christmas Party

Over 40 residents enjoyed the annual Parish Council party held just before Christmas. A 3-course meal & drinks, plus a short quiz, were enjoyed by all, some of whom are pictured below:-

Jean Willson; Ron & Doreen Bowler; Ray Stevenson & Kathleen Sutcliffe; Janet & Clive Eccles; Neil Burrows



ADVERTISEMENT

1/2 ton Minidigger for self-drive Hire
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Contact John Birkett (Higham)
07980 743586



£45/day

WANTED

If you have enjoyed this Issue and want to contribute, you can do so in 3 ways:- 1. Submit your articles, photographs, letters, comments, features, snippets. 2. Help with the distribution so that we can deliver to every household in Higham, particularly the outlying areas. 3. Place an advertisement. Contact Bernard Ingham bernard.ingham@zen.co.uk OR james.k.starkie@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Council

Next Meetings: Feb 17, Mar 17 & April 21 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Chairman: Bernard Ingham, 87 Higham Hall Rd BBI2 9EU | Clerk: Mrs. Penny McBurney, 8 Sabden Rd BBI2 9BL
Tel: 771296 email: bernard.ingham@zen.co.uk

email: clerk@highamparishcouncil.com Tel: 770651

We have been active since the last issue of 'Spout'. A few planning applications in the village have been viewed, and our recommendations given to Pendle BC. Several projects have been completed and these are detailed elsewhere in this issue. There are some ongoing; - a bus shelter for the bottom of Higham Hall Road has been manufactured and is waiting to be put in position. It is proposed that the railings round the Methodist Graveyard are to be painted in the spring / summer and we will be looking at the condition of the car parking areas off Sabden Road, perhaps even trying to create working parties to do some of the work ourselves - volunteers wanted please!! We have recently been receiving complaints of dog mess being left on and around the playing fields, so if your dogs are being allowed to run freely, please ensure that you clean up after them - it really is most unpleasant. Villagers are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings, where the first item is always Public Questions. Finally, many thanks to the organisers & helpers of the Bonfire, Santa at the Four Alls, the Over 60s Christmas Party and to all contributors to this and the last issue. BI



School News

The children at Higham St John's School have enjoyed a huge range of activities since the summer. October saw pupils rehearsing for their very own version of strictly come dancing. Classes three, four and five performed dances from a range of decades, and the resulting show was enjoyed by parents during assembly time. In November visitors from the University of the Third Age came to school to examine the pupil's local history projects. They were impressed by the high standard of work that looked at the history of our village. The children also studied the history of clothing when they dressed up for the 'Britain since the 1930's day'. Parents and children clearly had a wonderful time putting together the costumes. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Mullen and Mrs Parkinson for preparing a themed lunch on that day. The teachers, parents and children have also been busy supporting charities and the Friends of Higham School. Over £200 was raised for Children in Need, the autumn disco made £147, many shoe boxes of gifts were donated to the Operation Christmas Child appeal, and the Christmas fair made a whopping £500 each for the Friends and Higham St John's Church. The Friends use their money to pay for lots of the 'extras' that go on at school. An evening course was arranged by

school to help parents keep their children safe on-line, whilst encouraging them to use the massive range of educational resources on the internet. School lunches have had a make-over after implementation of changes suggested by the children. We are hoping this will encourage more pupils to enjoy a healthy home-cooked school dinner. The whole school has been buzzing with excitement in the run up to the Christmas productions of 'Born in a Barn' by the younger pupils, and 'Cinderella and Rockerfella' by the older children. This has involved a massive commitment of time by the teachers and staff at the school, and the pupils too. I wonder how many other parents have been serenaded on a three hour motorway journey to the sounds of their children practising the songs - yes, I do mean the entire three hours! A big thank you must go to everyone at Higham St John's for making the school such an exciting and vibrant place for our children to learn. I wonder what is in store for 2009? DG



Profile - Parish Council

Right: Bernard Ingham. Elected Chairman in May 2007, Bernard has recently retired as a Funeral Director and lives with wife Margaret at 'the last house before the Vicarage', moving into Higham in 1971. They have 2 children. He maintains the Council website and also has a keen interest in the weather, with another website: www.higham-weather.com



Left: David Ellis. A semi retired Planning Consultant, David & his wife Hilary have lived on Acresbrook for over 30 years. Two grown up children & three grandchildren have long flown the nest and David is currently learning German, as well as being a keen supporter of the Woodland Trust & the Mountain Bothies Association! (you'll have to look that one up!)

Right: David Forrest. Regularly seen around the place on his quad bike & trailer doing odd jobs, David & wife Sarah moved into Higham Hall Barn 5 years ago. Young children Olivia & James attend Higham School. David is MD of a Timber company and his interests include fly fishing, motorsport & 'boys toys', he is also a member of the Village Hall Committee.



Left: Richard Gadd - our youngest Councillor is married to Donna and they moved onto Acresbrook some 12 years ago. Their three children all attend Higham School. Richard is Head of Geography at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School and he lists his interests as hill walking; cycling; brewing beer & travel as well as flying model rockets & helicopters!

Right: Christine Lomax is the newest co-optee to the Council, having joined in Summer 08. A retired MD, she has lived with husband John near the Village Hall for nearly 25 years and has a grown up son Martin. A keen keep-fitter, walker and theatre-goer Christine has also been involved with the Burnley Express Talking newspaper for over 30 years.



Left: Michael Tetley. Lives on Hambledon Terrace with wife Kathleen, 40 years after escaping from Roughlee. Mick is a self employed Joiner, Plumber & Builder and is a keen motor cycle enthusiast, as well as an active caravanner. Has 3 grown up children and is heavily involved in putting on the social activities of the Village;- including the Fête, Bonfire & Santa.

Right: Les Townsend - an 'original Highamer', having been born in Laneside, and apart from an 8 year gap, has lived here all his life, now on Rake Top Avenue with wife Beryl. Has 2 grown up sons and is heading towards retirement he works as an Insurance Introducer and his interests include walking, golf & animals, regularly to be seen walking the village with his dogs.



Left: Phyllis Watson has lived up'Wallet for 24 years and has served on the Parish Council for four years. A Book-keeper by profession, this is also a rôle she undertakes for the Council. In the 1990's she also served as Clerk for 4 years. A keen mountaineer & rambler in her younger days, Phyllis still enjoys walking, reading & eating out and has 2 grown-up children.

Right: Parish Clerk Penny McBurney lives on Sabden Road with husband Bill, moving into Higham eight years ago. Penny is a teacher by profession and is looking to 'semi-retire' soon! As well as her clerking duties she enjoys reading and needlecraft and her ideal night out is a trip to the theatre. They have two grown-up children.



Profile: Next Issue ~ Village Hall Committee

Village Hall



QUIZ NIGHTS

Mondays - Feb 9th; March 9th & April 13th 8pm start. Entrance £1 per person (bring your own drinks!)

BEETLE AND BINGO, Friday 6th Feb. Adults £2.50, children £1.50 - incl. supper.

CAR BOOT SALE, Sunday 22nd Feb. 9am - 12 noon. Stalls £7. Please book through Debbie on 771720

Age Concern - Call in, meet new people and join in special activities. Speakers, information, light refreshments, information & good company.

Wednesday, 2-4pm
Feb. 18th, March 18th & April 15th

Baby & Toddler Group
Every Tuesday, 10 - 12noon

Garden Club
2nd Tuesday of the month at 8pm
10th Feb. Anne Eaves, Pendle Heritage
10th March Tony Bracegirdle, History of the Rose
14th April - TBA

Pennine Herb Society
4th Tuesday of each month at 7.45pm.
All welcome ~ Eileen Knight, 773258.
February 24th Seeing the Funny Side of Life - Anne Eaves.
March 24th 'The Spice Girls' (Schwartz)
April 21st - TBA

Higham & District WI
7.30pm on the first Tuesday each month ~ Mary Hartnell 775507.
HIRE Bookings, please ring Debbie 771720.

Exhibition

The Art & Craft Exhibition will be open to the public from Friday 10th April until Monday 13th April between 12 until 5pm. We usually have about 75 exhibitors including artists, jewellery, cards, fabric crafts, woodwork, glass, confectionery etc. Also there are plants for sale outside the school. There are working crafts in the village hall every day. The village hall will be open for light lunches, afternoon teas, cakes and drinks etc. The church opens for visitors and we usually have Robert Ferguson playing the organ with people able to make requests. We normally expect to have about 2000 visitors. We will be very grateful to villagers who help us by stewarding or by helping with the catering and providing cakes. VB

Letter to the Editor

submitted by Jack Heyworth
Many congratulations on the first edition of 'Spout' and many thanks to the Parish Council for funding this excellent project. May I take this opportunity to point out that the winning entry in the Scarecrow competition was a joint effort between myself, Val and Steve, Karen and Sophie McCann of 2 Copthurst Avenue. A mention in the next issue would be a bonus for me as I keep getting all the credit for what was a joint "Team" effort. Once again well done and keep up the good work. Best regards.
Jack

Church Services

www.stjohnshigham.co.uk

Rev. Richard Adams, Tel. 617316

FEB 1, 8 & 15: 9.30am Parish Communion

Sat. 21st **COPPER COLLECTION DAY**
10 - 12 noon in the Village Hall. For many years now we have been asking if you would put your loose copper in a jar and that you consider donating it to St John's Church - we need every penny we can get! Please bring it along on the morning - OR - ring Ann Weekes on 773978 if you would like it collecting. Thank you (in grateful anticipation!)

Sunday 22nd 8.30 am Holy Communion
9.30 am Family Service

Shrove Tuesday 2.30 - 5pm - hoping to have pancakes in the Village Hall. Please watch out for posters and call in if you can. No charge but donations accepted! All welcome

Ash Wed. 25th 7.30 pm Holy Communion (with imposition of ashes for those who wish.)

MAR 1, 8 & 15 9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 22nd 9.30am Mothers Day (please come - you don't have to be a Mum!)

Sunday 29th 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am Family Communion

APRIL 5th **Palm Sunday**
9.30am Parish Communion

9th **Maundy Thursday**
7.30pm joint Eucharist, Wheatley Lane Methodist Church

10th **Good Friday**
2pm Service of Meditation

12th **Easter Sunday**
9.30am Parish Communion

19th 9.30am Parish Communion

26th 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am Family Communion

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Meets each Sunday, 9.30am, Family Service on the last Sunday of the month.

CHURCH CHOIR - meets each Friday in church. Juniors 6.45pm, adults 7.30pm. New members welcome.

CHOIR NEWS: Two young members of the choir were recently successful in gaining the Dean of Blackburn Cathedral's Award (Bronze Level) to Choristers. Emma Moore and Jemma Fox, both 14, passed the Royal School of Church Music's examination in November of last year and were presented with the Award by the Dean of Blackburn, at a special service in the Cathedral on 17th January. The Vicar's Chorister Medal was awarded to Iona Shaw (Head Junior Chorister) during the service on 18th Jan. This is an annual award to the chorister who has contributed most to the choir in commitment, loyalty and good attendance. AW

Coffee & Chat Tuesdays Feb 10, Mar 10 from 2-3.30pm. (April - No meeting)
25 Higham Hall Road, all welcome.

'Spout' is also available on the internet as is a wealth of other information about the Parish Council & Higham. >Planning Applications, Minutes, History, Village Hall, etc.
www.highamparishcouncil.com