

# Christmas in Higham

This Senior's Evening Meal & Dance is becoming more and more popular, and the age range and numbers are expanding like our waists after the turkey dinner, beautifully presented again by Diane. Afterwards we enjoyed a quiz and dancing by the ever-popular Glen South. It was such a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones, and begin the Christmas celebrations. Thanks go to Terry Butterfield for running the bar, Sarah Forrest for providing the delicious canapés, and to other young people for their help during the evening.



Despite temperatures of -6°, an unbelievable number of hardy villagers and friends turned out to welcome Father Christmas to his grotto outside the Four Alls. This year he appeared through the fog on his trusty steed George, to an enthusiastic welcome. Over 90 children made their way into the grotto to gaze in wonder at the bearded figure or whisper their special requests for gifts, and emerge with a selection box from Santa and his elfin assistant, Dee. Dave Johnston provided the food and the Four Alls was full to bursting. Braziers and the sound of Christmas Carols completed the scene, and our thanks must go to Mick Tetley and the Events' Committee for keeping this wonderful tradition going.

MI



Finally on New Year's Eve around 80 villagers and friends enjoyed a party at the Village Hall. The event was organised by John & Dee Birkett and Mick & Gillian Holden, and £280 was raised for St. John's Church. The music was supplied by Junction 3 Combo, who played a varied selection of music. Two guest singers, Betty Willoughby and Nicola Talmer also entertained us and there was a mock auction - the winner Geoff Couch, taking possession of a wonderful leather reclining chair, kindly donated by Mal Eddy. Supper consisted of a curry buffet - courtesy of the Usher Restaurant - with an alternative homemade buffet. Midnight was celebrated in the usual fashion and a great time was had by all. Everyone agreed the night had been a huge success.

BL

Acknowledgements: Thanks to the following for their contributions to this issue. Val Butterfield. Rita Farnworth. Graham Fox. Gareth Hollinghurst. Bernard Ingham. Margaret Ingham. Eileen Knight. Barbara Lincoln. Eileen Mercer. Graham Mercer. Christine Lomax. Ann Weekes.

NEXT ISSUE PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT 'SPOUT' BY FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2011.

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# HIGHAM

News & Views from the Village of Higham



Spring 2011

# Spout

## NOTICEBOARD

Gavin Young, Padiham's answer to michael bublé tribute evening



Gavin is an excellent performer and has a wide repertoire of songs, from the fifties to the present.

**HIGHAM VILLAGE HALL**  
Friday February 18

Buffet Supper-Bring your own drinks.  
Tickets £15 from David Forrest on 777332

**On Shrove Tuesday March 8**  
there will be pancakes served in the Village Hall 2 - 5pm.

It is hoped that as many villagers as possible will call in for a chat, drink and pancake during the afternoon, and that parents and children will call in on their way home after school.

No charge,  
small donation  
if you wish.  
All welcome!



## FILM SHOW

Friday 25 Feb in the Village Hall at 7pm.  
£4 per head including Pie & Peas and a hot drink.  
Bring your own drinks. There are 4 films to see -

**Summer Fair**  
**Scarecrow Festival**  
**Scarecrow Ball**

**Christmas at the Four Alls**

Tickets from Heather, Gillian & David  
Or phone Terry / Val on 777995



## WINTER BBQ

Beetle, Bingo & Quiz Night

**Friday March 11**

6.30pm in the Village Hall

Adults £3 Children £2  
Supper included.

Please get a ticket, we need to know numbers for supper!  
In aid of the Rose Queen's Charity.  
A great family night out.

Contact: Julie Fox 778381

## Support Your 'Local'

Mandy & Phil welcome you to the..

(See 'Higham People' inside)



**LIBRARY VAN** is on the Four Alls car park every Wednesday 11 - 12 noon. Welcomes children as well as adults. Another amenity to support or lose!  
**STAY & PLAY GROUP** in St Johns School. Supported by SureStart. Wednesdays during term time, 10am - 12

## 40th Exhibition 2011 Starts Good Friday April 22

We are hoping to make it a bigger event than normal with lots of extra things happening around school and the village hall. We are always in need of additional help so if you feel you can give some of your time over the Easter weekend either for stewarding or to lend a hand in the Village Hall please give Terry or Val a ring on 777995. Also we would be very grateful for donations of cakes for the tearooms on any of the days - homemade cakes are always a big attraction so if you feel you could do a bit of baking for us that would be wonderful. Please let us know on the above number.

VB

[www.highamparishcouncil.com](http://www.highamparishcouncil.com)

## Parish Council

Next Meetings: February 15, March 15 & April 19 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Chairman: Bernard Ingham, 87 Higham Hall Rd BB12 9EU | Clerk: Mrs. Penny McBurney, 8 Sabden Rd BB12 9BL  
Tel: 771296 email: chairman@highamparishcouncil.com | email: clerk@highamparishcouncil.com Tel: 770651

The Clover Croft site is back up and running, with the foundations of block B having been dug out and concreting underway. Block C is fully occupied, with the exception of the show house.

A new sign has been fixed on the Spout, which states – "In accordance with 'The Private Drinking Water Supplies Regulations 2009' this water is deemed not suitable for drinking." It is believed that the water is the same as it has been for over 150 years, it is the legislation that has changed!

Many people are complaining that the dog fouling is getting worse. This is especially bad on the Playing Fields and public footpaths. Dogs have been seen unattended in these places. Steps are being taken to identify the culprits and the Pendle Council Enforcement Team will be making unannounced visits. Offenders will be prosecuted and named and shamed. Please do what all the responsible dog owners do – go out with your dog, clear up after it using the designated dog bins, of which there are plenty around Higham.



BI

## Bonfire Extravaganza

Despite record rainfall over the previous 48 hours, the Bonfire took place – just 24 hours late – on Saturday 6th Nov. The Organising Committee and helpers once more gave us a night of booms, bangs and warm surprises as shortly after 6pm, the huge bonfire was lit and the flames crept swiftly into life. A satisfying crackle told all was well and that the rain had not spoilt a thing.



Several hundred Higham villagers and friends gathered – on a dry night with little wind and a very warm atmosphere. The smell of the burgers, hog roast, and tasty (edible) bangers ensured that all were catered for – and there was not a hungry soul in the field.

As the fire grew strength, the crowd also were drawn closer to the flames and everyone enjoyed a good old fashioned fireside chat. The Master of Incendiary Ceremonies, John Birkett, announced just before 7pm. that the fireworks were about to begin and right on cue the first barrage of rockets hit the skies. From then on it was Sheer Magic! Whizzers, fizzes, bangers and more rained on. A brief respite of 3 minutes – and then the Grand Finale – looking like huge steam train wheels, the giant Catherine Wheels were lit – then like a mighty engine the final fusillade began. A constant stream of rockets speared the skies showering every colour – a sparkling umbrella of light.

All too soon it was over – and with a resounding round of applause and laughter the happy villagers reluctantly came home. It might have been a day late – but it was great. EM



## In Memorium Beryl Townsend

Beryl died on Friday 21st January aged 64 years. Wife of Les and mother of Mark and Lisa, Adam and Linda, grandmother of Samantha, Jack and Thomas. Beryl was born in Burnley and lived on Rake Top Avenue. She worked for many years at Cloverbrook Mill, where she met her good friend Rita Farnworth, who described Beryl as fun, very positive and strong-willed. This stood her in good stead to battle many years of ill health.



## School News

[www.highamstjohns.com](http://www.highamstjohns.com)

Our children put on another wonderful set of performances this Christmas. The infants started the festive season off with a fabulous adaptation of the Nativity, entitled 'Shine Star, Shine' which told the story of the big star, who just could not shine! Fortunately all the other stars were able to lead the big star to the stable where he saw Mary, Joseph and the beautiful baby. He realised that Jesus loves all the stars, angels and people of the world and this love gave the big star strength to shine again.

The Juniors followed this with their stunning adaptation of 'Alice in Wonderland', which was well received by all. However, before these productions took place, we had the small matter of OfSTED and Diocesan inspections. We were delighted that they confirmed that we are a good school with a number of outstanding features. Particular praise was placed on the teaching within the Foundation Stage and the attitude and behaviour of our pupils. If you would like to see a copy of our reports, visit our website. This term we are looking forward to a number of exciting activities, including a visit from the 'Happy Puzzle Company', a Class 4 & 5 trip to London to visit Parliament and the Tower of London as well as Skipping master classes.

You may also remember from the previous 'Higham Spout', that our iconic sculpture, which was outside the entrance to School, blew down. Jeff Allen, an expert willow weaver, will be coming to School to work with our children, re-creating our school logo. Look out for this fabulous new talking point in early March!

GH



## Higham People

### Mandy & Phil Waters

A warm welcome to Mandy and Phil Waters, who are the temporary licensees at the Four Alls. Hope they feel part of the village already and they have reintroduced the weekly quiz which has been extremely popular. Highamers and visitors should be now thinking that to keep a pub in the village, it needs to be used. Be it daily, weekly, monthly or whenever you can, please support it. The sight of it being closed, as it was at the back end of last year, is one which we don't want to repeat. It would be unthinkable if we lost it.



### Congratulations to Cyril & Margaret Jackson

Cyril celebrated his 95th Birthday on January 21st. and his wife Margaret will be 90 in April. [pictured right]



**Molly Ann Louisa** Emily (nee Weekes) and Neil Herbert welcomed the arrival of a daughter, weighing 6lbs 12 ozs, a sister for Joseph and grand-daughter for Ann Weekes.

**Neighbourly Nutters** Well done to the residents of Nutter Crescent, who cleared the snow from the whole road surface one Saturday morning during the recent snow, to enable their neighbours to park outside their homes.

## Church

[www.stjohnshigham.co.uk](http://www.stjohnshigham.co.uk)

**Rev Philippa Shooter** has been curate (assistant priest) here for 4½ years. She came here as part of her training and now it's time for her to move on to a bigger job - Associate priest-in-charge of St John Coppull, near Chorley on Ash Wednesday, 9th March. Philippa has spent much of the last year dealing with serious illness (now happily behind her) and has been an amazing asset to the two parishes of Higham and Fence, and a brilliant advert for women priests. Robert, her husband, has also been supporting our parish by leading our worship and we wish them both God's blessing in the next phase of life. Philippa will be a "house-for-duty" unpaid priest, leading worship and doing about 2 other days' work per week, in return for which the church provides housing. Her last Sunday here will be 13th February when there will be a joint buffet at St. Anne's (12.30pm)

**Richard Adams** our vicar, has announced his intention to retire later this year: exact date to be confirmed, but expects it to be by the middle of the year. More information in due course.

### Services at 9.30am each Sunday

First 3 Sundays of each month Parish Communion  
Last Sundays of Feb & March - 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Family Service

Apr 3 9.30am Mothering Sunday

Apr 10 9.30am Parish Communion

Apr 17 Palm Sunday 9.30am Parish Comm.

6pm JOHN PRIESTLY MEMORIAL CONCERT to mark the 40th year of the Easter Exhibition. The Deanery Choir will be singing the 'Crucifixion' – J. Stainer. There will be no charge, but donations gratefully accepted!

Apr 24: Easter Day

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Family Communion

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - Meets each Sunday during term time only, 9.30am. Family Service on the last Sunday of the month.

**CHURCH CHOIR** - meets each Friday in church. Juniors 7pm, Adults 7.45pm. New members always very welcome!

### TOO MANY 'COPPERS' AROUND?

Perhaps not walking round the village – but maybe you collect them in a dish or jar to relieve the bulkiness in your pocket or purse? If you do we would be glad to unburden you of them to add to church funds. Please drop them off at the village hall on 12 February between 10am and 12 noon. If more convenient you can leave them before that date at 25 Higham Hall Road. If you would like it collecting please ring 773978.

**THANK YOU No.1** to Doreen Whalley, who has beautifully recopied the First World War Roll of Honour. Again, thanks to Doreen and Brian Sutcliffe, the original WWII Roll of Honour has been cleaned and restored. Both have been reframed and hung on the south wall of the church where they make a fitting and dignified tribute to the sacrifice of villagers who gave their lives in those conflicts. AW

**THANK YOU No.2** Church members would like to thank villagers and parents of children attending the village school for their response to the launch of the "Friends of St. John's Church, Higham" scheme which was widely communicated in December. The generous support of those who wish to sustain an active parish church in Higham is vital to its continued existence. For those who have not yet responded, the opportunity remains open. Your contribution would be warmly welcomed and is very much needed.

GF

## Village Hall

Last year was a busy one for the Village Hall, it being used on a regular basis by so many groups plus other events, exhibitions and parties.

The committee is working hard to improve all the facilities of the hall to make it a comfortable and happy place to meet. Our main project this year has been to refurbish the toilet block and in November this was finally started.

A new boiler has been installed in the kitchen for the hot water supply and to feed the two radiators in the toilets. Yes - warm toilets at last!!! We are well on the way with this project and this should be completed by the time you read this.

A new back door is to be fitted, so this will make the hall much warmer. We have applied for another grant to improve insulating, ceilings, lighting and heating. All this takes time, but we do feel that at last we are getting results.

The committee would like to thank all the groups and people who have given us donations, plus all who have helped us in many other ways. It is much appreciated. To all the groups who use the hall, again a big thanks as they contribute in so many other ways. Finally the committee will continue to do their utmost to care and preserve the Hall for future generations. EK

**AGE CONCERN** People attending groups in Pendle are already enjoying good company, sociable activities and occasional trips out. If you may be interested in a group starting in Higham please contact Age Concern on 01282 442528

**AMATEUR RADIO GROUP** Wednesdays. Contact Stephen Hindle 690757

### BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Tuesdays during term time, 10am – 12 noon. Contact Emma Storey 07739 235536

**BURNLEY FILM MAKERS** Thursdays 7.30pm [www.burnleyfilmmakers.co.uk](http://www.burnleyfilmmakers.co.uk)

**GARDEN CLUB** Tuesdays 8pm.

Feb 8; Preparing for spring

Mar 8; Spring planting

Apr 12; TBA

### HIGHAM HISTORY GROUP

Third Monday of each month. Contact Bill Duckworth 771937

### PENNINE HERB SOCIETY

Tuesdays at 7.45pm. Membership £5

Feb 22; Felt Quaches, Sheila Scott

Mar 22; Quackers and Herbs, Mary-Eileen - Judith

Apr 26; Recipe Evening

Contact Eileen Knight 773258.

### UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE(U3A)

Craft Workshop 10 – 12noon 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Contact Mary Hartnell

**HIRE Bookings, please ring**

Anne on 773920 or Eileen 773258