

# HIGHAM

News, views and information about the village



 Higham Village, Lancashire



## LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE

The Best Kept Village Competition focuses on the hundreds of rural, semi-rural and industrial villages that give Lancashire its sense of history. The aim of the competition is to recognise the effort that the village community puts into making their village look its best and to take pride in making it a better place to live.

Higham has competed over many years and in 2015 was successful in winning in the Best Small Village category. In 2019, we were winners again, and this time awarded 'Champion' Status. This meant that we would remain in this category competing against other Champion villages (small, medium or large) for the next four years. No pressure there then!

There was no competition in 2020 due to COVID-19 and a decision to go ahead this year was only taken in April with judging starting in June. There was as you can imagine an awful lot of work to get through to make us ready by the end of May. This involved re-filling planters, varnishing bus shelters, painting benches, weeding, cleaning and more besides.

We reached out for your help during that time and later and you didn't let us down. We were delighted to receive the news that we had progressed past the first round, but knew it was going to be tough getting through to the final again, bearing in mind the competition that we faced. Sadly it proved to be the case. Despite the outcome, I think we can be very proud of our achievements in ensuring that Higham really is a great place to live.

**DIANE PERRIN**



Does anybody know this gentleman? I promised to buy him, a pint in The Four Alls for helping me clean these road signs. Jackie Meredith





**Chairman;** Robin Willoughby, Tel: 01282 772061  
12 Acres Brook Road, Higham BB12 9BY  
[chairman@highamparishcouncil.com](mailto:chairman@highamparishcouncil.com)

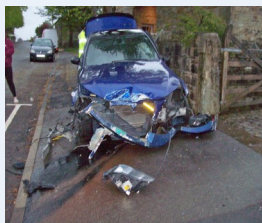
**Clerk:** Patricia Rosthorn Tel: 07931 687075.  
38 Acres Brook Rd, Higham BB12 9BB [clerk@highamparishcouncil.com](mailto:clerk@highamparishcouncil.com)



In April, Michael Tetley announced his official and “final” retirement from the Parish Council. He has served our local community in a variety of ways over many years. I am not sure when he first joined the Parish Council but he was already Chairman when I arrived in 2014. He stepped down for health reasons in 2017 but returned in 2018 and resumed the Chairmanship in 2019 (after I had kept his seat warm for him, as he kindly put it in an earlier Spout!). I was delighted to welcome him back and very pleased to work as Vice-Chairman with him over the last two years in which he has led the Council so well with the benefit of his extensive knowledge of our community, coupled with his practical knowledge and down-to-earth approach. He will be greatly missed and I thank him on behalf not only of the Parish Council but our whole community for all he has done.

We have, of course, been in the uncharted world of lockdown or semi-lockdown from March 2020 until recently. Parliament had to pass a special provision for local councils not to meet in person (as normally required by law). Like many others, our Parish Council managed as best we could with monthly meetings on Zoom until that provision ended in April, since when we have been back to normal meetings. Ironically, although many things closed down, we found ourselves each month considering a lot more planning applications than usual – many people, it seems, deciding that it was a good time to pursue the extensions, dormers and other development projects that they had been dreaming about.

In May this year, the postponed Borough and County Council elections took place. We therefore welcome Brian Newman as our new ward Borough Councillor and also Christopher Howard Hartley as the new County Councillor covering our area - both of them local residents in Fence/Wheatley Lane, who know our area and have already been in attendance at some of our Parish Council meetings. I don't know whether it was actually down to Cllr. Newman having his photograph taken beside it, but I'm sure we are all delighted that LCC Highways have at long last responded to complaints and repaired the sunken road grid outside the Four Alls.



Cllr. Hartley has immediately introduced a welcome initiative about the increasing problem of speeding traffic and dangerous driving in so many of the local villages, including ours, where an incident occurred on Higham Old Road. Anyone interested may wish to follow the *Speeding throughout Pendle Hill* Facebook site which he has set up.

### **ONE OR TWO CURRENT MATTERS FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

We have obtained a grant of £2500 from Pendle Council towards the cost of replacing the decrepit storage sheds at the Village Hall

We are addressing the serious problem of Ash-dieback disease which appears to be affecting some of the trees on the Park; we are arranging a full tree survey and it is likely that several trees will need to be removed. This is a countrywide problem and anyone with a suspect tree on their land is being advised to get a safety check.

We have asked Pendle Council's Footpaths Officer to give as much priority as he can to the repair or replacement of the broken two-plank footbridge on the well-used path behind Acres Brook.

Once again, we shall be trying to solve the water flow problem at the Spout.

We can only hope that we may be back to some kind of normal. Hopefully that means we will be having the Seniors' Party and Santa at The Four Alls this year and we are working on that assumption at present.

Best wishes to all,

**Robin Willoughby**

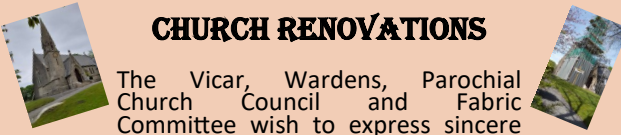
## HIGHAM ST. JOHN'S EVENTS

The members of the committee were really quite sad to cancel the Scarecrow Festival again this year. The decision wasn't taken lightly but, in the end, we felt that COVID was still enough of a concern to make some villagers uneasy at the prospect of the many visitors it would attract. We've missed having our events over the past two years and seeing the village filled with people enjoying themselves. The church has suffered too. Although we have raised £6,000 with the online Treasure Hunt and Easter Egg Hunt – thank you to all for supporting us – this falls far short of the amount we would normally raise.

With this in mind we have launched the Higham 125 Club. To become a member it costs £5 per number per month – multiple numbers can be purchased. There are a maximum of one hundred and twenty five numbers. At the end of each month a draw will take place and one prize of £125 will be awarded to the holder of the winning number. The remaining money will go to church funds. The first draw will take place at the end of September so hurry up and join then you can be in with a chance of winning! If you would like to join in please contact **Heather Swindlehurst on 773302** or **Val Butterfield on 777995** to get all the details.

We are intending to organise a Christmas Fair towards the end of the year – details to follow. And next year we hope to get back on track with all our wonderful village events.

## CHURCH RENOVATIONS



The Vicar, Wardens, Parochial Church Council and Fabric Committee wish to express sincere and grateful thanks to Mr Steven Barnes and his team for carrying out recent renovation work at St John's Parish Church.

The various works undertaken to the exterior will now enable the interior decoration to be restored in the future.

**Brian Sutcliffe**

## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Services are 9.30 with Holy Communion each week.  
Choir meets on Thursdays at 7.30pm alternating between Higham and St Anne's Fence.

**New members are always welcome**

The Church has a weekly newsletter for details speak to the Vicar **Rev Lesley Hinchcliff**  
Email: [lesleyhinchcliffe@hotmail.com](mailto:lesleyhinchcliffe@hotmail.com)

 **Save Higham St Johns Church**

## TODDLERS AT ST JOHN'S

The Pandemic impacted many things for everyone, and at St Johns we could no longer hold our weekly "Toddlers Group". The good news is that we are hoping to restart this group, that meets in the Village Hall, in the New Year 2022. The group will now meet on Wednesday mornings at 10am-noon.

As we prepare for this, we are seeking leaders and helpers to support this valuable activity, which over the years has provide friendship and support for so many parents and carers.

If you want to be involved, as a leader or a helper, please in the first instance contact the Vicar, Reverend Lesley Hinchcliffe : 01254 396485  
email: [lesleyhinchcliffe@hotmail.com](mailto:lesleyhinchcliffe@hotmail.com) or Heather Swindlehurst 01282 773302.

Further details of our date for re-opening, costs etc will follow in due course.

**Love Reverend Lesley x**

## BIRTHS

### Val & Terry Butterfield

Announced the arrival on the 24th May in Maryland USA, of James Alexander, a son for Jenny & Jay Zollars and a brother for Aurelia.



### Lucy and Steve Willighan

On the 3rd August they welcomed their grandson Luca Steven a beautiful son for Tom & Laura who live in Niagra Falls, Canada.



## IN MEMORIAM

**Ann Richards**

Moore Drive

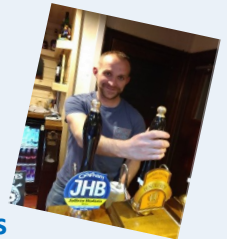
**Richard Potter**

Higham Hall Road

**Our deepest condolences to their families.**

## Well Done

**Banny & Jack** from the The Four Alls, took part in a sponsored cricket match against Sparrowhawk in aid of Pendle Hospice and raised £700. They are hoping they can make this a an annual event.



## Congratulations



**Katrina Louise Thompson** daughter of Lesley & Kevin Schofield of Moore Drive, gained a first class honours degree at The University of Bolton in 2020 also in 2021 PGCE masters level with double distinction.

## Fantastic Achievement

**Hughie Higginson**, of West Close and **Freddie Xavi** 10-year old best friends, raised **£200K** for The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and they were amongst The Pride of Manchester Young Fundraisers of the Year annual awards.



## Great effort

**Annabella & Ayrton** Johnston of Clover Croft, entered a Myeloma tennis challenge to support grandfather Stephen Whitehead. She played a rally of 59 in the singles and 99 together in the doubles.



## Themes on Thursday

Do you love singing? If so you are invited to the Village Hall on Thursday 9th September at 1.30pm to Themes on Thursday. June will be at the piano and this month's theme will be "Songs from the Shows"

We welcome everyone, refreshments are provided and the cost is £3.00.

Any profits will be donated to Dementia U.K.

**Heather Swindlehurst.**



## VILLAGE HALL

*The Village Hall belongs to the village, is a non-profit making and relies on finance from events and clubs who hire the hall.*

For more details and bookings please contact :  
**Ian Whittle: 07770605578**

### Clubs, Societies & Committees:

**Amateur Radio:** Stephen 690757

Thursday. 18.00—22.00

**Burnley Film Makers**

Wednesday 7.30pm Keith Widdup: 693722



**Pilates Tracy Edmundson:** 07773 785904

Tuesday 11.00—12.00

**Garden Club & Herb Society:** Eileen Knight  
773258

2nd Tuesday 7.30 from 12th Oct

**Fitness Classes:** Claire Hodgkinson 07812 251458

Mon 9.15-10.15,

Thurs 17.30-18.30.

**Dancing U3Age:** Eric Bushby 429269

1st Thurs in every month 14.00-15.00

3rd Tues in every month 14.00-15.00

**Themes on Thursday Heather** 773302

2nd Thursday 1.30-3.00pm starting 9th Sept £3.00  
including light refreshment

**Pendle Embroiderers:** Kath Thompson

01253 882121 1st Mon 12.00-2.00pm

**Parish Council Patricia Rosthorn** 07931687175

3rd Tuesday in every month 7.30pm

**Village Hall Committee**

**Chair:** Charlotte Hulme : 07758938361

**St John's Church Events Committee:**

Val & Terry Butterfield: 777995

**Higham Events Committee:** John Metcalf 547778

## Village Hall Report

Following a difficult year of being closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are finally starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Restrictions have eased which has allowed the reopening of the hall and we are happy to be taking bookings again. In recent weeks we are pleased to be welcoming back regular user groups and we are also excited to have secured new groups and classes. These include yoga, exercise classes and also potential school use for music lessons.

Income for the hall has suffered greatly during the pandemic, however with the support of the Parish Council we have been lucky to secure funding grants which have supported the losses and have provided the hall with a stronger financial position. These grants will go towards hall improvements which the committee are currently in the process of reviewing and prioritising.

As well as this, the hall is also being supported with a grant for upgraded LED Lighting.

Following the recent Village Hall Committee AGM, there have been some changes to the committee. Graham Fox stepped down as Chair, replaced by myself. Anne Rawlinson stepped down from Events and Bookings, and has been replaced by Ian Whittle.

The committee would like to express great thanks to both Graham and Anne for their commitment to the Village Hall and we wish them both all the very best for the future.

Following the reopening of the hall, some exciting times are ahead. With hall improvements to complete, digitalisation of booking systems and calendars, and potential social media platforms to tap into, the committee will certainly be busy over the coming weeks.

Finally, the hall committee would like to thank the village for your continued support of the Village Hall. Watch this space for some exciting ideas to strengthen the Higham community spirit.

Kindest regards

**Charlotte Hulme (Chair)**



**James Stansfield**

(Mobile fresh fruit and vegetables)

Every Thursday 3-4.30

(Higham Village Hall car park)

## Higham Spout

is funded and distributed by Higham Parish Council. Back copies are available on line at [www.highamparishcouncil.com](http://www.highamparishcouncil.com)

All family notices and articles are published free of charge. Any stories, snippets, photos and events that are of interest to the village will be gratefully received.

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