

The Forest of Bowland National Landscape Partnership (formerly AONB) celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year. To celebrate this milestone, they have provided funding to the Parish Council to plant a Diamond Landmark Tree. A Rowan Tree has been chosen and planted complete with smart guard. It was kindly planted by Parish Councillors Terry Butterfield and Duncan Wood. Rowan trees are very attractive with silver grey bark and red berries which will attract birds, bees and other pollinators.



Many thanks to Richard Gadd, who enlisted the help of friends to plant 120 small saplings donated by the Woodland Trust in the wet bottom corner of the top playing field. The saplings are a mix of hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel and silver birch. We're really looking

forward to seeing the fruits of this labour once the saplings have grown to full maturity.

Further maintenance work is currently being arranged for the children's playground area starting with the Log Bridge and Log Walk and additional works will continue to take place over the course of the coming year.

As the base of the bus shelter near the Threepenny Bit looks to be in need of some repair, we'll be looking into what is required, the associated costs and arrangements for the work to be undertaken as soon as we can.

We will be hosting the Annual Village Meeting in the Village Hall on Friday 23 May. We hope that you will be able to join us to hear more about the work that the Parish Council has been involved in during the last year. We will be providing refreshments from 6.30pm and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible when you will have the opportunity to meet your local Councillors. We do still have a Councillor vacancy available so if you'd like to learn more about what is involved, please do come along to meet us to find out more about the role.

Duncan Wood was coopted onto Higham Parish Council in January to fill one of the two vacancies. He lives on Fir Trees Grove with his wife Sandra. He moved from Lowerhouse Burnley almost seven years ago, when he retired from BAE Systems (formerly British Aerospace) after 34 years, where he was a Chartered Engineer in Aircraft Structures and Regulatory Compliance.



He enjoys living in Higham and wherever possible supports the village community. He has just assumed responsibility for the Children's Playground

## Village Hall

During the last three months the Village Hall continued to be well used for clubs, other regular events and also for one off bookings for parties and celebrations. The on-line booking system is running smoothly and is now used regularly.

Meetings have been held with a local building contractor, who has provided a provisional estimate for the extension. As planned, this will be used to apply for grants, as and when they become available. Currently we are endeavouring to identify as many sources of funds as possible.

Unfortunately, Terry Webster the artist booked for the fundraiser on 22<sup>nd</sup> February was taken ill, but John Clegg managed to get the "Four Shades of Grey" to step in at the last minute. Despite the attendance being lower than for other events just over £450 was raised. Well done John and Lucy, thank you for your special efforts.

As always, regular maintenance has continued and also arrangements have been made to replace the hand rails on the steps between the church yard and the patio at the rear of the hall.

As part of our plan for damp proofing, our thanks go to Brian Sutcliffe who has cleared the garden away from the front wall, which will now be replaced by a paved area.

Village Hall Committee

## Village Hall Groups

### Table Tennis (Ladies)

Monday Afternoon (starting spring) Cath Sutcliffe

### Pendle Threads (Embroidery)

1st Monday afternoon of month Kathryn Thompson

### Burnley Film Makers

Wednesday Evenings Mike Breeze

### Themes on Thursday

2nd Thursday afternoon of month Heather Swindlehurst

### East Lancs Ornithology Club

1st Tuesday of month David Chew

### Tots Group

Friday mornings 10.45 am.

### Pilates

Tuesday Mornings Tracy Edmondson

### Art Classes for Pre School Children

Wednesday mornings Amy Stansfield

### Sam's Pop up Café

3rd Tuesday afternoon of month Samantha Hammond

### East Lancs Radio Club

Thursday Evenings Neil Mooney

### U3A Country Dancing

1st & 3rd Thursday afternoons Eric Bushby

### Book Club

Last Tuesday evening of month Diane Perrin

### Pizza & Praise

Last Friday evening of month Andrea Johnstone

For full contact details (phone numbers and websites) see the Calendar of Events webpage on Higham Village website'

<https://www.highamparishcouncil.com/events2/month/>

Please note:- some events do not run the whole year, e.g. Ladies' Table Tennis and Burnley Film Makers.

# HIGHAM

News and views from the village of Higham

# Spotlight



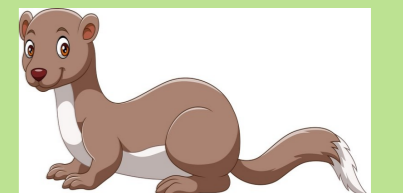
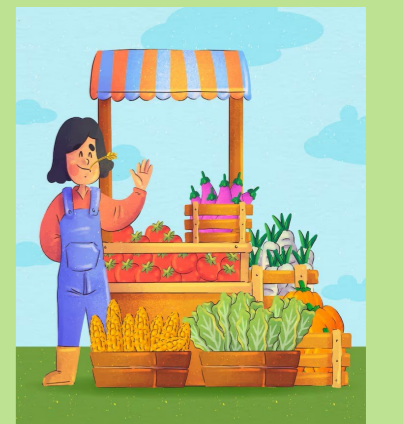
## MAY FAIR

Weekend 3, 4, 5 May

The Mayfair will take place on the weekend of 3, 4 and 5 May. We are including lots of entertainment. Craft stalls will be in the marquee, behind the village hall. There will be two puppet shows daily, 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Jack and the Bean Stalk'. On Saturday there will be a classic car show on the school playground. Sunday will see birds of prey on display and ferret racing. Music will be provided by a ukulele band. On Monday we are delighted to have children from Higham School Maypole Dancing again. Music will be provided by Pendle Community Orchestra and there will be a farmers' market.

In Church each day there will be a second hand book sale and a display of work by Higham School children on the theme of Spring. There will be a daily raffle in the Village Hall, a craft table for children and hot and cold savouries and cakes. Entry will be £3 - free for children - You can come and go as often as you like, once you have purchased a programme.

We do need any assistance you can give. Donations of hot food and cakes will be gratefully received, and if you can spare a couple of hours on any of the days to help on the gates or in the village hall, please let us know. Please contact Heather on 07713121275 or Val on 07530345079. If you have any raffle prizes you could donate, these can be delivered to 77 Higham Hall Road or 20 Acres Brook Road.



## Church

Hello from everyone from St John's Higham. We find ourselves in Lent, the run up to Easter, an important time in the Church's calendar.

The start of the season was marked by the making of pancakes in the village hall on Shrove Tuesday, followed by a well attended Ash Wednesday service in church.

As well as the Palm Sunday Service on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April, we have the Maundy Thursday service with the symbolic washing of feet by Bishop Philip as Reverend Lesley continues the recovery from her knee replacement operation.



On Good Friday we are joined by the Burnley and Pendle Deanery Choir for the Cross of Christ devotional service. This a similar style to the Christmas Carol service in that the Easter story is told through a series of reading accompanied with traditional Easter hymns and anthems. A service to think about the importance of God's message to us. We then celebrate the risen Jesus with our Easter morning service on the 20<sup>th</sup> April, followed by an Easter egg hunt around the Church and grounds, and refreshments in the Village Hall.

We invite you all to come and meet with us during this important time of year.

If you want to receive our free Weekly News Letter, please contact Reverend Lesley at:

[areadean.pendle@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:areadean.pendle@blackburn.anglican.org)

We can deliver this via email or hard copy and we also have a website. Go to the 'A Church Near You' website and search for St John the Evangelist Higham.

Looking to the future we have our Pentecost and Rose Queen / King service which is celebrated with and service outside at the front of church accompanied with a Brass band followed by food and refreshments in the village hall on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

Simon Gilbert  
Churchwarden

## Higham 125 Club

Congratulations to our most recent lucky winners. You still have the chance to win £125 as we still have availability. If you would like to join the 125 Club please contact Heather Swindlehurst on 07713121275 or Val Butterfield on 07530345079 for more details.

**Latest winners :**



February No.32

March No. 77

January No 125

Brenda Pitts

Barbara Shuttleworth

## From the Archives

### Head Retires After 19 Years At School

27 Aug 1971

Higham Church of England Junior School

The headmistress of Higham Church of England Junior School for the last 19 years, Miss Hester Woods, retired on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 1971, when a presentation ceremony was held at the school. She was presented with an armchair by Mr Robert Haythornthwaite, a manager of the school and also a parent of one of the pupils. He was representing the staff, past and present pupils, managers, parents and friends. Mrs M. Lightfoot presented a handbag on behalf of St John's Church members and Miss Woods also received a brooch from the kitchen staff of the school presented by Mrs M. Todd. The Rev. L. Cragg, vicar of St Leonard's Church, Padiham, was chairman at the presentation, and among those attending were the Rev. J. Priestley (curate at St John's Church), Councillor Mrs M. Fletcher (Higham's representative on Burnley Rural District Council) and Councillor W. Smith (a member of Higham Parish Council).

Miss Woods has been in the teaching profession for 40 years, working in only two schools during that time. She was at St Matthew's School, Padiham, for 20 years, where she was deputy headmistress, before moving to Higham as headmistress. Her last year has been spent at the new village school, where there are 56 pupils.



Miss Woods with Rev Cragg and Mr Haythornthwaite after the presentation.

### Last Chance of a Village Hall?

17 January 1986



Higham Parish Council and other interested bodies in the village, are keeping their fingers crossed that the old school will now become the official village hall.

The Parish Council has offered to buy the building for the village.

The matter was discussed by Nelson Council last week. There have been plans for such a centre in the village for several years now and a steering committee has been set up, chaired by solicitor, Mr Colin Wood. Among the ideas dropped over the years were to convert the Methodist Chapel, to have a purpose-built hall, and to bring two large huts onto a site in the centre of the village. Both Mr Wood, and clerk to the Parish Council, Mr Harold Woodcock, agree that acquiring the old school is the last chance of getting a village hall. Mr Woodcock said that the building did not need a lot of renovating, because the County Council carried out extensive repairs before they took the building over from the Church of England. He said that the Parish Council would not have sole responsibility for running a village hall, instead a committee would be formed.

## Future Events

### Higham Scarecrow Festival 2025

23rd, 24th, 25th August

The theme for this year will be:-

**FILMS AND TELEVISION**

Get your thinking caps on !



### Annual Village Meeting

Friday 23rd May 2025

Village Hall 6.30 pm.



We hope that you will be able to join us to hear more about the work that the Parish Council has been involved during the last year. We will be providing refreshments from 6.30pm and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the evening when you will have the opportunity to meet your local Councillors. We do still have a Councillor vacancy available so if you'd like to learn more about what is involved, please do come along to meet us to find out more about the role.

### Dog Fouling

The subject of dog fouling has been raised for the umpteenth time. Maybe voluntary DNA testing of dogs and their deposits would make responsible owners feel they were not being tarnish with the same brush.

Unfortunately the worst part of owning a dog is clearing up after it. Dogs can be trained to do many things, but as yet, clearing the pooh after themselves is not one of them. Using pooh bags and depositing them in the bins especially for that purpose is ideal: hanging the bags on trees and bushes is not!

Can you help us tackle the problem of dog fouling in Higham. Unfortunately, some owners still think it is acceptable not to pick up after their dogs – we disagree - it is totally unacceptable!

Farmers are worried about dog pooh and litter which ends up in their hay bales, which the cows eat and then we eat the beef from the cows.

Photo shows dog balls and litter gathered from bales from field at the back of Acres Brook.



## In Memoriam

**Chris Rawlinson** aged 80, the much loved husband of the late Anne, father, father-in-law and grandfather and friend to many. Chris died from a heart attack after watching his beloved Burnley FC and after a courageous battle with cancer.

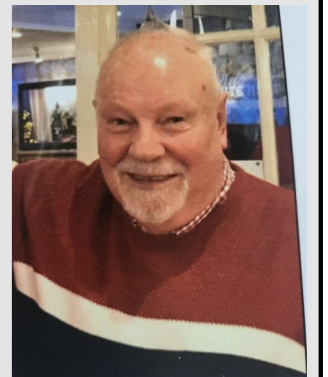
He was one of Higham's stalwarts. Anne and Chris's Post Office, shop and B&B were the centre of village life: the source of news, shopping delivered to older residents, and a cup of tea and a sympathetic ear for customers in need. Chris could be seen helping in the Village Hall for village events and, as a locum staff member in Post Offices around this area, after his retirement.

He and Anne had been together since they were teenagers, and during Anne's illness, he was a constant source of care and support. On the day of his funeral, the Church was full to overflowing with villagers wishing to show their love and respect for one of a kind.

**Eileen Knight**, a much loved and respected figure in the village. Eileen ran the Herb Society and Garden Club for many years, and was a constant source of interesting speakers, as well as giving talks on herbs, gardening and decorations herself.

She could always be found helping in the tea room with her team.

Our deepest condolences to all their families



## Presentation

The Soroptimists invited Steve Wilson to A Themes on Thursday meeting at Higham Village Hall. He was there to accept a cheque as Chair of Dementia Pendle Positive.



Higham Spout is paid for and distributed by  
Higham Parish Council.

This issue and back copies are available online from

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

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All family notices and articles are published free of charge

Next copy deadline: 1July 2025