



**High Legh Community Association**

THE VILLAGE HALL . WEST LANE . HIGH LEGH . NR KNUTSFORD . CHESHIRE

# NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY HIGH LEGH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION | DISTRIBUTED AT NO CHARGE TO HIGH LEGH RESIDENTS

**Issue 154**

**SPRING  
2021**

Winter to Spring  
in High Legh



# High Legh News

The Newsletter is published by the High Legh Community Association. It is written and distributed by High Legh residents.

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If you want to publish an advert or have information about a local social event or news that might interest High Legh residents email: [angela.hlmag@frankshome.co.uk](mailto:angela.hlmag@frankshome.co.uk) or ring **01925 758052**

**DEADLINE  
for the  
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Newsletter  
is  
Monday 3rd  
May 2021**

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## From the Editor



What a year it has been for all of us in so many ways. The wonderful news is that we have the Spring to look forward to and there is also the vaccination against coronavirus which will hopefully in the not-too-distant future give us our freedom back.

After the article on Hedgehogs last issue I found a tiny hedgehog wandering about our garden. It weighed 380g and should have been around 600g to hibernate properly.

I took it to a Hedgehog rescue in Northwich. She had some treatment for infestations and when she has put on enough weight she will return to my garden, hopefully with a friend!

We are extremely fortunate to have such beautiful countryside surrounding the village which I'm sure most people have enjoyed walking around. You will see some lovely photos in this issue taken by residents both of the Festival of Christmas Cheer and also some snowy scenes.

This issue also introduces you to the High Legh Community Association Committee (CAC) and Parish Council. Some of them you may recognise, and some may be new to you. You will also get an idea of the work they put in to support the village and look after the village hall.

"I do hope this Newsletter will  
brighten your day."

Angela.

*The opinions expressed are those of contributors, and not necessarily those of HLCA.*

High Legh Community Association  
The Village Hall, West Lane, High Legh, Nr Knutsford Cheshire WA6 6LR.

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# High Legh Community Association

## NEWS & EVENTS

Happy New Year to you all from the High Legh Community Association (HLCA).

What is the HLCA you might ask - well officially The High Legh Community Association is a charity that was set up about 50 years ago and its aims are:-

To create and promote social and educational activities for the recreation and leisure of High Legh residents. To maintain and manage a Community Centre.

The Charity is managed by the CA Council (CAC), normally elected annually at the AGM, and this is made up of volunteers from the Community, some of whom are also trustees. The CA Council meets 6 times a year and is responsible for running and maintaining the Village Hall, organizing Social Events for residents of the High Legh and fundraising. We raise money to do improvements in the Village Hall, to support other local social groups through financial grants and to publish this Newsletter 3 times a year.

Now we really need help with communications. We are working with the Parish council to update our website, but none of the current Council members have the necessary skills to take this forward - could you spare some time to help with this? There is an advert for this position on page 19 of the newsletter.

Contact Gail if you can help! [gail.coenen@btinternet.com](mailto:gail.coenen@btinternet.com)

### The CA Council members are:-

Gail Coenen  
*Joint Chair and Trustee.*

Trish Adams  
*Joint Chair and Trustee*

Janet Harrison  
*Joint Chair*

Su Carter  
*Treasurer*

Kath Jones  
*Secretary*

Ian Franks  
*Hall Maintenance Team Leader*

Julie Morton & Tim Harrison  
*Parish Council Representatives*

Arthur Wardell,  
*Church Representative*

Nicola Keeley & Louise Allan  
*Social Event Organisers*



# High Legh Community Association

## NEWS UPDATE

Last Year started with the popular Robert Moffat 10k Race, an event run for the last 12 years in partnership with Lymm Runners and HLCA. It is a real community event with High Legh School, the PTA and many volunteers making it possible. Unfortunately, during the rest of 2020 due to Coronavirus restrictions and social distancing, many regular CA social events like Sunday Teas, the monthly Coffee and Friendship morning, and many other events were unable to take place.

Like many places the Village Hall had to close in March 2020. A lot planning and work went into making the Village Hall Covid-19 secure so we were able to reopen at the beginning of September and welcome back a limited number of users, including some of the exercise classes. However, due to the numbers of people allowed in the Hall and social distancing, many events like parties

and larger gatherings were still not allowed. Sadly at the end of the year, we went into tier 3, tier 4 and then lockdown and we had to close the Village Hall again. This has meant the Village Hall, which relies on its activities to fund itself, has received very little income this year.

However, 2020 did end on a high note with the Festival of Christmas Cheer which was promoted by the HLCA. Flyers were distributed by volunteers around the Village advertising the event as well as using our usual communication channels of What's On, website and notice boards. It was a big success and the many houses and gardens decorated with lights were a joy to see. Thank you to everyone who took part, and we will be running it again this December!

The first casualty of 2021 is the Robert Moffat 10k race which will not take place.



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It was reluctantly decided at the end of last year to cancel the race and as it turns out the strict lockdown we are in now would have made it impossible to run but we hope everyone is out running ready for 2022!

### The Village Hall also remains closed.

As we go to print there is hope that the Covid restrictions will be lifted over the next few months. If you would like to book the Hall for later in the year, please contact Helen Wright on **07703 194052** or email **highlegvhall@gmail.com**

However, looking forward we know that at some point the Hall will reopen and we will be able to welcome our users back and we hope we can start to organize some social events later in the year, and restart fundraising for the HLCA and the many local groups that depend on events at the Hall to

raise funds.

The High Legh Village Show was a popular annual event for many years and was last held in 2016. We now have a volunteer from the Village willing to organize a Show so this may be a future possibility. Another event is a Scarecrow Trail which has been enjoyed in the past by our artistic and creative residents. If you would like to be part of the team that makes these events happen, please email Nicola or Louise (nickeeley@btinternet.com, lallan@icasl.com).

We hope there will be lots of opportunities for volunteers to help and take part in other activities as well and we will keep you posted.

“Keep well and stay safe.”

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The Parish Council continue to hold meetings via Zoom. Minutes can be found on our website:

<http://www.highleghparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings.php>.  
The Precept for 2021/22 will remain the same.



## COVID-19

A big thank you to our Street Champions. Your Street Champion can be found on [www.highlegh.org.uk](http://www.highlegh.org.uk) along with other information.

Thank you to all the parishioners who put lights up and decorated their houses for the Festival of Christmas Cheer and the Christmas Cracker Trail. They looked amazing. Maybe we can make it a yearly event!

## Roads and Transport

A new solar powered Vehicle Activated Speed sign has been installed on the A50 in the 40mph zone between Crabtree Lane and the Village Hall and a new mobile Speed Indicator Device (SID) will soon be in use on West Lane.

We are working with CE Highways to get more signage to warn HGV drivers that there is a weight limit on Swineyard Lane, Golborne Lane and Moss Lane.

## Inland Border Facility, Warrington

Councillors are concerned that the Inland Border Facility, where Shearings used to be, might bring extra traffic to Swineyard Lane. A councillor is working with a Warrington

Borough Councillor about trying to get an ANPR camera on Swineyard Lane and HGV enforcement and has a meeting with the transport coordinator at IBF.

Cheshire Police will have dedicated Roads Policing Officers assigned to the area for the next three months. Before cameras can be installed evidence is needed, so **please report any Inland Border complaints to [complaints@warringtonibf@hmrc.gov.uk](mailto:complaints@warringtonibf@hmrc.gov.uk)**.

Please include as much detail as possible – who is involved, eg the driver or company name or the vehicle registration number, what the driver or company are doing, where they're doing it and when. It's often helpful to take a photo if it is safe to do so.

## Safer Cycling and Walking

See separate article.

## HS2 and NPR

The Parish Council continues to monitor HS2 developments. We have written to Transport for the North to find out when they will be publishing the projected route of NPR, the design and environmental statements for a proposed route and plans for the necessary public consultations on these.

## Planning Applications

The Planning Committee review all planning applications in High Legh. We recently supported Little Bollington in reducing the temporary time limit on the site compound at Bowdon roundabout.

## Litter Pickers

Thank you to the residents who litter pick round the village to make it a pleasanter place to walk.



## Rural Broadband

Vispa provide an excellent service from installation to operation without disruption.

Anyone looking for an improved internet speed should contact Vispa – details are at [https:// www.vispa.net/](https://www.vispa.net/), as the more that join the better the service. We've heard some good reports from residents who use Vispa.

## High Legh Neighbourhood Plan

Work on the HLNP has progressed in the context of the necessary planning processes in spite of the Covid-19 restrictions (though the planning consultant who was helping us suffered a mountain biking accident in September which slowed things down, but we are so glad that he has made a recovery). Steps include:

- Cheshire East Council, in consultation with Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency, have undertaken a screening of whether the draft plan requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment and have concluded that it does not.
- A Housing Needs Advice Report produced by CEC has been updated.
- Discussions on the draft plan have been taking place with Cheshire East Council's neighbourhood planning team.

A Design Code has been produced which is a design guide for the future development of High Legh village providing detail on the existing character and setting of the village and how future development could be integrated within it.

Once the final draft has been agreed by the Steering Group and the PC, and we have worked out how best to consult residents on the draft plan (subject to whatever Covid-19 restrictions will be) we will let you know more just as soon as we can.

## First Responder

We are not aware of any First Responders in High Legh and wondered if anyone would be interested in becoming one. We have a defibrillator on the outside wall at the Village Hall and the school has one in their entrance hall.

## Dogs

We have received complaints about dog fouling which seems to have got worse during lockdown. Please pick up after your dog and bag it. We have bins around the village.



## Police

High Legh and Mobberley Community Policing Team is PC Lawrence Price and PCSO Emma Darroch. You will be able to talk to them at the surgeries which are held in the Village Hall car park at the moment. Dates will be on the police noticeboard on the outside of the Village Hall.

**Our PCSO Emma Darroch can be contacted on 101 or her email is:**  
**emma.darroch@cheshire.pnn.police.uk** Mobile Phone: **07989438404** (Only turned on when on duty).

### Next PC meetings:

**Monday, 22 February at 7.30pm and Monday, 29 March at 7.30pm.**

If you would like to subscribe to our email updates, please email the clerk.

Cllr William Hind (Chairman).

Tel: 07721661884 Mrs Doreen Walker (Clerk) Tel: 01925 754818

Email: clerk@highleghparishcouncil.gov.uk **www.highleghparishcouncil.gov.uk**

## Cycling and Walking

Over the period of the pandemic, we have all rediscovered the value of walking and cycling in and around our beautiful village. Individuals, couples, young and old including whole families have used the time to appreciate our surroundings by taking to our many paths and roads. During this time residents have voiced their concerns regarding safety on our local roads, both for ourselves and visitors to the village. Consequently, the Parish Council asked that some residents set up a working group to investigate improvements for now and the future. There are many initiatives being launched by national government and funds seem to be plentiful, our aim is to make sure High Legh can have its fair share; however, the funds will not come to us easily and we will need to provide convincing arguments.

We believe we need to start our work now. Here are a few morsels for residents to be aware of :-

**1. A regular 'Wednesday' cycling group**

(See the new Facebook Group 'High Legh Cycling and Walking for updates).

**2. Published routes for 'walks for all' (In this issue)**

**3. Published routes for 'cycling for all' (In this issue)**

In the background we will be identifying and corresponding with any organisation we believe will help benefit our goals. We will not act alone but will seek views from residents and will be responsible to the Parish Council.

In the meantime, please be aware of bicycles on our local roads. At this time of year, the road surfaces can be slippery, and cyclists often give themselves a little extra room from the kerb to avoid danger. For a car driver the prospect of approaching a bicycle who seems to be causing an obstruction can be frustrating; 'chill.....hold back and give the cyclist/s room', if there is one thing the pandemic has taught us, it is to take care of ourselves and others.



## Walk for all: Circular Walk 3 miles

### Overview

Follows a mix of quiet lanes, so no need to worry about being caught in deep mud. Care may be needed on blind bends from approaching cars.

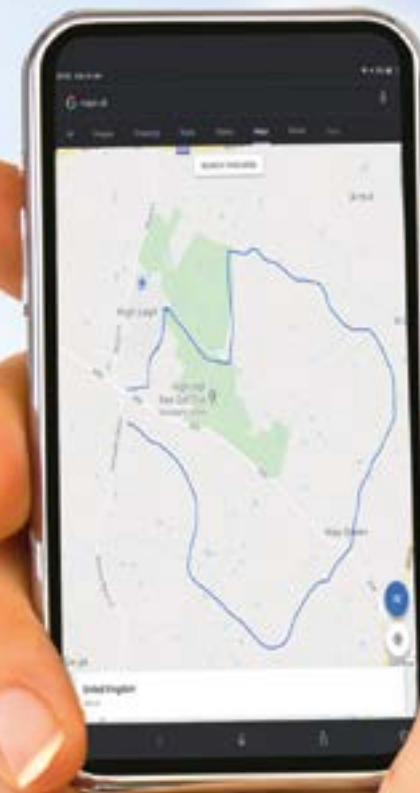
Follows a mix of quiet lanes, so no need to worry about being caught in deep mud. Care may be needed on blind bends from approaching cars.

<b>Distance</b>	3 miles	<b>Surfaces</b>	Quiet roads
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**Start:** Ditchfield Lane, near High Legh Garden Centre

### Route

- Follow Ditchfield Lane heading East.
- At the junction, turn left into Hoo Green Lane.
- Follow Hoo Green Lane as it bends to the left up a slight hill and meets the A50.
- Cross the A50 to the road that is almost opposite (Bucklow Hill Lane).
- Continue down Bucklow Hill Lane as it becomes Hulseheath Lane.
- Hulseheath Lane continues downhill on a gentle gradient, with Manchester on the horizon.
- At the T junction, turn left on to Chapel lane with several larger houses to the left.
- Walk towards the blind bends, you may need to change sides of the road to maintain good visibility.
- Chapel lane then becomes Peacock Lane
- Turn on to Broadoak Lane with the golf course now on your right.
- At the T junction turn right on to Wrenshot lane
- Continue along Wrenshot lane until you reach the junction with Pheasant Walk, turn left on to Pheasant Walk
- Walk up the gentle hill and at the top turn left on to North Drive. At the top end of North Drive there is a passage that links to Woodlands Crescent.
- Walk down the passage and follow Woodlands Crescent as it begins to run parallel with the A50, eventually meeting it.
- Again, cross the A50 to complete your walk near to the Garden Centre.



**Notes:** Take care when crossing the A50 and use the crossing near the Village Hall. If you have younger children with you, it would be advisable to carry them across (with associated bikes).

When walking on Chapel Lane, it is best to walk in single file and make sure you are visible to cars as you approach the blind bends.

please contact me. I'll be only too pleased to help you with dates and how to join the meetings.

If there are any ladies who would like information about joining W.I. when we can meet again you will be very made very welcome.

Stay well, stay safe and I hope to see you all at some time this year.

Best wishes

Jean Churchill-Evans  
President

My phone number 01925 755979.

## High Legh WI

Hope all W.I members are keeping well and managing to keep fit and occupied through these very strange times.

Here we are in 2021 and we haven't had a W.I. meeting since March 2020. The committee have planned our AGM to take place in May this Year, but the way things are going with COVID-19 that may not be possible.

There are zoom meetings being organised by Whitefriars Chester for us to watch if you are interested. The meetings consist of speakers and craft tutorials if you would like information on up-and-coming meetings

## Plastic Free High Legh

It is now a year since we launched Plastic Free High Legh at an event at Abbey Leys farmers market with much hope and enthusiasm. Then came Covid 19 which has made life difficult for everybody.

As we find ourselves restricted and experiencing lockdowns plastic pollution continues to threaten ourselves and all other living creatures on the planet.

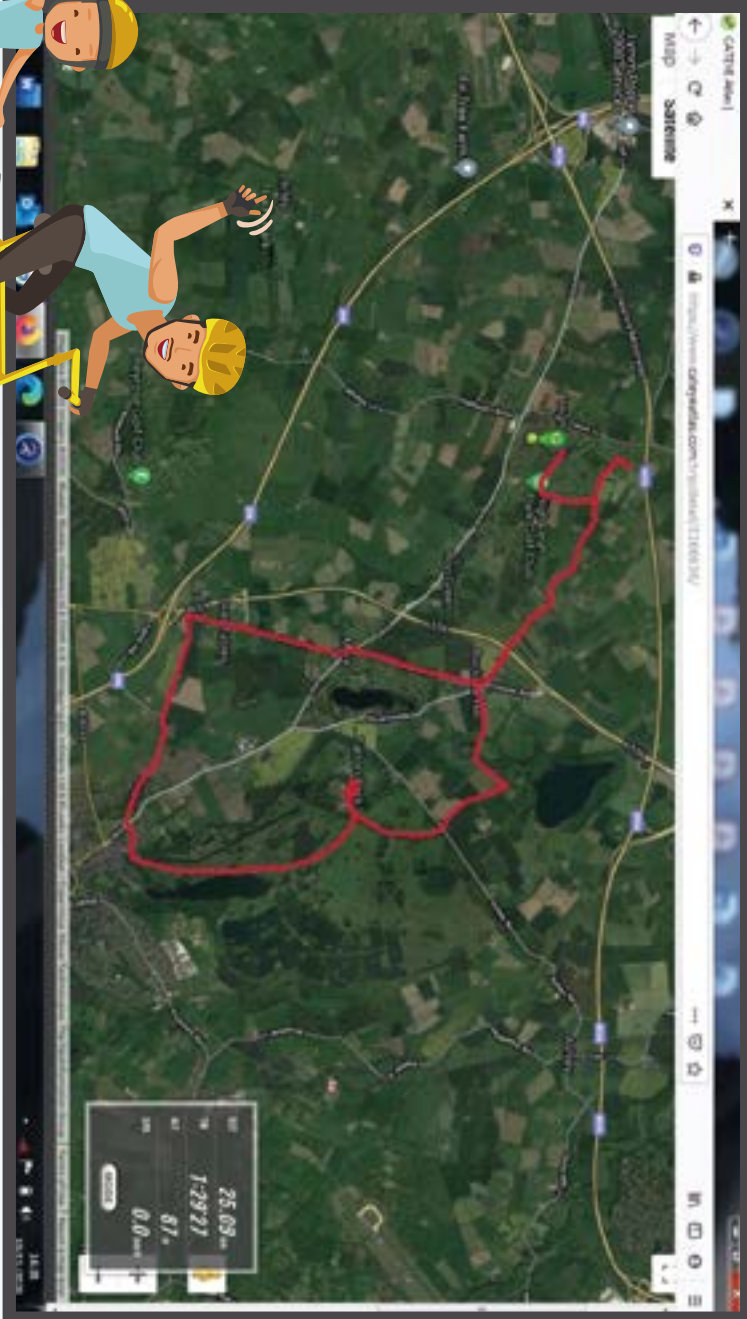
I heard recently that Orcas (Killer Whales) a native species in UK waters are now reduced to just eight in number, and they have not had offspring in twenty years (normally three to ten years) It is thought that pollution in our oceans is to blame for the decline.

We are encouraging people to think about single use plastic and ways we can reduce it in our lives.

Why not find us and like our facebook page **"Plastic Free High Legh"** and tell us how you have reduced your single use plastic, and let's share your ideas. For a starter, this year I have switched to solid shampoo and conditioning bars – no more plastic bottles and liquid soap.

I hope by the next edition of the newsletter we can at least see the light at the end of the Covid tunnel, and we can continue on our journey to a Plastic Free High Legh.

## Cycling for all: Circular Ride 15.59 miles



### Safer

Cycle route to Knutsford via Peacock Lane – Chapel Lane – old Chester Road traffic-free path -Tabley -Swains Walk (public bridleway) to Tabley Road, Knutsford-Garden Road to Tatton Park.





## High Legh Preschool Nursery Newsletter - Spring Update



We have big plans for this year as it is a very special year for us and 2021 marks 50 years since Preschool first began and opened its doors in High Legh!!

While it is still very uncertain times due to the ongoing Covid pandemic and restrictions in place we have our fingers crossed that later during the year we will be able to safely organise and host some sort of celebrations to mark this occasion.

We will keep you posted.....

In the meantime, if any local residents have any memories or any photos of Preschool going back over the years we would love to hear from you. Perhaps you previously attended yourself or your children did or you may even be a former staff member!

Please spread the word and drop us a line at [nursery.highleggh@gmail.com](mailto:nursery.highleggh@gmail.com)

In the last few months since Christmas and New Year we have been very pleased to welcome some more new children and so we have had a busy start to the year and particularly continued to see our baby room flourish. This has been a great asset to bring to our High Legh community. Since we opened the baby room in September, we have seen extraordinary demand, a huge number of enquiries and have full occupancy with a waiting list for places.

Therefore, in the coming months we plan to enhance our provision for the babies outdoors by erecting a permanent wooden gazebo style structure in the baby garden. This will enable the babies to access our

lovely garden even in increment weather to get some fresh air daily as it will offer some shelter for rainy days and provide a lovely area to support those little ones who are not yet walking.

Working together with our Committee we hope to be able to plan some fundraising events to help us to achieve this.

During February the children have had fun taking part in themed activities linked to special occasions. For Valentine's Day we have enjoyed creating red and pink art work and baked love heart biscuits. Chinese New Year was celebrated by making Chinese lanterns, tasting a variety of traditional oriental food and attempting to master the art of chopsticks. For Pancake Tuesday we made our own pancakes and there was a selection of many yummy toppings....the children were spoilt for choice!

Coming up during March we will be celebrating World Book Day, Mothers Day & Comic Relief.

We are currently recruiting for another new staff member. We would love to hear from you if you think this role may be suitable. Please drop us a line with all enquiries.

### We are hiring!

We are looking for a part-time Nursery Practitioner to come and join our friendly team at our village pre-school in High Legh

Interested?  
Get in Touch on  
**01925 756061**



## HEDGEHOG AWARENESS WEEK

02-08 MAY 2021



[www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk)

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# High Legh Primary PTA



During January 2021, families are back to juggling work and home schooling and we are not currently able to see our friends in person or hold any PTA Events.

Thankfully, that was not the case during the Autumn term when all our classes have had the most amazing amount of fun joining in our #ClassWars competition. Each class has taken the initiative to have fun and fundraise through holding sponsored events, decorating Christmas tree baubles, holding tuck shops, organising school tea towels & bags and more!



PTA has also enjoyed our virtual balloon race, a film night for all classes in their class bubbles and a Christmas Card Arts.

In total, this term, including all our #Claswars events and activities **PTA has raised an absolutely jaw droppingly amazingly wow of £6,040!**



Reception class even organised a wonderful joy filled Christmas Cracker trail around High Legh village jointly with High Legh Preschool. However, our class that raised

the most funds organised the High Legh Primary school recipe book. These included recipes from all the bakers that had so wonderfully supported the NHS with baking during the 2020 lockdown. We have just a small handful of these remaining for a suggested donation of £5. Please do get in touch if you are interested.



We are so grateful to everyone within the High Legh Community that supported the Christmas Cracker Trail with such good spirits and joined in our Christmas raffle with such generosity.

We are creeping ever closer to our fundraising target of £42k for a multiuse games area (MUGA) and hope to be able to start work within the year all being well. Children will have really missed the chance to meet up together but as soon as it is possible, PTA will be back before too long continuing our journey of fun, fundraising and helping to build a sense of community between parents, children teachers, and the local High Legh community.

Best wishes, Rebecca Booth and Emma Openshaw (Cochairs of PTA).

To keep in touch or contact the PTA:  
**www.HighLeghPrimarySchoolPTA**  
**Email team@highleghpta.org**



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## Countryside Walking

During this lockdown period it is great to see local people walking the lanes of the village and perhaps exploring the local area more than they have done before. However, one thing that is noticeable is people walking on the wrong side of the road when there is no pavement, in that they walk in the direction they would drive, but in fact the Highway Code states we should on the right, facing the traffic. This is much safer as you can see what is approaching. Here is a reminder of what the highway code says...

### Key points to remember:

- Use the pavement (including any path along the side of the road) where there is one Use safe crossings where possible and follow the Green Cross Code
- Help others to see you by wearing or carrying something bright or fluorescent
- Use reflective materials at night such as armbands, sashes or jackets Take special care with young children, pushchairs and non-powered wheelchairs

## “What do when there is no pavement available”

Different rules for walkers apply when there is no pavement depending on the size of your group. Small groups should keep to the right-hand side of the road so you can see oncoming traffic. Keep close to the side of the road and be prepared to walk in single file. If you come across a sharp right-hand bend it may be safer to cross to the left-hand side of the road and cross back after the bend.

Large groups on organised walks should keep to the left when no pavement is available. There should be a look-out at the front and back of the group wearing fluorescent clothes in daylight and reflective clothes in the dark. At night, the front look-out should have a white light and the rear look-out a red light. People on the outside of large groups should also carry lights and wear reflective clothing.



## Do you have a favourite garden bird



### Editor's Note:

Hello Residents...If you have a favourite garden bird please send me a short piece on why it is your favourite together with your own photo (needs to be at least 1 mb in size).

Please send to [angela.hlmag@frankshome.co.uk](mailto:angela.hlmag@frankshome.co.uk)

and I will endeavour to include it in an issue of the newsletter.



## Voluntary Vacancy

### Can you build and maintain a website?? Do you understand the power of social media?? Have you got some time to spare??

If you can answer “yes” to any or all of these questions, then the High Legh Community Association would really like to hear from you.

- You may be a young person with IT skills looking for a challenge and something to add to your CV.
- You may be recently retired with time on your hands and the skill set we are looking for.
- You may even be an employed or freelance web designer with an hour or two to spare now and then.
- Our village website needs an overhaul or maybe even a total rebuild and we urgently need someone to help us do it.



If you think you can help in any way, technically, creatively or with content, and you are happy to put in a bit of time in exchange for a salary of nothing, an ongoing challenge and a lot of gratitude from your friends and neighbours, then please contact Gail Coenen via email in the first instance on [gail.coenen@btinternet.com](mailto:gail.coenen@btinternet.com)



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Editor's  
Note:

*Wordsearch for you to do  
whilst you are short of diary  
dates because of  
Covid restrictions!!*

## WORD SEARCH

P G U U I C A H J Z V T C J H Q S C Z Z  
C I Q I R D T V U I U L G T A N S W R M  
F E L O I N P R I M R O S E O L D M L E  
L J C U I O R G X D L Q W W D P O G P Y  
N U M C T M D N S W N U D B F Y I I G D  
S A A S I M T I C J K R B Y L L P T V B  
A Y R Q G F R R P S O D X L I D H P F T  
H H L C C I C B D P G A N I U O A V Y F  
A G Q K I D U K C A W N A O C W N W E K  
G T M Y F S Q U O T A V U O S N I P R W  
S W O O D A S A L C H C B R G J Q F N I  
J D S L F F E U A C V W M M O D P O Y E  
D A F F O D I L S H N M I Q D L E W Q L  
I U T R O Z F Z Y A S A T V E R L Z F D  
L X Z X U O K E U R M Y N J A O X B I R  
Y S N A P L N R J Y A E T E F Z T B B G  
N A F K A D W H Z B V P S Q M L Y L O N  
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Anemone  
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Snowdrop

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High Legh Festival of  
Christmas Cheer  
*and some snowy village scenes*





## Positive experiences during lockdown

Gemma Thomas

I've just been asked if I could write anything about my experiences during lockdown. I'd like to start with something I received from a very good friend.

The story starts at the very beginning of the lockdown last spring. I knew Gemma and her family and we began meeting on the golf course just for company. As I am, let's say, not a young man anymore I was delighted to have the company. I did in fact have a dizzy spell one day and I was glad to be able to sit with them until it passed. Slowly during the summer, the walks became longer. I shall be eternally grateful.

The full effect of lockdown has also meant that I have met so many new people that I should have known years ago. I've lived here for over 34 years now and am amazed at how the community has rallied round to help their neighbours.

I've met people who didn't know about the old army camp that became the Belfry and that East Hall was just by the grassy area near the children's playground. My grandchildren used to play there on the old army parade ground. The mess hall was still there with the day's menu chalked on a board. I have lived here longer than anywhere else - it is a great community. I think I probably know every dog too from the over friendly to the very timid. As I usually walk down Pheasant Walk as the children are coming out of school, I love the fact that all the children say 'hello Mike' much to the parents' surprise sometimes. We live in an amazing community.

Mike.



*Some photos and to add that thanks to Mike we've learnt so much and had the most wonderful walks together.*



“Made a true friend.”



## Lockdown 2020 – 2021

Well, here we are nearly 10 months on, living totally different life's, uncertainties about the future and many individual and collective issues and stories.

I guess we have all done the house jobs, gardening, some juggling home schooling and caring for others.

I feel very fortunate to be living in High Legh. We always had a fabulous community feel, however for me, I think this has developed and grown. There are many more residents that I talk to and have come to now on my daily “sanity walks”. Without Dave, friends and walking I really don't know how I would have coped. We are so lucky to have lanes, and footpath to roam freely and uncongested, with stunning views.

As did many I learnt to Zoom and now have a quite a few Zoom events each week.

We decorated three rooms in the house and many garden jobs too which was very satisfying. Also sorted the loft.

Feeling part of a community has been the best part for me, pulling together and looking after and looking out for fellow residents. Finding lots of new footpaths and walks from the back door is wonderful too.

I imagine my life will be very different after COVID-19 as I have re thought my priorities in life, cleared out stuff that weighted me down, and thought about how I want the future to look and feel.

Looking forward to being able to put it all into practise and seeing everyone in real life, face to face for a huge hug and a jolly good Party!!!

Stay well and safe everyone.

Julie Morton.

## Our community prayer group

Early during the first lockdown a prayer group was established comprising sixteen volunteers from different local churches. We and many others believe in the power of prayer. Feedback has indicated that many people have been comforted by our prayers.

Anyone can make a referral (confidential within the group) for themselves, their friends or their family by sending me a Christian name and a brief reason for the referral. I will then ask all members of the group to pray for the person referred.

Chris Stanisstreet [stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk)

## Lockdown

We moved to High Legh about 18 months ago and what a journey it has been. I have wanted to learn to run all my life but couldn't find the time with work and every time I started a club I couldn't go with kids or my husband working away.

I asked my neighbour to help and she came out with me three times a week in the morning, we started gradually in August and she stayed with me until I could run from 1 minute to 30

minutes without stopping, and now I can run for 30 minutes which is amazing!

The community in High Legh and my neighbours are fantastic.

We can all help each other in so many ways and I will always be thankful for my neighbour helping me to start running What neighbour can you help?

Dorinda Gibbons



The “Great Conjunction” was in the news in December. This was the alignment of Jupiter and Saturn low in the sky. These two planets had been getting closer together over previous months and on 21st December, the winter solstice, they were lined up. As young friend of mine said “It’s a line of sight thing” It was not easy to see as they were low in the south western sky just before dusk. By the time it was really dark they had set below the horizon. It was, though, the first time for over 400 years that these two planets had been this close together as seen from Earth.

This image was taken from Stellarium a few days before the conjunction. It shows Jupiter as a bright disc with Saturn the small bright dot just to left. The observatory remains closed for the present, but I was pleased to be able to do a reading for Rev..Trish Cope for the St John’s on-line Christmas carol service. She did the recording outside the observatory dome. Our second Thursday meetings have been on hold, but we hope to be able to resume them in due course using zoom.



Jupiter & Saturn 15/12/20 16:20

If you are missing your astronomy “fix”, you can log on to the Friday evening programme run by the Society for Popular Astronomy on Facebook. The programmes are hosted by Vicky Duncalf and feature interviews with leading astronomers.

The link is **facebook.com/popastro**  
The programme is on Friday evenings starting a 8pm.  
**John Anderson**



## 500 mile walk for Save the Children Fund

Mum has finally managed to finish her walk today, 27th December 2020, after we had to isolate for 2 days while we waited for my daughter to get a Covid test result. Thankfully, it was negative and today we have all been out together to walk the last half mile with her.

The total on JustGiving currently stands at £5612 with £581.75 of additional gift aid.

We are absolutely blown away with the amount raised and can’t thank everyone enough who has donated.

Christine, Fiona and Everly



## Births, Marriages, In Memoria and Memories of High Legh

### Keith Douglas Ridler

Ph.d, B.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.Mech.Eng.

During the late 1990s and 2000s many of you will remember Keith, as he walked down to Broomedge to collect a paper or walked the lanes of High Legh in the morning. He was always friendly, stopping to talk with everyone he met, especially dog walkers with whom he formed great friendships.

Keith was a consultant engineer working for PA consultants in locations across the world until taking early retirement in 1993. He lived in High Legh from December 1980 and after retiring became involved with our local community. He joined the Community Association and was project manager for many years. At St John’s Church he helped build the war memorial, a stage and fitted a loft ladder on the church room. For twelve years he organised fundraising quizzes, at the village hall, for the church. He served on the Parish council, at one point as Chairman and advised the primary school, where he was a Governor when planning their garden. Keith was much loved for his kindness, friendship and generosity and is greatly missed by all who knew him.

Marilyn and family would like to thank everyone for the many cards, messages of sympathy, flowers, plants and baking items received, all of which, were very much appreciated.





## St John's Newsletter March 2021

Despite the restrictions in place High Legh did have some fun and we at St John's enjoyed participating in the Christmas Cracker Trail and the Festival of Cheer and it prompted us to expand our outdoor celebration of the season with a lit Christmas tree, star, crib and Advent wreath. Most of them will stay in place until Candlemas – more of that below.

We enjoyed filming the Community Christmas carols around the village and I hope that you have enjoyed watching it – it's still on St John's website. There's a real sense of place and atmosphere provided by the Bear's Paw inn, Paul Taylor's sheep farm and the HLCO as well as local musicians, Elizabeth Cox and Nicola Gerard.

Even Christmas day turned up trumps with a gorgeous sunny day so we were able to sing carols outside in the gorgeous weather in line with current restrictions.

However, we then moved into an even more difficult phase of this pandemic. We remain in a difficult situation – perhaps worse than last year when we couldn't see how long and dark the road ahead would be.

### HOWEVER...

This year we have greater knowledge, more therapies and more than a chink of light ahead with the roll-out of the vaccination programme. As we look ahead to a better year with these in place we can also see peeping through the cold snow and frozen ground hints of warmer weather and a brighter season to come. In our gardens and around the village in fields and hedgerows we sense an expectation of the colour that is to come in the many bulbs pushing up through the earth and especially the snowdrops – the earliest of the spring bulbs.

Snowdrops are sometimes called “Candlemas Bells” because their bowed heads suggest the purity of Mary who brought her baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to give thanks for her safe delivery and to

dedicate her son to God. We celebrate this at church on 2nd February at Candlemas. Snowdrops are not native to Britain and were not widely grown until the sixteenth century and didn't occur in the wild until the eighteenth century. It is thought that Italian monks may have brought snowdrops to Britain in the fifteenth century to remind them of their Candlemas celebrations back at home. The tiny white flame-shaped bud is reminiscent of the candles of that celebration. As the first plant to flower towards the end of winter, the snowdrop is seen as a symbol of hope reflecting the hope that Christians have in the message of Jesus Christ; that love can never be overcome by evil.

In Russia March 1st is known as Snowdrop day. The legend tells of an angel creating the flowers as a sign of hope for Eve who was found weeping because of her expulsion from the garden of Eden. In Russia children gather bunches of the flower – also known there as “Tears of Winter Snow” - to give as a gift of hope and thanksgiving for the passing of winter.

I can't give you all a snowdrop but as you see them around the village be encouraged that, as well as winter, the worst of the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic may soon be over and that there is hope ahead.

As I write towards the end of January, Sunday services have been suspended and we cannot be sure when we will be able to resume. However, we are hopeful that we shall be able to celebrate Easter together in church and that it will be a day of hope for the whole nation – indeed the whole world. St John's remains the parish church for this village. Funerals can still be held and marriages and baptisms planned. More widely we remain a place of prayer and support for the village so if you have anything you would like to talk to us about please get in touch – St John's team is still here for you.

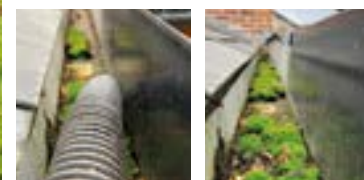
Contact details and other information can be found on the website:

<http://www.stjohnshighlegh.org/>



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## High Legh Robert Moffat Memorial 10k



It is with great regret that the organisers of the popular High Legh Robert Moffat Memorial 10K (High Legh Community Association and Lymm Runners) have decided to cancel the 2021 race, originally scheduled to go ahead on Sunday February 28th 2021.

Nick Gerrard, Race Committee Chairman said 'Over the last few months we have worked hard to find ways to stage the race safely for the runners, marshals and spectators whose safety is our paramount consideration.

However, as things stand, it isn't going to be possible to meet these goals with any certainty or deliver the quality of event that so many have enjoyed over the years.

We know how disappointing this is, but we are sure everyone will understand why this decision has been made and we thank you for your continued support.

“We are so looking forward to returning better than ever in 2022”.

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# BULLETIN MARCH 2021

## COACHING UPDATE

As has been for all of us, the past 10 months have been a challenge for High Legh Tennis Club but the committee and coaching team would like to thank the continued support of our fantastic members. Our membership has remained strong throughout this difficult period and we will be back on court as soon as restrictions are lifted and we are permitted to do so.

We are in the process of looking at doing some free tennis groups for all our junior members and non-members once we are back on court to get people playing and getting active so please do get in touch with Emma on 0798560556 if this would be of interest to you.

## COACHING GROUPS

DATE	TIME	GROUP DESCRIPTION	FOR PLAYERS BORN IN
Tuesday	3.45pm-4.30pm	Mini Red Group	2012 or later
Tuesday	4.30pm-5.30pm	Mini Red Group	2011 or 2012
Tuesday	4.30pm-5.30pm	Mini Orange Squad	2010 or 2011
Wednesday	4pm-5pm	Mixed Tennis Group	2011 or later
Wednesday	5pm-6pm	12 & Under Group	2008 - 2010
Wednesday	6pm-8pm	16 & Under Group	2004 - 2009
Thursday	5pm-6pm	16 & Under Group	
Friday	4pm-5pm	Mini Orange Squad	2008 - 2010
Friday	5pm-6pm	12 & Under Group	2004 - 2009
Friday	6pm-8pm	16 & Under Group	2012 or later
Saturday	9am-10am	Mini Red Group	2010 or 2011
Saturday	10am-11am	Mixed Orange, Green, 12 & Under Group	2012 or later
Saturday	11am-1pm	16 & Under Group	2010 or later

There are also plenty of sessions for adults of all abilities during the weekdays/evenings including:

Friday	9.30am-11am	Adults All Abilities	Any
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**INDIVIDUAL LESSONS** For any information on the coaching programme or if you are interested in any individual lessons please email Emma ([emmasilcock@mail.com](mailto:emmasilcock@mail.com))

## ADULT MEMBERSHIP OFFER

Any new member joining in 2021 will receive a discounted subscription rate of £100. We also offer a 25% family discount, and families should pick the reduced "Family Rate" option for each member.

## TENNIS CAMPS

Once we have a clearer indication of when lock down restrictions will be lifted we will be running tennis camps as normal during every school holiday period. These camps are always great fun and are for all abilities for ages 4-14 years old.

If you would like any information on the tennis at High Legh Tennis Club, please don't hesitate to contact Emma Silcock ([emmasilcock@mail.com](mailto:emmasilcock@mail.com)) or phone 07985605565.

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## High Legh Bowling Club

As you can imagine, there is little to report upon since the last newsletter. The bowling club continued to provide members with opportunities to continue bowling throughout the summer season, following the guidelines laid down by the British Crown Green Bowling Association.

As highlighted in the last newsletter, "casual" bowling has been organised along with several sessions for members who wanted to maintain a more competitive edge to their bowling. These sessions have been provided for two groups of players who would normally bowl for the Norley League team or in the Knutsford Veterans' League. The sessions were run as round robins with all members playing against one another over several weeks. Unfortunately, these sessions were the first to be cut back as the COVID restrictions were tightened once again.

The bowling club committee, for the first time in its history, decided to keep the green open during the winter if the weather allowed. The main concern was to avoid damage to the playing surface which, at the same time, was undergoing maintenance as normal. The availability of the green during winter was welcomed by members, with many of them taking full advantage of the opportunity to continue bowling.

## THEN!!!

Our worst fears were realised. The latest lockdown was imposed, and like all similar activities, bowling had to be abandoned. At the same time the weather changed, and the green was covered in snow with no chance of bowling. This has been the case ever since.

We pray now that the virus is brought under control over the next few months and we can carry on with our lives as we wish.

## Join us

As always, the invitation goes out to anyone who would like to take up crown green bowling to contact us. If you require any information about the Club, you can contact our President, Jack Stant on 07831121735 or by email at [jack.stant@btinternet.com](mailto:jack.stant@btinternet.com)



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Website [www.highleggh.org.uk](http://www.highleggh.org.uk) Send your email to [whatsoninhighleggh@gmail.com](mailto:whatsoninhighleggh@gmail.com)  
 to receive monthly "What's on in High Legh" notifications.

Facebook **High Legh Community Association** Sunday Teas **Trish Adams** 01925 755983

HL Parish Council Cllr. William Hind (Chairman) **07721 661884**  
 Mrs Doreen Walker (Clerk) **01925 754818** or [clerk@highleghparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@highleghparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
 Police PCSO Emma Darroch contact on **101** or [knutsford.npu@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:knutsford.npu@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)  
 HL Primary School **01925 753713** or [admin@highlegh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highlegh.cheshire.sch.uk)  
 PTA Emma Openshaw **07867 831946** & Rebecca Booth **07884 028094** (Co-chairs) or  
[team@highleghpta.org](mailto:team@highleghpta.org)  
 HL Pre School Nursery Manager, Ellis Starkey **01925 756061** or [nursery.highlegh@gmail.com](mailto:nursery.highlegh@gmail.com)  
 St John's Church Rev. Philip Robinson **01565 830595** Rev. Trish Cope **01925 754787**  
 Coffee and Friendship Doreen Walker **01925 754818** or [doreenwalker@btinternet.com](mailto:doreenwalker@btinternet.com)  
 HL Community Observatory John Anderson [www.highlegh-communityobservatory.com](http://www.highlegh-communityobservatory.com)  
 HL Women's Institute (President) Jean Evans **01925 755979**  
 HL Bowling Club Jean Mason **01925 753643** or email [secretary@highleghbowls.co.uk](mailto:secretary@highleghbowls.co.uk)  
 HL Park Golf Club **01565 830 888** or email [info@highleghpark.com](mailto:info@highleghpark.com)  
 HL Tennis Club (Head of Tennis) Emma Silcock **07985 605565** or [emmasilcock@mail.com](mailto:emmasilcock@mail.com)  
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 Tai Chi contact via Trish Adams **01925 755983** or [trishica@gmail.com](mailto:trishica@gmail.com)  
 Tango Classes Simon [simon.auty@icloud.com](mailto:simon.auty@icloud.com)  
 Pilates Wendy **07900 953584** or [wendy\\_ryan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wendy_ryan@hotmail.co.uk)  
 Balance Strength Core Alison **07866 772123** or [ali.2roe@gmail.com](mailto:ali.2roe@gmail.com)

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# HIGH LEGH PARK GOLF CLUB

## Get into Golf in 2021

With Spring approaching most of us are looking forward to warmer, longer days ahead. Why not take up golf in 2021? As one of the UK's largest participation sports its a great way of meeting new people, making the most of beautiful scenery and is available for all ages and abilities to enjoy.

At High Legh Park we have some of the best practice facilities in the North West and is home to the American Golf National Golf Academy with 7 PGA professional coaches permanently on site. The club also has two stunning courses as well as a 6 Hole Pitch and Putt course that is free for Juniors under the age of 18.

Golf rounds start from £7.00 on the Academy course and £15 on the Championship Course.



6 Hole Pitch & Putt Course

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## Junior Competitions

Starting in Spring, we will be holding Sunday Junior sessions and competitions every fortnight to help encourage Juniors into golf. The sessions are for all ages and include tuition and mini games for beginners to Handicap Qualifiers for advanced players.

The Junior Sessions are £2 for non-members and last approximately 3 hours. More information can be found under the Junior section on [www.theagacademy.co.uk](http://www.theagacademy.co.uk).

CALL 01565 830888 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR VISIT:  
[www.highleghpark.com](http://www.highleghpark.com) [www.theagacademy.co.uk](http://www.theagacademy.co.uk)  
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### Dog Walking

- 🐾 Scheduled daily walks
- 🐾 Fully insured and CRB/DBS checked

### Pet sitting

- 🐾 Home visit service
- 🐾 Cats and other small animals
- 🐾 Covering High Legh, Lymm and surrounding areas



See client testimonials on my website:  
[www.paws4thoughtpetcare.co.uk](http://www.paws4thoughtpetcare.co.uk)

For further information and to book a free home visit consultation phone Anne on **07743325948**



**ROB ALLAN**

📞 07565 614 767

✉ [enquiries@rjalocksmithing.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rjalocksmithing.co.uk)



- Tree Surgery
- Stump Grinding
- Fully Trained Staff
- 5mil Public & Employers Liability Insurance
- Established since 2002

Please find us on Facebook or visit our YouTube channel to see recent projects undertaken

**Tel: 01925 752769**

**Mob: 07747 844675**

**[www.cheshiretrees.co.uk](http://www.cheshiretrees.co.uk)**





# High Legh Community Transport

Take the worry out of your transport arrangements  
for your special occasion

**'We would like to thank the parents of children who use our  
school service for their continued financial support during  
this difficult time of Covid Restrictions.'**

- Transport to and from children's party venues
- Shuttle service to and from events held at the High Legh Village Hall
- Service available to support local events
- Shuttle service for your family and guests at weddings, parties etc.
- Transport to airports and UK holiday destinations
- Educational Activities
- Door-to-Dine Service

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School service to and from Lymm High School, collection  
from The Belfry, Rensherds Place and Park

**T: 01925 755394    M: 07876 161893**  
**E: [jeromeevans@sky.com](mailto:jeromeevans@sky.com)**