



Holmes Chapel Partnership Community Newsletter

Issue 82: June 2021

WELCOME TO THE JUNE PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER



**What do you get when you put
HC Partnership's Safe Walking Routes
to School campaign together with
Walk to School week ?**

Answer

**Superheroes and superheroines all
walking to school In the sunshine!**

**See inside for more about the day and lots of
news of happenings in Holmes Chapel**



WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK - 17th - 21st MAY



On May 19th our Safe Walking Routes to School campaign joined forces with the Living Streets initiative: Walk to School Week. Many children - and some adults - dressed up as superheroes so there was quite a festive atmosphere in the spring sunshine as they all made their way to school. At 8.20am one group set off from the Brooklands estate and another from the Cottons estate. The people on the usual walk to school were joined by:

Walking from Brooklands:

Councillor Suzie Akers-Smith (Cheshire East Council Cycling and Walking Champion)
Councillor Andrew Kolker (Cheshire East Councillor Dane Valley ward)
Councillor Diane Tams (Vice Chair of Holmes Chapel Parish Council)
Sue McKay (Deputy Clerk for Holmes Chapel Parish Council)
Lauren Brown (Deputy Head Holmes Chapel Primary School)
Joe Yates (Congleton Chronicle reporter)
Hazel Sutcliffe (Chair Holmes Chapel Partnership)
Karoline Peach (Media and Comms Holmes Chapel Partnership)
Liz Alcock (Speedwatch Co-ordinator)
Local PCSO Ade Chadwick

Walking from The Cottons:

Councillor Mike Blomeley (Holmes Chapel Parish Council)
Councillor Chris Jackson (Chair of Holmes Chapel Parish Council)
Councillor Les Gilbert (Cheshire East Councillor Dane Valley ward)
Fiona Gresty (Head Teacher Holmes Chapel Primary School)
Helen Ross (Head Teacher Hermitage Primary School)
Jill Cox (Deputy Head Hermitage Primary School)
Dorothy Davidson (Vice Chair Holmes Chapel Partnership)

It was great to see everyone out there – we all know that walking to school has so many benefits but, as the photos show, it is not made easy in Holmes Chapel to do the right thing and leave the car at home:

The amount of traffic at the time most children go to school is offputting

The footpaths are narrow

There are insufficient safe places to cross the 'A' roads to get from where people live to the schools.

Controlled crossings are expensive to install (in excess of £60,000) but there are things that could be done:

Slow the traffic down with speed limits and street furniture

Improve the width of the pavements by cutting back the vegetation

Better signage

Cheshire East Highways say they have no money to spend in Holmes Chapel. Anwyl Homes say Cheshire East Council has not asked them to provide any infrastructure on Macclesfield Road, so they have to stick by what the council says. If we want to achieve any improvements, we need to make our voices heard loud and clear – you shouldn't have to be a superhero to tackle the walk to school!

From the Cottons:



Setting off



Braving the traffic on Middlewich Road (above & below)



Chair of the Parish Council bending the ear of Les Gilbert, DaneValley ward Councillor



How do you get across Chester Road? Well, if there are enough of you it seems the traffic will stop! This has never happened before, commented a parent.





Single file walking
as the pavement
is so narrow



Especially on
bin day



And then there is Brookfield Drive to negotiate as well
before you get to the school!

From Brooklands



Setting off



And on the other side its even worse!



Approaching along Macclesfield Rd
- the hedge is making the footpath
even narrower on the one side



Especially if you have a buggy as well as a child!

Nevertheless the superheroes and superheroines overcome it all to get to school!



DEMENTIA ACTION WEEK

In the news letter last month, we invited our residents to enjoy being able to socialise once more and also recognise Dementia Action week by inviting family and friends to their gardens for a cuppa in return for a donation to the Alzheimer's Society.



What a week of atrocious weather for a garden event and it was probably only the Methodist Church who managed to choose the best weather of the week – it was a bit chilly but definitely dry and to avoid going over the 'thirty in a garden limit', coffee, tea and cake was served in three sessions throughout the day.

Several Invited six friends to 'Come for a Coffee in the garden' however rain 'stopped play' so where possible, this became 'come indoors, we'll open the windows!' The Tangent group had planned a garden games and strawberries and wine evening, they could have coped with a shower but the strong winds and heavy rain meant they would have been in danger of losing their gazebo! so that event had to be postponed but their members have very kindly still sent donations.

There were many positive comments from those who had attended events about how their spirits were lifted as they met, relaxed and chatted to people. Coming out of a lockdown after a very difficult year has not been the best scenario for fundraising however very grateful thanks must be given to those who held events or made donations during Dementia Action Week.

At the time of writing, Holmes Chapel has raised £800 to forward to the Alzheimer's Society but we are aware that hopefully this figure will increase as postponed coffee invitations will be taking place when the weather improves! If you would like to support the Alzheimer's Society as part of this initiative with an event or donation please contact dedavidson1@aol.com

We are sure that all will appreciate what a very difficult year this will have been for many but especially for those living with dementia. We are eagerly awaiting the stages of the road map to understand when we will be able to reopen our Memory Café at the Methodist Church and to restart the tea dances at the Community Centre. If the road map goes to plan, it may be July but watch this space

HOLMES CHAPEL PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



Annual Parish Meeting

Our grateful thanks to all those residents who attended our Annual Parish Meeting on 6th May 2021, which was held virtually for the first, and hopefully, last time. Former Chairman Cllr Brian Bath shared what the Parish Council had achieved despite the pandemic, and our hopes for future years. He then answered questions from residents. His Chairman's report and the minutes from this meeting can be found on our website under Annual Parish Meetings:

<https://www.holmeschapelparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings>

New Chairman and Vice-Chairman

We are delighted that Cllr Chris Jackson has become our new Chairman and Cllr Diane Tams our Vice-Chairman. Both Councillors have engaged enthusiastically with the work of the Parish Council since joining us (Cllr Jackson in December 2019, and Cllr Tams in May 2019), getting involved with many areas of the Council. They both bring a wealth of experience and skill to the roles.



Cllr Jackson says; 'I am delighted to have been elected as Chairman of the Parish Council and look forward to working with my fellow councillors in continuing the good work that the Parish Council does for the residents. As the restrictions of COVID start to ease we can once again provide service to the community in a more normal way. Outgoing Chairman Brian Bath has stepped down after 4 successful years in office, including steering us through the difficult last year. For me, following him in this appointment is both an honour and a privilege.'



Cllr Tams says, 'I am very pleased to have been elected to serve Holmes Chapel as Vice-chair of the Parish Council for this coming year. 2020 was a particularly challenging year for many of us and I hope we will not lose the community spirit which helped carry us through these times. As we move onwards, I hope to continue working to improve the village infrastructure and support the development of plans for the future of our village.'

The Parish Council is very grateful to the many years of service as Chairman and Vice-Chairman from Cllr Brian Bath and Cllr John Clowes.

NEWS

Front Garden Competition

As the weather hopefully turns warmer, we will be out again looking at your front gardens and shortlisting our favourites. We have two categories; Front Garden Competition Winner and Dane Housing Bungalow Winner. We are also introducing runner-up prizes this year.

Our grateful thanks go to Cllrs Cotton and Street for their time shortlisting and judging them.

This year, you have the opportunity to get involved. If you see a front garden in the village that you think looks great, please let us know by nominating them. Please email the address and name (if known) of the nominee with an accompanying photo to the Clerk by Tuesday 10th August 2021 for consideration by our judges.

All being well with the pandemic, winners and runners up will be invited to our Full Council meeting scheduled to be held on 30th September 2021.

Vacancy for a Councillor

Councillor David Savage has resigned in April 2021 after 18 years serving on the Council. Mr Savage was heavily involved in all aspects of the Council, including serving as Chairman for a number of years. He committed a lot of his time and abilities to the Parish Council and our residents. His wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise will be greatly missed. His resignation leaves a vacancy on the Council. If you wish to know more about being a Councillor or are interested in joining us, please contact the Clerk on clerk@holmeschapelparishcouncil.gov.uk

DANE SOUND COMMUNITY RADIO MIXCLOUD CATCH UP



DANE SOUND & THE MIXCLOUD CATCH UP

www.mixcloud.com/danesound/

To catch up on all your favourite shows with Mixcloud!

www.danesound.com

Missed some of our programmes on Dane Sound? Why not catch up with our volunteer presenters including Chris Appleton, Marie Bennett, Jill Booth, Debra Cummins, Mike Green, Marianne Hamilton, Lucy Oliver, Sam Oliver, Si Whitehead and the u3a Air Waves.

Go to www.mixcloud.com/danesound/ and make sure you select "Follow" and you will be notified of new uploads you can now listen to your favourite programmes when it suits you.

Listen in to your local community radio station on your tablet, phone, computer and listening device at www.danesound.com

MATTHEW'S RAISING FUNDS FOR CURE LEUKAEMIA

Holmes Chapel's Matthew Townsend is riding The Tour de France to raise £1 million for Cure Leukaemia.

You didn't read that wrong! Matt is riding the actual Tour De France route, all 21 stages, all 3,470km.

Every day. For 21 days, no less than 100 miles per day! Can you imagine your bum after that, never mind your legs! The event consists of 8 flat stages, 5 hilly stages, 6 mountain stages (3 of which finish at altitude), 2 time trial stages and the longest stage of the tour since 2000 at a whopping 248km in a single day!



Matthew is riding as part of a team of 25 amateur cyclists, led by former England footballer, blood cancer survivor and Cure Leukaemia Patron Geoff Thomas. The Tour 21, which takes place from Saturday 19th June – Sunday 11th July, aims to raise in excess of £1,000,000 for national blood cancer charity Cure Leukaemia and the team are over halfway to their fundraising total after recently surpassing £649,000.

If you would like to sponsor Matt, you can do so at <https://justgiving.com/fundraising/matt-townsend-tour-de-france>

To say that Matt Townsend is a keen cyclist is something of an understatement! He's your typical lycra clad "mamil" and loves nothing more than a day out riding his bike, but this enormous challenge is a test of endurance, commitment, and discipline which surpasses anything the 47 year old businessman has previously undertaken.

Matt was one of the founders of Holmes Chapel's cycling group HC Velo in 2017, which now has 64 members who regularly meet for club rides, socials, events and challenges.

In 2016, Matt was fundamental in organising a 'Fanzone' in our village as the Tour of Britain rode through. You may recall the incredible atmosphere as local school children lined the streets! Now, he needs our help to reach this enormous fundraising target for Cure Leukemia.

Each of the amateur riders undertaking this challenge are representing a UK blood cancer centre, and Matthew is riding on behalf The Christie, in Manchester. He has met (virtually of course!) many of the incredible doctors and nurses at The Christie, who made it clear to Matt, just how vital the money he is raising will be.

NEWS

“Speaking to the team of doctors and nurses at The Christie, and listening to the many stories of the incredible work they do was as humbling as it was inspiring. They fill me with hope and admiration and I am honoured to be representing them on this challenge. When my legs feel like giving up, I will draw strength from those conversations and push on to completion” Matthew Townsend.

All funds raised by The Tour 21 team will be invested in the national Trials Acceleration Programme (TAP) which has been solely funded by Cure Leukaemia since January 2020. TAP is a network of specialist research nurses at 12 blood cancer centres located in the UK's biggest cities and a facilitatory hub based at the Centre for Clinical Haematology in Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital. This network enables accelerated setup and delivery of potentially life-saving blood cancer clinical trials to run, giving patients from a UK catchment area of over 20 million people access to treatments not currently available through standard care.

For more information about Cure Leukaemia go to: www.cureleukaemia.co.uk



HOLMES CHAPEL CHILDREN MAKE THE RULES!

Holmes Chapel Primary School PTA continues to put the fun into its *fun*-draising efforts with children last week enjoying a Make the Rules event!

For one day only, the children were invited to choose one of ten new school rules ranging from wearing their own clothes, to packing sweets in their lunchboxes and even dyeing their hair! In return, they were asked to donate colourfully packaged food items. These were collated to create ten Rainbow Hampers, which are now being raffled to raise money for the school. The PTA is inviting members of the community to take part in the raffle with tickets available to purchase online for just £1 each.

It's been a busy year for the school's PTA which has hit the ground running since children returned to school in March. PTA co-chair Dan Archibald explains: "The unusual circumstances this academic year has given us the opportunity to take a completely fresh approach to fundraising. Creativity has been key, and we've hosted a range of different activities from a virtual walk around England to Mother's Day gifts, Easter fun bags and a pub quiz. We've even launched our own lottery and set up an online school uniform shop, where parents can both donate and purchase school uniform.

The PTA's sustained efforts have resulted in it already raising £4,500 this academic year. It is now working with the school to direct the money straight back into enhancing the children's educational experience.

"Anyone looking to support a local charity this year, please consider our local schools," added Dan. "As a PTA it's our role to provide educational extras that school funding often doesn't cover. With more lessons taking place outside than ever before, our focus is on supporting the school in enhancing its outdoor provisions with additions such as new playground markings and improvements to the woodland areas to facilitate den building and forest school sessions. Every raffle ticket we sell helps support the education of our local children, who after the upheaval of the past year, deserve the best we can afford."

To buy a Rainbow Hamper raffle ticket visit: <http://bit.ly/PTARainbow>



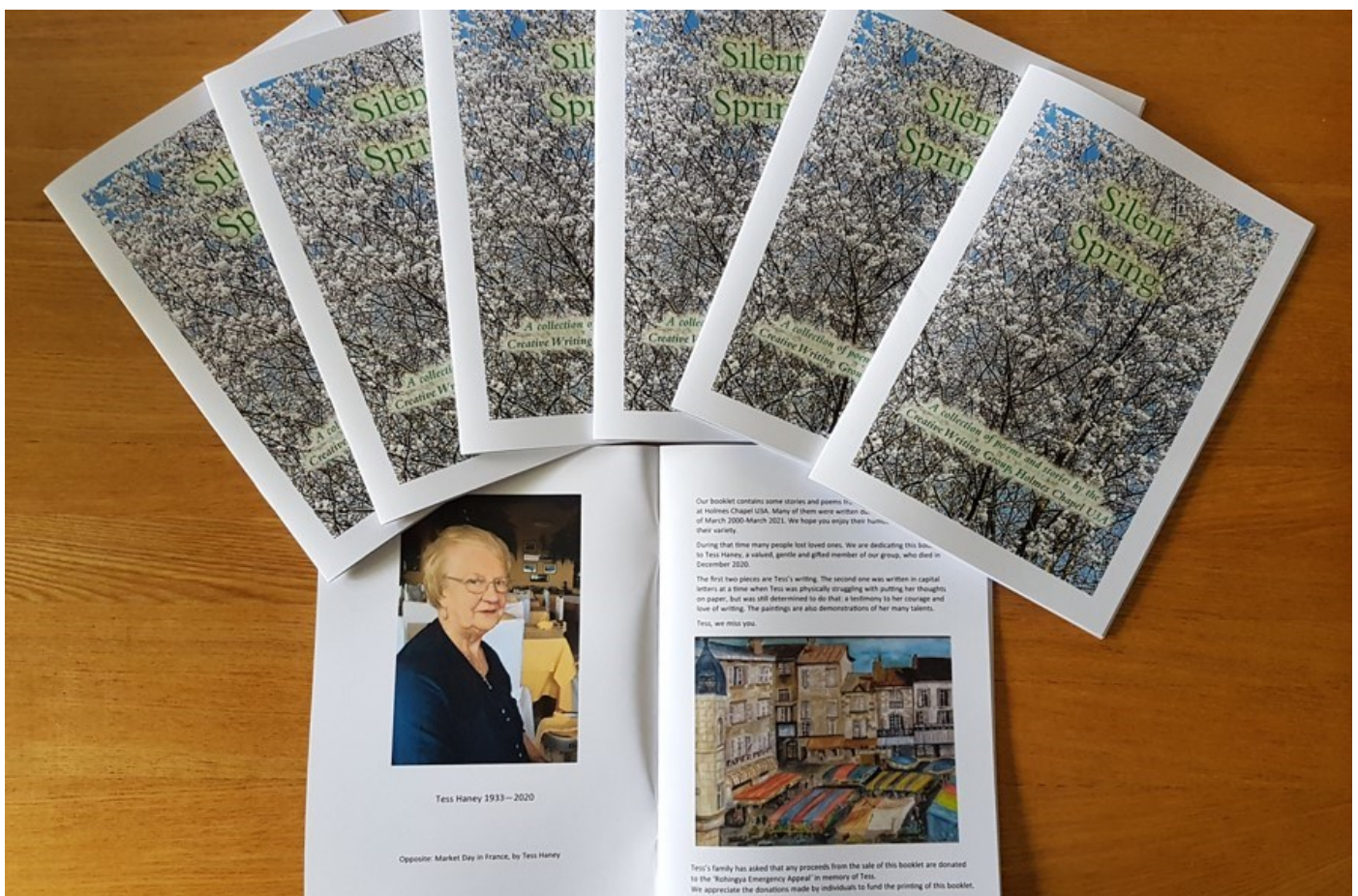
Pupils from Holmes Chapel Primary School celebrating Make the Rules Day and their Rainbow Hamper donations.

SILENT SPRING

"Silent Spring" is a booklet of poetry and prose mainly written during our pandemic lockdown year. It was inspired by the first poem in the booklet which was written by Tess Haney, who lost her battle with illness in December 2020.

It has been funded by donations from individuals, many of whom were also contributors to the content. Tess's family have approved the content which also showcases some of Tess's art as well as her poetry written during last year. They have asked that any profit made from sales is donated in her memory to the Rohingya Emergency Appeal.

The booklet is being sold at £3 a copy and can be ordered from Jill Lee via jillylee@hotmail.com.



HOLMES CHAPEL MUSIC SOCIETY'S CELEBRATORY 50TH SEASON

Holmes Chapel Music Society is delighted to announce that its 50th Season of concerts will be held at Clonter Opera Theatre between October 2021 and May 2022.

After over 40 years of holding its concerts in the Small Hall at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre, The Music Society has decided to move to Clonter Opera Theatre for its 50th Anniversary. Jane Perrins, Holmes Chapel Music Society's Chairman, commented "The Leisure Centre Hall has brilliant acoustics, and we have enjoyed wonderful support from the staff there.

However, the restrictions around Covid have prompted us to move out to Clonter because of the additional facilities and space there, should we need to employ social distancing measures at our concerts. Moreover, it makes obvious sense that the two major music-promoters in the area should join forces.

Clonter is a beautiful venue, with first-class facilities for the first-class musicians playing at our concerts. This will allow us to celebrate our 50th Season – a truly memorable achievement - in appropriate surroundings."

The two organisations also have a family connection: the mezzo-soprano, Betty Bannerman, mother of Clonter's founder, Jeffery Lockett, was the Vice-President of Holmes Chapel Music Society from its earliest years until her death in 1992.

Isabella Lockett, of the Clonter Farm Music Trust, said: "There has always been co-operation, and tremendous mutual respect, between Clonter and HCMS – we have much the same aims, and several members in common, and we have always supported each other. We are over the moon to join forces with the Music Society. It brings another genre of music – chamber music – to Clonter, widening what we are able to offer our audience and presenting the very highest quality of musicianship."

Unfortunately, this may well be the final season for the Music Society. "After the restrictions of the past months, we are determined to hold ten wonderful concerts to celebrate the fifty years," explained Jane Perrins, "but this might well deplete our coffers to the extent that we have to call a halt. However, I am hopeful that the Music Society will continue in some form or other, provided that there are enough enthusiastic volunteers who want to bring the best chamber musicians to our corner of Cheshire."



Sir Mark Elder (credit Simon Dodd)

NEWS

Dr Martin Hudson and his wife, Sue, were founding members of the Society in 1972 and are still leading members of the Committee today.

Together with Don Bailey, who has compiled photographs of every musician who has played for the Society, Sue is presently writing an illustrated history of its 50 years.

"There have been many adventures and lots of beautiful music over that time." says Sue Hudson. "It is quite a story!"

For details of the series of concerts, see the Society's website -

www.themusicsociety.org.uk

There will be ten concerts in all, culminating in a huge celebration on May 28th conducted by the Society's President, Sir Mark Elder, with eleven leading musicians from the Hallé Orchestra.



Ensemble 360 (courtesy of the group)

OPEN GARDEN IN HOLMES CHAPEL 27TH JUNE 2021 11am - 4pm - In aid of St. Luke's Hospice

John and Linda Clowes who live at Croco Brook Farm on Selkirk Drive, Holmes Chapel plan to open their garden for the day on Sunday 27 June this year. The garden which surrounds the old farm house has been open several times in the past but not recently.

There will be signs to direct people to the garden which is situated near the junction of Chester Road and Selkirk Drive in Holmes Chapel, post code CW4 7DR.

John said 'We felt that as Covid restrictions are lifting this would be a good opportunity for the community to get together and also raise some money for our local hospice, St Luke's, which has not had an easy time raising funds over the last year.'

The half acre garden has been developed over the last 40 years and contains a range of interesting trees and shrubs suitable for the smaller garden as well as many different herbaceous plants. It is designed to look good all year round so there is always something interesting to see. All are welcome especially residents on the new Holmes Chapel developments who are recent members of the Holmes Chapel community. Children accompanied by adults are free.

Entry charge to the garden will be £5 and on the day there will be refreshments with home made cakes and plants for sale.



"U3A AIR WAVES" Programmes for June 2021

Holmes Chapel & District u3a is continuing its partnership with Dane Sound Radio with our 4th series of programmes under the banner "**u3a Air Waves**". There is a mix of music programmes and "magazine"-style programmes.



"u3a Jazz with Peter Shields" is a 2-hour programme of music from Peter's personal collection, with spoken commentary about each selection.

A Jazz Appreciation interest group has been posted on the u3a website.

The broadcast is at **8.00pm on Tuesday 1st June, repeating at 8.00pm on Tuesday 15th June.**

To Listen in, go to www.danesound.com and click on "Listen Live".



"u3a Americana & Country with Roy Rawlinson"

is a 1-hour programme of Country Rock, Bluegrass, and Electric Folk with spoken commentary about each selection.

The broadcast is at **8.00pm on Tuesday 8th June, repeating at 8pm on Tuesday 22nd June.**

To Listen in, go to www.danesound.com and click on "Listen Live".

u3a Air Waves "Insights"

Monday 10:00-12:00 & Saturday 16:00-18:00



**News;
Updates; Stories
& Features**



Debra Cummins; Heather Jones; Shena Lewington;
Roy Rawlinson; Peter Shields; Valerie White

The third offering in June is our **"Insights"** magazine programme, a mix of news, poetry and play readings, stories, history, interviews and features, all prepared and recorded by our u3a members and interest groups., plus recorded music.

The 2-hour broadcast is at
**10:00am on Monday 21st June,,
repeating at 4:00pm on Saturday 26th June.**

To listen in, go to www.danesound.com and click on "Listen Live".

You can listen on Alexa by saying "Play Dane Sound Community Radio"

We do hope that you can join us – happy listening!

To contact us email: airwaves@holmeschapelu3a.org.uk

This information is also on:

www.holmeschapelu3a.org.uk where you can join us.

NATIONAL U3A DAY

Wednesday 2nd June 2021

The u3a movement is embracing the opportunity to celebrate all that u3a stands for and raise awareness of our activities and learning with our first **National u3a day**.

The annual event, which takes place in Volunteer Week, shows the amazing and diverse things that our members get up to and challenges preconceptions of what being an older adult means. In 2021 our u3a is enhanced by the multitude of projects, activities, outcomes and new approaches to communication that have emerged as a consequence of the 2020 Pandemic Lockdown period.

If you are no longer in full time employment the u3a is for you, offering a wide range of activities in a welcoming and friendly environment. From Art to Walking, Books to Science, Languages to Ping Pong, Bowls to Guitar and many more: the opportunities are endless. Holmes Chapel and District u3a will have a stand outside the Library on u3a Day – stop by and see what we offer.

To join us, go to www.holmeschapelu3a.org.uk
Or contact membership@holmeschapelu3a.org.uk

Peter Shields, PR & Comms

HIMALAYAN BALSAM

It's very pretty and it is a great source of pollen and nectar for pollinating insects of all varieties, but it is so successful that it gets EVERYWHERE! Particularly down in the **Dane Meadow** it is spreading year by year. We would like to reduce the spread up the sides of the valley and allow other things to flourish as well. The safest way to do this is to uproot it before it flowers because it has immense seed distribution capabilities! The young plants can be easily recognised and can be uprooted just as easily by hand - but it takes lots of hands to make much headway!

Friends of Dane Meadow and **u3a** are getting together at 10am on Tuesday June 8th to have a work session devoted to pulling up the balsam. There will be no noisy machinery, no polluting chemicals just us (preferably wearing gloves) listening to the chat and the birdsong.

We would love it if you would join us!

Meet at the picnic tables at the end of the bridleway at 10am on Tuesday June 8th.



COMMUNICARE - THE FUTURE?

'Communicare' - (Holmes Chapel & Area Christian Communicare) - was founded in 1981 as a Caring & Transport service, and until suspension owing to Covid, its Volunteer Drivers carried local residents, who had no other means of travel, to medical and related appointments. In the last full year of operation, its 70 drivers carried out 1300 journeys.

Many of the drivers and organisers are well into their 70s or 80s, and a significant number have underlying health problems themselves.

The enforced suspension in March 2020 gave time for reflection, and, after many years of service, some of the key organisers and drivers decided that it was time to retire and hand over the reins to the next generation.

Appeals in the press and elsewhere, last year, for new younger volunteers to come forward and take over the organisation produced little response.

As a result, the decision was taken to call an **Extraordinary General Meeting**, when relaxation of Covid measures allowed, to formally **close down** the organisation.

The provisional date for this EGM is:

Tuesday July 13th at 7.30pm in St Luke's Church Hall, Holmes Chapel.

(The date and time will be confirmed (or amended) in next month's edition)

Although this will be an EGM for members there will be a warm welcome for anyone who may have an interest taking on some form of continuation of the organisation and its service to the local community.

For more information the Secretaries can be contacted via email

hccommunicare@gmail.com

HOLMES CHAPEL RAILWAY STATION CORNER

June 2021

Since last writing I have pleasure in telling you that the monies from Northern Rail have come through! The application for funding (made in late 2019) was of course frozen during the ups and downs of this dreadful Pestilence. From the allocation we have been able to order three planting boxes - to replace the rotting boxes in the pocket garden on the Manchester platform and to add an additional planter beyond the what we call the bus shelter on the same platform nearer Manchester.

At the time of writing Lindsay has documented the construction and installation of the first planter but by the time you read this I hope we have been able to provide the second of the three!



As delivered & transported

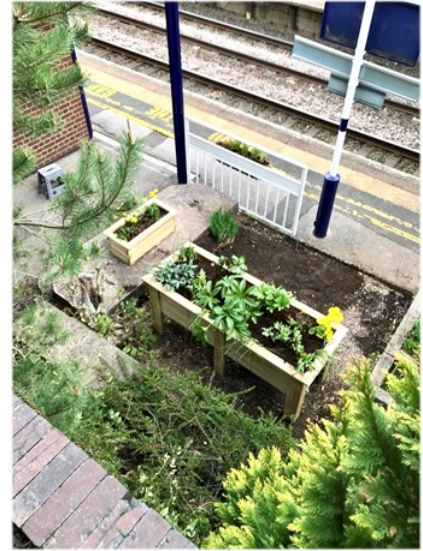


During construction





And completed!



To finish - as you know from the 17th May advice on safe travel was updated to tie in with the easing of restrictions. As of writing people can travel freely between England, Scotland, and Wales.

However, guidance states that people should plan journeys in advance and avoid unnecessary trips. Safe travel guidance from the Community Rail Network:

- Do not travel if you feel unwell or have symptoms;
- Keep two metres away from others whenever possible;
- Wear face coverings on trains at all times, unless exempt. This is mandatory in England, Scotland, and Wales, and in England and Scotland includes within stations. In Wales, three-layer coverings are advised;
- Wash your hands before and after your journey and carry and use hand sanitiser;
- Travel on less busy services where possible and be aware that some train operators are using reservation-only travel. See our list of info on how busy services are;
- Be aware of changes in stations: some have different queueing or one-way systems.

NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF GOOSTREY STATION

When Friends of Goostrey Station was formed in 2012, one of the key aims was to see the remaining Victorian wooden building in use again. After protracted negotiations with a number of organisations, the restoration was finished in 2019. And now plans for the rental of the building are also nearing completion. An initial agreement prepared by Northern Rail has been reviewed by the prospective tenants. A revised agreement will be available in May and, if the content is acceptable, it is anticipated that artist Debbie Goldsmith and leather worker Sian Jones will be able to use the premises.

Debbie and Sian explained their vision in this way: "We hope to build an exciting creative space where we can not only house our working studios but also hold workshops, exhibitions and educational activities. Once we are able to enter, there will be a bit of work to do on the space before we can let the public inside. But we are already planning ideas and we are hopeful that the facility can be a real benefit to local people, including children at our primary school.



National Railway Heritage Award celebrating the restoration of the remaining ticket office

The old ticket office is such a wonderful building and we can't thank FOGS and Goostrey Parish Council enough for all their help in getting this venture off the ground. Hopefully, after the impressive work that's already been done on its restoration, we can act as guardians of the building and engage our local community in activities. These are very exciting times!"

FOGS members are also pleased that they have secured funding for the acquisition and installation of two sealed lockable display cabinets in the Manchester to Crewe line waiting area where art work created by pupils at Goostrey Community Primary School is exhibited. The display cabinets will protect their creations from adverse weather conditions such as rain and wind and it will deter vandals. Rail users will benefit too as they enjoy the exhibitions. Our Community Rail officer commented that the long standing relationship between FOGS and the Primary School is outstanding and has been the basis of several awards, both regionally and nationally.

NEWS

The acquisition and installation of a covered cycle rack at the station is also progressing well. Following a successful bid to DPD and discussions with Northern Rail, FOGS members have reviewed various options. They have submitted their preferred shelter design and requested helmet storage and CCTV. At this stage the installation date hasn't been confirmed but the project should be completed in a couple of months.

Have you thought about becoming a Friend of Goostrey Station? Our monthly working parties have started again and new members are always welcome to join us. You can find out more about FOGS from our website friendsofgoostreystation.org. You can also talk to Dave Roberts (chair) on 01477 544779 or Craig Sidebotham (vice chair) on 07526 704218.



FOGS members Bill Macdonald and David Mason enjoying children's artwork about Orang Utans



Goostrey station in the 1960s with a building on each platform