



Holmes Chapel Partnership Community Newsletter Issue 124 NOVEMBER 2024

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

We are building up to Holmes Chapel Partnership's big event of the year - the Christmas Market & Fair - we hope to see you there!

**HOLMES CHAPEL
CHRISTMAS
MARKET & FAIR**
SUN 1ST DEC • 3-7PM

FESTIVE STALLS • FOOD & DRINK • FAIRGROUND
LIVE ACTS • SANTA'S SLEIGH

SAVE THE DATE!

Platinum: **DUTTON BUILDERS MERCHANTS**, **DOUGLAS & CO. BUILDERS**, **HURSTWOOD HOLDINGS**, **MASSEY FEEDS** Focused on nutrition, **tmc**

Gold: **Joe White's**, **SIBELCO**

Silver: **Dales** Holmes Chapel, **Hipswing**, **Laura Wilson school of dance**, **PREPARIA**, **REVOLVE**, **TAYLOR**, **THE VILLAGES MAG**, **WILKINS PARTNERSHIP**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT HCPARTNERSHIP.ORG.UK
EMAIL EVENTS@HCPARTNERSHIP.ORG.UK

There are, as always, lots of other things going on in our community too - we have news and updates from the Parish Council, from Santa, from the churches, not to mention concerts, art exhibitions, sports and volunteering opportunities.

Please read on to find out about all these events.

Best Wishes from your Partnership Team!
For more information visit www.hcpartnership.org.uk

Chairman's News November 2024



Well, here we are just one month away from our 2024 Christmas Market and Fair. If you were planning to have a stall this year and have not already applied then you may have missed the boat, but as we always have a few cancellations, it's not too late to get onto our reserve list. Applications should be made in the first instance via our website.

If you are new to the village or have never managed to get along to the Christmas Market in the past, then you should make a note for your diary today. The event is always held on the first Sunday of December, so this year it falls on Sunday 1st. This will be the fourth year that we will close the centre of our village (The Square) from Costa Coffee down to the Fire Station, and then Parkway right around to the Tesco/St Luke Church car park. Again, this year we will have over 40 market stalls along the Square, our food and drink stalls on Parkway, with another 10 stalls inside the Scout Hall. Joe White and his team will again transform the car park into a quite fantastic fairground which has rides and entertainment that appeals to all ages.

As always, we need to bolster our small Partnership team with as many volunteers as we can find to run the Christmas Market. So, if you are reading this and thinking, yes I should get more involved in my village community then go to our website now and put your name down to be a volunteer at our Christmas Market, <https://www.hcpartnership.org.uk/jobs/christmas-market-stewards>. All we need is a couple of hours of your time, as we work with a rota allowing people to offer time before, during or after the market depending on what time you can spare.

It's also a great opportunity for the businesses within our village centre to showcase what they have to offer. Since losing our Cheshire East grant funding the Holmes Chapel Partnership has been actively engaged in securing sponsorship to support the Christmas Market and here, I would now like to thank the following companies for their generous support, Duttons Builders Merchants, TMC, Sibelco, Joe White's Fairground, Top Secret Furniture, Laura Wilson Dance School, Taylor Coach Works, Revolve Fitness, Hipswing, The Village Mag, Preparia, Hurstwood Holdings, Massey Feeds, Holmes Chapel Parish Council and Dales.

Patron Sponsorship

The Holmes Chapel Partnership was formed in 2012 following Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee. At that time Cheshire East Council (CEC) agreed to provide funding of £8000 a year to 5 Local Partnership groups, which it continued to do for 10 years. However in January 2023 CEC informed us that they could no longer continue to fund the Partnerships due to an increased demand for funds to deliver statutory services. The Alsager and Middlewich Partnership groups subsequently folded.

To ensure that we could continue to work with the Holmes Chapel community we took the unprecedented decision to seek funding from local companies who might like to support our activities through a Patron Sponsorship Scheme. It is therefore with great delight that I can confirm that Holmes Chapel Parish Council, Dutton Builders Merchants, Hurstwood Holdings and Massey Feeds are Patron Sponsors for a second year, as well as TMC who continue to support the Partnership through their PR services.

Details of our Patron Sponsors can be found on the back page of our monthly newsletter.

Peter Whiers, Chairman, Holmes Chapel Partnership

Holmes Chapel Christmas Market and Fair



Sunday December 1st
Only a Month to Go!



The Holmes Chapel Partnership Team have been busy for months behind the scenes organising this wonderful annual community event and it's hard to believe it's only one month away. You can look forward to:

- A **traffic-free village centre as London Road will be closed from 11am until 10pm.**
- Over **50 stalls**, both indoors and outside, that will be open from 3pm until 7pm.
- **Live entertainment** on a dedicated stage from 4pm, including primary school choirs, dance performances, a brass band, bell ringing, musical performances from Holmes Chapel Comprehensive and of course Dane Sound Radio playing all your favourite festive tunes.
- So many **food and drink** options from our fantastic local businesses and stall holders.
- Visiting **Santa** on his sleigh to let him know your Christmas Wishes.
- A festive **funfair** in the car park behind Tesco with rides for all ages.
- **Free entry**, although donations are always welcome and can be given to Santa's helpers.

Look out for full event details in the centre page pull-out guide to the Christmas Market & Fair in the December issue of The Villages Mag. You can also find information on our website <https://www.hcpartnership.org.uk/holmeschapel-christmas-market>

A Big Thank You to all our Sponsors

Holmes Chapel Partnership would like to show our appreciation of the sponsors who are making the wonderful community event that is the 2024 Christmas Market & Fair possible. A road closure, a stage, extra lighting, publicity and so much more have to be paid for so that the Market can happen.

PLATINUM:



- **Dutton Builders Merchants** are a local family-owned firm, with their founder living in Holmes Chapel. In addition to offering the traffic management services that we use each year for our Christmas Market, they have a thriving builders merchants on Holmes Chapel Road, Middlewich. We welcome them for a second time as a Platinum Sponsor.
- **Holmes Chapel Parish Council** is supporting the Christmas Market again by paying for the Lighting.
- **Hurstwood Holdings** may not be known to many of you, it is a privately owned and managed property investment and development company founded by Stephen Ashworth. Stephen and his partner Emma became the new custodians of The Hermitage in 2020. We welcome them for a second year as a Platinum Sponsor.
- **Massey Feeds** are a long established local family firm based down by the River Dane. We are pleased that Massey feeds have kindly agreed to be Platinum sponsors for the fourth time. We thank them for their continued support.
- **TMC Creative** (previously **Calvin Marketing**) have provided invaluable support to the Partnership in navigating press enquiries for our Harry Styles Guided Tours in 2024. They create award-winning communication strategies and innovative campaigns that have purpose beyond profit. We thank them for their continued support.

GOLD:

- **Sibelco** is a Gold Sponsor - their sand and gravel business is currently operating down the road in Cranage. They have supported us for several years, not only with the Market but Santa's Sleigh too!
- **Joe White's Fun Fairs** travel the UK and beyond with their unique brand of family entertainment, attending fun fairs, music festivals, college balls and corporate events. They are based just down the road in Brereton and have supplied our Fairground entertainment for many years. We welcome them for a second year as a Gold Sponsor.

NEWS

SILVER:

- **Dales** is one of Holmes Chapel's oldest businesses and supplies everything from agricultural equipment to school uniforms as well as regular crafting classes.
- **Hipswing**, a local company based in Winsford, have supplied the stage for our entertainment for several years. We're pleased to welcome them as a Silver Sponsor this year.
- **Laura Wilson School of Dance** is based on the Manor Lane estate in Holmes Chapel. Laura's dancers have performed for us every year. Once again this will be a stage performance not to be missed. We thank her for her continued support.
- **Preparia** take great pride in providing personalised, high-quality meals tailored to your needs and we welcome them as a sponsor for the first time.
- **Revolve Fitness** is a Holmes Chapel based gym with state of the art equipment and personal trainers on hand to help you achieve your goals seven days a week.
- **Taylor Coachworks** is a vintage and classic car coach building specialist owned by Lee Taylor and based in Brereton. He breathes new life into automotive history, helping to preserve what he believes to be the golden era of cars.
- **Top Secret Furniture** is a renowned furniture store located on the Manor Lane Estate in Holmes Chapel. They offer a wide range of high-quality furniture pieces for various rooms in your home.
- **The Villages Mag** is based in Holmes Chapel and Katy and Matt have supported us for many years through the Holmes Chapel edition of The Villages Mag, our local magazine full of local businesses and local features. Delivered through the doors of 5,000 homes and businesses in Holmes Chapel, Goostrey, Brereton, Cranage and Allostock for FREE.

We would also like to thank our local business supporters: **Celeste, Holmes, Gifts & Interiors, Holmes Sweet Home, The Village Kitchen, Restore Physiotherapy & Holmes Chapel Podiatry, Tesco, The Bottle Bank, The Old Red Lion, The Print Room, The George & Dragon** and **The Pet Retreat** who will all feature on our 2024 Christmas Market Map.





HOLMES CHAPEL PARTNERSHIP



Holmes Chapel Christmas Market

Volunteer Stewards

Holmes Chapel Partnership is proud to have started the Christmas Market in 2012. It is now an established event in the Holmes Chapel calendar which is not to be missed.

The event takes place along London Road (which will be partially closed for the event) and in the car park behind Tesco.

We have almost 50 stalls each year, both outdoors and indoors – selling all sorts of gifts and novelties, as well as food and drink and raising money for charity. Entertainment is provided throughout the event by local musicians and schools - and of course Father Christmas comes to visit.

We need you to get involved in this amazing community event - it doesn't happen by magic! You decide when and how long you can help for. Even if you can only spare an hour, it all helps to ensure the event runs smoothly.

Various roles are needed throughout the day, which can be found on our website and include:

- Managing access to car parks
- Supervising the stage & stall areas
- Moving barriers
- Assisting Father Christmas on his sleigh
- Litter picking

CAN YOU HELP?

Visit our website: www.hcpartnership.org.uk/xmas-volunteers

Drop us an email: chair@hcpartnership.org.uk

Holmes Chapel Partnership is an independent voluntary organisation whose purpose is to facilitate projects which benefit the whole community in and around Holmes Chapel.

Cheshire East I.T. Project - Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed - one hour a week, once a month, on Tuesdays in Holmes Chapel.

Cheshire East Council would like to set up an IT project at Holmes Chapel Library on a Tuesday, which will help people to use their smartphones and tablets.

This could be anything from sending text messages, emails, online banking, attaching documents, photos, downloading apps, online shopping ... anything at all! They would like to run one drop-in session per month which would last an hour, but to do this we need some volunteers who have good experience with IT and using smartphones and tablets.

If anyone is interested in getting involved, please contact Lucie Ferneyhough either by phone (07929 717909) or email (Lucie.Ferneyhough@cheshireeast.gov.uk).

Holmes Chapel Partnership Santa Sleigh Run 2024

Santa has been busy working on his schedule. See below for the details. His activities help local organisations raise funds for their activities, so give generously! We have a card reader but Santa's elves find it much easier to collect cash when they knock at your door. Be prepared!



Day	Route
Sunday 1st	Christmas Market
Monday 2nd	Holmes Chapel :Bessancourt, Brookfield Drive, Chester Road, Westway, The Drive ,The Millingfield
Tuesday 3rd	Holmes Chapel , Sandiford Road (and side, roads) Station Road, Bromley Drive, London Road, Alum Court.
Wednesday 4th	Holmes Chapel : Saltersford Gardens Thatch Close, Dee Avenue, Trent Crescent
Thursday 5th	Holmes Chapel Victoria Mills ,Rees Crescent, Picton Square, Danefield Road and Riverside Crescent, Hawthorn Villas
Friday 6th	Holmes Chapel : Elm Drive and all side roads
Saturday 7th/Sunday 8th	NO SLEIGH RUN
Monday 9th	Holmes Chapel The Cottons, then Westmoreland, Northway, Sadlers Close
Tuesday 10th	Goostrey West : Boothbed Lane, Sandy Lane, New Platt Lane and Blackberry Gardens.
Wednesday 11th	Goostrey East : Woodlands Drive, Buckbean Way, Brooklands Drive, Bank View.
Thursday 12th	Holmes Chapel : Selkirk Drive (and side roads), Balmoral Drive (and side roads) to Southlands
Friday 13th	Cranage Byley Lane, Needham Drive
Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th	NO SLEIGH RUN
Monday 16th	Brereton Brereton Heath, Brereton Grange
Tuesday 17th	Brereton Bluebell Green, Dunkirk Way, Field View.
Wednesday 18th	Holmes Chapel , Lakes Estate (Broad Lane, Coniston Drive, Grasmere Drive and offshoots)
Thursday 19th	Holmes Chapel Portree Drive
Friday 20th	Holmes Chapel Bramhall Drive, Ravenscroft

Each evening 5.30 – 7.30. Times are approximate.

The above schedule is provided to meet the deadline for our November Newsletter and may be subject to change.

See our website from November for latest schedule and our December Newsletter for the final schedule.

Marketing Cheshire Tourism Awards - Finalists 2024/25



These awards celebrate the people and businesses behind Cheshire and Warrington's tourism sector which contributes £3.41bn to the region's economy and attracts 50 million visitors every year.

Our **Harry's Home Village Tour** obviously hit the right note with the judges as, despite the record number of entries that the judges had to sift through, we were nominated in three categories! We are up against some stiff competition like Jodrell Bank and Chester Tourism but let's hope we might land at least one of the three!

The awards ceremony will take place at the grand venue of Chester Cathedral on **Thursday March 6th 2025**.

Our team of Tour Guides who have been doing such a wonderful job enthusing the visitors to Holmes Chapel!



These are the three categories of awards for which we have been nominated:

**Marketing Cheshire
Tourism Awards
2025**

New Tourism Business
of the Year

Finalist

**Marketing Cheshire
Tourism Awards
2025**

Experience of the Year

Finalist

**Marketing Cheshire
Tourism Awards
2025**

Best Tourism Marketing
Project of the Year

Finalist

When I was a Tour Guide for the Harry Styles Home Village Tours

Hello! My name is Gillian Calbi and I'm from the US, specifically New Jersey, and I came to the UK for a year to get my Masters in Sport and Exercise Psychology at Manchester Metropolitan University. During my year abroad, I was given my dream job as a Harry Styles Tour Guide in Holmes Chapel! I first saw this position posted on Twitter and knew I had to have this job. I talk about Harry all the time, and to have that as a job was everything and more. I've had the pleasure of meeting so many Harries from different countries and from all around England and it was so fun to talk to them about Harry and other shared interests, as well as getting to know more about them!

Some of the experiences I've had while having this job are still mind blowing to me. I and another tour guide were asked to give the first ever Harry's Home Village Tour while BBC filmed us and then got to go on BBC Breakfast to talk about the tours and Harry, along with doing some radio interviews! Truly one of the highlights of my year!



Gillian on the sofa (on the left) with Ben



Gillian at the front (left) with Carys

Another great experience we all had was when Madame Tussaud's in Blackpool came by Mandeville's Bakery and put their new wax figure of Harry inside the bakery for all of us to see before it was opened to the public! It was such a fun day and it was so cool to see his wax figure placed next to the young photo of him working in Mandeville's. These experiences, along with all of the tours I did, were some of the best days of my life. I loved walking around Harry's hometown and bringing fans to Sam Dales where they made their slate hearts, to Mandeville's where Harry used to work and enjoy the aroma of the fresh baked goods in the morning, and going to the famous viaduct where Harries have written lovely messages to Harry. I loved sharing history about his life and history about Holmes Chapel as well! To be in the UK at the right time for the opportunity of having this job is crazy. I still can't believe it. Everyone at home was so happy that I had gotten this job because they all know how much I love him and One Direction. They kept asking if I've met Harry, and I told them I unfortunately haven't yet, but I know one day I will :)

Cont/...

Everyone told me that this was like my dream job and it definitely was! It's truly been such a pleasure to be a Harry Styles tour guide. Thank you to Holmes Chapel Partnership for this amazing opportunity. My time here in the UK has been the best time of my life. Nothing will ever top this. Since I was thirteen, I've always wanted to live in England, and wasn't sure if I'd ever get the chance to. I'm truly so happy that I pushed myself out of my comfort zone and made the decision to move to Manchester for a year. I've met some of the best people, seen some of the most beautiful parts of the UK and other countries, and have made the best memories here. I can't thank the people I've met and, have become friends with, enough for how special they've made this experience for me. You guys are the best. Thank you, thank you, thank you! I'm going to miss this job, my friends, and the UK so much but I'm so happy I got to truly live my life. Who knows ... maybe I'll move back one day x.

Until then, remember to Treat People With Kindness and always follow your heart :)

Gillian



I also got to work with the best people on these tours and have made great friendships with them :)

Ps. Book onto a HHVT... I promise you're in the best hands and will have a very fun day walking in Harry's footsteps

Save the Date - VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebration 8th May 2025

The Holmes Chapel Parish Council are starting to plan the Village events already. Do you, or a group you belong to, already have plans for the celebration? If so, they would like to hear from you so the information can be collated.

Please email the details to clerk@holmeschapelparishcouncil.gov.uk



Parish Council News



Civic Service

Holmes Chapel Parish Council was delighted to welcome representatives from community groups, the fire station, police, schools and other organisations to our Civic Service held on Sunday 29th September.

The service began with a welcome by our Chair Cllr Chris Jackson. Canon Rob McClaren of St Luke's Church then spoke about changing seasons and how our work should be the right work for that season. The service was followed by drinks and cakes in St Luke's Church Hall. The Civic Service was recorded and if you would like to watch, you can do so by clicking the following YouTube link: [St Luke's Church - Holmes Chapel Parish Council - Civic Service \(youtube.com\)](#)

The Chair would like to thank all those who attended the service and those who worked so hard to support and organise this event.



Left Chairman Chris Jackson with Canon Rob McClaren and Parish Councillors outside St Luke's church



Right A bird's eye view of the congregation.

Household waste recycling centres – booking system

There is now a booking system in place for visiting our household waste recycling centres at weekends, and during Bank Holidays. Residents need to book a slot online before they arrive. It's quick and easy to do: [Book a slot at a household waste recycling centre](#).

So that we can manage queues and people's waiting times, visitors won't be allowed to enter the site if they haven't pre-booked or are late arriving for their slot. **You do not need to book if they are visiting us during a weekday.**

Tesco Window

Slots are filling up for **2025**. If you are a community group and wish to book your 2 week slot to advertise in the Tesco Window, please contact the Clerk by emailing clerk@holmeschapelparishcouncil.gov.uk

Remembrance Sunday 2024

Remembrance Sunday takes place on **Sunday 10th November**. The parade will leave the Health Centre car park at **9.30am**. This will be followed by a service at St Luke's and wreath laying at the War Memorial. It is always appreciated to see how many residents take the time to mark this special act of remembrance and we hope to see you there on 10th.

Holmes Chapel Pride

For four hours on Saturday 28th September, Holmes Chapel's first ever Pride event took place in the village centre. The A50 was closed off, a big rainbow-coloured fire engine took up a large portion of the road outside Celeste, a handful of stalls promoting the Pride message popped up alongside Dane Sound's speakers outside of the Bottle Bank, with food and drink being served by the village's hospitality venues.

It needs to be acknowledged that whether we like it or not, that was a big day for the village. Just to have the message put out there that we're a safe & inclusive space for everyone to be and feel themselves, and shouted as loudly as it was, was needed & appreciated. That so many came out to celebrate that message with each other, is honestly brilliant.

London Road was a sea of brightness, of smiles and laughter from young and old alike. Music played, people danced, hot dogs and cake were eaten, ice creams dropped and, young and old alike, Holmes Chapel partied. The vibe in the village centre was perfect, and you all showed Holmes Chapel is a village that supports everyone, that if you're prejudiced or homophobic you're not going to find passive acceptance of your outdated attitude here.

Thank you to the local businesses who have generously given time, resources and money to enable this event to be put on. Holmes Chapel Pride was solely funded by our local businesses, residents and friends, and wouldn't have been able to take place without their support. Bepak, Congleton Pride, Law Exports, Jerico, The Beer Emporium Bottle Bank, Latham Estates Sales & Lettings, Celeste, Sam Dale & Son, Phil Davies Butchers, The Villages Mag, Holmes Sweet Home, Mandeville Bakers, The Village Kitchen, Nelco, The George & Dragon, Holmes Gifts and Interiors all contributed directly to making the event happen, so please show these folks some love every day of the week if you can!

A huge thank you also to the amazing people on the organising team who filled in endless forms, came up with answers and support when things got tough... you really are incredible people. Thank you to HC's very own Bridge the Gap community group and Alison who provided the paperwork and insurances with which we could hold the event. Lastly, thank you to the incredible team of volunteers for their joy and endless smiles. You helped make it what it was!

Rich Jepson, The Bottle Bank



Photos by Gail Griggs

Holmes Chapel Railway Station Corner

by Tony Wright - November 2024

The Information from our little booklets on sale at Holmes Chapel Railway Station goes far and wide. For example 'Aspects of the History of Holmes Chapel Railway Station, Viaduct and the Swan Inn' (now in its 2nd edition) came to the attention of the relatives of one of the people who passed away in the rail accident,



(left to right): Allan Gibbins, Ann Gibbins, Sarah from the Community Rail Partnership and Lindsay from the Volunteers.

here at the station, on the 14th September 1941 - during the blackouts of the Second World War. Ann Gibbins, the grand-daughter of John W. Gregory who died in the rail crash, and her husband Allan made the trip from Leyland to Holmes Chapel recently (just two hours by Northern Rail). Ann spent her working life in nursing and Allan in computer engineering. The Volunteers and Friends of Holmes Chapel Railway Station & Viaduct and Sarah Morgan from the Community Rail Partnership attended a short ceremony for a new plaque which we fixed to the bench in front of the booking office (a well-used bench on dry days!)

I said: "This dedication is for the victims of the tragic rail crash, whose lives were taken far too soon. We honour their memory, holding in our hearts the pain and grief the families and communities bear. In this moment of sorrow, we are reminded of the fragility of life and the deep connections that bind us all. May the memories of those lost be a source of strength and inspiration, and may we work together to ensure the legacy leads to greater safety and care for all. Our thoughts and prayers remain with those who mourn, as we offer our deepest condolences and commitment to never forget".

After showing Alan and Ann around the Station we walked down into Holmes Chapel Village for coffee and biscuits at the Old Red Lion inn. When they returned home we received the following email: "Thank you very much for a very pleasant day. It was good to see the scene where the accident happened and we can now envisage it much better. All the trains were on time and the whole experience was very good. Thank you once again. Regards, Allan and Ann".

Mr and Mrs Gibbins left a generous donation and we have planted special dwarf daffodil bulbs in some of the station planters which we look forward to see flowering in the Spring.

Home Grown in Holmes Chapel



It has been a very blustery few weeks and many of the fruit on our trees in the orchard have fallen to the ground.

Fortunately they have landed on soft grass and are still great to eat.

We have collected some of the apples, firstly for the whole community, and we will put the apples on the community table by the Health Centre for anyone to take.

Secondly we have taken some to the Old Saw Mill in Congleton to be made into apple juice.

On November 2nd we will be having our final dig of the year. Instead of being at our usual base of the Health Centre, we will be in the orchard in the Dane Meadow. Here we will be picking apples and collecting the windfalls. We will also be winter pruning the trees and putting grease bands on the trees. Winter pruning is for better fruit next year. The grease bands stop bugs from overwintering in the trees and infecting next years fruit. If you'd like to join us, come along between 10am and 12noon.

As usual, we will have a table at the Christmas fair on 1st December where we will be selling home made jam, marmalade, chutney and cakes. We will also have other local produce to sell such as eggs and honey. We will also have our popular raffle.

Please come along and buy our goods as we have an exciting opportunity next year but we do need a bit more cash.

Hopefully, in the next newsletter, we will be able to give more details.

Dane Meadow Update

You may remember that the big news from last month was the restoration of the pond. The liner of the previous pond was no longer watertight and consequently the water level dropped, the area got “over vegetated” and was mostly dry during the summer months. In order to recreate the pond the self-seeded willow trees from the edge were removed as they were sucking water out of the area and some of the vegetation at the back as well, so that it will be possible to walk around the new pond. This time there is a triple layer of lining, so let's wait and see how this performs!

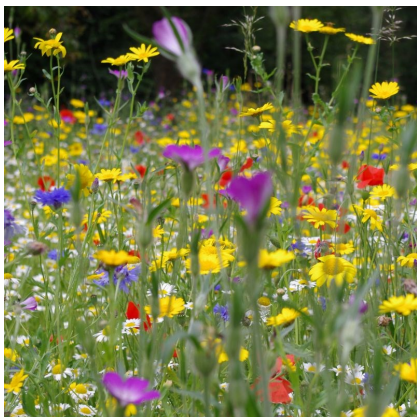


Since the works were completed it hardly seems to have stopped raining and the pond is filling up nicely without any outside help. The contractor has now removed the builders' fencing which was protecting the pond liner before it was covered with water. The area around the pond has been sown with grass seed which is already beginning to grow but because of the amount of rain we have had the whole area is extremely muddy and slippery. The original wooden frog statue is due to be re-instated in the next few weeks

The soil and vegetation that resulted from digging out the pond has been piled next to it. This pile of earth seemed ideal territory for planting cornfield annuals - unlike the perennial wildflowers on the flat grassy area of the Meadow, cornfield annuals need bare soil to flourish and cannot compete with luscious swathes of grass. With cornflowers, poppies and marigolds they do however make quite a splash when planted en masse.

With money from the fund set aside for the Dane Meadow the Friends purchased the appropriate mix of seeds and set about raking the area and sowing the seeds during their October session. The advice is to plant either in the autumn or in the spring so we have hedged our bets and planted half the seeds now and will plant the rest in spring in the hope of creating a stunning display.

If you look carefully you can see that many of the seeds have already germinated (see photo right) so if you could avoid walking over the mound that would really help them



flourish and produce - fingers crossed- a display like this (see photo left) next summer.

If you would like to play your part in maintaining the Dane Meadow and get involved with initiatives like this, please contact hazel.sutcliffe@hccpartnership.org.uk

Welcome to Fr. Vijay, the new priest for St. Margaret's Holmes Chapel



I am Father Vijay Bhupathi from Andhra Pradesh, South India. My mother tongue is Telugu and I can speak in Hindi, the Indian National language. I have been a priest for 22 years. I was in the Parish Ministry for 20 years and also in a Seminary as the Rector, to give priestly formation to young men, desiring to become priests.

I came to the Diocese of Shrewsbury in August, 2023. I was in Shrewsbury Cathedral Church for 7 months followed by 4 months of Ministry at Sacred Heart and St. Teresa's Church, Wilmslow.

On 2nd of September, 2024 I took charge as the Parish Priest of St. Mary's at Middlewich and St. Margaret's in Holmes Chapel.

I am interested in reading books, listening to music and writing articles of faith in my mother tongue Telugu.

I am looking forward to learning more about you all; I am very keen to work together and collaborate with the other Churches' Ministers: Rev. Anna Carrington at the Methodist Church and Canon Rob McClaren from St. Luke's.

Memory Café

A warm welcome awaits

Where: HC Memory Cafés
When: Tuesday 5 November
Tuesday 19 November
Time: 10.00am – 12.00pm
Venue: HC Methodist Church



What can we do?

Chat, laugh and reminisce

Drink coffee, tea and eat biscuits

Make new friends or meet 'old' ones

Have a sing song

Play indoor curling or skittles

Be creative with paints and crayons

Be competitive with table games

Be challenged with a quiz or jigsaw

Just enjoy sitting and people watching

More details: Email: dedavidson1@aol.com

Telephone 01477 537679

U3a Calendar

The u3a Art group is putting together its 2025 Calendar!



and the theme for this, their 15th Calendar is Flowers and Gardens

Rab Parry, the Group Leader, has given us a heads-up:.

"For 2025 we are creating a Calendar which will have the theme of Flowers and Gardens.

Priced very reasonably at **£7.00**, they will be available direct from the Print Room or through the Art Group. I think it will be a pleasant change and will make a nice Christmas present. They should be available early November.

Hope you will all buy one!!"

A Poem for Remembrance Day

1st July 1916

Dear Susie,
Thank you dear sister for the parcel from home
It makes me feel that I am not alone.
To know that you care and are thinking of me
Lifts my spirits and helps me bear what I see.
I see devastation when I look all around,
Mud everywhere churns up the ground.
The trenches are flooded up to my chest,
The shell fire is constant and gives us no rest.
The shirt that you sewed with such loving care
Is softer by far than the tunic I wear.
Oh ! the whistle had gone, I'm going over the top,
I'll finish this later but now I must stop.
The parcel came back, the shirt was inside.
Susie read his last words as she silently cried.
Her brother was gone it was so hard to bear.
The shirt she had sewn he would now never wear.

Pat Alston, u3a Creative Writing Group



Next u3a Monthly Meeting

The next u3a monthly meeting **at 10am on Thursday November 14th at the Methodist Church** will be addressed **by Rosie Lee 'The Reluctant Shepherdess'**.



She will talk about how she moved from a banking career to full time farming - and how her journey to becoming a shepherdess started and has developed. She addresses the highs the lows and the challenges of balancing food production with caring for our wildlife and landscape.

Carole Elliott – u3a Monthly Meeting Co-ordinator

Did Eileen Lomax Touch Your Life?



If you have ever come along on a Christmas Eve to the Community Carol Singing, the answer to this question will be 'Yes'.

Bringing the village together as part of celebrating Christmas was just one of Eileen's visions and she achieved this on Christmas Eve 2003 when three hundred people gathered to sing Carols on the patio at the carpet shop. Before moving closer to her family in 2012, Eileen put plans in place with her friends for the Carol Singing to continue and now gathering on the patio at the George and Dragon, our Community will have the opportunity to continue Eileen's legacy and come together to sing Carols on Christmas Eve 2024.

It isn't just through the Carol Singing that Eileen touched many lives; from moving to Holmes Chapel in 1985 her boundless energy, enthusiasm, encouragement and wicked sense of humour brought care and joy to many. Eileen might have encouraged you to take part in Charity walks across the dangerous sands of Morecambe Bay or there again she might have commandeered you to be part of a rota, working with the Salvation Army, to man the Breakfast Van feeding the homeless in the centre of Manchester. Eileen was one of the best at finding opportunities to raise funds for Charities and for finding volunteers to help, for ten years it was the NSPCC and St Luke's Hospice which benefited from her coordinating a Christmas Lunch held at Cranage Hall. Ladies Circle, in later years Tangent, of which Eileen was a member, neighbours and friends will be able to reminisce of the imaginative, full of fun evenings which Eileen organised and which all had 'thinking of others' as their heart of a good night out!

Sadly, for the last few years Eileen lived with dementia and on 20 September died. In her memory, and in appreciation of what Eileen did for our village, we hope that as many who are able, come along to the Community Carol Singing on Christmas Eve.

Over the years the Carol Singing collections have raised more than £13000 both for local charities and The Christie but this year we hope that people will give even more generously as the buckets will be shaken to collect for the **Alzheimer's Society** and a request will be made for our donations to be put towards research in finding a cure for this cruel disease.

All are invited, Christmas Eve 6.00 – 7.00pm. Community Carol Singing. George and Dragon Patio.

What's On



Family Winter Fair

Fun Packed Afternoon For All The Family
Stalls - Craft - Games - Tombola
Refreshments - Santa's Grotto
Face Painting - Much More

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER
2PM - 4PM
HOLMES CHAPEL COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL
JUBILEE WALK

Free Entrance

All Proceeds Going To Holmes Chapel Community Pre-School
New Building Fund Registered Charity 1017112

Monday 18th November, 10am

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School perform High School Musical for the local community

Followed by an opportunity to meet the cast during a buffet lunch

RSVP by Friday 8th November

Phone: 01477 410500

Email: angela.bickerton@hccs.info



Breakaway Dance Club

Sequence Dancing to live electric organ music at 7.30 pm each Saturday evening.

Open to all.

None dancers welcome. Just enjoy the music.

Help given if you wish to learn to dance.

Bring your own Drinks

£5 admission fee

Interval with bingo and a raffle



Programme for October/November 2024

Oct 5th	Lach Dennis village hall, (CW9 7SZ)	Organist Martin Atterbury
Oct 12th	Byley village hall, (CW10 9NG)	Organist Phil Brown
Oct 19th	Lach Dennis village hall, (CW9 7SZ)	Organist Tim Walker
Oct 26th	Byley village hall, (CW10 9NG)	Organist Elizabeth Harrison
Nov 2nd	Lach Dennis village hall, (CW9 7SZ)	Organist Tim Walker
Nov 9th	Byley village hall, (CW10 9NG)	Organist Martin Atterbury
Nov 16th	Lach Dennis village hall, (CW9 7SZ)	Organist Phil Brown
Nov 23rd	Byley village hall, (CW10 9NG)	Organist Elizabeth Harrison
Nov 30th	Lach Dennis village hall, (CW9 7SZ)	Organist Philip Randies

For more information please contact David Monks on 01477 532935



so let's
Keep Singing!

Saturday 9 November

10.00am

November repertoire includes a wide range of favourites chosen by those who attend Keep Singing.

Ranging from the Bonny, Bonny banks of Loch Lomond to Downtown and in between, songs from films, shows and the pop charts of the 60s and 70s.

No musical talent necessary, just come and enjoy!
18+ years only please.

We sing for about an hour followed by chatting over coffee/tea and biscuits.

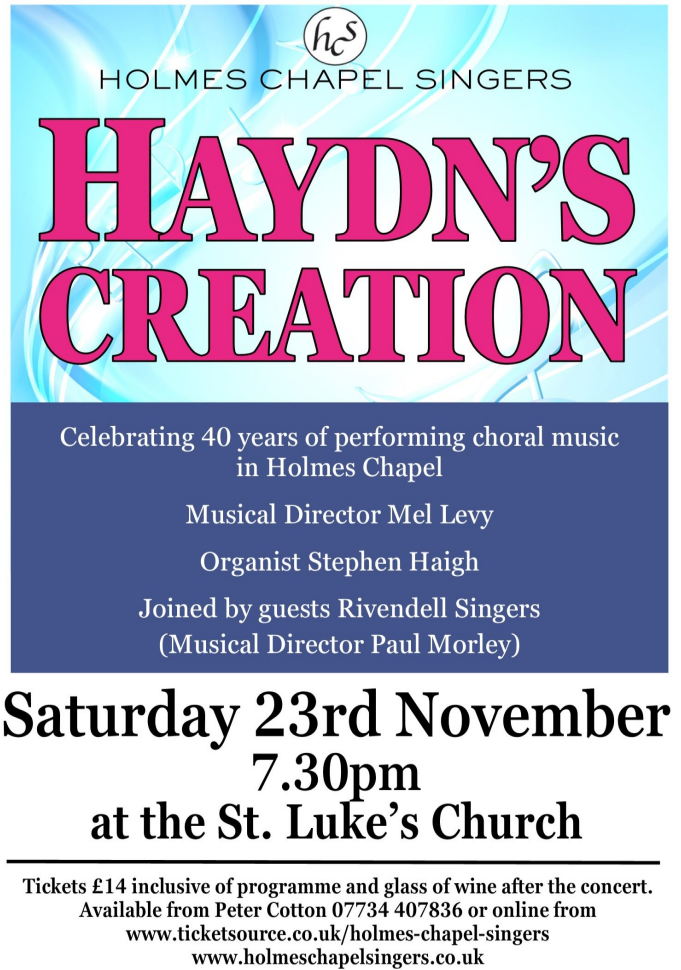
What's On





HARRY'S HOME
Village Tour 2024

**The last Tour of 2024 will be on
Saturday 16th November
Don't miss out - Book now!
www.hcpartnership.org.uk/guided-tours**


FOLLOW THE PATH




HOLMES CHAPEL SINGERS
**HAYDN'S
CREATION**

Celebrating 40 years of performing choral music
in Holmes Chapel
Musical Director Mel Levy
Organist Stephen Haigh
Joined by guests Rivendell Singers
(Musical Director Paul Morley)

**Saturday 23rd November
7.30pm
at the St. Luke's Church**

Tickets £14 inclusive of programme and glass of wine after the concert.
Available from Peter Cotton 07734 407836 or online from
www.ticketsource.co.uk/holmes-chapel-singers
www.holmeschapelsingers.co.uk



**Ladies Fashion Show
AND Pop-up Shop!**

SHOP YOUR FAVOURITE HIGH STREET BRANDS
AT UP TO 70% OFF!

**Saturday 23rd November 2024
1st Holmes Chapel Scouts**
1st Holmes Chapel Scout Hut, Holmes Chapel, Crewe, CW4 7BA
Doors open 6.30pm, show starts 7pm

Tickets: £10 includes a welcome drink (alcoholic or non alcoholic) & a raffle ticket
Tickets to be purchased in advance

Raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won at the show!

For tickets and more information please contact:
Giovanna Facciponti Moore email: gfaciponti@hotmail.com or tel: 07896988553
Please scan the QR code to purchase tickets



'Tuesday Friends'

Do you need a change from sitting at home?
Is Tuesday Friends for you?

An opportunity to come on
your own, with a family
member or a friend for a chat,
cup of tea / coffee and cake.



A quiz on the tables if you
fancy a challenge, live music
and laughter are always part
of the afternoon.



We look forward to seeing you on
12 November
at
Holmes Chapel Methodist Church
2.00 – 4.00pm

No set charge but, if you are able, please pop a
donation in the pot.
Should you require more details, please
telephone 01477 537679

What's On




Holmes Chapel Library Adult Events

Cookery & Gardening Group

Thursdays Monthly at 230pm

Join us for chat, hints and sharing tips over refreshments



Local history talks at the Library

12th November

Llanymynech Lime Works

Talks start at 2.30pm
FREE Drop-in

Home Library Service

Do you, or someone you know, struggle to get to the library due to health or mobility issues?

If you live in the Holmes Chapel area, our volunteers can deliver books to your home FREE of charge

Call us for further details



Craft Tea & Chat

Thursdays weekly at 11am

Bring your own craft & enjoy a cuppa with like minded folk



Make Friends with a Book

Every Friday at 2pm

A shared reading group, where we read a book aloud & discuss it over refreshments



Barclays Bank

at Holmes Chapel Library: **Monday, Thursday & Friday**

930am to 1230pm
1pm to 4pm

Book appointments on events.uk.barclays/local or call 0345 734 5345

Opening hours

Monday	10am - 5pm
Tuesday	10am - 5pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	10am - 6pm
Friday	10am - 5pm
Saturday	930am - 1pm
Sunday	Closed

Ask library staff for more information or call us on 01477 689550






Goostrey and Holmes Chapel Art Club
with
Holmes Chapel Photographic Society

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

Saturday 23 November 2024
Goostrey Village Hall (CW4 8PE)
10.00 – 3.00

Free Entry Free Parking
Original Works for Sale
Refreshments Tombola



Holmes Chapel Methodist Church



**Come and Sing
Christmas**

on

Saturday 21st December at 2.00pm

Choose your favourite Carols & Christmas Songs

Mince Pies
& Mulled Wine

Crafts

For requests email : dedavidson1@aol.com
Or post in the church letterbox



 **everybody**
HEALTH & LEISURE

INDOOR BOWLS SOCIAL



FRIDAYS 2PM - 4PM

FREE TO MEMBERS

£4.50 Non-Members
£3.50 Wildcard

everybody.org.uk

Our Patron Sponsors

OUR PATRON SPONSORS

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE ORGANISATIONS BELOW FOR THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE HOLMES CHAPEL PARTNERSHIP

 <p>HURSTWOOD HOLDINGS</p>	<p>HURSTWOOD HOLDINGS</p>	<p>www.hurstwoodholdings.com 40 Peter Street Manchester M2 5GP Tel 0161 220 1999</p>
 <p>MASSEY FEEDS Focused on nutrition</p>	<p>MASSEY FEEDS</p>	<p>www.masseyfeeds.co.uk Massey Feeds, Holmes Chapel Mill Holmes Chapel Cheshire CW4 8EE Tel 01477 536300</p>
	<p>HOLMES CHAPEL PARISH COUNCIL</p>	<p>www.holmeschapelparishcouncil.gov.uk Holmes Chapel Parish Council 1 Church Walk Holmes Chapel Cheshire CW4 7AZ Tel 01477 533934</p>
	<p>DUTTON BUILDERS MERCHANTS</p>	<p>www.duttonbuildersmerchants.co.uk Dutton Builders Merchants Dutton Business Park, Holmes Chapel Road Middlewich Cheshire CW10 0QZ Tel 01606 738491</p>
	<p>TMC CREATIVE LTD</p>	<p>www.wearetmc.com TMC Creative Ltd The Space 35-37 High Street Congleton Cheshire CW12 1AX 01260 295700</p>

For further details on Patron Sponsorship please visit our sponsors page
www.hcpartnership.org.uk/patronsponsors

Holmes Chapel Partnership – Working with the whole community