

HIGHER DENHAM COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER

2019: Issue 1

February

www.hdca.org.uk



WHAT'S ON AT THE COMMUNITY HALL

- **Monday**
2.00pm - 3.15pm Keep Fit
7.00pm - 10.00pm Line Dancing
- **Tuesday**
10.00am - 11.00am Sling Swing
1.00pm - 4.00pm Craft Club
(2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month)
7.30pm - 9.00pm Yoga with Maya
5.00pm - 6.30pm Martin Baker
5-a-side Football (BST only)
- **Wednesday**
2.00pm - 3.30pm Singing
7.30pm - 9.00pm Yoga with Kim
6.30pm - 8.00pm Denham United
Football (BST only)
- **Thursday**
9.45am - 11.15am Yoga with Kim
6.00pm - 7.45pm Youth Club
- **Friday**
12.00pm - 2.00pm Over60s Lunch
Club (last Friday of the month)
- **Saturday**
9.30am - 11.30pm Irish Dancing
Denham Rangers under 11 Football

The Hall, Glebe Field and Misbourne Meeting Room can be hired for functions / meetings

Bookings are made via Jane Blyth on 07548 260709 or email: higherdenhamhall@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Terri Urquhart
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07774 263304

Debbie Ward

It is with much sadness that we share with you the news that resident Debbie Ward passed away on Friday 25th January.

Debbie lived in Higher Denham for 20 years and was known by many of you as a great friend and neighbour. She was a kind, thoughtful and selfless person, always putting others first. Debbie was an active member of our community, using her incredible organisational skills to help behind the scenes at numerous Social Club and Community Association events helping at Firework night, Christmas events and in previous years at all the "Party on the Parks".

She had a great sense of fun and enjoyed life to the full.

Debbie's family, her husband Dave and their much-loved children, Tristan, Dominique and Natasha, were the most important thing to her and, justifiably so, are her proud legacy.

Debbie will be deeply missed by everyone that knew her. Our thoughts are with Dave and their children at this very difficult time.

Higher Denham Community CIO Annual General Meeting Thursday 21st March 2018, at 8.00pm

The Higher Denham CIO AGM will be held in the Hall, and is an opportunity for residents to hear what the Committee has been doing on their behalf over the past year. The new Committee for 2019/2020 will be elected at the meeting and all residents are welcome to stand for election.

If you are interested in joining the Committee, complete the form on the back page and submit to 5 Middle Road or the HDC letterbox outside of the Hall no later than Monday 18th March 2019.

There is a particular need for nominations for the Secretary role.

If you want to know more about what this entails, please contact Jacqui McGowan on 07876 391349.

Also, if you have a building industry background and could support the New Hall project, your nomination would be welcome.

Keeping you informed

Neighbourhood Plan - another meeting will be held in the Hall soon, date to be confirmed. Check the HDCA or Denham Parish Council



Websites for more information. It is really important that residents engage with this. You are probably aware that a number of 'affordable' houses will have to be built in Denham over the coming years and the Parish Council is identifying areas where these will be built. All areas are up for consideration, including Higher Denham, and this will be an opportunity for residents to give their input and voice their views.

Defibrillator - the Committee has applied for funding for a second defibrillator in Higher Denham. If successful it will be looking at options on where to install it. Ideally this will be half way down Middle Road, or on Upper Road to cover the houses further away from the one at the Hall. It needs a electric power supply so we would like to ask if any resident would be willing to have it near their house where it is easily accessible to others, for example on the side of their garage or outside wall. It costs £20 - 30 per year to run and the CIO would reimburse the cost to any resident willing to provide a place and power for it. If you can help, please contact Jane Blyth on 07548 260709.

Dogs on Field - dog faeces have been found in the children's play area and on the football pitch. Please remember that that **dogs are not allowed** on the field as it is unpleasant for children, and their parents, when they step or fall in it. The field is covered by CCTV and anyone with dogs seen on there will be reported to South Bucks District Council Environmental Health.

Keeping Safe on our roads - a resident has been in touch to say that he was really shaken up by a very near miss with a jogger on Old Rectory Lane. The jogger was not wearing high-vis clothing or carrying any light, and the driver just missed them. Anyone choosing to walk/jog along this lane are advised to take extra care particularly in the dark or foggy conditions. Safer still, use the footpath around the adjacent field.

Similarly, in the last few day, someone was forced to make an emergency stop when a child ran into Lower Road from Side Road for the school bus. Fortunately the driver just stopped short of what could have been an very nasty incident. Please do remind children to take care when going for the bus.

Keys - a set has been found on the entrance post to the Hall car park. If anyone has lost them please contact Jacqui Magowan 07876 391349.

HS2 Drop in session: Denham Village Memorial Hall on Friday 1st March 2019 from 2.00 pm until 7.00pm. Your chance to meet Emma Gaydon, Community Engagement Manager and the contractors who are carrying out the works, and hear about plans in the Denham areas.

Activities at the Hall

New Hatha Yoga class — run by Maya Lewis on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 pm — 9.00pm. Contact Maya on 07832391777 or email: smile@inuawellbeing.co.uk.

Sling Swing — swinging dance classes for mums and dads with their little ones in slings and baby carriers. Starts on Tuesday 26th February, 10.00—11.00. Contact Gemma on 07946799286. More information can be found on the website: <https://slingswing.co.uk>

The Craft Room —the craft club has been running for a year now and there are a few spaces available. Meetings are held in the Hall on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, from 1.00pm — 4.00pm, cost £3.50.

Members participate in a range of craft activities, from knitting and sewing, to painting and papercraft. They have also donated several hand-made items to local hospitals and care homes. Come along for tea, cake and chat. Learn a new skill or bring your own project. Contact Pat on 07795 109812.

Film Night at the Social Club

Come and watch the Oscar Nominated film "Bohemian Rhapsody" at the Club on Tuesday 5th March 2019. Doors opens at 7.30pm and the film starts at 8.00pm.

All welcome - members, non-members and guests. No need to book — just turn up on the night.

FREE ENTRY PLUS FIRST DRINK FREE

Monthly Draw winners

December 2018

1st Prize £50 - T & L Peters, Middle Road (Ticket no. 079)
2nd Prize £25 - J Gorrington, Middle Road (Ticket no. 124)

January 2019

1st Prize £25 - Mr/s Pollard, Lower Road (Ticket no. 153)
2nd Prize £10 - C Harrigan, Lower Road (Ticket no. 045)

Neighbourhood Nature Notes — What a Week!

Many of you will know that Sunday 27th January was the RSPB Big Garden Watch day. For those who didn't know, this is the day when the RSPB asks people to watch birds for an hour in their garden or park, record what they see and send the results in. This is one of the largest bits of citizen science in which over 500,000 people take part. The results are used to track the rise and fall of common birds across the UK.

We always keep an eye on what birds are in our garden but in the run up to Big Garden Watch, we take an even keener interest, hoping to find something more interesting to put on our list. This year we hoped to get a **mega tick** because for the previous two weeks, but not every day, we had seen a **Green Sandpiper** in the river but luckily it did put in an appearance on the big day. It is a wading bird, about the size of a blackbird with long legs and mottled brown on its back and white underneath, but it's not its appearance that makes it mega, but the fact that it is quite rare. It is a winter visitor from colder countries north of here and there are less than 1000 in the whole of Great Britain. Generally, they are found in shallow ponds in nature reserves or out in the countryside, but not in gardens on the edge of London. It is still here on 30th January and sometimes could be seen from the farm lane, but it is easily spooked so you would have to be quiet and walk slowly.



This was not our only interesting sighting that day. I guess we have all seen **Red Kites** flying lazy circles in the sky over the village, but on the big day one actually landed in one of our taller trees for the first time ever. The interesting thing was the behaviour of a Magpie that perched very close to the Kite which seemed to be eating something held beneath its feet. The much smaller Magpie was "buzzing" the Kite and even momentarily sat on its back a few times. Either it was trying to steal some of the Kite's food or, more likely, it just wanted the Kite to move away.

The rest of our list was not up to much — certainly, smaller than expected probably because the morning was damp and very windy, but in the days before we had seen a pair of **Teal**, and yesterday **Redwings** and two **Fieldfare**, as well as all our more common "regulars" *.

Teal are small ducks, half the size of a Mallard, and the male has a green and maroon head and a more obvious very distinctive yellow area just below its tail. As with many ducks, the female is mottled brown and difficult to identify unless accompanying a male. Redwings and Fieldfares are winter visiting members of the Thrush family.

Again, they live well north of here in the summer. The Redwing is quite common in gardens but is a bit late turning up in numbers this winter because of the mild weather we've had until recently. Fieldfares are not rare, about a million spending winter here, but they are much more common in fields and hedgerows (especially Hawthorn) than in gardens.



So, all in all, it's been quite a week and makes me realise once again just how lucky we are to live where we do.

* Regulars this week were Little Egret, Mallard, Moorhen and Grey Heron in/near the river and Blackbird, Chaffinch, Dunnock, Magpie, Jay and Jackdaw on the ground, Blue, Great, Coal and Long Tailed Tits, Nuthatch, Robin, Goldfinch, Greater Spotted Woodpecker and Parakeets on the bird table.

Ron James, Wind in the Willows

Higher Denham Community CIO Election to the Committee 2019

Candidate

Name	Address	Signature
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Desired post (if any)

Proposer

Name	Address	Signature
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Secunder

Name	Address	Signature
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Forms should be returned to 5 Middle Road or the HDC letterbox at the Hall by Monday 18th March 2019. Candidates should note that:

- ◇ they and their supporters must be Higher Denham residents.
- ◇ due to the Charity Commission's requirements relating to the sale of alcohol on charity premises, CIO Committee members cannot be involved in the management of the Social Club.

HDC Committee — email: higherdenhamcio@hdca.org.uk

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Ron James, Treasurer	r.james@company-doc.co.uk	
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