

July 2012



Higher Denham Community Association Newsletter

Hall Schedule

- **Monday**
10am - 11.30am Toddler Group
2.15pm - 3.30pm Keep Fit
5.15pm - 6.30pm Circuit Fitness
7.00pm - 10.30pm Line Dancing
- **Tuesday**
6.00pm - 7.00pm Zumba
- **Wednesday**
NEW - STARTING 5TH SEPT
10.00am - 11.00am, Yoga
(including Meditation and Relaxation techniques)

2.30pm - 4.00pm Adult Singing Club (most Wednesdays)
7.30pm - 9.00pm Yoga
- **Thursday**
9.45am - 11.15am Yoga
2.15pm - 3.30pm Keep Fit
6.00pm - 7.00pm Zumba
- **Friday**
11.30am - 12.30pm Zumba Gold
(please note this class does not run on the last Friday of the month)

Dear Residents,

Welcome to the July issue of the CA Newsletter. I would like to be writing about the long summer days and evenings relaxing in the garden, BBQs and outdoor family events - however the recent relentless wet weather has put a stop to that! Let's hope things improve soon.

This Newsletter includes articles from both the CA and residents for your information and awareness - the latter are always welcome. You will find an update on HS2 (which looks encouraging), changes to the Chiltern rail timetable (which doesn't), the CCTV proposal, news from the recent Social Club Jubilee event and their upcoming activities over the next month or so, the Olympic flame coming to Denham, an article from a resident regarding appropriate use of external lighting which makes interesting reading and is a subject I hadn't considered before - and lots, lots more.

The CA do not meet in August so the next Newsletter will be with you in September. If you have anything you would like to bring to our attention please do get in touch by email or contact any of the CA members (details on page 4),

As the school and summer holidays approach I hope, wherever you are planning to spend them, you get the chance to enjoy some much needed sunshine.

Until the next issue,

Jacqui McGowan

Editor

Update from the CA

The Hall continues to be well utilised throughout the week and we are pleased to report an upturn in enquiries to hold more classes and children's parties at the weekends. A new Yoga class will be starting every Wednesday on 5th September—more details included on Page 2.

The CA's main priority remains as always to ensure the Hall, field and gardens continue to be well maintained and that they provide an adequate return for further investment for the benefit of all residents. The Hall is currently being redecorated to give it a fresh new look and the floor will be re-varnished over the summer. The field will receive specific attention to bring it up to a higher standard for wider use, including children's football team training. In addition we have identified the following as points of focus for this year:

- Progression of the proposed Rural Bus Shelter in the Community Garden with more planting to enhance the area generally.
- At the request of residents we are continuing to explore the possibility of installing CCTV for the safety of everyone and their property in Higher Denham.

If there are any areas that you think we should be concentrating on do let us know—either by email or you are very welcome to come along to the CA meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of the month (our next meeting is in September) - we would be delighted to hear your ideas and suggestions.

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Thank you all so very much for all your support!

After our flyer and follow-up "chaser" note that went out I am very pleased to say the support has been almost unanimous from the 120 or so houses that have replied – you know who you are, so thank you!



Once the rains stops we hope to be contacting those who haven't replied yet as it is vital we get the maximum support from everyone in the village.

In the mean-time we are still seeking more quotations to make sure that the system we choose is the best we can get, both in terms of the protection it provides, and the total cost over it's life.

We'll continue to keep you updated.

Charlie McClelland - CCTV Lead

Denham Golf Rail Service - Cause for Concern?

Several residents have been in touch to raise their concerns around proposals for the Chiltern Railways December timetable. Denham Golf Club station could see its service being cut during the off peak due to low passenger numbers. To make up for this, Chiltern is suggesting running a half hourly service during the off peak from nearby Denham station to ensure there are still the same numbers of trains in the village. James Loader, Transport Development Officer at Bucks CC, was quoted in the Bucks Advertiser "we should be suggesting that at least one train every two to three hours stops at Denham Golf instead of Denham. However it may be more appropriate to seek the half hourly service to Denham, as the busier station, with an additional stop at Denham Golf in certain hours. I do not believe that isolating Higher Denham off peak is acceptable."

Denham Parish Council have written to Chiltern to add their voice stating they oppose any reduction to either of the Denham stations as this will lead to commuters looking to use the nearest underground services. This will reduce passenger numbers further which will then have a knock on effect of more service cuts in the future.

The CA are concerned about the reduction in service to Higher Denham and encourage residents to contact Chiltern via their website to express their views on the proposals - www.chilternrailways.co.uk



Attached to this month's Newsletter you will notice a flyer from our Newsletter sponsor Fairweather Insurance. They are currently running a competition giving you a chance to win £250 towards a home or business insurance policy with them. In addition to the competition they are discounting their quotes for the residents of Higher Denham by 10%. Please take the time to read the information and give them a try.

HS2 Update

Since our last update there has been news regarding how HS2 may affect Higher Denham

At our local level the Colne Valley Community Forum (where HS2 notify us of developments) have told us good news for Higher Denham who were going to be affected by the proposed Heathrow spur linking HS2 mainline to Heathrow Airport.

One suggested route was to go over-ground crossing Old Rectory Lane and then clipping a corner of Denham Golf Club and on to the aerodrome behind.

We have now been assured by the forum that this will NOT now happen! IF the Heathrow spur is built it will pass underneath Denham through a tunnel.

However the main campaign Denham against HS2 (see Facebook) is still urging us to keep campaigning against the whole programme. For example removing spoil from any tunnel would mean a new approach road to the M25 and would involve a construction camp with a great deal of noise and pollution. Also the plans remain for it to cross the Colne Valley area. Opposing the mainline is still the principle focus. The next event is planned at Colne Valley Festival on 29 July where HS2 will have a stand next to the information centre so more information will be available.

See you there.

Christine Birtles

New Class in the Hall

A new Hatha Yoga class will be starting in the Hall on Wednesday **5th September at 10.00am**. This weekly class will run for an hour and will include basic yoga, meditation and relaxation techniques. No need to book—just turn up with a yoga mat or towel and a bottle of water.



Colne Valley Festival - Sunday 29th July

The Colne Valley Festival is taking place on **Sunday 29th July, 11am-4pm** in Denham Country Park. Visitors will be able to enjoy the fantastic landscape of the Park with loads of green and wild activities for all the family including canal boat trips, face painting, crafts, animals, bird of prey displays, river dipping, cream teas and lots, lots more. Many activities are free. £2.50 to park (follow signs to Park Meadow car park in Denham).

Francis De Lusignan

Long time resident of Higher Denham, Francis De Lusignan, sadly passed away last month. He was well known throughout Higher Denham and was Secretary of the Social Club for over 30 years. Francis had many interests including motoring, snooker and football and was a lifelong fan of Queens Park Rangers. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Living under the Security Spotlight



Several residents have been in contact to express their concerns regarding lighting shining into their house or seriously impacting on their use of their own property. It would seem that some people are unaware of, or are not following, the guidelines for the reduction of obtrusive light, available from SBDC and the Institute of Lighting Engineers. The reason the guidelines exist is because Councils get a lot of complaints about lighting, mainly domestic lighting.

The good news: you can have lighting without nuisance. If your lighting is, or is modified to be, in accordance with the guidelines, it is unlikely that you will cause a problem - most are the result of using unsuitable lighting that is not directed or shielded to light only the intended area (within your own property). I'm sure we all agree that we have the right to do (within reason) what we like on our own property - but we need to also respect the rights of our neighbours, who are equally entitled to use their own property as they wish. They may want their gardens to be dark at night (artificial lighting may upset or drive out wildlife, and affect plants and shrubs). Or they may just find darkness relaxing. No one wants other peoples' light coming into their home; in Higher Denham many people leave curtains open, most can do so without light intrusion. The few residents who now can't do what they like even inside their own home, may be annoyed or upset. They have chosen to live here to enjoy a semi-rural lifestyle, and surely we all expect to be allowed our own choice of curtains (not to be forced to fit blackout curtains to keep light out of bedrooms), and to be able to go to bed when we want to. We have also at least 2 cases where lights are coming on and blinding motorists and passers-by, because the light is pointing down the street, and at least 1 where the same thing is happening in a garden. This is dangerous and needs rectifying.

It takes courage to complain, many people don't like to do it so you could be unaware you are causing a problem. Wildlife can't complain, please consider birds and bats - one resident has a bat roost that is seriously under threat because of inconsiderate and intrusive lighting. Have you checked the impact of your lighting recently.....?

Social Club Corner

Jubilee Event - Damp Squib?

I don't think so!

Last month the Social Club organised a fabulous line up of live music on the field to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and despite the awful weather a fantastic time



was had by all. The musicians moved into the Hall and more than 150 people turned up to be entertained by "Mouth on a Stick", "Left, Right and Centre" and Higher Denham's very own Richard Cottle and his Band. The CA ran a BBQ throughout the afternoon and fed a long stream of hungry revellers to raise funds for the Hall and gardens.

Next on the SC's list of events sees the return of Nicola Richards and her **Jazz band "Skylark" on Saturday 21st July**. Bar opens at 7pm with music starting at 8.30pm. Free entry.

Saturday 4th August - Fancy Dress 70s and 80s Disco Night. Some will have to go to the fancy dress shop, others just have to look in their wardrobes. Dig out those 70's flares or your 80's hot pants to enjoy a night of disco inferno hits from decades gone by. Prizes for best dressed 70's and 80's outfit.

All welcome at both events. See enclosed flyer for more details.

The Olympic Torch is coming to Denham

Sports enthusiasts will eagerly be awaiting the 2012 Olympic Games which will take place in London from 27th July to 12 August, followed by the Paralympic Games from 29th August to 9th September. Residents will have the unique opportunity to witness the Olympic torch coming to Denham. The Flame will arrive in **Station Parade, Denham Green at 4.06 on 24th July**, it will then make its way up the North Orbital Road to Broadwater Park then come back to Station Parade where it will be taken by convoy to its next destination in Ealing. Do go along and see this historic event taking place on your doorstep.



Vestry Teas at St. Mary's Church

As mentioned in the last Newsletter resident Kevin Cosgrove is preparing to climb Mont Blanc on 1st September in support of Cancer Research, along with 3 other Higher Denham residents, Chris Malham, Dave Harris and Damien Harris.



To help raise funds for the climb Vestry Teas will be held in St Mary's Church, Denham Village on Bank Holiday **Monday 27th August, 3pm-5pm**.

Organiser Elaine Davies would welcome cake donations to sell on the day to boost funds for this worthwhile cause. If you are able to bake or provide a cake please contact Elaine on **833515** who will be happy to collect them from you the day before or they can be delivered to the church vestry on the day. Visitors on the day are most welcome, perhaps after lunch in the village or after a walk in the Colne Valley Park - please do drop in to show your support.

Useful Numbers:

Thames Valley Police
(non-emergency number): 101

Bucks CC Highways: 0845 230 2882

Water Leaks: 0800 376 5325

South Bucks DC: 01895 837200

Denham Parish Council: 01895 834709

Railway Police; 0800 40 50 40

Monthly Draw

June	Winner (Ticket No.)
1st Prize £15	Mr Bingham, Lower Rd (38)
2d Prize £10	L Peters, Middle Rd (97)

Committee Contact Details:**CA Email Address:** committee_higherdenhamca@hotmail.com

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