

High Kelling Parish Chronicle

February 2025

Issue 45



Solitary Swan at Selbrigg by Ian Alderson of Pineheath Road

An information newsletter by the High Kelling Parish Council and
Trustees of the Village Hall for all villagers of High Kelling

All correspondence to be sent to chronicle@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Editorial Note

I greatly wish that you could have received this first issue of the Chronicle in 2025 in happier circumstances than the aftermath of the tragic accident that occurred on the A148 on the 22nd December 2024, immediately following the annual Carol Service at All Saints Church. On behalf of the members of the Parish Council and the Management Trustees of the Village Hall, I send sincere condolences to the family and friends of the late Sheila and Campbell Welsh at this very difficult time.

Whilst the circumstances of the accident are yet to be fully investigated, hopefully it will galvanise the relevant authorities urgently to take appropriate measures to improve safety on the A148, not just within our community but also others through which it passes. In his "*From Your Parish Council*" piece below, Cllr Peter Rutherford, Chairman, outlines the action the Parish Council has previously taken, and will continue to take, to ensure that the issues are properly addressed in the hope that further such fatalities can be avoided.

But this is not something with which the Parish Council should deal with in isolation. Do please contact Peter or any other member of the Council if you have any thoughts regarding the improvement of road safety on the A148.

Cllr Duncan Henderson

Editor

chronicle@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

Sheila and Campbell Welsh RIP

On behalf of the many friends in the village of Sheila and Campbell, Tricia Hickey has written in as follows.

Sheila and Campbell first came to High Kelling when they 'volunteered' to run a Burns Night for the Social Club way back in 2016. Such was the success of the night that another was held the following year, and they both became very active in, and supportive of, many village functions over the following years; Sheila always enthusiastically ready with an idea or a cake, Campbell forever willing to lend a hand. Such was their enjoyment of all things High Kelling that, although they were happily settled in Holt, they thought of the village as their second Norfolk home, making many firm, long-lasting friendships over the years. It is with great sadness and much love that we say goodbye to them following the tragic accident just before Christmas, and our thoughts are with their family and friends at this very sad time.

From your Parish Council

Following the tragic events in High Kelling on 22nd December 2024, the Parish Council will be continuing to put pressure on Highways and on the Police to address road safety on the A148 through the village. We consider that our call to action needs to be pursued so as to avoid further fatalities.



It is perhaps worthwhile setting out the position, as follows:

1. When we were applying for funding for a SAM2 Speed camera we asked the Police if we could trial a new type of camera which would display both the speed and the registration number of an offending vehicle; this would have given the Police sufficient information so that warning letters could then be sent out to drivers. The proposed trial was supported by the local Member of Parliament at the time. The Police said that they did not have the resources to deal with the associated administration and we were not allowed to trial the system. We now believe that a fixed speed camera needs to be located in High Kelling as we consider it to be the only feasible way to get drivers to slow down. Having looked at the current installation criteria, we have concluded that we would meet them and we are therefore requesting the Police to install one.
2. The lack of any form of street-lighting on the road as it passes through the village means that at night many motorists are unaware of the fact that they are travelling through a village; consequently, the risk to vehicles attempting to pull out from junctions and pedestrians attempting to cross the road is significantly increased. The Parish Council considers that adequate lighting is required at all the junctions in the village. When this was last raised with Highways, we were told on 20th February 2024 that it was a 'non-starter' and that the policy was to switch off street-lights rather than install new ones. Other villages such as Bodham do have street-lighting and we therefore intend to pursue our original request.
3. There is currently no pedestrian crossing in the village, nor even a pedestrian refuge in the centre of the road. We have requested one previously to allow pedestrians a safer means to cross the road to the Church, the bus stop and the various public footpaths on its southern side. The Parish Council was told that the road was too narrow to accommodate a crossing and that in any event one could not be permitted because there was no footpath on that side. The Parish Council will be renewing its request for a crossing.
4. A few months ago, some signs were erected on the road warning of pedestrians, but they are so small and have been placed so high up on the top of existing poles that they are not sufficiently visible to drivers. The signs are also in the wrong position relative to where pedestrians are likely to be crossing. Highways did agree to position additional larger signs in the village

known as 'Think' signs but we do not consider these to be a long-term solution. They were promised in August 2024 but have still not been erected.

5. There have been calls for a traffic assessment to be carried out on the length of the A148 between Holt and Bodham; the Parish Council supports this as it will provide details of the number of vehicles passing along this stretch of the road, and their speed, at various times of the day. There may well be justification for reducing the speed limit between Holt and High Kelling, and between High Kelling and Bodham, to 40mph. The Parish Council is firmly of the opinion that the 30mph zone in High Kelling needs to start at the village gates as one approaches from Holt. The Parish Council has previously been told that the density of housing is not sufficient to justify an extension of the 30mph zone, but this does not seem to be the case in other villages such as Thorpe Market and Horsford where the 30mph zone starts well before the houses in the village.

Many of you will have signed the on-line petition started by Izzy Welsh, the granddaughter of Campbell and Sheila Welsh, calling for action to be taken to improve road safety in High Kelling [See QR code (right) or <https://chnq.it/97TWLY8HQD>].



Although the focus of my above comments is inevitably the A148, the Parish Council has not forgotten about the safety issues on Bridge Road which villagers have raised. Following the meeting with the Highways Engineer mentioned in my report in Issue 43 of the Chronicle, the suggested improvements have been agreed and we currently await funding under Norfolk County Council's Parish Partnership Scheme.

The Parish Council will continue to treat road safety in the village at its number one priority and will be pushing for immediate action. Please do contact me directly if there is anything that you wish to include on this Road Safety Agenda. I will of course keep you updated.

Peter Rutherford

Chair, High Kelling Parish Council

Email: cllrpeterrutherford@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.highkellingpc.info

Lights Fantastic

Dave and Brenda Taylor of Wagon Wheels have written in to say:

"We would like to thank all supporters of our annual Christmas Lights display and advise that a grand total of £170 was raised in charitable donations and given to Woodside School in Sheringham. Many thanks to you all for your generosity."

High Kelling Table Tennis Club 2023 Geoff Bedford Cup competition

As briefly mentioned in the last issue of the Chronicle, 16 members of the Club entered the delayed 2023 Geoff Bedford Cup doubles competition played on 22nd November 2024.



Teams were divided into two leagues with the winners and runners up of each league progressing to the semi-finals; those semi-finals being the best of three matches.

From League A, Ralph Corbett and Maria Welch coming top of their league met the runners-up from League B, Robert Nixon and John Kellas-Kelly. The contest was relatively close with Robert and John winning 21-15 and 21-14.

From League B, the winners Debbie Bleasby and Colin Humphreys met the runners-up from league A, Lynn Perret and David Carter. Debbie and Colin won both games, 21-17 and 21-7.

The final was again the best of three matches. Robert and John won the first game comfortably 21-6 before Debbie and Colin rallied to win the next one 21-14 and the decider 21-7.

As winners of the competition Debbie and Colin as will have their names immortalised(!) on both the Cup and scoreboard, as well as receiving an individual trophy.

Overall, an exciting and most importantly fun competition, greatly enhanced by a break with sausage rolls, mince pies and the usual mugs of coffee and tea, courtesy of Silvia Carter.

The Club continues to go from strength to strength, the next competition being the also-delayed 2023 John Martin singles tournament.



David Carter
Club Chairman

News from your Village Hall Committee

Village Hall Closure for Main Hall Floor Restoration in February 2025

The Village Hall will be closed from 3rd to 8th February inclusive to enable the entire main hall floor to be fully restored and varnished. We apologise for this closure, but it is unavoidable. All Village Hall activity group leaders were made aware of this closure as soon as the contractors informed us of their availability to carry out the repairs and re-varnishing.



Grant Funding: Vision for the Hall

Applications for two funding grants were submitted recently in respect of proposed improvements to the grounds at the Village Hall.

Firstly, the frontage, for which the grant has been approved. It is intended to freshen up the front area. Enhancements will include new raised beds, an improved seating area in front of the main windows and a refreshed front gravel drive/parking area. Work will commence from 3rd February, avoiding another Village Hall closure.

This grant from funds set aside by Norfolk County Council was made known to us by Councillor Eric Vardy, and it required matched funding from the Village Hall. We are very grateful to him and his support staff at County Hall for completing their actions so quickly.

Secondly, the rear area, for which the result of the grant application to the Orsted Community Fund is not expected before 31 March 2025. Enhancements sought include replacement of aged external storage sheds and installation of energy efficient external lighting. Implementation of these enhancements will not involve Village Hall closures, but there will be some parking limitations which will be circulated in advance.

Defibrillator Training

Now the Village Hall defibrillator is in place, we are planning to hold defibrillator training in the Village Hall, depending on availability of instructors. The training provided, in one session only, will give people the opportunity to become familiar with the equipment and procedures. These group training sessions last up to two hours, comprising an introduction, instruction, demonstration and one-on-one training.

Broadly, the Parish Council and the Village Hall committee will aim to coordinate training opportunities with local defibrillator providers in the Holt area. Village Hall Committee members and Parish Councillors who have not attended defibrillator training will be given the opportunity to attend our first or a future course. Villagers

wishing to attend training soon or in the future may do so, subject to availability. Also, though not mandatory, it is suggested that all Village Hall user groups may wish to have a regular member who is defibrillator-trained.

Though we do yet not know the dates for our first defibrillator training session course, it would be helpful to know the names and contact details of those who would like to provisionally reserve a place. If you would like to do so, shortly or in the future, please contact Glenn Houchell (Hall Secretary) on 07941 647165 or email him on glenn.houchell@gmail.com.

Village Hall Management Committee

We are very pleased to announce that Councillor Eric Vardy, who has a great deal of experience in a variety of fields likely to help the committee in the future, has joined us.

The Village Hall Committee meet once every two months, on the second Friday afternoon of the month. If you think you may be interested in joining the committee and would like to know more about what's involved, please contact Glenn Houchell (Hall Secretary), contact details as per the preceding item.

Bookings

The annual renewal of bookings for this year is almost complete; Village Hall user groups will be advised of confirmed and agreed bookings shortly.

Seventies Draw Club January and February Winners

January: 1st prize (£25) Jan Kemp, 2nd prize (£15) Liz Usher, 3rd prize £10 Diana Evans.

February: 1st prize (£25) Ellie Humphries, 2nd prize (£15) Trish Moore, 3rd prize (£10) Janet Johnson.

Fencing Damage

Repairs to the rear fence damaged in a car accident late last year were completed in December. Again, the fences and posts were supplied, at a discount, by Thaxters Timber, and Chris Stubbard, of Odd Job and Sparkles, assisted with the installation.

Magazines

Readers may wish to make use of the second-hand magazines which are now available in the Village Hall foyer, free of charge.

Trustee-Led Events

Christmas Day Drinks: The Christmas Day drinks, between 11.00am and 1.00pm, went very well with around 50 present at peak times. It was good to see everyone, including some family visitors, gathering over drinks, mulled wine and mince pies.

Bingo: 17th February at 2.00pm.

Coffee Mornings: Unfortunately, due to the Village Hall closure, it has not been possible to allocate a booking for February.

Pub Nights: 7pm to 10.30pm Friday 14th February. Twice monthly in March, on the 14th and 28th.

Advance Notice: VE Day Celebrations 8th May 2025

To celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day we are holding a function on the evening of 8th May 2025 in the Village Hall. This will include a subsidised fish-and-chips supper, at a cost of £10 per head. The bar will be open, accompanied by suitable period stereo music in the background. Full details will be in the next issue.

Colin Kemp

Chair, High Kelling Village Hall Management Committee (Registered Charity 303989)
"Chimneys", Old Cromer Road, 01263 711582

Email: hkvhchair@gmail.com

Website: highkellingvillagehall.weebly

Selbrigg Pond Toadwatch Group

Ann Cleall of Bernard Road seeks new volunteers to go on toad patrol.

Just to remind all 'toaders' that it's that time of the year again when we will be helping our little friends cross the road on their annual mating migration to Selbrigg Pond.

If you are able to join the team again this year – even if only for the odd shift – could you please let us know. If you are new and would like to join us – the more the merrier and less to do for everyone – please contact the group organiser, Trevor Bland, on jandtbland@gmail.com or me on 01263 710043, email ann@tignes.co.uk, for more information. See also <https://www.toadwatch.org> for more information.

We will not be having a training session this year unless there are a number of new volunteers and it is felt that one is necessary.

We hope you can join our merry bunch of toaders. They really need our help.

THE PARISH OF HOLT WITH HIGH KELLING

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Tel: 01263 712048

Email: holtrectory@tiscali.co.uk

Deputy Churchwarden: Ann Alborough

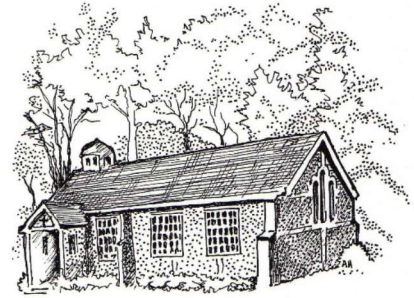
Tel. 01263 712954

Licensed Lay Minister: John Allen Tel: 07771363176

Authorised Pastoral Assistants:

Susan Pearcey Tel: 07546918865

Darren Bunyan Tel: 07368412999



Services at All Saints:

Thursday 10.00am Said Eucharist

Sunday 9.15am Said Eucharist

For more information about services at the Parish Church and church life please see the church notice board or visit www.holtchurch.org

For Live Streaming search YouTube: St Andrew the Apostle, Holt

Dear Friends,

The end of last year and our celebration of Christmas was overshadowed by the tragic deaths of Sheila and Campbell Welsh, who died on Sunday 22nd December while crossing the A148 after leaving a carol service at All Saints, High Kelling.

The manner of their death has affected us all very deeply and we are still trying to process what happened and come to terms with their death. Ever since they made Holt their home, Sheila and Campbell were well-known by many and will be remembered for their generosity of spirit, kindness, modesty, humility, friendship and warm hospitality. Their reach into the community went further and deeper than many people realised. Sheila was a regular member of our congregation here at All Saints and very much involved in our Centenary Celebrations last June. She and Campbell will both be dearly missed.

A family funeral service at Cromer Crematorium followed by a service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving at 11.15am is being arranged for Friday 7th February at Holt Parish Church. My thoughts and prayers remain with their family and all who were caught up in a such terrible accident and all who were affected by their deaths, including the driver of the vehicle.

As a community and a church family we are not immune from experiencing the sadness and sorrow that accompanies the loss of those we have known and loved, and as is the case for many families 2025 begins shrouded in sadness and grief, yet it is not divorced from hope.

The New Year has been designated by the Church as a Jubilee Year with a theme of hope. As people of faith we have hope in the love of God which, St Pauls reminds us, has by the power of the Holy Spirit been poured into our hearts. The love of God revealed to the world in a child whose birth we have recently celebrated fills us with hope: hope for the year ahead; hope for a peaceful and better world; hope for the new and eternal life that awaits us; hope that will not disappoint us.

May your all your hopes and dreams for 2025 be realised. Every blessing to you and yours,

Fr. Howard

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

COFFEE & CHAT Tuesday 11th February 10.30am at No 4 Pineheath Road, courtesy of Ann Alborough. All Are welcome.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING for the life of Sheila and Campbell Welsh. Friday 7th February 11.15am at the Parish Church of St Andrew the Apostle, Holt.

THURSDAY MORNING COFFEE at No 4 Pineheath Road following the 10am Eucharist at All Saints. All welcome.

FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP GROUPS: 3 groups meet once a month in the parish for bible study, prayer and fellowship. For more details www.holtchurch.org.

MENS GROUP AT ST ANDREWS: Meets on Wednesdays 1.30pm-3.00pm in the meeting room at the Parish Church. An inclusive, non-judgemental, welcoming group which offers support, friendship, and conversation and is concerned for men's wellbeing. Come along and find out more.

HOLT & COMMUNITY DISTRICT SUPPORT FUND (Energy). Local support for local people. UPDATE: If you or anyone you know needs financial help to meet their energy costs, please let them know funds are available and not to be too proud or afraid to ask. If in need contact the Rector for more information.

HOME VISITING: If you would welcome a visit from the parish clergy or an authorised pastoral assistant please make contact.

New Email Addresses for Parish Councillors, Parish Clerk and Editor of the Chronicle

Parish Councillors

cllrpeterutherford@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk
cllrmaureenpearman@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk
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cllrsallymonkman@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

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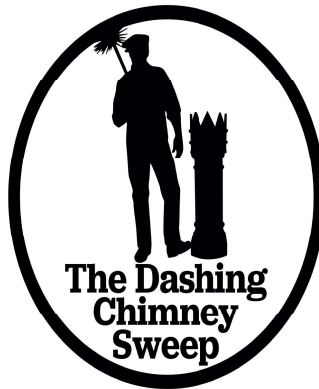
clerk@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chronicle Editor

chronicle@highkellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

Village Hall Diary for February 2025

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1 09.30-11.00 Simply Yoga MH	2 13.30-15.30 HK SM Bowls WH
4 Hall Closed	5 Hall Closed	6 Hall Closed	7 Hall Closed	8 Hall Closed	9 13.30-15.30 HK SM Bowls WH
11 10.00-13.00 Quelle Art MH	12 09.45-12.15 Full Motion Pilates WH 13.15-15.15 HK SM Bowls WH 19.00-22.00 Holt Bridge MH	13 09.00-12.00 Art Lark MH 13.15-17.30 HK SM Bowls WH 19.00-22.00 Abacus Bridge MH	14 09.30-12.30 HK Table Tennis WH 19.00-22.00 VH Pub Night MH	15 09.30-11.00 Simply Yoga MH 12.00-16.00 Beading Group CG	16 13.30-15.30 HK SM Bowls WH
18 10.00-13.00 Quelle Art MH	19 09.45-12.15 Full Motion Pilates WH 13.15-15.15 HK SM Bowls WH 19.00-22.00 Holt Bridge MH	20 09.00-12.00 Art Lark MH 13.15-17.30 HK SM Bowls WH 19.00-22.00 Abacus Bridge MH	21 09.30-12.30 HK Table Tennis WH 14.00-17.00 NN Digital Photography WH 18.00-19.45 Simply Yoga WH	22 09.30-11.00 Simply Yoga MH	23 13.30-15.30 HK SM Bowls WH
25 10.00-13.00 Quelle Art MH	26 09.45-12.15 Full Motion Pilates WH 13.15-15.15 HK SM Bowls WH 19.00-22.00 Holt Bridge MH	27 09.00-12.00 Art Lark MH 13.15-17.30 HK SM Bowls WH 19.00-22.00 Abacus Bridge MH	28 09.30-12.30 HK Table Tennis WH	Key: WH=Whole Hall MH=Main Hall CG=Constance Grey Room Red Font =Trustee-led events.	



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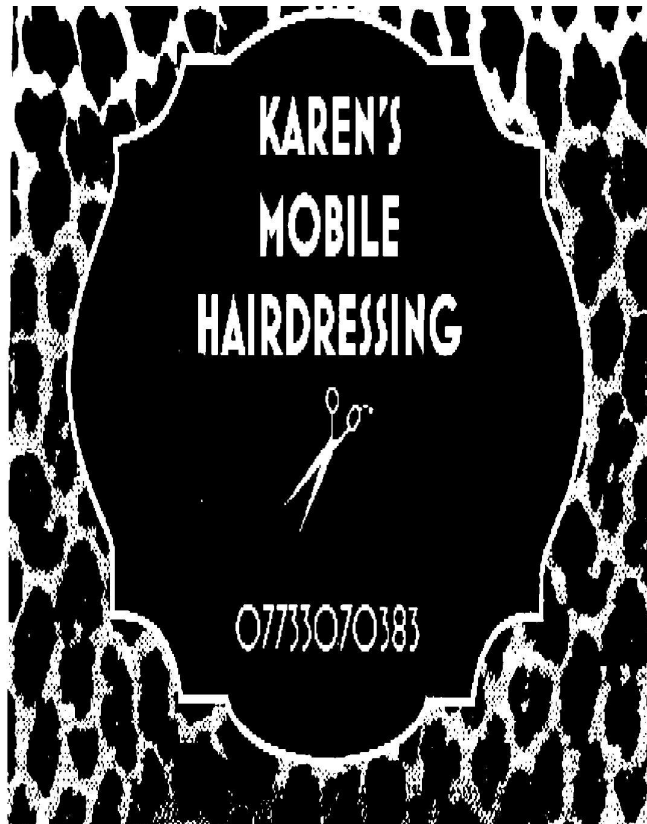
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