Message from The Partnership Chairman, Stuart Gammon:

We are fast approaching Christmas (where has the year gone?), and things are gearing up in the village. By the time you read this the lights should have been switched on, and the planning for Christmas events should be well advanced.

One of the highlights will be the Annual Christmas Market on Sunday 7th December, from 4pm to 7pm, organised by Holmes Chapel Partnership. There will be stalls and entertainment in the Coop Car Park, with more stalls and refreshments in the Scout HQ and St Luke’s Church Hall … and Father Christmas will be here too, on his sleigh. This year the Rotary Club are unable to put on their song and dance stage in the precinct, so the entertainers will be at the Christmas Market instead. Come along and have some fun, as well as supporting the many stall holders – many of whom are raising money for local charities - by buying their wares!

With the advent of Christmas and the New Year, the weather will inevitably get colder, so we all need to be prepared just in case of severe conditions. Please read the article in this newsletter giving advice on how to be prepared; and if you have elderly or infirm neighbours, perhaps you can keep an eye on them too.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe time over the Christmas period, and will ‘see’ you in the New Year!

Santa Clause is coming to town!! (…Well, he’s coming to Holmes Chapel)

The Rotary Club of Holmes Chapel have again invited Father Christmas to the area. He will be on his sleigh at the Village market on Sunday December 7th and will then tour the district on evenings from December 9th. See posters in the Village or on our website or Facebook for full schedule.

The annual Rotary Grand Christmas Draw tickets are now on sale from on any Rotarian and in the village. Proceeds to local good causes. The draw will be on Christmas Eve.

Community Cinema:

The next Community Cinema will be showing:

‘What we did on our holidays’
A BBC comedy based on the comedy show “Outnumbered”.

Starring:
David Tennant, Rosamund Pike and Billy Connolly

Saturday 6th December, 8pm
The Victoria Club, Holmes Chapel

Tickets are available from Chethams in Holmes Chapel… but HURRY– the last showing SOLD OUT!

For more details please visit http://www.hc3.uk/

JoDFAS December Lecture.

Our next lecture is on Wednesday 10th December 2014 at 7.45pm at the new theatre in Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School.

This month Vivien Heffernan will talk about the Scottish Colourists- Style and Sophistication from the Jazz Age.

Guests most welcome. Cost £7 to include a glass of wine after the lecture.

If you are wondering what kind of society JoD-FAS is, have a look at our website and lecture programme! It is not just about painting. Our monthly lectures cover a wide spectrum of subjects including sculpture, architecture, jewellery, ceramics, glass, poster art, mosaics, cultural history and in January, the art of pub signs – just about anything that involves good design.

Website: www.jodfas.org.uk
Email: jodfas@live.co.uk
Telephone: 07856 721087
**St. Luke's Community Choir**

New

Choir Members

Welcome!

Meets weekly on **Wednesdays** from 8 - 9pm in St Luke's Church Hall to enjoy singing a variety of light music. All are welcome. There are no auditions or requirements to read music.

**Cheshire East Cycling Seminar**

The Cycling Seminar was held on the evening of Wednesday 22nd October at Congleton Town Hall. This is the second of these events where local cycling enthusiasts get the opportunity to have a dialogue with Cheshire East about cycling provision in the area. A presentation was given by a Dutch company called Royal Haskoning DHV which has been brought in by CE to advise on strategy for improving the local cycling infrastructure by creating a cycling checklist for Planning and Highways.

Holmes Chapel was represented by Andrew Rowland, a member of the SE Cheshire Cycling Action Group (SECCAG). He was impressed by what the Dutch company had to say and was cautiously optimistic: "We are a very long way from the level of cycling infrastructure provided in the Netherlands, but if any serious effort is to be made to ensure that more people cycle more often and more safely in Cheshire East, we need to make a serious start." This sentiment was echoed by Councillor Phillip Hoyland of Poynton who is the 'Cycling Champion' on CE council.

If you are interested in campaigning for a better cycling experience in this area, please contact: enquiries@seccag.org.uk

**Holmes Chapel Music Society**

Have you ever heard the tango played on a harp?

That was exactly what Elen Hydref, the young Welsh harpist, did at the last Holmes Chapel Music Society Concert on Saturday 22nd November. She wasn't performing alone - Helena Gourd's virtuoso flute playing combined with the harp to give a wonderful rendering of Piazzolla's *Histoire du Tango*. The programme which included solo pieces for both flute and harp was very varied and had an enthusiastic reception from the audience. Both young women are assuredly embarking on glittering careers.

Every month, the gym, or Small Hall, at the Leisure Centre is transformed into a concert hall, with curtains drawn, a stage decorated with flowers and comfortable seating. In this setting, world-famous musicians are keen to play, praising the acoustics and the enthusiastic audience.

The next opportunity to listen to great live music is on December 6th when The Aurora Ensemble, a wind quintet, will be performing at Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre. Don't miss this next musical gem!

Tickets and full details from themusicsociety.org.uk, or from Chethams in Holmes Chapel.

**Holmes Chapel Primary School’s Annual Christmas Fair**

Middlewich Road's Holmes Chapel Primary School will host their annual Christmas fair on **Friday 5th December** from 5-7pm.

Stalls will include: the bottle tombola; Christmas crafts; face painting; a BBQ; festive cafe with delicious mulled wine; football tombola; hamper raffle; a tasty cake stall; games and much, much more.

Entry is £1 per adult and free for children. All welcome.

**‘Many hands make light work’**

Appeal please - we need willing, strong volunteers to arrive at the Co-op car park before the Christmas Fair at 1.00pm to help erect the stalls. We shall also need volunteers at 7.00pm to take down the stalls. If you, or anyone you know, could help we urge you to please come along and help us!

Many thanks in anticipation for your

**Christmas concert**

Friday 12 December, 7:30pm, Holmes Chapel Methodist Church Christmas Concert. This promises, as always, to be an enjoyable evening with a variety of items from members of the Choir and friends. Tickets are £5 from 01477 537982

Profits this year go to a charity actively fighting Ebola.
**Be prepared for winter:**

It’s not something we want to think about right now, but winter is on its way! Not wanting to be unduly pessimistic but, whilst we have had a fairly mild autumn thus far, there are indications that we could be in for some severe weather this winter. In addition the National Grid are warning that there could be power cuts across the country if the weather gets too severe and demand for power increases significantly. **So, it pays to be prepared.**

Be aware of any severe weather warnings for the area to ensure you have enough time to prepare. The Cheshire Resiliency Forum recommend that in severe weather you follow the emergency advice:

- **Go In** – get out of the severe weather. Don’t travel if you can avoid it.
- **Stay In** – until conditions improve. Shut doors and windows to keep the heat in, and have warm clothes/bedding to hand in case of power cuts.
- **Tune In** – to Local Radio to get updates on conditions and any emergency plans that may have been put in place by the Emergency Services.

You should have a few things to hand:

- A wind-up or battery torch (with spare batteries)
- A wind-up or battery powered radio (with spare batteries)
- Bottled water and emergency food (tins) – enough for 3 days

If you have elderly or infirm neighbours, and it is safe to do so, check that they are OK on a daily basis. Further Information can be found at the Cheshire Resilience website: [www.cheshireresilience.org.uk](http://www.cheshireresilience.org.uk)

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**You’re invited...**

This winter, members of the 41 Club and Tangent have organised a Community Carol Singing Event for you. Please show your support by joining them at 6:00pm on Christmas Eve to get into the ‘jolly’ spirit. It will be hosted on the George and Dragon Patio and there will also be a collection for charity.

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**Holmes Chapel Marie Curie Fundraisers**

The Holmes Chapel branch of Marie Curie have had an incredible thirteen months fundraising for the charity which support terminal cancer patients in their last days. They have successfully raised £5820 through numerous events such as a ‘Blooming Great Tea Party’ and The Daffodil Appeal. In the upcoming months they plan to continue their success by making an appearance at the Christmas Fair on the 7th December, doing their annual street collection and through their previously popular fashion show, which will be on June 30th.

Thanks again for your support.

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**WI Group Carol Service**

The Holmes Chapel WI Group Carol Service is to be held at Luke’s Church on Sunday 14th December at 2pm. This year it is being hosted by The Women’s Institute who, after the carol service, will be serving mince pies and coffee in St Luke’s Church Hall.

Their Patchwork Group have been hard selling raffle tickets most of the year for a fantastic quilt they made and we will be drawing the winning ticket and announcing the lucky winner during refreshments.

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**Hermitage Primary School Christmas Fair, 5th December**

Hermitage are holding their Christmas Fair on Friday 5th December between 6:30 and 8pm at the school. Everyone is very welcome! Santa will be in his grotto waiting to hear your Christmas wishes and we will have lots of fun family activities including: a teddy tombola, hampers to be won in raffles, Christmas crafts, face painting, children and adult tombola and lots of fun games. Our ever popular BBQ will be fired up for burgers and sausages and for a sweet treat there will be a selection of yummy cakes topped off with mince pies, hot chocolate and mulled wine. Christmas starts here!
Christmas Markets
Sunday 7 December 2014. We hope the date is in your diary for Holmes Chapel Christmas Market because it is an event to be missed!!

4.00 - 7.00pm. We have more stalls than ever throughout the Scout HQ, outdoor in the Co-op car park and St Luke’s Church Hall. Also, dancers from Laura Wilson School of Dance will open the market at 4.00pm sharp. Come and do some Christmas shopping with the shops open late, enjoy some refreshments, listen to the barrel organ, meet Father Christmas, be entertained by the pupils of our local school’s choirs performing in the outdoor market during the event and much, much more!

A message from St Luke’s Cheshire Hospice:
“Did you know that could buy your Christmas tree and contribute toward patient care for your local hospice? Our wonderful trees are freshly cut in Scotland and come down to us at the very end of November. They are all premium grade and fabulous quality, non-dropping varieties”

Trees are available from the hospice on Queensway Winsford from Saturday 29th November until 14th December 10-4pm

They will also be available at our Santa Dash at Oulton Park Racing Circuit on Sunday 7th December between 10-4pm.

Did you know we can collect your tree after Christmas?

We have a Christmas tree re-cycling scheme which offers a valuable service whilst supporting patient care. For a donation we will collect your tree from your home (we also do business premises/schools etc) and arrange for it to be mulched with the shredding being used locally. Last year we raised over £6,000 from this initiative and we hope to increase it further this year. Registration is done online and is very simple. Just click on to: www.stlukes-hospice.co.uk/tree

It really is as simple as 1-2-tree!

Any questions please call Jane Thompson on: 01606 555688 or 07964 394963

Holmes Chapel Christmas Chorus
Holmes Chapel Chorus will again be visiting St Luke’s Church this year for their Christmas Concert on Friday December 19th at 7.30pm.
The concert will be the popular ‘mixture as before’ of traditional and modern items – with some carols for all to join in and sing.
Everyone is warmly invited to join in this evening of ‘Christmas Celebration’ - which will be in aid of the Children’s Society – and then to join the Chorus for refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards.

Holmes Chapel Chorus is a friendly & informal ‘singing for pleasure’ mixed voice choir of about 60 members. Our Musical Director is Peter Cotton.

We rehearse on Monday evenings to prepare for two main concerts each year – a Christmas Concert of carols & other popular Christmas music and our Summer Concert of popular tunes & songs from Musicals. All of our performances are in aid of Charities.

We always welcome new members who enjoy singing. We do not have formal auditions but a basic ability to ‘hold a tune’ is obviously needed. As ever with mixed choirs the men are outnumbered by the ladies, so tenors and basses are especially welcome!!

If you wish to know more then please contact:
Peter Cotton on 01477 537491

£25 million to be made available for community transport operators
We have just received information that £25 million will be made available to fund new minibuses for community transport operators.
Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin has announced that £25 million will be made available to provide hundreds of new minibuses to community transport operators in rural and isolated areas. The scheme will support voluntary organisations as they provide vital services for people in rural communities with limited transport choices. The new fund means that organisations who already provide a service to the local community can bid for a minibus. Smaller operators and those who help out in rural areas will be favoured in the scheme.
**Calendar of Events**

**Issue 3: November 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DECEMBER 2014</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mo 1</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>HC Gardening Group Monthly Meeting</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu 2</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>HC &amp; District Ladies Probus Christmas Party</td>
<td>St Luke's Church Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>HC Mens' Probus Monthly Meeting</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Church Hulme Ladies Probus Monthly Meeting</td>
<td>Cranage Village Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>HC Womens Institute Monthly Meeting Christmas Party</td>
<td>St Luke's Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr 5</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Focus Group Monthly Meeting &quot;Beautiful Bulgana&quot; - Speaker Anne Vaughan</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa 6</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Holmes Chapel Music Society Concert by The Aurora Ensemble (Wind Quintet) - Sponsored by a Member of the Society</td>
<td>HC Leisure Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Su 7</td>
<td>4:00-7:00 pm</td>
<td>Annual Christmas Market Lots of fun for the whole family - 30+ stalls, food, entertainment</td>
<td>Coop Carpark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu 9 to Th 16</td>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>Rotary Club of Holmes Chapel Father Christmas Sleigh</td>
<td>House to House</td>
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<td>We 10</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Rotary Club of Holmes Chapel Dinner and fellowship meeting</td>
<td>Cranage Hall Hotel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:45 pm</td>
<td>JoDPAS Illustrated talk 'The Scottish Colourists: Style &amp; Sophistication from the Jazz Age'</td>
<td>Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School</td>
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<td>Th 11</td>
<td>10:00-12:00 pm</td>
<td>U3A Monthly Meeting</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr 12</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Methodist Choir Methodist Church Christmas Choir Concert</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Su 14</td>
<td>10:00-12:00 pm</td>
<td>HC Village Volunteers Village Tidy Session (Morning)</td>
<td>Precinct Carpark</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>HC Women's Institute Carol Service followed by refreshments in the Church Hall</td>
<td>St Luke's Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We 17</strong></td>
<td>7:00-9:00 pm</td>
<td>Holmes Chapel Partnership Monthly (Committee) Meeting</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<td>Th 18</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Jodrell Ladies Probus Christmas Lunch</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Fr 19</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Holmes Chapel Chorus Christmas Concert followed by refreshments in the Church Hall</td>
<td>St Luke's Church Hall</td>
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<td>Mo 22</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>More to Life Monthly Meeting</td>
<td>Methodist Church Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>We 24</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Rotary Club of Holmes Chapel Guest evening with Speaker &amp; Buffet</td>
<td>Cranage Hall Hotel</td>
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**Get involved!**

If you have something you would like to pass on to the village via this **free** Newsletter – whether it be news of an event, fund raising, memories of Holmes Chapel in bygone days, or anything else of general interest – please email news@hcpartnership.org.uk or write to The Chairman at 41 Portree Drive, HC, CW4 7JB. Articles must be received by the 25th of the month to go in the next month’s newsletter.