





Annual subscription is £10 (£4 January to March) All meetings are at Higham Memorial Hall, School Lane, Higham – unless stated otherwise

June 2021

A reminder that all the information on this newsletter can be found on the Hiara website which is www.hiara.org.uk so why not bookmark the page to make for easier access.

Monthly Message from our Chairperson Liz Jeffery

HiARA June report

We eagerly awaited the Prime Minister's announcement on June 14 only to have our hopes dashed and the "Freedom Day" moved on until July 19. However, we are treating this new date with a great deal of caution. It means we will not be reopening on July 2 as we had planned. It would be ideal to start again on Friday, July 23rd but we will have to wait and see.

We will be holding a committee meeting soon to review what steps will be required and to sort out nomination papers for committee elections, which will be announced at the August 27th AGM meeting (fingers crossed). Payments at activity afternoons are likely to be "contactless" so start putting aside your £1 coins, ready for our new machine. Nearer the confirmed opening date – whenever that may be-you will receive a telephone call from a committee member to give you the latest information. Don't forget, if you want to join the committee you are most welcome.

Barry, Iris's Buss's partner, has contacted us and offered to donate the craft items, made by Iris, which he has at home. We have thanked him for this very kind and thoughtful gesture and the items will be sold at our meetings and all proceeds will go to our nominated charity, the ADSS.

Next time you wait for the bus to go to Strood on the top road, have a look at the top of the bus shelter! The shelter is the first of its kind in Kent and has a roof which is bee friendly – no need to be afraid – it is quite safe. It is currently in bloom and is very pretty.

I had the privilege of meeting recently with the Mayor of Gravesham, Councillor Lyn Milner and members of Higham Parish Council for a photoshoot at the Charles Dickens sign on the main road. It had been replanted with red geraniums by Oakleigh Nurseries and looked splendid in the sunshine. Photographs below.

The village of Chalk is proudly unveiling a new village sign at the end of the month outside their Parish Hall, so look out for that when you are next in that area. Well known to us, local historian Christoph Bull and a team have been busy working on the design which incorporates many elements of the history of Chalk.

We hope you have been able to enjoy the recent spell of good weather, parks and gardens are looking bright and cheerful, it seems like a good year for roses, you may have been for a lunch out by now or a trip to the coast or to see friends and family, so things are looking up





Gravesham's Mayor visits Higham

On Monday, June 14 at 12.00 noon. The Mayor of Gravesham, Councillor Lyn Milner met with Higham Parish Council Chair: John Grey. Vice Chair: Liz Jeffery, Councillor David Martin, Councillor Toni Stanton, Councillor Harold Craske and Acting Parish Clerk, Linda Atkinson, to mark the one hundred and fifty first anniversary of the death of the novelist, Charles Dickens at his home at Gads Hill.

The commemorative village sign had been replanted with red geraniums in honour of the author by Oakleigh Nurseries, Buckland Road, Higham.

The mayor remarked on how lovely they looked and how much she always enjoys coming to the village and kindly allowed photographs to be taken by the Councillors.

Liz Jeffery

This Month's Quiz is General Knowledge

- 1. Who was the first African American to win Best Actress Oscar?
- 2. In which book of the Bible is the story of Sampson and Delilah told?
- 3. In which London Borough is the Royal Albert Hall?
- 4. The name of which US state capital was also the name of the ancient capital of Egypt?
- 5. Five of the world's top 10 highest waterfalls are in which country?
- 6. Which ship built in 1937 is now a floating hotel in California?
- 7. What does Spumante mean on a bottle of wine?
- 8. Who won Best Actor Oscar in successive years in the 1990's?
- 9. What is the name of the daughter in the Addams Family?
- 10. Which 2 dances are used as words in the phonetic alphabet?
- 11. In which decade was the last moonwalk?
- 12. In US politics The Senate is the upper house, what is the lower house called?
- 13. What was the nickname of the late Johnny Cash?
- 14. Who was the first woman trainer of the Aintree Grand national winner?
- 15. What name is given to Beef Fillet cooked in pastry?
- 16. In which year was The Battle of Britain?
- 17. In which century was chocolate introduced into Britain?
- 18. Which TV comedy series featured such characters as Radar and Hot Lips?
- 19. Who was the male star of the classic western High Noon?
- 20. What is the most common eye colour in the world?

Answers to May's Quiz

- 1. Lime Street
- 2. A Bird
- 3. California
- 4. Lot
- 5. Charlie Chaplin
- 6. Ghost-Busters
- 7. Orville
- 8. Yukon
- 9. 17th (1653)
- 10. Ethiopia

- 11. Femur
- 12. Kiev
- 13. O2 Arena
- 14. Quadrant
- 15. Sweeny Todd
- 16. Uptown Girl
- 17. Yale
- 18. 16th (1503)
- 19. 17th (1664)
- 20. Georgia

During lockdown have you learnt a new skill or revived an old hobby? Done some volunteering? Finished that project started years ago? We would be pleased to hear your stories and receive your pictures to share with other members on future newsletters.

Important dates for your calendar

July

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Friday 23rd Welcome back tea and cakes? Friday 30th Quiz

August

Friday 6th Activity Afternoon

Friday 13th Activity Afternoon

Friday 20th Activity Afternoon

Friday 27th Main meeting and AGM

September

Friday 3rd Activity Afternoon

Friday 10th Activity Afternoon

Friday 17th Activity Afternoon

Friday 24th Main members social meeting

October

Friday 1st Activity Afternoon

Friday 8 th Activity Afternoon

Friday 15th Activity Afternoon

Friday 22nd Speaker

Friday 29th Quiz

November

Friday 5th Activity Afternoon

Friday 12th Activity Afternoon

Friday 19th Activity Afternoon

Friday 26th Speaker

December

3rd Activity Afternoon

10th Activity Afternoon

17th Christmas Tea Party with Entertainment

