Lower Withington

Parish Newsletter



'Spring into Summer' by John Ryder

Summer 2026

Please forward any items or photos for the Autumn Newsletter by Saturday 15th August 2026 to newsletter@lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk

Thank you to Sian Harris and Tom Chrisp for the lovely photos for our summer newsletter. If you would like the chance to have your photo appear on the front page, send them to *newsletter@lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk* by Saturday 15th August 2026.



New arrivals at Dicklow Cob – Sian Harris



'Sleepy new arrivals at Lower Withington' – Tom Chrisp

LOWER WITHINGTON VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Hall committee would like to thank everyone that supported our 60th Anniversary Lunch on the 19th April, everyone enjoyed a 3-course lunch, we were entertained by Flat Pack Music and watched a film on the knocking down of the old village hall and a couple of early Rose Day's. John Ryder said a few words on the history of the Village Hall and both John Venables and John Ryder cut the anniversary cake which we all enjoyed.


Lower Withington Parish Hall

Events to Celebrate the

OPENING OF THE NEW HALL

SATURDAY, 16th APRIL

CELEBRATION SUPPER DANCE

Jay Leslie and his Dance Band

ADMISSION £1-1-0 STRICTLY TICKETS ONLY

SUN. 17th April

MON. 18th April

FAMILY SOCIAL EVENING

WED. 20th April

GRAND WHIST DRIVE

FRI. 22nd April

SOCIETY CONCERT

SAT. 23rd April

DANCING TO MIDNIGHT

SUN. 24th April




Lower Withington Parish Hall

THE

ROSE QUEEN FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, 2nd JULY, 1966

HOLLY TREE FARM

Procession will leave the CHAPEL FIELD at 2.15 p.m.

Crowning of the Queen

(Miss PAMELA JOHNSON) at 3-15 p.m.

Numerous Sideshows

Morris Dancing and Maypole Dancing

The Windsor Prize Band (of Salford) will be in attendance

ADMISSION ADULTS 2/6

CHILDREN PAY AT THE GATE

DANCING in the Village Hall from





We had another successful Farmers/Craft Market/tabletop sale in March raising £430. Since the last newsletter we have held two Village Hub Cafés, where our village community enjoyed chatting to each other over a drink and cake, whilst felting a daffodil or knitting their own items. We may look to make bunting at our next café and looking for a new name – so send in your ideas to Sue.

Lower Withington Bowling Club

Our Crown Green Club boasts one of the best in the area and we need plenty of support to keep this wonderful facility for the village. There are still the Ladies WI teams and Probus Club should you be looking to play during the day, but we also have an active Social Bowling section. We meet on a Tuesday & Thursday evening at 7:15. The summer fees are £40 per person for the season and there are currently about 12 of us that play and a few more looking to join us. All are welcome, so pop down and join us for a trial, if you do not have any bowls, we have some spare sets you could try. For further information contact Andrew on 07469 194 168 or just pop down and have a go. If you want to be included on the WhatsApp group, message Helen on 07985 091486. It's very relaxing and addictive and we hope to be able to have enough support to have an open bowling competition on Rose Day this year.

We have our own tennis court at the village hall, and 2026 membership fees are due Adult £60, Junior £30, Family 2 Adult & children £130, Family all Adults £160 which will be due in March. If you would like to join contact Lisa.

Booking contacts
If you would like to book our village hall for private use, please call 07827 914146 or 01477 571413.

What's on in our Parish Hall?

Village Hub Café 21st May and every 3rd Thursday of the month: Pop along to our Village Hub Café every 3rd Thursday of the month at 1:30pm, we are wanting to promote a community gathering with a wide range of interests. The aim is that hopefully men and women with various skills can help others with their own repairs, advice or just generally meet to do their own thing. Everyone will also be able to chat over a drink and cake. Speak to Sue for more information.

Saturday 19th September: we are having our 3rd Farmers/Craft Market/Tabletop Sale between 10:00 – 12:30, if you would like a table, please contact Sue or Lisa. Refreshments will be served so come along and support our local producers / crafters and you might even get a bargain from the 2nd hand stalls.

Thursday 1st October: Date for your diary, we are having SOS ladies' clothes shop from Bramhall coming to do a fashion show, where you will also be able to purchase their fantastic range of clothing. Further details in the next newsletter.

Friday 23rd October: We have another Horse Racing Evening; tickets will be available after the Summer. If you would like to reserve tickets, purchase and name a horse in one of our races for £5 or sponsor a race for £25 then please contact Pam, Lisa or Sue.

Future dates to put in your diary:

Saturday 5th December: will be our Christmas fair and **Sunday 6th December** will be the village Carol service.

Regular activities in our hall:
Parent, Baby & Toddler Group: Meet every Tuesday morning at the village hall except in school holidays. We always look forward to welcoming any new parents/grandparents and are there from 10-11:30am. Contact Dawn for more information.

Jodrell Art Club: Meet every Tuesday afternoon from 1pm to 3:30pm. This is an inspirational group of between 12/14, friendly self-taught artists who paint and draw whatever they like. There is a library of books for inspiration and guidance, and we stream art tuition classes should you prefer to learn more on techniques and use of various mediums. It's not just about the art but gathering to share ideas whilst also enjoying a cup of tea and biscuits. For further information contact Andrew on 07469 194 168.

Pilates Classes: Currently take place on Tuesday evening at 6:30 – 7:30pm, our teacher is Olivia Brewster from Siddington. Contact Olivia on 07717 048935 for more information.

Yoga Classes: Take place on Thursday morning at 10am – 11am, our teacher is Debra Noden, the cost is £10 per session. Contact Debra on 07777 187705.

Goostrey Flower Club: 2nd Thursday 2pm monthly.

Lower Withington Women's Institute: 4th Wednesday 7:30pm monthly

Let us have any ideas to keep our hall active and a good community space. We are always looking for volunteers to help so if you can help do get in touch.

Contacts:
Chairman David Venables 07979 910800
Dawn Venables davidathollies@aol.com 07827 914146
Sue Lewis shl56g@gmail.com 07522 465557
Lisa Kennerley lkenners@gmail.com 07766 762365
Pam Rigby rigbypamela@yahoo.co.uk 07710 904428

Goostrey Flower Club



Amid sunshine and some heavy downpours we had a fabulous turnout at our meeting. Sue Hodgson, who is a National Demonstrator, transported us to The Caribbean, Bali, Florida, Egypt and Amsterdam with an amazing floral art demonstration. Her title was "Stamps in my Passport". She used some beautiful flowers like Strelitzia, Agapanthus, Orchids, Roses, Gerbera, Larkspur, Alliums, Weigela to name just a few, what a treat and wonderful afternoon we all had. Next month we welcome Mark Entwistle, The Floral Enthusiast, who lives in Cheshire and is a former UK Florist of the Year and RHS Gold Medalist.



The flower club will be hosting an evening of floral artistry with Jonathan Moseley on Thursday 2nd July at 7pm, Lower Withington Village Hall, SK11 9DX. We are also planning an outing in the summer to Wollerton Old Hall in Shropshire, the members have started putting their names down for a trip out in August. A coach trip, a stroll round the beautiful gardens followed by afternoon tea, what more could you wish for on a lovely (hopefully) summer's day. If you would like to join us on this trip or any of our other social events, we are hoping to hold, do come and sign up to become a member of the flower club.

We meet on the second Thursday of every month at Lower Withington Parish Hall, Farm Lane, SK11 9DX, £8 for visitors which includes tea, coffee and biscuits. The meeting starts at 2.00pm and doors open at 1.30pm.

LOWER WITHINGTON METHODIST CHAPEL

Dear Friends,

I am not someone who finds it easy to wait for things. At the chapel we are waiting for our building to be repaired and restored and it has proved to be a long and frustrating process. Often I find that nature has something to say to me about the challenges we find in life and that my learning comes in unexpected places. I live very near to Astbury Mere in Congleton and walk round the Mere at least once a day. Some weeks ago, I watched as the pair of resident swans carefully crafted a nest using only their beaks and made a home for their eggs. Then the eggs were laid a day at a time until I think there are around 7 of them. Then the waiting began which I believe takes 35 to 42 days. The female has faithfully sat on those eggs, keeping them warm in rain wind and hail. I have watched her carefully turn them with her beak. She has no clock to count time on, no television to watch, no phone to scroll the internet. She simply waits and watches and will do so until the cygnets appear and the signs of new life are there for all to see!!!

There is a lesson there for those like me who are impatient for things to happen and who expect instant results. At times we need to be open to waiting, to being open to where God is at work, to recognising the goodness in others, to giving our tired bodies and minds space for refreshment and renewal. Often, I think it is the waiting times that can bring the hope of new life, an awareness of the love of God and the peace that he offers.

May God be in your waiting times.

Grace and Peace
Rev Andrew Webb

Our services are held at **10.45 am every Sunday morning** in the chapel. Please come and join us; we are a very friendly congregation and visitors are always welcome. Tea and biscuits after the service.

Our Minister, Rev Andrew Webb, can be contacted on 01477 531773. If you would like a visit, or know someone who would like a visit, or someone who would like to receive communion, please contact Rev Andrew.

The chapel will be having a stall at the village Rose Day on Saturday afternoon 4th July, please come and support us, and enjoy this wonderful village event.

Harvest services will be held on Sunday 11th October 10.45am and 6.30pm. The morning service will be led by Revd Yanyan Case and the evening service led by Revd Andrew Webb. This is a wonderful country family service, and the chapel is always decorated so beautifully. Everyone is warmly welcome.

Harvest Auction will be held on Monday 12th October 7pm in the chapel; this is always a fun evening and a great opportunity to buy fresh locally grown vegetables & flowers and homemade cakes, jams & marmalade. All proceeds will be donated to The Rossendale Trust.

Our Parent & Toddler Group meets on a Tuesday morning 10am–11.30 am in the Parish Hall. Please contact Dawn Venables on 01477 571257 for more information.

Coffee Cake & Chat held in the chapel first Thursday of each month 10.30am – 12noon. Everyone is welcome to join us; just drop in for coffee & homemade cake. No charge.

Lower Withington Lunch Group held on the second Monday of the month at the Red Lion Lower Withington/Lower Withington Parish Hall whilst the Red Lion is under refurbishment 12 for 12.30pm. Please contact Anne Massey on 07957 370227 for more information.

CHELFORD & LOWER WITHINGTON CHURCH

Chelford Church to re-open for services! The building work is now nearing completion at both St John's Church Chelford and at St Peter's Church, Lower Withington. This means that our pattern of services will change with us now being able to hold services once again in Chelford Church. We hope that you will join us as we meet to worship God. Your presence at services and your practical and financial support will be needed to ensure that the church can continue for future generations.

Our 'Worship for All' services will continue to be held in Chelford Church of England Primary School.

Please look carefully at the Service Schedule for the pattern of services. These can also be found in the calendar on the Church website *www.clmruralchurches.org.uk.*

Our next service for Connecting Chelford will be held at The Hub on Tuesday 16 th June at 11:30am.

God bless Fiona
Rev'd Fiona Robinson

If you have any questions, please contact Rev'd Fiona Robinson 01625 860679 or fionarobinson61@btinternet.com

Services in Lower Withington

Sunday 21st June 2026 – The 3rd Sunday after Trinity
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion- St Peter's, Lower Withington
Sunday 19th July 2026 – The 7th Sunday after Trinity
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion - St Peter's, Lower Withington
Sunday 16th August 2026 - The 11th Sunday after Trinity
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion - St Peter's, Lower Withington
Sunday 30th August 2026 - The 13th Sunday after Trinity
10:30 a.m. Benefice Holy Communion - St Peter's, Lower Withington

LOWER WITHINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE – NEWS

Finally spring has arrived, and we've managed to get through the winter. It felt like a long haul at times! This is a special year for us, as the group is 80 this year having been founded in 1946.

February is always a slightly demotivating time of year, and we were pleased to welcome botanical artist Kate Dawes for an evening of 'drawing for wellbeing'. Kate demonstrated a range of different techniques using pen drawing, and we all managed to produce some impressive results! Some of us were sceptical that we'd be able to draw anything recognisable, but many of us surprised ourselves while others revealed unexpected talents.







Our March meeting was a popular one. While we love an interesting talk, it's always great to do a bit of 'hands on' and our demo/talk was about the art of sugarcraft. With the aid of a live demonstration and video tutorial, all of us succeeded in making a cute little teddy bear cake topper. Our competition for a 'favourite teddy bear' drew dozens of entries, and the prize went to a very stately Edwardian gentleman bear who was over 100 years old! It was also the debut of our new WI vase, decorated at our January meeting with the help of Cheshire Clay Studios. A perfect addition to the committee table for our 80th year, the vase will be making a regular appearance at meetings, filled with seasonal flowers. Each member designed a flower or leaf to add to the decoration, so it feels very personal.

In April, we welcomed farmer Rosie Lee for her talk 'The Reluctant Shepherdess'. Rosie took over her parents' dairy farm, left her career in banking and retrained as a sheep farmer. Her entertaining talk encompassed the highs and lows of farming, and we were all impressed with her energy and drive!

Future events include a visit from The Funky Choir in May, a talk on behalf of the North West Ambulance service in June and our ever-popular garden visit in July.
We meet at 7.30pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month at Lower Withington Village Hall. If you would like to consider becoming a member we'd love you to come along. You can join us as a guest at two meetings before making a decision on whether or not to join. There is more information on our website, www.LowerWithingtonWI.com or contact our new members secretary, Tracey Warrington, at *LowerWithingtonWI@gmail.com.* We look forward to meeting you.

Carol Hamilton
President

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

LOWER WITHINGTON WI
& EAST CHESHIRE HOSPICE FUNDRAISER

Cream Tea, Plants & Pre-loved Clothes Sale

Join us for a delightful afternoon of homemade cream teas, beautiful plants, and quality pre-loved clothing - all in support of our charities.

Enjoy a treat, find a bargain, and make a difference.



SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER
LOWER WITHINGTON VILLAGE HALL
2pm - 4pm
Advance Tickets £5 | On the Door £6
secretarylwwi2@gmail.com

LOWER WITHINGTON ROSE DAY – 4TH JULY 2026

The 4th of July and the next Rose Day celebration is fast approaching, please see our save the date poster for all the times.

Invitations are in the process of being sent out to all former Rose Queens to help make this an extra special occasion, hopefully a lot of these will be able to attend.

Don't forget there are a lot of other activities taking place, both in and around the arena. The very popular dog show is returning with classes for all your furry friends to enter. For the younger members, Ian will be entertaining children & there will hopefully be some children's races. For us more mature members, The Fish Lip Soup Big Band will be playing a number of musical favourites, see how many you remember. To remind us of that big tournament that's happening across in the Americas, there's a special game for budding footballers to test their shooting skills. All this plus the ever popular Hit the Bell, a Horse Shoeing demonstration, BBQ, Teas & Cakes and a Bar.

If you have any children who would like to join in the parade through the village, please contact us via LWRoseday@gmail.com or message myself on 07929 620321.

Carol Hamilton on behalf of Rose Day Committee

LOWER WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Spring Litter Pick on Saturday 25th April 2026, we really appreciated your help in keeping our beautiful village a cleaner and tidier place to live. Watch out for the next Litter Pick, advertised in our newsletter.

Councillor Vacancies

Are you able to give some of your knowledge and time to serve your local community by representing them on your Parish Council? If yes, here's how.

The Councillors on the Parish Council meet once a month to represent the views of the community and to influence local authority decisions on planning matters, highways safety and maintenance, public spaces and assets, and local authority services that affect our area. For further information, www.askyourcouncil.uk or www.commonslibrary.parliament.uk

If you are interested, please contact a current Parish Councillor by email (addresses on the inside back page of the Newsletter) to arrange a chat, or come to a Parish Council Meeting and express your interest.

Thank you to those who sent in photos for the Summer Newsletter, they were all lovely. Send us your pictures for the Autumn Newsletter – but remember, they must be taken in Lower Withington.

Parish Councillors	
Cllr Paul Duffy	*(Chairman) pd@lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk*
Cllr Alan Brocklehurst	*ab@ lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk*
Cllr Carol Hamilton	*ch@ lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk*
Cllr Patricia Chrisp	*pc@ lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk*
Cllr John Bradley	*jeb@ lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk*
Cllr Lester Grant	*lg@ lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk*
Cllr Amanda Pascoe	ap@lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk
Vacancy	
Gawsworth Ward Councillor CEC	*Cllr Lesley Smetham Lesley.smetham@cheshireeast.gov.uk*
Macclesfield MP	*Tim Roca Tim.roca.mp@parliament.co.uk*

Useful Contacts	
Cheshire Constabulary	Speak to an Officer Non-Emergency 101 https://www.cheshire.police.uk
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Cheshire East Council	General 0300 123 5500 Web: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk
Chelford Surgery	01625 861 316 Web: www.chelfordsurgery.co.uk/
Holmes Chapel Health Centre	01477 533 100 Holmeschapel.healthcentre@nhs.net
Jodrell Bank	01477 571 766 jodrellbank@manchester.ac.uk
Citizens Advice Bureau	08444 111 444
Samaritans	116 123 (Free)

Village Groups	
Parish Hall Committee & Bookings	07827 914146 01477 571413
Bowling Club	Andrew 07469 194168
Tennis Club	Lisa Kennerley 07766 762365 lkenners@gmail.com
WI	LowerWithingtonWI@gmail.com
Farmer's Ball Committee	David Venables 01477 571820 david@thehollies@aol.com
Jodrell Art Club	Andrew 07469 194168
Rose Day Committee	LWRoseday@gmail.com

Dates of future Parish Council meetings at Lower Withington Village Hall

Monday 29th June 2026
Monday 27th July 2026
Monday 28th September 2026
Monday 26th October 2026
Monday 30th November 2026
Monday 25th January 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027
Monday 22nd March 2027
Monday 26th April 2027
Monday 24th May 2027

Please send your photos for the Autumn newsletter by Saturday 15th August 2026 to newsletter@lowerwithington-pc.gov.uk

Lower Withington

75th Rose Day

Save the Date

Saturday 4th July 2026

****

Special Invitation

To all former Rose Queens

To join us as the procession makes its way through the village

(Former Queens to contact lwroseday@gmail.com if able to attend)

Starting at 1:30 p.m.

Children wishing to take part are to assemble
on the Methodist Chapel Car Park by1:15 p.m.

CROWNING OF THE ROSE QUEEN @ 2:00 p.m.

With introduction of former Rose Queens to follow

MAGIC SHOW

BIG BAND SHOW

DOG SHOW

(Prizes for Best in Class)

****

Traction Engines

Traditional Stalls, Games and Rural Activities

BBQ, Teas, Cakes and Bar

Entrance: ADULTS £2.50, CHILDREN Free