



# A stop–start year



Police Commendation Awards ceremony with Chief Constable Serena Kennedy and recipient Constable Hannah Sims

**MANY OF the 2021-22 High Sheriffs, including myself, are calling ourselves the ‘Hybrid HSS’. I rather like to refer to our year in another motoring analogy; I think we are the Stop–Start year.**

My Declaration took place on 21 April at home outside with six people gathered on our patio. Our plans for the original event had to be abandoned and then cancelled for a second time. I have just had the celebration event in early September.

The first four months have flown by and I wondered what I was doing in the second lockdown phase of the year and whether I was doing enough and also the right things, but I guess that is the same for all the incoming High Sheriffs.

As a port, Liverpool and Merseyside have many associations with the sea. There have been events commemorating Arctic convoys, the sinking of HMT *Lancastria* in 1940, and Merchant Navy Day. These and others are inspiring and memorable on a grand scale.

I have visited many community organisations which have carried out exceptional work in the pandemic – real heroes, one and all. I have worn my uniform a great deal and this is when I feel for my predecessor. Our year has been very fortunate to be able to go out and about and I even hosted a royal visit when this was not possible last year. There are many groups which still need thanking and congratulating for their work over the last 18 months.

My particular interest during my year is in the wellbeing of young carers. I have been able to act as convenor for a number of meetings of all interested parties. These organisations are all dedicated, experienced and keen to help young carers but as with so many things nowadays money is short. There is also a link with the prison service where young carers are thrown in at the deep end by a parent or parents being incarcerated.

Looking forward to the rest of the calendar year it appears to be getting busy. I suspect there is much bunching of events as organisations have not been able to hold them earlier and want to catch up. Several dinners have been postponed already this year and are now being rescheduled. For myself I have been to the enthronement of four bishops in the area and it is very positive to attend these important events.

Following the excellent promoting by the High Sheriffs’ Association I have been using a Twitter account and now have a few followers. It is an excellent way of praising and encouraging the groups I have visited. My skills are rudimentary but I am coming to think that this has been a great initiative of the Association and must be continued.

So in summary, we have had the ‘Stop’ and the ‘Start’ has come into play.

**✦ Nigel Lanceley DL**  
*High Sheriff of Merseyside 2021-22*



Presenting Roy Boardman, Director of the Palm House, to HRH The Princess Royal



With Under Sheriff, David Cam

**Below:** High Sheriff walking past A Case History (aka The Hope Street Suitcase) in Liverpool on his way to lunch after the Judges Service, Liverpool