

Halsall News

April 2021

HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Halsall Parish Council will take place on <u>Wednesday</u> 14th April 2021 at 7 pm using ZOOM and the agenda will be published on the www.halsallparish.com website at least 3 clear working days before the meeting is due to be held. Please see page 8.

May 2021 MAGAZINE

Closing date for Articles: Tuesday 19th April 2021

Contributions by Email only to Susan Roberts susanroberts2805@aol.com

Closing date for Adverts: Tuesday 19th April 2021 susanroberts2805@aol.com

All details in the magazine are correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to press.

WHY NOT ADVERTISE IN HALSALL NEWS?

FULL PAGE £32 per month (£234 per annum)
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There are 10 issues of Halsall News a year

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To advertise please contact Mrs Susan Roberts. 01704 897857 or susanroberts2805@aol.com



Halsall News can be viewed online at www.halsall-parish.com

PARISH	COUNCIL	LORS
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Patrick Bell	01704 840607
Neil Campbell	01704 566354
Brian Young	01704 840091
David Corfield	01704 840705
Raymond Brookfield	07771 798167
Sylvia Corfield	01704 840705
Elizabeth Wright	01704 562847
Lynn Campbell	01704 566354
Barry Assheton	07444 776451

Parish Clerk

Dave Bond 01704 534090

Borough Councillor

Maureen Mills 01704 840160 Surgery before Parish

Council monthly

meetings.

Chairman Vice Chairman

County Councillor

David O'Toole 01695 421056

THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL

	Parish mobile	07518 926086
	The Rev Ian Hopkins	07914 505437
Assistant Priest	The Revd Dr Alex Baker	07798 702831 01695 422306
Church Wardens	Stephen Henders Lynda Bramwell	01704 841085 01704 840280
Verger	Sarah Mitchell	01704 889237 07808 064996
P.C.C. Secretary P.C.C. Treasurer Organist	Edward Carr Colin Throp Edward Carr	01695 423817 01704 841281 01695 423817

POLICE CONTACT DETAILS

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, Darren Carr e-mail Darren.Carr@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

or alternatively Paul Austin who is the Community Beat Officer for Halsall at 1081@lancashire.pnn.police.uk (work mobile number 07966580004)

Residents should still phone 999 in an emergency and 101 to report a crime and obtain a crime incident number.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST.CUTHBERT, HALSALL

Parish Surgery

Phone: 0151 526 2292

Parish Mobile: 07518 926086

Email: stthomassteph@btinternet.com

<u>Parish Surgery</u>: Anyone wishing to arrange a Baptism or Wedding should ring the Parish Secretary to make an appointment. The phone number of the office is 0151 526 2292 and the office is staffed Monday-Wednesday 9.00am—1.00pm or you can email at:

stthomassteph@btinternet.com

<u>The Sick</u>: This parish is committed to the care of the sick. Names of those in need of this ministry, either at home or in hospital, should be given to the parish office on 07518 926086 or 0151 526 2292. The Blessed Sacrament (Holy Communion) is reserved in church and can be taken to the housebound or ill. Holy Oil is also kept for the anointing of the sick.

The Dying: Alex can be contacted at any time in order to minister to the dying on 07798 702831 or 01695 422306.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Gas Emergencies 0800 111 999

Electricity NW 105 or 0800 195 4141

United Utilities (water / flooding) 0345 672 3723 Flooding - Highway 0300 123 6701

Police Contact (non urgent) 101 **OR** 01695 566058

Local Police Officers or PCSO's 01695 566444

Street Lighting Fault Reporting Line 0300 123 6701

Fire Safety Helpline 0800 169 1125

April Letter, Rev. Glen Gardner Writes.



I can't believe as I sit writing this letter that Easter is here in a few weeks. Because despite lockdown we only just seemed to have put away the last of the Christmas decorations. However, the daffodils are out in force and we have just had Mother's Day, so spring is definitely here. I love watching the seasons change and I love the wonderful Christian festivals that the changing seasons usher in, and while despite lockdown I still loved Christmas for the fun and fellowship it brought on Zoom and for the joy of Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve in church; Easter has a totally different meaning for me and many other Christians. Firstly, Lent gives us the opportunity to reflect on our life and to look again at our relationship with God, we have a chance to make adjustments, to perhaps give something we enjoy up for a while and spend more time with God in Prayer, or perhaps this year to have joined our Wellbeing Lent Course.

It's nice in a way too this year that there isn't the same amount of consumerism that usually surrounds Easter and that this gives us a little more time to consider the spiritual side of Easter, the most important and holiest of the Christian Festivals. Easter is a wonderful and awe inspiring time when we remember the words of John 3:16.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Through Jesus' sacrifice, his death and resurrection we have been given the gift of eternal life. What a fantastic and amazing gift!

It's lovely isn't it to give or receive the gift of chocolate eggs at Easter? But, I'm sure like me you have noticed that each year those eggs get smaller and smaller and the contents change. Take Cadbury's cream eggs, I absolutely love them, so don't get me wrong, but they get smaller year by year, don't they? In contrast our God offers us a fantastic gift that doesn't diminish with the years, or change in substance. The love God shows us with his gift of eternal life cannot be bought like a chocolate egg, it is freely given. How good it would be if we could all this Easter at least once say a special thank you to Jesus, for his sacrifice and for giving us that eternal life, surely the greatest of all gifts.

Continued overleaf

Of course, we still don't know for certain when lockdown will end, but we do know that it will and of course we all have hope that it will come soon. We hope we will be out and about again, able to be with all our family and friends. We hope we will soon be able to meet for worship in person again. In fact, we all live in hope. The death and resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ, demonstrates the depth of His love for us and gives us renewed hope, both for now on earth and for eternal life in Heaven. Easter Sunday reminds us of the gift of Easter hope and love. Hope and love to support us through these difficult times, and lead us to new life that is richer, deeper and closer to God.

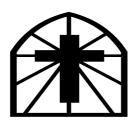
Have a very happy and blessed Easter, Glen.

Short Note: Sorry but at the time of writing this we are unable to confirm service details. We think everyone including Bishop Paul is awaiting further details from The Church of England. Glen.

The APCM (annual parochial church meeting) is being held on Zoom on Tuesday 27th April at 7.30 pm

This is open for all parishioners to attend.

Anyone who wishes to join the meeting please ring Edward Carr on 01695 423817 for the zoom access code.



Sunday Services in the United Benefice

All services are on zoom, please contact Reverend Alex or church office for access.

Our regular services continue on Zoom at 9.30am each Sunday morning.

Halsall St Cuthbert's CE School



Required for immediate start:

Welfare Assistant: 1 hour per day 12.00-1.00pm 5 days per week. £9.18 per hour (Living Wage)

Cleaner: 2 hours per day 4.00pm-6.00pm 5 days per week. £9.18 per hour (Living Wage)

All enquiries to Mr Scholes at Halsall St Cuthbert's CE School 01704 840253

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING

2021/0063/FUL - 72 New Cut Lane - Variation of Condition No 1 on Planning Permission 2020/0606/FUL relating to installation of Velux roof windows to rear plots 1-7 — The Parish Council is objecting to this application.

2021/0145/FUL - Land to The Rear Of 14a to 20, New Cut Lane - Variation of condition No.1 of planning permission 2018/0375/FUL, to vary the approved plans in respect of the proposed pedestrian walkway markings and signage along the access road, in lieu of a separate footpath as previously approved.

2021/0147/FUL - Rainbow Cottage, Carr Moss Lane - proposed internal re-modeling and demolition of attached rear store to form new open porch on extg footprint.

2021/0165/FUL - Land At Malt Kiln Cottage, Halsall Road - Erection of 4 no. semi-detached affordable dwellings including new access road - The Parish Council is objecting to this development.

2021/0176/FUL - Plex Lane Farm, Plex Lane - Proposed change of use of land and associated building(s) from equestrian to agricultural use.

2021/0232/FUL - 110 Renacres Lane - Proposed mono-pitched extension to the rear of the dwelling.

PARKING ALONG SUMMERWOOD LANE

Cars parking either side of Summerwood Lane at school times and when funerals and weddings are taking place at St Cuthbert's are causing an obstruction and prevent large vehicles, including the emergency services from passing through.

Please use the Memorial Hall car park whenever possible.

PARKING ON NEW STREET NEAR TO THE JUNCTION WITH CARR MOSS LANE

This is creating a dangerous situation for cars trying to turn out of Carr Moss Lane because their line of sight is obstructed and we would ask that people refrain from parking so close to the junction before a serious accident occurs.

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL continued

PARKING ON CARR MOSS LANE NEAR TO THE JUNCTION WITH LINEKAR DRIVE

The Parish Council would ask people to use some common sense when parking their cars and not to park so close to the junction as to restrict residents of Linekar Drive from being able to see oncoming cars approaching from both directions when exiting the drive.

PARKING ALONG SEGARS LANE

Cars double parking and parking on pavements are causing problems along Segars Lane. Can residents please park in their driveways if possible and leave enough room when parking on pavements to allow prams and wheelchairs to get through.

PARKING ALONG MOSS ROAD

Cars parking on pavements are causing problems along Moss Road. Can residents please park in their driveways if possible and leave enough room when parking on pavements to allow prams and wheelchairs to get through.

POLICE CONTACTS

<u>Darren.Carr@lancashire.pnn.police.uk</u> or alternatively Paul Austin who is the Community Beat Officer for Halsall at 1081@lancashire.pnn.police.uk (work mobile number 07966580004

Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 14th April 2021 at 7.00 p.m. using ZOOM.

A full list of Councillors and contact numbers can be found toward the front of the magazine.

The Parish Council Website www.halsallparish.com includes agendas and minutes of previous meetings.

News From Your Parish Council

The Government have now issued the regulations that give local authorities greater flexibility in the conduct of meetings, including allowing members to attend remotely, and for public and press access to those meetings. These 'Regulations' (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020) came into force on 4 April 2020.

The next meeting of Halsall Parish Council will therefore take place on Wednesday 14th April 2021 at 7 pm using ZOOM and the agenda will be published on the www.halsallparish.com website at least 3 clear working days before the meeting is due to be held.

Please note that until such time as Government advice changes the Council will continue to hold remote meetings.

Members of the public who wish to attend should follow the guidelines listed below.

Before the meeting:-

- 1. The Agenda will be placed on the website and on the notice board (if possible) as normal (i.e. with three clear days of notice).
- 2. Any member of the public and press who wishes to attend the meeting will need to download Zoom. Please visit https://zoom.us/meetings where you will be able to download the App. The website gives tutorials and demonstrations on how to download Zoom and how to join meetings.
- 3. The Clerk will put a link, on the website, to join the Zoom meeting by 5pm on the day of the meeting. The Clerk will also include the meeting ID and password. For the Planning Committee meetings the link will be posted by 5pm the evening before.
- 4. The Clerk will upload to the website the full set of papers (other than for the Planning Committee) to support the meeting the day before the meeting.

Continued overleaf

5. Members of the public are welcome (as usual) to send any questions or comments to the Clerk prior to the meeting via email to davebondhpc@aol.com or by calling the Clerk on 01704 534090. These must be received by 5pm on the day of the meeting. The Clerk will present any representations received to the Councillors to address.

The meeting:-

- 1. The Chair of the Council will Chair the meeting.
- 2. The Clerk of the Council will host the meeting on Zoom which will be recorded (please note that once the minutes have been approved at the next meeting the recording will be destroyed)
- 3. Members of the public will enter a "waiting room" on Zoom and wait for the Clerk to approve their attendance. It would be helpful if members of the public could "name their videos" so that the Chair and Clerk can refer to them correctly.
- 4. All attendees will be muted on entry to the meeting.
- 5. Members of the public will be able to make representation during the public forum.
- 6. Members of the public will be asked to "put their hand up" using the icon on Zoom if they wish to speak during the public forum.
- 7 The Clerk will "unmute" members of the public who wish to speak at the instruction of the Chair.
- 8. At the conclusion of the public forum the Clerk will "mute" all members of the public.
- 9. The required standards of behaviour and discussion are the same whether in remote or face-to-face meetings. Members of the public who use or display inappropriate or offensive language and/or behaviour will be removed from the meeting to the waiting room. This includes any inappropriate backdrops on display on the video.
- 10. The Council will discuss, via email, prior to the meeting any items which are considered sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and will advise, if appropriate, of the outcome of any discussions at the meeting.
- 11. The Clerk will end the ZOOM meeting once business has been concluded.

After the meeting

- 1. The Clerk will take the minutes of the meeting as usual.
- Members of the Council and the Clerk will review how the meeting went and may make some changes to the process if necessary.

Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Lancashire http://www.walkinginlancs.co.uk is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Lancashire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk

email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Halsall St Cuthbert Hub website

The website for the St Cuthbert Church community can be viewed at www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk

The website contains information about services and events, archive material including school reports, Halsall Parish Magazines dating from now and back to the 1800's,

information and other general news updates.

It also provides a link to *Virginmoneygiving.com* where it is possible to donate to us online. On the spot updates are also available via the Facebook page.

General enquiries about the site can be directed by e-mail to: info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk

SANCTUARY LIGHT

APRIL

19th

21st

23rd 27th

29th

1st	Rose Serjeant
1st	Nellie Balshaw Edwards
3rd	Keith Styling (Birthday)
3rd	Margaret Heaton (Birthday)
5th	Les Marshall (Birthday)
7th	Roger Baldwin (Birthday)
8th	Nellie Edwards (Birthday)
10th	Vera Styling (Birthday)
11th	John Banks (Birthday)
12th	Thomas Balshaw
13th	Joan Halsall
13th	Maureen Ainscough
14th	Jack Williams (Birthday)
17th	Angela Pilkington
17th	Brenda Helen Rhodes
17th	Edward Sumner

Florrie Pilling (Anniversary)

Gladys May Core (Birthday) Harriet Louise Rimmer (Birthday)

Lawrence Baldwin (Anniversary)

Catherine Bullough



Halsall's other patron saint.



In medieval times churches dedicated to a patron saint often had an effigy of their saint close to the main altar or in a side chapel. Halsall today has a statue of St Cuthbert in a crocheted niche on the left side of the altar as you view. This effigy is fairly recent and was installed after a visit by the Archdeacon of Liverpool Cyril Twitchett in the 1930's who thought that the empty stone niche should contain an effigy of the patron saint. It is thought that the original effigy was removed from the church during the Reformation. Some have suggested it may

now be found on the pulpit at Our Lady Roman Catholic Church in Lydiate. The image there is a medieval statue of a bishop in alabaster. Its dimensions are small and it is more likely that this image was removed from Lydiate chapel.

The image of St Cuthbert on the entrance to the porch in Halsall shows St Cuthbert with the head of Oswald the King of Northumbria. He became St Oswald and legend has it that when St Cuthbert's body was moved, to prevent it being captured by Vikings, they found the head of Oswald in the coffin with Cuthbert. The mission hall in Barton built in the 1880's was dedicated to St Oswald. It burnt down in 1965 but the stained glass, from Barton mission with Oswald's crest, was removed to the rector's vestry where it remains. There is also a small engraving in the glass on a north side window in the nave recalling the Barton mission.

Most churches also had a space dedicated to Mary the mother of Jesus Christ, she was the other patron saint and as such was venerated on a side altar. In cathedrals this was often a very elaborate Lady Chapel, in parish churches it might be a chantry chapel or a statue may be in a niche alongside the altar as it was for St Cuthbert. If you look closely at the stone work to the right of the altar you will see that different stones have replaced the originals in the wall at a height of about 1.7 metres almost replicating the dimensions of the carved and crocheted niche on the left. I have written before that Halsall church suffered only superficial damage due to iconoclasts after the Reformation in the 16th century. It cannot be proven now but a matching elaborately carved niche similar to that on the other side may have been destroyed and also the statue within. It is speculation as to whether this occurred at the Reformation or during Cromwell's Commonwealth.

In addition to a possible statue of Our Lady, a chantry chapel to St Mary the Virgin was founded by Sir Henry Halsall Knight and was located in the northern aisle, where now the candle offerings are made. The chapel became an important place to convey business and so in 1529 the boundaries between Downholland and Formby were sworn before the chapel of St Mary in Halsall church by local gentlemen, in front of notary Brian Garnett of Chester. Sir Henry died in 1523 and he lies in the tomb on the south side of the sanctuary. Money was left for the chantry priest Thomas Norris to say masses for his soul.

In 1529 Henry Orshaw of Lydiate complained that Thomas, the son of Henry Halsall had ousted him from his freeholding in Lydiate. The land had been bought in 1520 by Sir Henry Halsall and given to found the chantry in Halsall church. Chantry chapels were suppressed by Henrician reforms during the Reformation and the Chancellor Thomas Cromwell was anxious to get his hands on chantry legacies. At the dissolution, Halsall Church had to pay two pounds four shillings and eight pence to the Duchy of Lancaster for the chantry of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Halsall. However the chantry chapels were reinstated when Queen Mary 1st came to the throne in 1553 before being suppressed again under Elizabeth's 1st reign.

STEPHEN HENDERS

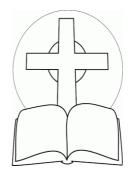
HALSALL FROM THE REGISTERS

FUNERALS

19th November Gordon Wright

2nd DecemberDorothea June Barton

29th January Jean Simpkin



Halsall St Cuthbert's Update



Return to School

It was so great for all the staff to see the children again and feel the buzz and excitement of a typical school day. Everyone returned with big smiley faces, none bigger though than many of the parents. The children had certainly missed playing with their friends.

In the three weeks up to the Easter break, staff concentrated on assessing the children and were busy administering a wide range of tests. These allowed us to identify specific children who will benefit from our intensive, catch-up intervention programmes in English and mathematics.

<u>Admissions</u>

All applications for a place in the reception class in September have been ranked using the agreed Admissions Criteria. The LEA should be contacting parents in early April with offers of places. If anyone wants their child to attend Halsall St Cuthbert's but isn't initially offered a place, please do not despair. Get in touch as soon as possible as we can sometimes be flexible.

Holidays

We are still waiting for confirmation from the government, as to whether residential PGL trips will be allowed in the summer term. We hope and pray that things continue to improve and we have positive news soon. Our year 4 and year 5 PGL trips will be great opportunities for the children to get away, ley their hair down and have a great time.

Similarly, we are awaiting news from the Welsh government about the opening its tourism and leisure activities. We desperately hope to be able to take our year 6 children on holiday to Llandudno in June.

Thankyous

On behalf of the governors and parents, I would like to say a massive thankyou to the teachers and their teaching assistants who worked tirelessly throughout the latest lockdown period. The quality of planning, the preparation of learning materials and their support both online and on the telephone, was second to none. On behalf of the governors and staff, I would also like to say a thank you to the children's parents, carers and their families, many of whom have been heavily involved in supporting the children with their remote learning. This was an immense challenge in so many ways and without that commitment, the children wouldn't have been so well-prepared for the return to school.

Out-of-Hours Provision

Our wrap-around childcare provision is already in full swing, with the Breakfast Club open from 7-30am each morning and the After-School Club open from 3-30pm until 5-30pm each afternoon. When we return after the Easter holidays, we will also resume our after-school sports clubs and there should be activities/clubs on each night through the summer term.

Doug Scholes (Head Teacher)

On the following pages are some impressive examples of work by some of the children at Halsall St Cuthbert's School.

The written pieces were all beautifully handwritten but due to concerns about how clearly they could be reproduced in the magazine the children word processed them ready for publication. Thank you for sharing your work with us.

Susan Roberts

Should Animals be Kept in Zoos?

Some people believe zoos are bad for animals as it takes them away from their natural habitat to be stuck in a cage, bored. Other people believe zoos are a lovely day out with your family.

On one hand, zoos are good for animals. For example, animals get provided with food so they don't die. Another reason is, if the animals get hurt or sick, they have 24-hour access to the vet. Furthermore, zoo keepers are specially trained to look after the animals. Finally, it gives a chance for children and adults to see animals up close.

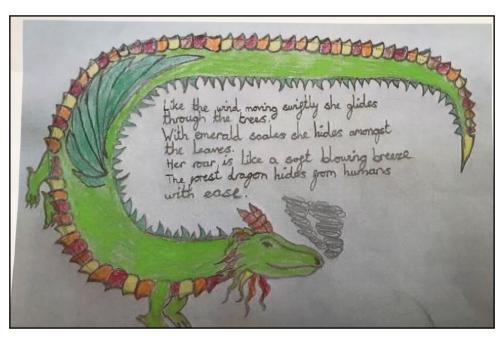
On the other hand, animals may get bored. Because of Covid, the zoos have been closed so the animals are stuck in cages all day. Also, animals are not in their natural habitats or with their families. Another argument against is, children and adults might harm the animals by throwing food and wrappers. My last reason is, zoos may close with Covid because they're not getting paid money so animals will have nowhere to go as they can't be released into the wild.

In conclusion, there are many reasons for and against zoos. Animals are kept in cages all day with nothing to do when they could be playing outside with their families. I believe zoos are bad for animals because they might not like staying in cages without their mum or family.

By Miley Potter, Year 4.



Two pieces of work by Sydney Carpenter, Year 6.



Should Breakdancing be an Olympic Sport?

Considerable debate is taking place about whether breakdancing should be included in the Olympic games in Paris, 2024. Breakdancing originated in New York, USA around the late 1960's. Dancing to the popular music, "hip hop", the moves evolved into a unique dance style, including actions such as "the worm", "helicopter" and "coffee grinder". Some people believe that as it is popular around the world, it should be granted the title of an Olympic event. This text will consider both sides of the argument.

On one hand, breakdancing is a good sport and is popular around the world. If it was included, more younger people would want to join the Olympics and take part in breakdancing. It makes the Olympics more relevant and modern, which would encourage more people to join. A further point is that it's great exercise and can get youngsters and other people to get active and fit. There is no doubt that anyone and everyone could breakdance if they wanted to. It is fun, cheap and you don't need expensive equipment to do it. Furthermore, you can do it anywhere and everywhere. You can have fun doing it, save your money, get active and join the Olympics. What more could you want?

On the other hand, a considerable amount of people who breakdance don't want the sport in the Olympics because they say the people overseeing it don't understand its culture and history. They know the sport very well and have been doing it a long time, so for people who see it for the first time, they would feel that the people watching wouldn't know if they went wrong or if it was perfect. Moreover, it can be dangerous and lots of people get injured whilst trying all the different moves. The Olympic games' organisers wouldn't want to get first aid every time someone did the move wrong. Finally, if breakdancing was introduced to the Olympic games, it could take the place of a more traditional sport -which has been here for longer- and that's not fair on the athletes doing the traditional sport that's been replaced by breakdancing.

Written by Imagen Cringle: Year 6

Treasure Island Summary

Chapter 5

Early the next morning, as daylight breaks, the sun reveals an island of no paradise, instead, treasure island appears to be a grey, grim and ghastly place of withering trees and barren terrain. Out of the sea, Captain Smollett, Squire Trelawney, Doctor Livesey and the three faithful sailors were escaping from the Hispaniola, desperately rowing towards the island. Meanwhile, Jim (who had hidden in another rowing boat the night before, which was taken to shore by some of the pirates) had now safely sneaked off and was already exploring the island. Hearing gunshots, he looks down at the shore seeing the others fleeing for their lives, then, all of a sudden, from behind his back, a savage looking old man with a frenzied look in his eyes, jumps out. With a club raised in one hand he asks if Jim is a pirate. Relieved to hear that Jim is not a pirate, Ben Gunn introduces himself and tells his story to the boy. Once a sailor for Long John Silver and Captain Flint, he had buried treasure on the island, having returned years later, promising a new crew of the treasure, he failed to find it and was marooned as punishment. But before he could reveal more, a cannon ball was fired and Ben Gunn was gone. Jim looked into the distance and saw a Union Jack flying; the others were alivel

Written by Jaspa Moss-Langridge: Year 5

Gardener's Corner

April at-a-glance

April is the month when the blossom is out in force with everything from flowering cherries to garden fruit trees all making a beautiful show. Mild April weather can make you think summer is here but sharp frosts can still catch you out. Be careful not to plant out tender plants yet unless you can cover with fleece. Enjoy mild sunny days – spring is just around the corner. Happy Gardening.

General Garden Tasks

Spring clean borders, keep on top off weeding & hoeing.

Feed roses, borders, hedges, trees & shrubs with a general-purpose fertiliser.

Treat moss & weeds & re-seed bare patches.

Plant or move evergreen shrubs.

Feed acid loving plants.

Prune winter jasmine and hydrangea; tie in shoots of rambling roses & clematis. Wait for six weeks (if you can) after flowers of spring bulbs are over before cutting foliage down.

Towards the end of the month, plant dormant dahlia tubers outside.

Plant new alpines & top up scree beds or troughs with gravel.

Continue to sow hardy annuals outside.

Pot up cuttings of tender perennials taken last year.

Tidy up hedges & clip if necessary.

Plant first early, second early & maincrop potatoes.

Plant asparagus crowns & clobe artichokes.

Harvest the first overwintered spring onions.

Sow hardy herbs (parsley, chervil, coriander, fennel, dill & marjoram.

Plant strawberries.

Plant & tie-in a new grapevine.

Prune stone fruit trees if necessary.

Ventilate the greenhouse on sunny days but close it early to retain the heat at night.

Top-dress & take cuttings from big old plants.

Spring clean the pond.

Divide overgrown plants & put in new water plants.

Towards the end of the month start feeding your fish.

Watch out for

Slugs & snails on newly emerged perennials & vegetable seedlings.

Plants in their Prime

Flowering cherries. Prunus. Crab apples. Magnolia. Spiraea. Ribes. Doronicum. Pulmonaria. Pieris. Tulips. Fritiiaria. Primula. Viburnum. Brunnera. Camellia. Mahonia. Magnolia stellata. Bergenia. Hellebores. Lamium. Polygonatum. Viola. Iris reticulate. Trillium. Erythronium. Bellis daisies. Ranunculus. Winterflowering pansies. Arabis. Aubrieta. Phlox. Saxifraga. Scilla.

Tina Lloyd <u>www.mosshousecottageplants.co.uk</u>



Ormskirk & District Lions

Lions Paint a Pebble Competition

In memory of Hugh Jones

Pick up a stone and entry form from Massams Garden Centre Renacres Lane or ring Jenny or any Lion you may know.

And start painting, forms are on sale at Steve Massam's. £1 for entry form, includes your stone or stones depending how many entries you require.

The competition will be judged on May 1st 2021 at Aughton Village Hall from 2.30 pm till 4pm. All winners will be notified by 8th May 2021.

On the entry form you will notice there are 1 to 7 categories you will need to pay for each chosen category.

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Any questions please contact Jenny on 01704 840117



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I run a jigsaw club from my home in Scarisbrick. I have over 200 jigsaws available to lend out which has proved very popular during lockdown. I read that the virus can stay on cardboard for 24 hours so all jigsaws are quarantined for 72 hours before being lent out. Being close to the Morris Dancers, I am well positioned for people to swap jigsaws on their journey to/from hospitals/shops.

Its free to join and free to borrow. We just ask for a donation of a jigsaw then you can borrow and return as many jigsaws as often as you like. I have done over 60 jigsaws since lockdown began so it has saved many of us a lot of money. I have attached the link below.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1526267210867010

If anyone has any jigsaws they could donate, I will happily collect. Thank you.

Sue Charnock



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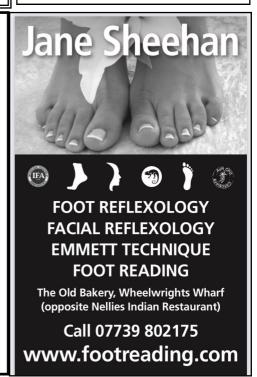


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Covering all areas







It's been great to have the magazine back in print this month.

I would like to wish you all a very safe, healthy and

Happy Easter.



Susan Roberts

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA



4th Apr	E Banks	N Donaldson S Roberts	M Webster M Cheetham	L Wilkinson
18th Apr	M Mills	K Twist R Fishlock	C Moss	N Fish
2nd May	P Carr	E Houlgrave A Webster	E Carr A Aynsley	A Grimshaw

** This is a provisional list and is subject to change. Please check with church officials. **

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