

# Halsall News



Photo Brian Roberts

**February 2021**

## **HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

The next meeting of Halsall Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7 pm using ZOOM and the agenda will be published on the [www.halsallparish.com](http://www.halsallparish.com) website at least 3 clear working days before the meeting is due to be held. Please see page 10

### ***March 2021 MAGAZINE***

**Closing date for Articles: Tuesday 23rd February 2021**

**Contributions by Email only to Susan Roberts  
[susanroberts2805@aol.com](mailto:susanroberts2805@aol.com)**

**Closing date for Adverts: Tuesday 23rd February 2021  
[susanroberts2805@aol.com](mailto:susanroberts2805@aol.com)**

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

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**Please note that all advertisements must be paid for prior to being included in the magazine.**

**To advertise please contact Mrs Susan Roberts.  
01704 897857 or [susanroberts2805@aol.com](mailto:susanroberts2805@aol.com)**



**Halsall News can be viewed online at  
[www.halsall-parish.com](http://www.halsall-parish.com)**

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

|                    |              |               |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Patrick Bell       | 01704 840607 | Chairman      |
| Neil Campbell      | 01704 566354 | Vice Chairman |
| 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. |
|---------------|--------------|---|

### County Councillor

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| David O'Toole | 01695 421056 |
|---------------|--------------|

## THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL

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

## POLICE CONTACT DETAILS

**Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, Darren Carr e-mail**

[Darren.Carr@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Darren.Carr@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

or alternatively Paul Austin who is the Community Beat Officer for Halsall at  
[1081@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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](mailto:stthomassteph@btinternet.com)

**Parish Surgery:** 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](mailto:stthomassteph@btinternet.com)

**The Sick:** 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 <b>OR</b> 01695 566058 |
| Local Police Officers or PCSO's      | 01695 566444               |
| Street Lighting Fault Reporting Line | 0300 123 6701              |
| Fire Safety Helpline                 | 0800 169 1125              |

## **Candlemas & Coronavirus**

For thousands of years, throughout the world, lighting a candle has been used as a symbol of prayer and holiness. We light a candle for many reasons: to illuminate darkness, to celebrate, to dedicate prayers, to help us remember, to offer blessings, and to give thanks.

As I write this letter we approach the ancient festival of Candlemas. The name conjures images of beautiful, peaceful, candle-lit services and the holy spaces we miss. In many ways the festival is beautiful. It is also linked to some ideas that have strong voice for us today.



Candlemas is also now referred to as 'The Presentation of Christ in the Temple'. The 40-day old infant Jesus was taken by his parents Joseph and Mary to the temple to be offered to God. Jesus' parents were doing their duty and going to quite some effort to follow the customs of their time. What they were doing does resonate with some of our ideas of Christening, where parents and godparents promise to dedicate the upbringing of a child to God but it was not Jesus' baptism, that came later. The tradition they were observing was to offer the 'first-fruits', the best of what they had to God. Whether it was grain or corn arriving after the harvest, or children after pregnancy and childbirth, the custom was to turn to God in thanks. There is a sense of deliverance from risk and the purpose (it seems to me), was to cultivate a grateful heart to focus attention on the blessing rather than the risk. The importance of it being the first child or 'first-fruits' is that this only really works if we offer our very best to God. If we give thanks as an after-thought or give to God out of our left-overs it doesn't cultivate the same gratitude in our hearts. By focusing on a right relationship with God we cultivate grateful hearts and that at the same time looks after our own well-being.

Joseph and Mary met Simeon and Anna at the temple. At evening prayer every day we recite the Nunc-Dimitis, the song of Simeon "Now Lord lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word. For my own eyes have seen thy salvation." In Luke's Gospel we hear that Simeon (whose name means 'the one who receives God') was a Holy man who had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.

On seeing Jesus his hope was fulfilled and he rejoices that his life's journey is complete. A wonderful image and one that links a grateful heart to the hope found in Jesus. In-fact for Simeon nothing else mattered at all. All the trials, and joys of life find their completion in Jesus. The elderly prophet Anna, responds in a very similar way, on seeing Jesus her heart is full of joy and she responds by sharing that joy with all those around her.

There is a second aspect to their visit, the 'purification of Mary'. This needs to be thought about carefully or we run the risk of saying or thinking things we don't mean. Biblical concepts of impurity are often linked to sickness and disease and the punishment of God. What I see when I read these things is a developing understanding of what makes us unwell, and specifically contagion. We now understand that Mary was in no way contagious, and we understand infectious disease to be the result of exposure to germs. To a society that had no knowledge of Lister's germ theory of disease, pregnancy and childbirth was a time associated with the risk of sickness and indeed death. The 'purification' of Mary was a celebration that that risk had come to an end. Perhaps in this there is also a faint hint of an idea about duty and doing what was understood to be required (even if it was wrong) to keep others safe from disease. How we long for that same deliverance, how many of us have prayed for an end to our current situation? Yes we hope for vaccines, treatment and medical interventions that help, but so to we still pray for the same deliverance.

Simeon and Anna, Mary and Joseph all have their attention firmly fixed on cultivating a right relationship with God and with that cultivating thankful and grateful hearts. Living in right relationship with God means celebrating life's joys and sorrows within that relationship. They celebrate the arrival of hope in their encounter with Jesus and with that they find mechanisms for looking after their own mental health during testing times. By focusing their attention on Jesus, on hope, their attention is drawn away from the socially awkward conception and birth and the process of 'purification' brings healing.

We too live in testing times and can find hope and healing in Jesus this Candlemas. During the festival the priest traditionally offers the candles to be used in the church that year and prays for God's blessing. The candles symbolise God's presence with us. They link us with the hope of the arrival of Jesus, the hope of the people of Israel, the hope of Simeon and Anna and all Christ's pilgrim people.

The traditional prayers of blessing ask for God's blessing and protection, they ask that through Jesus the brightness of the candles illuminate the darkness of our hearts and minds, and that we are filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit. They bring us light and hope. Perhaps too there is a sense of renewal, refreshment and new beginnings. A fresh batch of candles bring a new start to worship in the temple. Lighting a candle has become our habit at the start of our Zoom worship, reminding us of God's presence with us in our homes. We too can use this occasion to recommit ourselves to developing that right relationship with God, giving thanks to God for our blessings, for his presence in our midst, so that our hearts and minds are transformed and we can offer our very best to God. Most of all we can rejoice in the light and hope that Jesus brings.

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you,

**Alex**

*Lord God, the source of everlasting light,  
pour into the hearts of your faithful people,  
the brilliance of your eternal splendour, that we,  
who by these candles light up our homes to your glory,  
may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,  
and so be counted worthy to stand before you,  
in that eternal city where you live and reign,  
Father Son and Holy Spirit  
one God, now and forever.  
Amen*

## **NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

### **PLANNING**

2020/1163/FUL - 110 Renacres Lane - Proposed mono pitched extension to rear of dwelling and open fronted porch to gable end

2020/1088/FUL - East Crantum Farm, New Cut Lane - Retrospective change of use of agricultural buildings (approved under planning permission 2006/0162 and 2009/1293/FUL) to mixed use of agriculture and B8 (storage and distribution) uses.

### **2021/22 PRECEPT**

The Parish Council Resolved at the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 that the precept for 2021/22 be set at £17,418 with a tax base of £860.69. This gives a band D equivalent Tax Level of £20.24 which is an increase of 3.13% on the previous year.

### **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.

### **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.



## **NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL continued**

### **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.

### **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 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](http://www.halsallparish.com) includes agendas and minutes of previous meetings.

### **Halsall St Cuthbert Hub website**

The website for the St Cuthbert Church community can be viewed at [www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk](http://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](mailto:info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk)

## **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 10th February 2021 at 7 pm using ZOOM and the agenda will be published on the [www.halsallparish.com](http://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.
2. Members of the Council and the Clerk will review how the meeting went and may make some changes to the process if necessary.

The Halsall Post Office is  
open 2-4.30pm on Monday and  
Thursday afternoons at :-

**Massams Supplies Ltd  
Renacres Hall Farm  
Renacres Lane  
Halsall  
L39 8SE**

**Tel: 01704 840265**



On behalf of myself and my family, it was a great comfort to receive so many messages of sympathy and love after we received the devastating news of losing Joseph at just 20 years of age . Philip, Joanna, Daniel and myself would like to thank everyone.

Please try to keep safe and well in 2021.

Thank you Ann Marshall

Shirdley Hill Village Green is a beautiful space in Halsall.  
It is so because of the efforts of just a few dedicated people.

For their hard work almost every week of the year a big thanks should be given to Alan and Vinny of Shaw's Garth plus Joe and David of Renacres Lane.  
Also, those ladies of this area who tend to the beautiful bedding plants.

I'm sure the residents of Shirdley Hill are most grateful to them for their selfless efforts in brightening our coveted green space.

Thank you,  
Barry Kirby

## TOP TIPS TO HELP YOU STAY HEALTHY AND WELL THIS WINTER...

### **A** Ask for help

If you're struggling with your mental or physical health, ask for help from your GP or mental health services.

### **B** Blood pressure

Keep your blood pressure low to protect you from heart attacks and strokes.

### **C** Covid

Remember Hands, Face, Space. Got symptoms? Get a test and self-isolate.

### **D** Diet

Eat a healthy and balanced diet.

### **E** Exercise

Try and get out for a 20-minute walk every day.

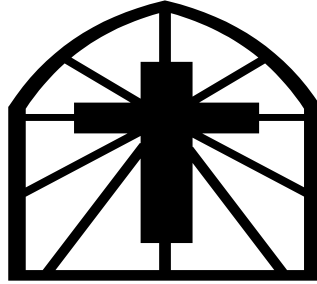
### **F** Flu jab

If you're entitled to a flu jab on the NHS, get it done.

Look after each other this winter and share these tips with your family, loved ones and neighbours.



**#WESTLANCSWINTERREADY**



## **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.**

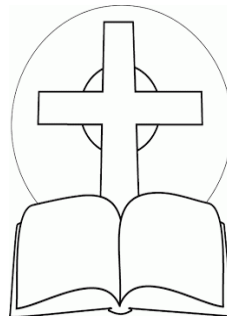
## **HALSALL FROM THE REGISTERS**

### **FUNERALS**

**19th November**  
Gordon Wright

**2nd December**  
Dorothea June Barton

**29th January**  
Jean Simpkin



# ENGLAND LOCKDOWN

# STAY AT HOME

**THE NEW STRAIN OF CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING FAST.  
WE ALL NEED TO PLAY OUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD.**

## ▶ LEAVING HOME

You must not leave, or be outside of your home or garden, except for a very limited set of exemptions e.g. to shop for basic necessities, exercise, go to work if you cannot do so from home, or to escape risk of harm.

## ▶ MEETING OTHERS

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone, except with your household or support bubble (if eligible to form one). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

## ▶ EXERCISE

You may exercise on your own, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household (when on your own). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

## ▶ BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS

Hospitality closed aside from sales by takeaway (until 11pm), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Alcohol cannot be purchased through takeaway or click-and-collect from hospitality venues.

## ▶ RETAIL

Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.

## ▶ WORK AND BUSINESS

Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.

## ▶ EDUCATION

Early years settings open. Primary and secondary schools and colleges move to remote provision except for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Most university students to move to remote learning.

## ▶ LEISURE AND SPORTING FACILITIES

Closed, with limited exceptions.

## ▶ ACCOMMODATION

Closed, with limited exceptions.

## ▶ PERSONAL CARE

Closed.

## ▶ ENTERTAINMENT

Closed.

## ▶ OVERNIGHT STAYS

You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.

## ▶ WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Weddings up to 6 people permitted in exceptional circumstances. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events of up to 6 permitted.

## ▶ PLACES OF WORSHIP

Places of worship can remain open and communal worship is permitted, but you must not mix with those outside your household or support bubble.

## ▶ TRAVELLING

You must stay at home. If you do leave home for a very limited set of exemptions, you should stay local in the village, town, or part of the city where you live where possible. Do not travel abroad unless an exemption applies.

## ▶ CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE

Shielding reintroduced across England. You should not travel to work, school, college or university and should limit the time you spend outside the home. You should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential.

## ▶ CARE HOME VISITS

Visits can take place with arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, or behind windows. Close-contact indoor visits are not allowed. No visits will be permitted in the event of an outbreak but end of life visits are permitted in all circumstances.

**STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES**

For more information go to:  
**[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)**



## **MARCH**

- 11th Sarah Prescott
- 11th Amy Florence Williams
- 11th Robert Heaton
- 12th Sarah Critchley
- 14th George Gaskell  
(Birthday)
- 15th Alice Webster (Birthday)
- 16th William Balshaw  
(Birthday)
- 17th Frederick Moorcroft  
(Birthday)
- 17th John Webster (Birthday)
- 19th John Morris (Birthday)
- 27th Richard Yule (Birthday)
- 27th Elizabeth Rhodes  
(Birthday)
- 28th Dennis Knowles  
(Birthday)
- 31st Norman Harlow  
(Birthday)

On the following page are two photographs of the altar at St Cuthbert's.

The carpet in the Choir and Altar area is being replaced.

So for a short while the old tiles can be seen in full.

They have not been fully visible for 46 years.

Thank you to Norman Rigby for the photographs.





Photographs by Norman Rigby



# **School Update : February 2021**

## **Sudden Lockdown**

The staff had all been in school for an INSET day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Classrooms were all sanitised, spotless and ready, equipment all set up, curriculum planning done, resources all in-place and worksheets photocopied, etc. When the staff left at 4-00pm all was well. We were looking forward to welcoming the children back and learning all about their fantastic Christmas and what presents they'd received.



By 8-00pm all was changed and with only a few hours' notice, Halsall like all other schools, was expected to commence remote learning and provide key worker sessions in school the very next morning. It's hard to understand why this massive decision was made so late and in most cases, a whole day after most schools had actually re-opened. Maybe action prompted by a spike in infection data or was it a lack of planning, foresight and consultation?

## **Staff**

That said, I must congratulate the staff (teachers, assistants, admin, cleaners and welfare) who in the face of such a late and enormously disruptive government U-turn, rose to the occasion. Their commitment and expertise enabled both the remote learning and the key worker provision to be established promptly and with little if any fuss.

## **Children**

And I must congratulate the children too. We have been amazed by how enthusiastic and determined the vast majority of our children are. We see considerable pride in the work that they complete and return every day. It makes the efforts of staff all worthwhile and hopefully it'll help to reduce the impact of so many school days lost.

## **Parents**

And it wasn't only the staff and children who had to adapt quickly to the implications of the new national lockdown. What about the parents? They have been absolutely amazing with the way they have stepped-up and supported their children at home. Many have had several children's work to monitor and many have actually been supporting whilst working from home. This is above and beyond and they deserve a gold star.

Most parents have established daily routines, helped with accessing activities (stories/videos/worksheets, etc) clarified exactly what to do if needed, sent back evidence of work and communicated regularly with the staff. This commitment was essential if the remote learning was to be a success and it has been, though it's still early days yet. Long may it continue and thanks again to the parents.

### **Remote Learning**

The children access remote learning with support from the parents, through their PCs, laptops, tablets and mobile phones. They follow a daily programme of activities and can return work through our school website and DOJO platforms. Work is checked, marked, frequently commented on and returned by staff. An accurate record of all work completed, is maintained. Teaching staff and their assistants, are on-hand throughout the day to respond to questions and offer advice. In addition, they are supporting the key workers children in school, they are planning new activities, making explanatory videos, accessing video clips, devising worksheets, etc, all ready to upload as the next day's work.

### **Key Worker Provision**

At present, we have nearly 40 families registered for the key worker provision. The sessions start at

9-00am and the children are collected at 3-30pm. The number attending each day ranges from 20 to 36.

Children wear their normal school uniform unless it's a PE day. The children follow the exact same curriculum as those non-key worker children who are accessing the remote learning from home.

### **Health and Safety**

The school has well established routines to inhibit the spread of the virus. The children that attend stay in their class bubbles, lunches are taken in the classrooms, there are no collective assemblies, social distancing is strongly encouraged and there is frequent washing of hands and use of sanitising gel.

### **Future**

At the time of writing, we have no idea of when the lockdown will end and schools will return. We desperately hope that it's sooner rather than later. We want the children back. The staff miss them dreadfully. Thankfully the key worker children help to keep our spirits up.

We pray that the situation will improve and we'll soon see the end of this Covid nightmare. Never again should we take our livelihoods and our health and well-being for granted. Take care and stay safe.

**Doug Scholes (Head Teacher)**

## **Gardener's Corner**

### **March at-a-glance**

Remember the old rhyme about March winds & April showers? – Adding, a sharp frost can still catch you out but, the sun often shines this month and when it does you can almost see the new gardening season gathering steam daily. Happy Gardening.

### **General Garden Tasks**

Spring clean the garden – fork over the soil in borders, weed & mulch, & dig up & divide overcrowded perennials.

Remove weeds & moss on paths & drives.

Deal with worm casts & molehills.

Make the first lawn cut if dry enough.

Redefine lawn edges.

Lay turf before the end of the month if not done in autumn.

Plant pot-grown shrubs, roses & climbers.

Prune modern bush roses, vigorous climbing roses, dogwoods & willows.

Tidy up patio roses, ground cover roses & shrub roses.

Moves deciduous trees & shrubs & plant new bare-root plants.

Renovate overgrown climbers.

Tidy up rock garden, alpine screes & sink gardens.

Sow wildflowers & hardy annuals.

Divide snowdrops 'in the green'.

Scrub or pressure-wash patio slabs.

Prepare soil, then sow lettuce, rocket, radishes, spring onions, leeks, broad beans & peas.

Plant onion sets & shallots.

Plant early potatoes grown in pots undercover; plant outdoors at the end of the month.

Sow hardy herbs & plant & divide perennial herbs.

Plant rhubarb, pot-grown fruit trees & bushes & strawberry plants.

Prune standard apple & pear trees before the buds burst into growth.

Hand-pollinate peaches, nectarines & apricots & protect early blossom with fleece.

Sow tomatoes, chillies, sweet-peppers, aubergines & half-hardy annuals under glass.

### **Watch out for**

Slugs, snails, woodlice & greenfly under glass.

Mice in sheds & greenhouses.

On cold nights cover vulnerable plants with fleece.

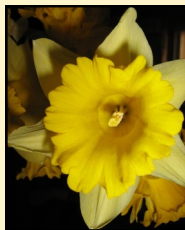
### **Plants in their Prime**

Daffodils. Crocus. Lily-of-the-valley. Tulips. Magnolia stellata. Chaenomeles.

Forsythia. Camellias. Amelanchier Lamarckian. Aubrietia. Primula. Wallflowers.

Cornus. Azara. Spiraea. Skimmia japonica. Viburnum tinus. Jasmine. Scilla.

Garrya. Clematis 'Freckles'. Malus. Scilla



**Tina Lloyd** [www.mosshousecottageplants.co.uk](http://www.mosshousecottageplants.co.uk)



## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 at Aughton Village Hall from 2.30 pm till 4pm. All winners will be notified by 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

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

**Sponsored by Milano's Café, Raela K Art Work and Massams Garden Centre.**

Any questions please contact Jenny on 01704 840117





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davebond@aol.com**

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**Contact Mr Scholes at School**

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# HELPING CHILDREN IN WEST LANCS

Parents and carers have done really well looking after children during the Coronavirus pandemic. We want to support you to enable you to continue. It is important to us that you know where to turn if your child is unwell or you need advice.

## GP practice

GPs are working together and using phone/video consultations where possible. Call your normal practice phone number.

## Self help

Search NHS Choices for a guide to managing minor illnesses in children. For advice for young children refer to Institute of Health Visiting [www.iHV.org.uk/](http://www.iHV.org.uk/) ParentingCOVID19 or contact your health visitor on the advice line 0300 247 0040 Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm

## Urgent care

Ormskirk Urgent Treatment Centre in Ormskirk and Walk-in Centre in Skem are open 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm for minor injuries and illnesses. You will need to make an appointment for your child to be seen. All appointments must be pre booked by calling 01695 402 180. You can also be directed here by your GP or 111 who will arrange for an appointment.

## Mental Health

Mental Health 24/7 Crisis Line (all ages) 0800 953 0110. CAMHS 01695 684 262 Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm, weekends 10am – 6pm. Kooth a safe and anonymous online counselling and support service for 10 – 16 year olds [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com). Health Young Minds provides a range of advice/guidance to children and young people [www.healthierlsc.co.uk/children-and-young-people/information/children-and-young-people](http://www.healthierlsc.co.uk/children-and-young-people/information/children-and-young-people)

## Children's A&E

open from 8am – 10pm 7 days a week. All patients requiring an ambulance after 10pm will be diverted to Alder Hey.

## Dental

Contact your dentist in the normal way or call the Lancashire Dental Helpline 0300 1234 010 if you don't have a dentist.

## 111

Call 111 for any urgent treatment

## ADHD

self referrals welcome via [www.adhdnorthwest.org.uk](http://www.adhdnorthwest.org.uk)

## Medicines

Keep stocked up with commonly used over the counter children's medicines by visiting your local pharmacy. Your pharmacist can also give you advice on treatments for minor illness or injury.

## GP Out of Hours

Call 111 who can arrange for you to speak to your out of hours GP service.

## Immunisations

If your child is due to have a routine vaccination such as the 6-in-1 vaccine, MenB or HPV please speak to your GP practice. It's important that you keep these appointments.

**Social media** – Search West Lancs CCG on Twitter and Facebook for latest updates

## West Lancs Together Corona Care

If you are unable to rely on family or friends for practical support whilst self-isolating West Lancs Together can help

Free-phone helpline  
0800 616 667



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# Digital



# Resources

Our churches have a website, a Facebook page and a Twitter feed. Hopefully they will provide a gateway to those that already exist and an information resource for those wanting more information about our churches. Weekly Newsletters and service times should be uploaded regularly. If you are interested, please sign up to the Facebook group and Twitter feed. You might also like to make suggestions for content on our website and please let me know any errors you spot!



[www.tsncs.church](http://www.tsncs.church)



Our new website provides links to the existing websites and the Church or England 'A Church Near You' Websites.



[Search for](#)  
[@tsncschurches](#)



**The following websites are also recommended:**

[www.pray-as-you-go.org](http://www.pray-as-you-go.org) – a Jesuit resource of Daily Prayer set to music you can listen to.

[www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-daily-prayer](http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-daily-prayer) - C of E daily prayer  
[www.churchofengland.org/lent](http://www.churchofengland.org/lent) - C of E daily reflections for Lent

# HALSALL DIRECTORY OF TRADES AND SERVICES

|   |   |
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| <b>ANIMAL CARE:</b> Carr Moss Boarding Kennels and Cattery 01704 840384   | <b>JEWELLERS:</b> Christopher Diggle Jewellers. 18, Westway Maghull. 0151 306 6225 <a href="http://www.christopherdiggle.com">www.christopherdiggle.com</a>       |
| <b>ANIMAL CARE:</b> Talley wags Pet sitting and dog walking etc. 01704 550154 or visit <a href="http://www.talleywagspetsitting.co.uk">www.talleywagspetsitting.co.uk</a>   | <b>MONUMENTAL STONEMASONS:</b> Ormsby Memorials 01704 880294 or e-mail <a href="mailto:memo@ormsby.co.uk">memo@ormsby.co.uk</a>                                   |
| <b>ANIMAL CARE:</b> Town Vets 01704 535233  | <b>MONUMENTAL STONEMASONS:</b> West Lancashire Memorials. 01704 211133 or 07739 765580 email <a href="mailto:aspey1961@hotmail.co.uk">aspey1961@hotmail.co.uk</a> |
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| <b>GARDENING:</b> Massams Supplies Ltd. Landscaping and gardening supplies. Renacres Hall Farm, Renacres Lane 01704 840265  | <b>TRANSPORT:</b> Dial-a Ride For booking and information: 01704 893373   |
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