



# Halsall News

March 2015

**HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**WE MEET 2ND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH**  
 AT ST AIDANS & THE MEMORIAL HALLS ALTERNATELY  
 PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARDS FOR DETAILS

**PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Brian Young	01704 840091	Chairman
David Corfield	01704 840705	Vice Chairman
Ray Brookfield	01704 840180	
Barry Critchley	01704 840141	
Doreen Stephenson	01704 840635	District Councillor
John Stephenson	01704 840635	
David Bridge	01704 840504	
James Edward Park	01704 841148	
David Jessop	01704 840888	
Dave Bond	07837787525	Parish Clerk

**THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL**

Rector	The Rev Paul Robinson	0151 526 0512
Church Wardens	Malcolm Serjeant	01704 841604
	Brian Heaton	01704 841471
P.C.C. Secretary	Edward Carr	01695 423817
P.C.C. Treasurer	Colin Throp	01704 841281
Organist	Edward Carr	01695 423817

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Gas Emergencies	0800 111 999
Electricity NW	08001954141
United Utilities (water)	0345 6723723
Police Contact (non urgent)	101 <b>OR</b> 08451253545
Local Police Officers or PCSO's	01695 566444
Street Lighting Fault Reporting Line	0300 1236701
Fire Safety Helpline	0800 169 1125

## THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST.CUTHBERT, HALSALL

### **Rector**

The Revd Paul Robinson

The Rectory

Church Lane

Lydiate

L31 4HL

**Phone:** 0151 526 0512

**Email:** frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com

**Parish Surgery: Anyone wishing to arrange a Baptism or Wedding should ring the Rector's 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

**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 Paul. 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: Paul can be contacted at any time of the day or night in order to minister to the dying.**

### **WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS**

**MARCH 2015**



<b>DATE</b>	<b>WARDEN</b>	<b>SIDESPERSION</b>	
1st	Brian Heaton	Bill Banks	John Wroe
8th	Marilyn Westley	Beryl Sephton	Bill White
15th	Lynda Bramwell	Eileen Houlgrave	Ann Critchley
22nd	Malcolm Serjeant	Eleanor Wroe	Stephanie Hilton
29th	Brian Heaton	Jim Critchley	Len Davidson

## WHY NOT ADVERTISE IN HALSALL NEWS ?

FULL PAGE	£32 per month (£234 per annum)
HALF PAGE	£20 per month (£127 per annum)
QUARTER PAGE	£14 per month (£65 per annum)

There are 10 issues of Halsall News a year  
**To advertise please contact Mrs Diane Marsh**  
**74 New Street Halsall Tel 01704 841079**  
**Email; dianemarsh60@gmail.com**

**Please enquire if you wish to reserve the back or  
 centre pages for your advert.**

### APRIL 2015 MAGAZINE

**Closing date for Articles: Monday 16th March 2015**

Contributions by Email only to the editor

Chris Birks at

enquiry@4cornersdesign.co.uk

**Closing date for Adverts: Friday 13th March 2015**

dianemarsh60@gmail.com



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

### CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR MARCH/APRIL 2015



8th March	P Carr A Grimshaw	E Houlgrave J Showering	E Carr S Lloyd	
22nd March	B Knowles S Jessop	E Wroe	J Quinn	K Mudd
29th March	E Banks L Wilkinson	N Harbinson C Meehan	M Webster D Backhouse	C Parry
12th April	A Critchley K Twist	P Waterworth K Orritt	S Waterworth	

# Can't get to the bus? ...We'll come to you!



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*West Lancashire*  
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A service for anyone who cannot use public buses  
because of disability, age or rural isolation.

Our **door to door services** will take you anywhere  
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Dial-a-Ride services are supported by Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council.  
\*Services subject to availability. West Lancashire Dial-a-Ride is registered with the Financial Services  
Authority as an exempt charity No. 23786R



# **HALLS FOR HIRE**

**One offs or Regular basis**

## **ST AIDAN'S HALL HIRE RATES**

**Hourly rates are as follows**

**Regular Weekly Users £5 per hour.**

**Casual users £6 per hour**

**To book please contact Dave Bond**

**Tel: 01704 534090**

## **MEMORIAL HALL**

**The hall is available for bookings**

**Something to Celebrate?**

**Why not book the Memorial Hall**

**Kitchen and toilet facilities**

**Including provision for wheelchair access**

**Only £10 per hour**

**To book please contact Ian Davis**

**Tel: 01695579272 mobile 07710273070**

## **HALSALL ST CUTHBERT'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL**

**Tuesday Evenings from 6pm or Saturday all Day**

**Contact Mr Scholes at School**

## **HALSALL PARISH CENTRE**

**The Parish Centre is available for private lettings**

**Please contact Mr Scholes at school**

**For details of charges and availability**

**Tel; 01704 840253**

## The Rector Writes

One of my favourite Services in the life of our United Benefice is the Confirmation Service. It is a day of great celebration when the church is quite literally packed to the rafters as family and friends come together to support the young people and adults who are taking this next important step on their Christian journey. It was during one of these Confirmation Services a couple of years ago that the Bishop gave a particularly memorable sermon - well to me anyway!

In his sermon, which he said was for the children, but the adults could listen to too, the Bishop talked about Confirmation as being the time when we make a promise to follow Jesus, and He makes a promise to be with us always.

In making a promise to follow Jesus, the Bishop reminded all of us of four ways in which each of us could do this:-

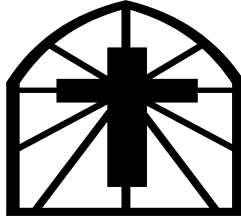
- To read a little bit from one of the Gospel stories each day. By reading more about Jesus we can get to understand more about how he wants us to live our lives.
- To take our Communion regularly. It is through the Eucharist that Jesus comes very close to us and gives us the strength to live our lives.
- To make time each day to say our prayers. It is through prayer that we speak and listen to God, and He speaks and listens to us.
- To do something good each day and to help someone who is in need. Being a Christian means being an example to others, just like Jesus was an example, always being prepared to help people in need.

As we continue on our Lenten journey of preparation these four points made by the Bishop, should give each of us food for thought on how we live our lives as Christians in Halsall, Lydiate and Downholland.

May this Lent be a time of renewal and growth for each of us as we continue on your Christian journey.

With Christian love,

**Paul**



## Sunday Services in the United Benefice for March

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

8.00am	BCP Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Communion & Hymns	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

8.00am	BCP Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Eucharist & Baptisms	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday

8.00am	BCP Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Family Service (with the school)	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	Parade Service	St Thomas'

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

8.00am	BCP Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday

8.00am	BCP Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

*(With the Blessing of Palm Crosses at ALL Services)*

### Mid-Week Services in the United Benefice

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	St Cuthbert's Church
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	St Cuthbert's Church
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	St Cuthbert's Church
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	St Thomas' School
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00am	Haskayne School
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15am	St Cuthbert's School



**HOLY WEEK 29<sup>th</sup> March - 5<sup>th</sup> April**

**SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**  
**AT ST CUTHBERT'S and ST THOMAS'**

*Please make sure that you note the times and places of Services – especially the Eucharist on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday*

**PALM SUNDAY**

- 8.00am Holy Communion – St Thomas'
- 9.30am – CW Eucharist – St Cuthbert's  
(including The Blessing of Palms)
- 11.15am – CW Sung Eucharist – St Thomas'  
(including The Blessing of Palms)

**MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK**

- 10.00am – Eucharist – St Cuthbert's
- 11.00am – Diocesan Eucharist – Liverpool Cathedral  
(Including the Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Ordination Vows)

**TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK**

- 10.00am – Eucharist – St Cuthbert's

**WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK**

- 10.00am – Eucharist – St Cuthbert's

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

- 7.30pm – CW Sung Eucharist, Stripping of the Altars – St Thomas'  
(followed by a vigil of prayer until 10.00pm)

**GOOD FRIDAY**

- 9.00am – Morning Prayer and BCP Litany – St Thomas'
- 11.00am - Stations of the Cross starting at Our Lady's Roman Catholic Church  
with a Walk of Witness to St Thomas'
- 2.00pm – Good Friday Service – St Cuthbert's  
(IT WILL BE WARM IN CHURCH – I PROMISE)

**HOLY SATURDAY**

- Morning and Evening Prayer  
(See below for time)

**EASTER DAY**

- 8.00am – BCP Holy Communion – St Thomas'
- 9.30am – CW Sung Eucharist – St Cuthbert's  
(including The Lighting of the Easter Candle and Renewal of Baptismal promises)
- 11.15am – CW – Sung Eucharist – St Thomas'  
(including The Lighting of the Easter Candle and Renewal of Baptismal promises)

**Throughout Holy Week (Including Saturday) MORNING PRAYER will be said at 8.00am (Except Good Friday) and EVENING PRAYER at 6.00pm everyday at St Thomas' Church**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT HOLY WEEK IS THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEK IN THE CHRISTIAN YEAR. PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO WORSHIP DAILY, IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEW LIFE OF EASTER THAT OUR LORD OFFERS TO ALL.**

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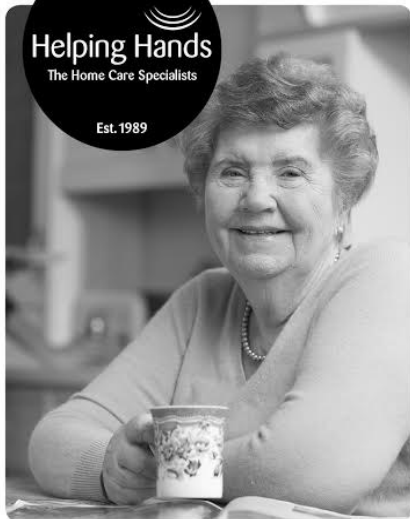
**Ring- Gary Lloyd: 01704 840437**

**Mobile: 07766663382**



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call: 0808 180 1016 or  
visit: [www.helpinghands.co.uk](http://www.helpinghands.co.uk)

Recruiting  
Carers  
Now

**HALSALL RESIDENTS' SURVEY**

**HAVE YOU HEARD OF FRACKING PRIOR TO THIS SURVEY:**

Yes

No

**DO YOU AGREE THAT FRACKING IS GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY:**

Yes

No

**DO YOU WANT TO SEE EXPLORATORY DRILLING/FRACKING IN HALSALL:**

Yes

No

**DO YOU CONSIDER THAT THE CASH OFFERED WOULD MAKE UP FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF DRILLING/FRACKING AND THE DAMAGE TO THE LANDSCAPE OF HALSALL:**

Yes

No

**WOULD YOU SUPPORT THE SETTING UP OF A GROUP AGAINST EXPLORATORY DRILLING/FRACKING IN HALSALL:**

Yes

No

**IF YOU WISH TO BE INVOLVED IN FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS PLEASE LEAVE YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER AND/OR EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW:**

.....

**Please can you tear out the completed page and drop it off at Halsall Garage or the Pharmacy.**

## **NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

### **New Councillor**

Please be advised that following the resignation of Cllr. Sylvia Corfield, Cllr. Neil Campbell was co-opted onto the Council and was formally welcomed by the Chairman at the last meeting.

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

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

2015/0005/FUL – High Trees Barn, Plex Moss Lane - Proposed two storey extension and alterations to existing dwelling.

2015/0022/FUL – 128 Summerwood Lane – Erection of two front wall brick piers 1.6m high with wooden gates.

2015/0032/FUL – Heather Farm – Carr Moss Lane – Two storey side extension.

For further information visit <http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning.aspx>

### **P.A.C.T. (Police And Communities Together) Meetings**

Meetings are held in Haskayne Village Hall 109 School Lane with public participation.

For information and the latest news visit:

<http://www.lancashire.police.uk/neighbourhood/halsall>

### **PARKING**

Can all residents please ensure when parking not to obstruct pavements or park in bus lay-bys. Pedestrians with prams and wheelchair users need to be able to use the pavement and you should allow enough room when parking to enable them to do so.

### **REPORT ATTEMPTED CRIME AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES**

If you observe anyone acting suspiciously (including possible bogus callers) or if you are uncertain as to whether you should be reporting something dial 101 to let them know so that the police can take preventative action if necessary.

## **NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL Continued**

### **Parish Council Meetings**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at St Aiden's Hall, Renacres Lane, Shirdley Hill, Halsall.

**Please note: If you wish to make audio or video recording, or take photographs of the meeting please phone Dave Bond, Parish Clerk on 01704 534090 or email [davebondhpc@aol.com](mailto:davebondhpc@aol.com) in advance of the meeting so that this can be arranged in an organised manner in order to minimise any disruption.**

Contact Dave Bond, Parish Clerk on 01704 534090 or email [davebondhpc@aol.com](mailto:davebondhpc@aol.com) in advance of the meeting to seek permission.

**The Parish Council Website [www.halsallparish.com](http://www.halsallparish.com) includes agendas and minutes of previous meetings.**

**Please drop off completed fracking questionnaires (page 11) at Halsall Garage or the Pharmacy.**

## **Halsall St Cuthbert's Sunday School**

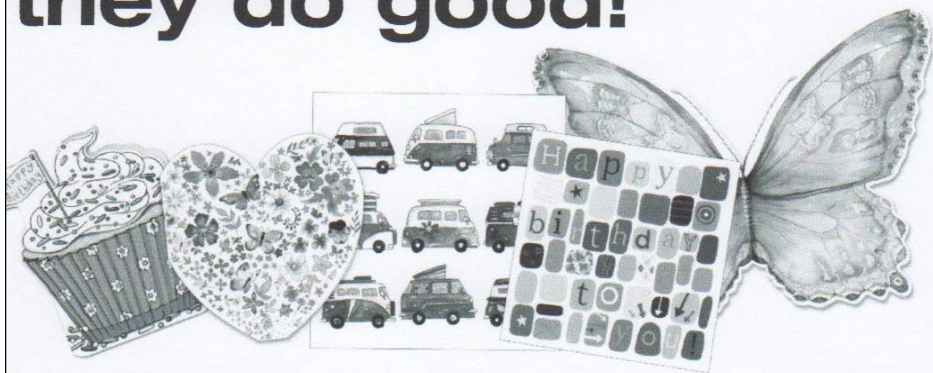


Our next meetings will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> March and the 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Tara Kenyon and Ann Cushion**

**Support Our Soldiers is a charity who send Shoe Boxes to our troops in Afghanistan and raise monies to help injured troops and their families. Their campaign is an all year round one. If you would like to know more about this charity they can be contacted by e-mail at [fundraising@soldierscharity.org](mailto:fundraising@soldierscharity.org)**

# Our cards don't just look good, they do good!



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EMAIL: [ANDY@ANDREWROBERTSPHOTOGRAPHY.CO.UK](mailto:ANDY@ANDREWROBERTSPHOTOGRAPHY.CO.UK)

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C	P	O	I	U	Y	T	R	U	A	S	D	F	G	H	O
V	L	K	J	H	G	F	R	A	N	O	T	R	A	B	U
B	U	R	O	R	M	S	K	I	R	K	V	F	E	Q	T
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Banks

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Halsall

Haskayne

Lathom

Lydiate

Newburgh

Ormskirk

Scarisbrick

Shirdley Hill

Southport

Tarleton

Answers on page 33



# Cheese & Wine Evening

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015  
In the Hall at Halsall School

Bring a team & enjoy a fun-filled evening of Blind Wine Tasting (5 different glasses of wine) along with music and a Quiz

Teams of 6 are ideal but smaller parties will be made up to tables of six

Cheese provide by the  
Birkdale Cheese Centre

Auction & Raffle

Tickets £17.50 available from Pam Carr  
on 01695 423817

Or email [postmaster@acdfpamerc.plus.com](mailto:postmaster@acdfpamerc.plus.com)

# What's On

Club/Group	Meetings	Contact
<b>Archery Club</b>	Sunday 2-4pm St Cuthbert's School Winter months.	Andy Yarnell 01704 870143
<b>Badminton Club</b> Over 16's	Thursday 7.30pm St Cuthbert's School	
<b>Bootcamp</b>	Monday 6.30-7.15 Wednesday 6.30-7.15 Halsall Memorial Hall	Rachel Pimblett 07875 483733
<b>Halsall Community Group</b>	Various	Louise 07734452323 Facebook. The Official Halsall Village Community
<b>Halsall West End Cricket Club</b> Junior Coaching Boys and Girls Year 3 to Year 6	Sundays in February & March 4pm and 5pm St Bede's High School Ormskirk	John Kershaw (Junior Players Coordinator) 07718433492
<b>Crown Green Bowling Club</b>	Saracen's Head Halsall	
<b>Halsall Environment Group</b>	Various working parties around the village.	Eleanor Wroe 01704 841216 Or Enid Banks 01704 567654
<b>Shirdley Hill Roadside Environment Workers SHREW</b>	Various See page 34	Dave Corfield 01704 840705
<b>Halsall Football Club</b>	Memorial Playing Field Halsall	Paul Williams

<b>Club/Group</b>	<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Karate</b> 7 years and over	Monday 6pm-8pm St Aiden's Hall Shirdley Hill	Graham Parsons 0151 531 7598
<b>Luncheon Club</b>	St Aiden's Hall Shirdley Hill	Sylvia Corfield 01704 840705
<b>Meditation</b> Monthly Meetings	Sunday St Aiden's Shirdley Hill	Jenny Pearce 01704 840117
<b>Pilates</b>	Monday 7.30-8.30pm Halsall Memorial Hall	Rachel Pimblett 07875 483733
<b>Shirdley Hill Residents Association</b>	Various See Halsall News	Dave Corfield 01704 840705
	<b>Scouting</b>	
<b>Beavers</b>	Tuesday 6.30-7,30pm St Cuthbert's School	Barbara Threlfall 07817 382221
<b>Cub Scouts</b>	Monday 6-7.30pm St Cuthbert's School	Tracy Berkley 07531 603290
<b>Scouts</b>	Monday 7-8,30pm St Cuthbert's School	Jane Coventry 07887 685219
<b>Snooker Club</b>	Halsall Memorial Hall Playing Field	Gerald Neale 01704 841275 Or Jason Neale 07968228173
<b>Sunshine Club</b> Over 60's	Various See Halsall News for Details. Page 34	

**This list is for guidance only please contact the organisers for more detailed information.**

**There is a charge to attend some groups or clubs.**

## SANCTUARY LIGHTS



### MARCH

11th	Sarah Prescott
11th	Amy Florence Williams
11th	Robert Heaton (Anniversary)
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)

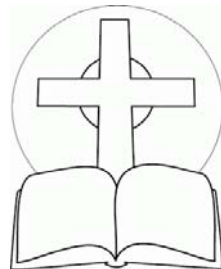
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### Halsall From the Registers




### FUNERAL

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Richard Henry Birch



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**Email: talleywags@hotmail.co.uk**  
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## FORMBY CHORAL SOCIETY

**Ticket price from £10 at**  
**Philharmonic Box Office 0151 709 3789**  
**or contact choir members.**

Birkenhead Choral Society  
Formby Choral Society  
Merchant Taylors' School  
*prima*  
  
**Carmina Burana**  
*by Orff*  
**Feel the Spirit**  
*by Rutter*  
**Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra**  
*by Britten*  
**Saturday 25th April 7:30**  
**Philharmonic Hall**  
Hope Street, Liverpool  
Rosanna Harris soprano  
Stephanie Gubler mezzo soprano  
Mark Siderman baritone  
with Liverpool Philharmonic  
conducted by David Hakroyd  
Tickets: £10 (9) £18 (9) £24 (12)  
available from choir members,  
online at  
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# **Halsall Primary School : Update March 2015**



## **Osted Inspection**

The school received a full Section 5 Inspection in early February.

At the time of writing, we still await the formal report. We are hopeful that it will be positive.

On behalf of the governing body, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the staff at school, for their unbelievable commitment and hard work during the inspection. Also, a big thanks to the many parent/carers who provided support through their encouragement and comments to the inspectors.

## **Admissions**

Interest in places for September 2015 has continued to be strong.

The LEA will provide school with a list in the near future and a governors' committee will meet and rank the applications according to the Admissions Criteria.

## **Standards**

We are confident that standards of attainment are high and that most pupils make more than *expected progress*. At the time of writing, we are still awaiting confirmation of this from OFSTED. The full report should now be available on the school website.

## **Staffing**

Mrs Lisa Strefford has now been appointed as a trainee TA within the school. We wish her all the best in this new challenge. I'm confident that she'll do extremely well and will soon be a valuable member of the team.

## **Staffroom**

The staffroom is beginning to look really special. It shouldn't be long before the kitchen is installed and the decorators are busy with their duck egg blues and lemon grass yellows, courtesy of Mrs Floweth.

We hope to invite the Bishop of Warrington to visit us at sometime during the summer term. I'm sure he'll be impressed with our new facilities. In a special ceremony we are hoping that he'll "bless" both the new building and all who work, learn and play here at Halsall St Cuthbert's.

## **PTFA**

Don't forget the Quiz Night. It's Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 7-00pm.

Anyone wishing to come along would be most welcome. Please ring school if you are interested.

## **Sports**

: The year 3/4 Athletics Team won a silver medal at the recent indoor championships at Ormskirk CE.

: One of our pupils Alice Hunter-Walker (year 4) is presently competing in the European Dance Championships in Spain. Fingers crossed she can win a medal.

: Our school chess team won the small schools' trophy at the recent championships in Ormskirk. Well done to the team and thanks to the staff who provided transport and supervision on the day.

## Early Years

The recent theme of FROZEN was a bit hit in Class L.

As part of her role play, Miss Leggett built a massive igloo from 2litre milk cartons. It was absolutely wonderful. The class also went for a fantastic day out at the Chill Factor in Manchester.

Outside, there'll soon be a BUILDING SITE, to link to the new theme of building materials. (inspired by all the work on the new staffroom!)

## Things to look forward to

Tuesday 3rd March

Cathedral Visit (whole school)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day Pyjama Day

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Quiz Night from 7-00pm

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Mothering Sunday Serve 9-30am (St Cuthbert's Church)

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Paul Worship

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

School Eucharist 9-15am

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Year 5s to Birkdale and Greenbank High

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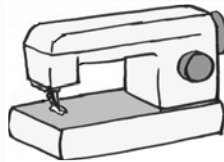
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NOW IN HALSALL

# Memories

The memories of Halsall resident Mr Harry Howard age 96.  
Told in his own words.

My childhood home was 88 Carr Moss Lane. The house was barely twenty years old when we moved in, but at that time had no electricity and only a dry 'petty' at the bottom of the small backyard.

Paraffin lamps and similar fuel for cooking on a Valour stove and oven were superseded some years later by electricity, along with electric street lights. Even then my mother was loathe to change her cooking methods and I recall breakfasts cooked on the Valour for most of my schooldays.

The coal fireplace in the middle room had a bread oven and hob upon which food pans could be boiled, and the back boiler provided hot water for domestic use until an immersion heater was installed in the bathroom.

The water system was eventually also improved with a WC in the bathroom and a flush system in the outside loo. Comfort indeed, but loss of income to Jim Billing who was a farm labourer at Parkhouse Farm nearby. He supplemented his wages by emptying dry toilets before they overflowed. They could be emptied from the rear, and his practice, when called in, was to dig a sufficiently deep trench in the kitchen garden. The quality of crops grown by this system was exceptional!

The ground floor in the house contained a larder off the kitchen, and a wash-house which included a coal heated boiler. Outside, too was a coalhouse and wood store to complete the amenities. We always kept hens and the kitchen garden included a few fruit trees and bushes. Mains drainage eventually replaced the original septic tank, which also had to be emptied at times, and a garage for the lorry was built by the backyard wall, with a back door into the yard as well as double doors at the front.

As youngsters we had pets. My sister Margaret favoured rabbits, but I was more interested in the small loft or dovecote where my father had half a dozen fantail pigeons. I think that at Hill House farm he had been a racing pigeon fancier - a sport very strong in South West Lancashire early last century, but not so prevalent nowadays.

Despite what would be considered a harsh existence today, I have mainly happy memories of my young days. My parents made sure, often to their own detriment, that my sister and I were always able to participate in village events and outings. The pantry shelves, (no refrigerators then!) were never bare. My father's occupation helped as he was able to bring imported fruit and other foodstuffs home from market, and it was order of the day to have a cooked breakfast, mid-day dinner and high tea. During holidays we were free to join our friends and disappear for the day without any concern from our mother.



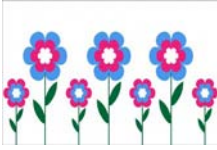
When you see today's cost and choice of Christmas and birthday presents, the comparison with those I enjoyed is stark, but perhaps not so upon recollection. Meccano, Hornby trains and forts with lead soldiers, no matter how small the gift, would thrill any young boy, and the same applied to girls with dolls and perambulators. In addition there was a season for different games. Local soccer and cricket clubs have changed little in concept and I suppose netball and playground skipping have followed the tradition of their grandparents. But today, how often would you see a boy or a girl spinning a top, bowling a hoop or playing at marbles in the street or on waste ground, both common enough in 1930. There was little or no village traffic on the roads and much of that was horse-drawn. Tar macadam roads were ideal for these games.

Tops spun well and could be whipped along at a cracking pace. Iron bowling hoops were made by the blacksmith, often with a diameter equal to the height of its owner, who controlled his charge with an iron rod hooked at one end to fit the rim of the hoop. I never fully understood the game of marbles, or 'ollies' as I knew it. There were odd terms such as flicks, fudges and backstops. I always seemed to finish a game with a pocket full of plain white or green ollies having lost all those lovely coloured ones which had taken every halfpenny of my spending money, and there would be no cash left for the cup of ice cream from Fattorini's cart when it came round the village every summer Sunday afternoon.

**Word Search  
Answers**

X	E	N	Y	A	K	S	A	H	B	A	N	Q	W	E	S
C	P	O	I	U	Y	T	R	U	A	S	D	F	G	H	O
V	L	K	J	H	G	F	R	A	N	O	T	R	A	B	U
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N	H	P	O	I	I	Z	O	D	F	G	H	J	A	J	T
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T	L	Q	Y	B	M	R	O	F	X	K	I	R	K	G	A
E	L	L	O	L	L	I	C	K	T	A	R	L	R	F	N
L	A	U	H	Y	S	C	A	R	I	S	B	R	I	C	K
R	N	M	I	H	A	B	R	D	M	R	H	C	B	D	S
A	D	L	L	I	H	Y	E	L	D	R	I	H	S	R	S
T	P	O	L	I	U	Y	T	N	E	W	B	U	R	G	H

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## **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 there Prime**

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