



# Halsall News

November 2015

## Halsall St Cuthbert Hub website

A new website for Halsall's St Cuthbert Church community has been launched and can be viewed at: <http://www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk>

The aim of the site is to:

- Raise funds for the repair of St Cuthbert's Church spire – through volunteering and fundraising events
- Showcase archive church documents, school reports and the Halsall Parish Magazine/Halsall News which date back to 1800s and up to the present day
- Church service times and other news

For more information please contact Colin Throp 01704 841281 on or email: [info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk](mailto:info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk)

## WHY NOT ADVERTISE IN HALSALL NEWS ?

FULL PAGE	£32 per month	(£234 per annum)
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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](mailto:dianemarsh60@gmail.com)

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

## DECEMBER 2015 / JANUARY 2016 MAGAZINE

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

Contributions by Email only to the editor

Chris Birks at

[enquiry@4cornersdesign.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@4cornersdesign.co.uk)

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

[dianemarsh60@gmail.com](mailto:dianemarsh60@gmail.com)

**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
Sylvia Corfield	01704 840705	
Ray Brookfield	07771 798167	
Barry Critchley	01704 840141	
David Bridge	01704 840504	
James Edward Park	01704 841148	
Neil Campbell	01704 566354	
Lynn Campbell	01704 566354	
Elizabeth Wright	01704 562847	
Dave Bond	07837787525	Parish Clerk

**THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL**

Rector	The Rev Paul Robinson	0151 526 0512
Church Warden	Stephen Henders	01704 841085
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**

**NOVEMBER 2015**



<b>DATE</b>	<b>WARDEN</b>	<b>SIDESPERSIONS</b>	
1st	Malcolm Serjeant	Bill Banks	John Wroe
8th	Lynda Bramwell	Beryl Sephton	Bill White
15th	Malcolm Serjeant	Eileen Houlgrave	Ann Critchley
22nd	Lynda Bramwell	Eleanor Wroe	Stephanie Hilton
29th	Malcolm Serjeant	Tina Roberts	David Jessop

## We urgently need you!

Our advertising officer Diane Marsh will be moving to pastures new very soon so will be unable to continue her hard work for the Halsall News magazine. We are seeking a volunteer to assist the team by liaising with advertisers, and collecting payments. If you think you would be able to help out each month please contact the Rector in the first instance for any further information.

Rector

The Revd Paul Robinson.

Phone 0151 5260512 or Email: [frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com](mailto:frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Diane for all her hard work for the magazine in recent years and wish her well in the future.



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

## SANCTUARY LIGHTS

### NOVEMBER

- 2nd Henry Eric Kenyon
- 8th Jessie Grimshaw ( Birthday)
- 10th Annie Marshall (Anniversary)
- 11th James Balshaw ( Birthday)
- 13th Joshua Sutton
- 15th Jack Lea (Remembrance)
- 19th John Rimmer
- 19th Richard Bolton Ainscough ( Birthday)
- 23rd Ellen Blundell
- 27th Nellie Sutton
- 27th Margaret Heaton (Anniversary)



## **The Reader Writes**

### Magazine Letter for November 2015

I always think that November is the month of remembering starting of course with bonfire night, but how many of us among all the fireworks remember what bonfire night is really about. Some of you will know the first verse of the rhyme.

Remember, remember the fifth of November  
Gunpowder, treason and plot.  
I see no reason, why gunpowder treason  
Should ever be forgot.

I remember learning the poem in school and hearing how Guy Fawkes and his associates tried to blow up the House of Parliament, but were then caught and executed. Not a lot has changed then! as there are people and organizations whose sole aim even today is the use of violence to achieve their aims.

On Remembrance Sunday we honour and give thanks for all those who gave their lives for the cause of freedom and peace in this country. Men and women who fought evil and tyranny, to make our world a better place to live. That fight continues today and I am sure that like me you are constantly saddened at the horrific images of conflict that appear nightly on our television screens.

We are very fortunate in this country that we remain relatively unaffected by the violence in many parts of the world. It is sometimes hard then to remember that as Christians we have a duty to strive for peace. At the Eucharist before we take communion we share the peace and are reminded that Jesus Christ came into the world to bring peace. We may feel powerless in our peaceful villages of Lydiate, Downholland and Halsall to influence the cause of peace; but that isn't so! From the very youngest to the oldest in our Parishes we can all pray for peace and for all those caught up in the horrors of war. Because the most powerful weapon in the cause of peace is prayer.

So this month as we enjoy the fun, explosions and bright colours of bonfire night, let us also pray for those for whom explosions and noise are not a cause for fun but for fear; and then let us pray with thankfulness on Remembrance Sunday for all those who gave their lives and those who still do so, to fight and strive for our freedom and peace.

Best Wishes Glen.

Prayers for peace can be found on the Church of England web site. I have enclosed one of my favourites.

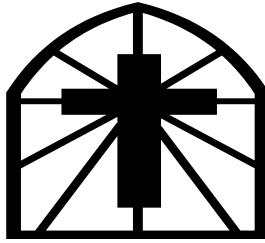
Compassionate God and Father of all,  
we are horrified at violence  
in so many parts of the world.  
It seems that none are safe, and some are terrified.  
Hold back the hands that kill and maim;  
turn around the hearts that hate.  
Grant instead your strong Spirit of Peace -  
peace that passes our understanding  
but changes lives,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## Chalice Rota November 2015



1 <sup>st</sup> November	Beryl Sephton	David Jessop
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Sarah Mitchell	Elaine Ayre
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Ann Cushion	Malcolm Sergeant
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Tara Kenyon	Stephanie Hilton
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Colin Throp	Lisa Sinclair



**SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE FOR NOVEMBER 2015**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November – All Saints Day**

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'
<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>All Souls Service</b>	<b>St Thomas'</b>

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday**

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
10.15am	Remembrance Service	St Cuthbert's
10.45am	Remembrance Parade	St Thomas'

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November – 2<sup>nd</sup> before Advent**

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

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Christ the King**

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	Eucharist & Sending Forth For Confirmation Candidates	St Thomas'

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Advent Sunday**

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
10.30am	Confirmation & 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion	St Cuthbert's

**MID-WEEK COMMUNION SERVICES**

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	St Cuthbert's
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	St Cuthbert's
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	NO SERVICE	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	St Cuthbert's



# ALL SOULS' DAY



**JOINT  
ALL SOULS SERVICE  
SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER  
AT 6.00PM  
ST THOMAS' CHURCH  
LYDIATE AND DOWNHOLLAND**

This is our annual Service of Remembrance of our dear departed loved ones. We invite all those who have lost loved ones to come to this special Service of Remembrance, as we remember those who have departed this life and are now in God's safe-keeping. We thank God for their lives and the memories they have left behind for us; we give thanks for all they meant, and still mean to us today. We hope that it will bring comfort to many people in our Parish who have lost someone dear to them.

The families and friends of all those who have lost loved ones during the past year are especially invited to this Service as the names of their loved ones are remembered out loud.

**Members of the congregations from both churches are invited to this special service.**

# **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: 01695 579272**

## **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**

# NOW OPEN



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## **MLS INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS Ltd.**

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22a, Liverpool Road North,  
Burscough, Lancashire, L40 5TP  
Tel: 01704 891555

# THANK YOU from ST CUTHBERT'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

An enormous thank you to everyone involved in providing gifts, decorating the church and distributing harvest baskets across the parish. St Cuthbert's looked magnificent for Harvest Festival and the congregations from two wonderful services and visitors throughout the afternoon were very appreciative of the superb effort.

*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven*

## CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR November 2015



8th November	E Banks D Backhouse	N Harbinson E Parry	M Webster L Wilkinson	C Meehan
22nd November	A Critchley P Waterworth	S Waterworth	K Twist	K Orrit
6th December	P Carr E Carr	E Houlgrave S Lloyd	A Grimshaw	J Showering

## **NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

The Council wishes to welcome Cllrs. Lynn Campbell, Elizabeth Wright and Sylvia Corfield who were all recently co-opted following the resignations of David Jessop, Doreen Stephenson and John Stephenson.

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

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

2015/0722/OUT – The Willows, New Cut Lane - Erection of 5 no. four bedroom detached dwellings following the demolition of 'The Willows' and associated out buildings.

2015/0567/FUL – 18 Gregory Lane – Front dormer window to existing loft conversion

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>

### **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on . Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at The Memorial Hall, Halsall Road, 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.**

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

**NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL Continued**

**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.

**INVITATION**

**Join Halsall Parish Council for  
refreshments after the Remembrance  
Sunday Service**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
circa 11.30 a.m.**

**at**

**The Memorial Hall, Halsall Road.**

**Everyone is welcome – please join us**

**Below please find minutes from the meeting which was arranged by the Parish Council.**

**This is a letter/minute about that meeting and has been delivered to all the objectors and petition signatories.**

Dear Resident thank you for your interest, I Hope this goes some way to alleviate your concerns

**Solar Panel Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015-09-26**

Representatives from Lower House Farm, Mulbrick, Green Cat Energy and the Residents and Halsall Parish Councillors

Roy Webster of Lower House Farm stated that the solar field is to be used to offset the 'Carbon Footprint' of Lower House Farm, fields and equipment. Large companies like Sainsbury require this from farmers to meet their companies 'Carbon Footprint' aims. Below are the Questions, Answers and solutions asked by Residents and answered by the farmer and solar panel experts at the above meeting.

**Questions from residents**

Q-Loss of prime agricultural land

The solar field would sit over the old Railway track and sidings where there are large amounts of stone ballast remaining; the field is classed by the farmer as poor quality for normal modern farming methods though it will be grazed by sheep under and around the panels if this is allowed to go ahead. The whole triangular field will be grassed over and is no longer to be used for either temporary or permanent buildings and equipment it will be used solely to bury the feeder cable then grassed over for grazing.

Q- A visual impact on the landscape.

The company and the Farmer will create screening where practical.

Q- Will the Wildlife Suffer?

No Stock fencing will surround the site with a wildlife gap underneath and shrubbery around.

Q – Will the Sub-station be next to property in Shaws Garth?

A- It has been re-sited away from the property beside the Lower House Farm track.

Q- How will Shaws Garth be affected?

It has been agreed that the contractor will not use Shaws Garth to access the site apart from the cable that will run along the farmers track and make good all damage to the well kept banking.

Q- What is happening with the small triangular field next to gardens of Shaws Garth?

It has been agreed with the company that there is no need to use this part of the site and it will remain pasture for grazing .



Q- How will the heavy construction vehicles get to the site?

The farmer has agreed to let the company use his farmyard for access and storage.

Q- Will large vehicles use the track by Glendene Farm?

The answer is no now the farmyard is being used there is no need, there will be the occasional small vehicle to maintain the site on a few occasions.

Q- Is this the start of more solar fields on Lower House Farm?

The farmer said no this small field is to meet his reduction in the Carbon Footprint to offset the tractors and other plant that use fossil fuels on the farm.

Please contact me if you have any further fears or comments

Yours sincerely Dave Corfield vice chairman Halsall Parish Council

### **Formby Choral Society's 2015/16 Season**

**It promises to be another exciting year for Formby Choral Society whose new season began last week. Rehearsals are under way for a year of contrasts, starting on 21<sup>st</sup> November with Cherubini's beautiful Requiem in C Minor being performed alongside Bruckner's powerful Mass in E Minor – just the music for an Autumn concert and perfect to lift the spirits and bring peace to the soul in this world of turmoil.**

**The choir will then perform their popular sell-out Christmas carol concert with Formby Brass at Holy Trinity Church on 19<sup>th</sup> December - what better way to start the Christmas Festivities!**

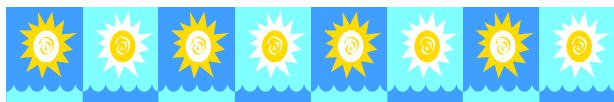
**In springtime, April finds the choir performing again at Holy Trinity Church, singing the uplifting Puccini Messa di Gloria together with Mozart's Missa Brevis and the delightful Shearing Songs and Sonnets.**

**Summer brings popular works chosen by the choir as their 'favourites', and hopefully another popular appearance by Formby Band, to bring a suitably joyous and rousing end to the choir's year. The choir practices every Wednesday evening in Holy Trinity Church hall from 7.30 to 9.30pm.**

**New members are always welcome – singing is good for health and heart and we would love to see you! If you would like to join us then please contact the choir beforehand by visiting their website at [www.formbychoralsociety.org](http://www.formbychoralsociety.org).**

**New members are always welcome  
FREE membership to all young people up to 24 AND an opportunity to apply for a £250 bursary (up to 21)**

**Halsall Sunshine Committee**



# **Christmas Bingo**

**Friday 20th November 2015**

**Halsall Memorial Hall**

**Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30 start**

**Bumper Prize Draw  
&  
Refreshments**

**Everybody Welcome**

**For more information please contact**

**Eleanor Wroe 01704 841216**

**Or**

**Betty Knowles 01704 840611**

# Halsall St Cuthbert's

## Sunday School

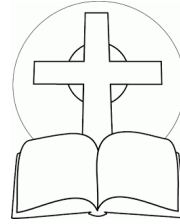


In November, there will be  
Sunday school on the  
8<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Tara Kenyon and  
Ann Cushion



## HALSALL FROM THE REGISTERS



**June. July. August. September  
2015**

### BAPTISMS

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

Eddie Kamel Cribb  
Billy Kamel Cribb

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

George Alfred Hill

**9<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

Raymond Neil Doolan  
Joseph Samuel Doolan

### WEDDINGS

**6<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

Andrew John Houghton &  
Hayley Prescott

### FUNERALS

**1<sup>st</sup> June 2015**

Betty Mawdsley

**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015**

Paul Ephraim Hobson

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015**

Alan Stockton

**9<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

Beryl Bain

# **Halsall St Cuthbert's - November Report**



## **General Information**

At present, we have 150 pupils on-roll. Most classes are full but we do have a small amount of flexibility at the moment, if we are approached by interested parents. From early indications, it is likely that the demand for admission in September 2016 will be very high. Prospective parents wishing to start their child in the reception class, will need to refer to the school's Agreed Admissions Criteria which can be found on both the school and LEA websites.

## **Harvest Service**

What a wonderful occasion it was! The church was packed once again as the children sang and danced and we all said thank you to God for the wonderful harvest this year. For our new reception children, this was the first time they'd performed in such of a big audience. And didn't they do well!

Thanks to everyone who kindly donated hampers. They were absolutely fantastic. I'm sure the recipients will be very grateful. Thanks also, to the many volunteers who helped decorate the church so beautifully. It really was a wonderful sight.

**PTFA Quiz Night ( Including Hot Pot Supper) : Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 7-30pm**

## **onwards**

This is usually a great night with lots of brilliant rounds of music, pictures, brainteasers etc. Everyone brings their own drinks. Food is served at about 9-00pm. Tickets are £7-50.

If anyone in the community would like to pop along or even make up a team (up to 8) please let us know. The more the merrier.

## **School Field- Football**

The school field, once home to Wyke Cop Sunday Football Team is now under-used, especially through the winter months. We are looking for a team to rent the pitch on a regular basis. Very reasonable rates can be negotiated.

Please let us know if you are interested or pass our details on. 01704-840253

## **Kidz Club**

Our after-school Kidz Club provides excellent childcare for working/busy parents. Full session fees are £7-00 with the half-session (up to 4-30pm) only £3-50.

The staff organise a wide range of activities to keep the children interested and excited. There are special events every fortnight.

### **Dog Fouling**

At present, we are having trouble with people who regularly walk their dogs on the school premises. (the field and the playground) These people are trespassing and causing a nuisance.

They show little consideration for the children and parents using the school premises. Several times this term, we have had to clear up dog mess from both the field and the Activity Trail. Children have also had their shoes dirtied and this has been very upsetting for them and certainly not nice for those staff having to clean the shoes. Please contact school if you see anyone trespassing on the premises or walking their dogs. We can then inform the police and initiate proceeding to prosecute.

### **Christmas Concert**

Our Christmas Show this year is **Annie**. It should be fantastic. The teachers have been hard at work with the script and songs and auditions have now been completed.

Our chosen charity this year will be **Alder Hey Children's Hospital**. The school Council thought that this would be a brilliant charity to raise money for as so many lives have been touched by Alder Hey in the past few years.

Last year we raised over £2,000 for WARCHILD. Hopefully we can do even better in 2015.

If anyone in the community would like to come along to the show at 10-00am on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December please let us know. The show lasts for slightly over an hour. Tickets are £3 and there'll be a raffle and free refreshments.

### **Christmas Boxes**

We are collecting Christmas Boxes for the Blythswood Trust which provides vital support in many poor and disadvantaged countries across the world. If you compile a Christmas box and would like to include it in our Christmas Box Wall, please drop it off at school. All donations will be gratefully accepted. Collection from Halsall School is Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Bonfire Night (Gates open at 6-00pm)**

If the weather stays fine, it should be another fabulous night.

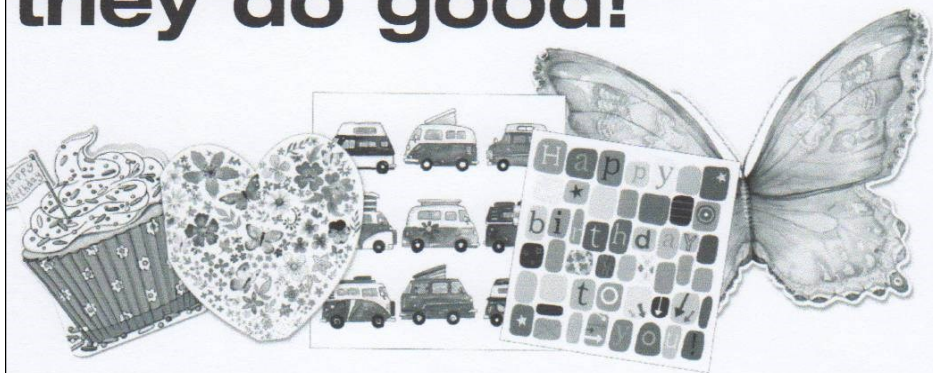
The village is likely to be very busy for a few hours so please accept our apologies if there is any inconvenience.

Many individuals devote a great amount of time and energy to organise this village event and there is a substantial financial commitment from the school's PTFA.

What a great opportunity for both local community and charity groups to raise funds. Entrance this year is £5 for adults and only £1 for children (including students with ID)

D Scholes (Head Teacher)

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



Looking for high quality greeting cards and stationery at up to **50% less** than high street prices?

**10% of all sales will go to:**

**St Cuthbert's Church, Halsall**

**For more details, please contact me:**

**Sarah Comfort**

Independent Phoenix Trader ID-31867

**01704 889237 • 07808 064 996**

**sarahcomfort@hotmail.co.uk**

Or visit [www.phoenix-trading.co.uk/web/sarahcomfort](http://www.phoenix-trading.co.uk/web/sarahcomfort)





## Christmas Tree Festival

Dates for your diaries—Friday, Saturday,  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> December .

2pm – 5pm each day the church will be open to  
view the Christmas trees and the Church  
decorations.

Refreshments available.

We are hoping to leave the trees in situ for the  
services throughout the Christmas season.

To make this a successful community event please  
take part. Not a competition. Artificial trees  
preferred. No restriction on height from tiny  
upwards (within moderation). Boards and covers  
will be provided, so you can bring along your tree  
ready to display. Those wishing to illuminate their  
trees battery lights preferred. If you Google  
Christmas Tree Festival it will give you lots of  
ideas.

Village groups, businesses, schools, families and  
charities from the local areas are all welcome.

Lets go for it!!!

For more info: call Enid Banks 01704567654  
enidbanks@aol.com

## Weather Reports in Halsall 1300-1500

Halsall church is a Medieval church made of special, light red sandstone, it is thought to have replaced a previous wooden structure sometime between 1290 and 1320. Experts are still unaware from where the sandstone was quarried. It is not the most durable of sandstone and the mouldings and carvings have been weathered over the last 700 years. During that time weather in all its extreme forms has been experienced. Weather records from the 14th century are scant. A lot of reports are general, from Britain or Europe as a whole and most records are for London. We can usually assume that when the Thames froze over and a mini ice age occurred in the south, it was not a great deal different in the north. Reports of crop failures, estate reports, agricultural returns and tree ring analysis have given us some knowledge about the weather of the past. At the beginning of the construction of the present church at Halsall the records indicate that there were severe winters and cool summers in the early 14th century.

It is important to remember that the shore line to the west of Halsall did not have the dune system or sea defences as they are now. The sea invaded the flat land, so marsh and meres (small lakes), punctuated the Moss. The River Alt and its tributaries meandered over the Moss and were not straight, as they are now, so floods were more common place. It is not inconceivable that the sea inundated the land as far as the high ground of Halsall and that when medieval masons dedicated the north west corner of the church to St Nicholas (the patron saint of seafarers) villagers went out to the sea from that point in boats. They chose routes across Halsall Mere, Barton Mere, Gettern Mere, White Otter and Black Otter Meres, all the way to the coast. Sea storms could damage local buildings and boats and cover the fields with salt spray, ruining crops.

In 1310 a severe winter over Western Europe followed a pattern from 1305. Excessively cold and damp conditions in 1315 contributed to the great famine which killed 10% of the population. The year 1320 was noted for a disastrous harvest while later in the same decade drought persisted in a series of warm, dry summers with the salt water from the Irish Sea penetrating across the moss making the meres and marsh more salty. It was Bowers, a contemporary geographer, who wrote about a "fountain of salt" at Barton. In 1338 a hard frost for 12 weeks from December made the ploughing of fields in Halsall impossible. In 1362 the notorious St Mary's wind caused damage to the spire of Norwich Cathedral and 90 parishes were lost to the sea in the east. Reports from Scotland and Ireland suggest these storms were widespread across Britain. Our church at that time was probably without a spire. The tower would have still been a landmark and visible out to sea. The summers of the 1370's and 1380's were dry and warm allowing progress to be made on the completion of our parish church. It is thought that the Chancel and its glorious carvings were completed by



1400. This was just in time before 1407 saw one of the worst winters on record in Western Europe with frosts lasting 15 weeks.

On April 9th 1415 a snow storm marked the coronation of Henry V who rode to epic victory at Agincourt in the very, very wet Autumn, on St Crispin's day, October, 25th. The heavy rain, for weeks across Western Europe played a major part in the defeat of the massed French cavalry who were bogged down in the mud.

The 1450's were much drier years and the mossland drained, allowing herdsmen and shepherdesses to drive herds and flocks to chew on wild grasses by the meres. However 1460, was the wettest summer for 100 years and the aspect from Halsall Church was a flooded plane all the way to the sea. The winter of 1464/5 was very cold and very long and food was very scare and poor. Summers and winters seem to have been unremarkable until the end of the century with some pattern of dry warm summers. Lack of records leaves a question mark here.

Next time Weather 1500-1699

**Stephen Henders**

## **Recycling at Halsall Memorial Hall**

**Please note at a recent meeting of Trustees it was decided to remove all the recycling bins to enable more space to be available for car parking. There will therefore be no facilities available in future for the disposal of waste paper and bottles etc.**



**Alternative arrangements for recycling are situated at Morrison's Supermarket, Ormskirk and LCC recycling depot at Burscough near the new Booths supermarket.**

**Ian Davis Trust Secretary**

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### **November at-a-glance**

Once the autumn leaves have fallen, evergreen shrubs really come into their own. They give the garden year-round backbone and some are very striking, in shades of gold, reds, bronze or blues, as well as plain green or various variegated patterns, late berries, craggy tree trunks and coloured stems of trees and shrubs – who said winter was dull. Happy gardening.

### **General garden tasks**

- Carry out winter digging or forking over.
- Check over the garden for anything that's likely to be at risk from frost
- Continue cutting the grass if conditions allow, but raise the blades,.
- Collect up dead leaves from the lawn & make leaf mould & potting compost
- Lay turf if you didn't last month
- Plant & move bare-root trees & shrubs
- Stake well any newly planted trees
- Sow seeds of hardy shrubs & trees
- Plant tulips this month
- Dig up dahlia tubers once the plants start to die off after the first frosts
- Protect container plants from the cold, wet & windy weather
- Continue harvesting leeks & Brussels sprouts.
- Plant fruit trees
- Ventilate the greenhouse on warm days but reduce watering
- Check stored fruit & vegetables
- Grow windowsill & salad herbs
- Do your autumn pond clear-out if you didn't get round to it last month
- Clean pool filters & check cables for pumps & lights



### **Watch out for**

- Snails in crevices around the garden
- Mice in sheds & greenhouses especially where there is stored fruit
- Pigeons pinching your winter greens
- Squirrels & mice digging up your bulbs
- Windy weather disturbing tree stakes chaffing the bark.

### **Get ahead**

- Think about any garden designing & alterations you'd like to do over the winter months
- Give the lawn mower a maintenance check now or over the winter
- Start winter pruning
- Mulch fruit trees

### **Plants in their prime**

- Viburnum. Ornamental cabbages. Winter flowering pansies & Violas. Potted topiary. Gaultheria. Skimmia. Clematis 'freckles'. Mahonia. Euonymus.
- Pyracantha. Winter jasmine. Asters. Liriope muscari. Schizostylis. Stipa.
- Cyclamen. Persicaria.

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# 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	Margaret 01704 840305 Jim 01704 840908
<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		John Kershaw (Junior Players Coordinator) 07718433492
<b>Crown Green Bowling Club</b>	Saracen's Head Halsall	Carole Toal 01695 577920 Charles Nason 01695 574073
<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	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.	Eleanor Wroe 01704841216 Betty Knowles 01704840611

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

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





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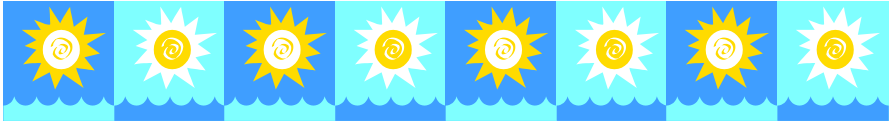
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12noon to 4pm

Residents of Halsall Over 60 can attend free of charge

Please make your own way there if at all possible

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For further details please contact Eleanor Wroe

01704 841216 or Betty Knowles 01704 840611

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