

Halsall News

March 2020



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

April 2020 MAGAZINE
Closing date for Articles: Monday 16th March
Contributions by Email only to Susan Roberts
susanroberts2805@aol.com

Closing date for Adverts: Monday 16th March
susanroberts2805@aol.com

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There are 10 issues of Halsall News a year

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



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

PARISH 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.

THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL

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

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, Darren Carr

e-mail Darren.Carr@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

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

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

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST.CUTHBERT, HALSALL

The Rectory
Church Lane
Lydiate
L31 4HL

Phone: 0151 526 2292

Parish Mobile: 07518 926086

Email: 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

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.

Halsall St Cuthbert Hub website

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

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

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

We would love to hear from anyone who may wish to suggest other content that would be relevant and of interest to the community.

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



Sunday Services in the United Benefice for March 2020

Sunday 1st March – 2nd Sunday before Lent

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

Wednesday 26th Feb – Ash Wednesday

0900am	School Ash Wednesday Service with imposition of ashes.
19:30pm	Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes St Thomas' Lydiate.

Sunday 8th March – 1st Sunday of Lent

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

Sunday 15th March – 2nd Sunday of Lent

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

Friday 20th March

14:00	Halsall School Mother's Day Service
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Sunday 22nd March – 3rd Sunday of Lent/Mothering Sunday

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Mothering Sunday	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	Parade	St Thomas'

Sunday 29th March – 4th Sunday of Lent

10.30am	United Benefice Eucharist	St Thomas'
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The Reader Writes...

As I write this, I am what's known as a "General Synod widower". Two or three times a year, along with many others, Debra, my wife, abandons any semblance of domestic normality to head to London or York for a few days at a time.

I am very keen that the Church of England is conscientiously and well governed so I am pleased that 483 people give their time, expertise and work out their faith in this way (just not me!). Having had little to do with General Synod until Debra was elected ten years ago, I have come to appreciate just what they do. So in order to help understand the role and functions of General Synod, I lifted this from the Internet:

The General Synod is the national assembly of the Church of England. It came into being in 1970 under the Synodical Government Measure 1969, replacing an earlier body known as the Church Assembly. The General Synod considers and approves legislation affecting the whole of the Church of England, formulates new forms of worship, debates matters of national and international importance, and approves the annual budget for the work of the Church at national level.

Synod is made up of three "houses"; the House of Bishops (all Diocesan and a few Suffragan or Assistant Bishops are members); the House of Clergy (consisting largely of priests elected by their peers); and the House of Laity (made up of lay people from every Church of England Diocese who are mostly elected by members of Deanery Synods).

The Synod's business falls into a number of categories, each governed by its Standing Orders:

- Legislative Business: Synod approves Measures (which, on receiving the Royal Assent, have the force and effect of Acts of Parliament), Canons and subordinate legislation (orders, regulations and instruments). Where legislation is not needed it makes provision by Acts of Synod, regulations and other instruments.
- Liturgical Business: Synod also authorises forms of service for use in the Church of England.
- Scrutiny: Synod receives annual reports from the Archbishops' Council and its Audit Committee. At each group of sessions members can ask Questions of the central Church bodies.
- Financial Business: Synod approves the budget of the Archbishops' Council and the apportionment among the dioceses of the sums to be paid by the dioceses to the Archbishops' Council.

Other Business: The Synod's final function under its Constitution is 'to consider and express their opinion on any other matters of religious or public interest.' Some motions are moved on behalf of central Church bodies, some are sent to the General Synod by diocesan synods (Diocesan Synod Motions – or DSMs) and some are moved by individual members of the Synod with the support of other members (Private Members' Motions – or PMMs).

So what do they actually do? Is it just another talking shop?

Well, going by the PILES of papers that come through the letterbox some weeks before each Synod, they do have a lot to talk about! This February's business included the following:

- An update on *Living in Love and Faith* (LLF) – a major piece of work on the Church's theology, liturgy and pastoral approach to issues of human sexuality.
- Climate Emergency & Carbon Reduction Targets - General Synod committed all parts of the Church of England (including parishes and dioceses) to work to achieve year on year reductions in emissions to achieve net ZERO emissions by 2030.
- Safeguarding – Response to recommendations in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA).
- Children & Youth Ministry – The picture indicates (using national statistics) that if the present rate of decline continues, in less than 10 years we will have NO under-16s in our churches. Central church funding is being made available for initiatives and research is being funded to look at issues surrounding this.
- Private Member's Motion – Synod agreed to establish a taskforce to form plans at national, diocesan and parish levels to use resources to tackle issues relating to and end “pauper's funerals” (where possible) and to work with others to deliver a more compassionate send off for loved ones at an affordable price.
- Private Member's Motion - Windrush - Synod made a commitment to end racism within the Church; the Archbishop of Canterbury acknowledged that the Church of England is institutionally racist and he apologised for its racist history.

Clergy well-being and a Revising Draft Cathedral Measure (which revises the way in which Cathedrals are governed) were also dealt with.

So, all in all, much more than a talking shop. Important issues affecting both our Church and our society have been discussed and Synod has committed the Church to some positive action.

Whilst Debra has been dealing with issues of national church governance, I have been re-sealing our bathroom shower!

Please remember the work of General Synod (and my reluctant attempts at DIY) in your prayers.

With very best wishes, David Walker



Bible Study – Matthew’s Gospel

Dear Friends,

Later in this magazine you will find the traditional invitation of the church, used on Ash Wednesday to encourage Christian believers everywhere to observe a period of devotion in preparation for the celebration of Easter. Traditional activities include (as you might imagine) Prayer, Fasting, and ‘meditating on God’s holy Word’. We might hear the bible read week by week and be familiar with some of its passages but when was the last time that you had a good look though it, or thought about it for any length of time? Lent is the ideal time to pick up the dusty old tome and having a look inside.

This year our Lectionary (the system we use for deciding what readings to use on a Sunday) is working its way through Matthew’s Gospel. Matthew’s Gospel was written towards the end of the first century (perhaps 85 AD) shortly after the Roman destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. It is thought to have been written by a member of the Jewish / early Christian community with the intention of helping that community rebuild. It was written for a community reeling in shock as the great symbol of their faith (the temple), that they revered, paid taxes for and worshipped in had been destroyed by the Romans. The Gospel contains passages that aim to help them make sense of the situation they found themselves in and help build up a church where proper righteousness was taught and lived. Obedience to the Law was not to be driven by an obsession with external command but would develop as a natural response to the realization that God had brought the reality of divine presence amongst us in Jesus, disposing the heart of the Christian disciple towards God.

Matthew’s Gospel was intended to pull people together and on occasion speak to their behaviour (18:21). Interested in finding out more? I can thoroughly recommend ‘Lent for Everyone Matthew Year A’ by my former tutor Tom Wright. How about we get together in Lent and see if we can’t go a bit deeper? Let me know if you’d like to (alexbaker@priests.uk.net).

Alex



From the Diocese Lent Fasting challenge for 2020 #Rule of Life

Last year we encouraged people to carry out a lent fast as part of their spiritual disciplines and this year we looking at this again with a two week challenge to help us think around why and how we should fast. This week we will look at the tradition of fasting and set a challenge to help you explore what fasting means to you. Next week we will look at some practical steps to take when it comes to observing a fast this lent.

Fasting is rooted in the traditions of our faith - many examples are found in the Old and New Testaments and across the generations. Recent years however have seen a decline in this discipline. There are many reasons for this - health and lifestyle and our obsession with food and cooking are an obvious few and then there's the Fast gap in Christian teaching.

So, what is a fast?

A fast is abstaining from something in order to discipline the mind, body and soul to focus upon God. By giving something up fasting carves out the space for God's creativity. It is a mark of our humbling ourselves before God and seeking him with our whole heart. Fasting is always accompanied by prayer. Fasting can be abstaining from anything that occupies too big a space in our life. For example, shopping, social media, car travel, TV.

The space or time that is created by our fast is then given over to God in prayer, Bible reading and social action.

Throughout the Old and New Testament the people of God fasted and prayed. (Joel 2.12, 2 Sam 1:2, Neh 1.4, Acts 13.2, Acts 13:3-4, Acts 14:23).

Fasting is a solid biblical and ancient tradition of religious people and we encourage you to take part in whatever way you can.

May God bless you as you fast this lent

[Sign up at www.ruleoflife.org.uk](http://www.ruleoflife.org.uk)

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



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



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



The following websites are also recommended:

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 - C of E daily prayer
www.churchofengland.org/lent - C of E daily reflections for Lent

The following is the traditional invitation
of the church to Christian discipleship in
Lent.



Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

Ash Wednesday

9am St Cuthbert's School

7:30pm at St Thomas'

Lent is a time to focus on our Christian discipleship. For those that are interested we may run an informal bible study group to see if we can learn more about Matthew's Gospel. Let Alex know if you are.

Saracen's Head Crown Green Bowling Club

(rear of Saracen's Head,
Summerwood Lane, Halsall)

New Members Welcome

We would be delighted to accept both
established players and beginners.

Social Bowling sessions throughout the
season as well as league bowling.

Tuition can be arranged if you are new to
bowling

Come along and give bowls a try.

**50% discount on membership fee for the
first year.**

For further information, please contact

Lynda Hodge on 07435 971762

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PROCEEDS TO LOCAL CHARITABLE CAUSES

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

March 2020



1st Mar	P Carr	E Houlgrave A Webster	E Carr J Aynsley	A Grimshaw
15th Mar	E Wroe	J Wroe G Williams	B Knowles	A Cushion
29th Mar	E Banks	N Donaldson S Roberts	M Webster	L Wilkinson

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

2020/21 HALSALL PARISH PRECEPT

The Parish Council are pleased to report that the 2020/21 precept to be raised from Council Tax £16,399 with a taxbase of 835.71 gives a Band D equivalent Tax Level of **£19.62 a decrease of 8.65%** on the previous year.

PROJECTS

The Council are in the process of installing a sewage treatment plant at the Memorial Hall in order to comply with new Environment Agency regulations.

This is being funded with The **Community Infrastructure Levy** (CIL) was introduced by West Lancashire Borough Council in 2015; the Levy imposes a charge on certain new developments, based on the size of the properties being built. This is designated to underwrite the cost of improving the infrastructure within the Borough necessitated by such development.

The Parish Council receives 15% of this Levy for developments carried out within its own Parish

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 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.

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL continued

POLICING

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant Sgt Carr has indicated that he is happy to answer any queries residents may have and anyone wishing to ask a question should email either himself at Darren.Carr@lancashire.pnn.police.uk or alternatively Paul Austin who is the Community Beat Officer for Halsall at 1081@lancashire.pnn.police.uk (work mobile number 07966580004)

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

Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th March 2020 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 in advance of the meeting so that this can be arranged in an organised manner in order to minimise any disruption.

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

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

WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS

March 2020



1st	Lynda Bramwell	Anne Grimshaw	Eleanor Wroe	Enid Banks
8th	Stephen Henders	Elaine Ayres	Jim Critchley	Len Davidson
15th	Lynda Bramwell	Colin Throp	Bill Banks	John Wroe
22nd	Stephen Henders	Elaine Ayres	Beryl Sephton	Tara Kenyon
29th	Lynda Bramwell	Angela Webster	Ann Cushion	Rebecca Ridley

The War Memorial Hall and Playing Field - a brief history

When in 1949 Lady Lethbridge sold 5 acres of land to the Right Reverend Charles Claxton and others for £520 with the one proviso that it “shall only be used as a playing field”, little could she have known the complications, quarrels and conflicts that would ensue over the years. That same plot of land was conveyed in 1953 to the safekeeping of Halsall Parish Council as sole Trustee of a Registered Charity with the same covenant on its use.

The Charity as it was then structured had very limited powers and, it has to be said, little experience of the legal requirements inherent in being a charity. Despite the best endeavours of those closely involved, the constraints taken together with the interventions and influence of other community groups over the years led in the late 1990s to considerable problems, financial and otherwise, in managing the Trust.

The Charity Commission was approached and some of the main findings make interesting reading : -

- The Memorial Hall should never have been built - the land was covenanted for use only as a ‘playing field’.
- The Snooker Club building contravened the covenant. Moreover, it was a private members club and could not be considered as coming within a charitable context.
- The Scout Hut was not within the charitable context and in any case it was and is illegal for one charity to support another either directly or indirectly.
- The then Bar within the Hall was licensed as a Club Licence and therefore open to members only and in this format was deemed not compliant with charitable objectives.
- The then Management Committee composed of representatives from various organisations was deemed not the appropriate vehicle to manage the Trust.

Although in serious breach of the original covenant on several counts, the Charity Commission, not wanting to take radical action, e.g. demolish the Hall etc., required the Trustee, Halsall Parish Council, ‘to regularise the position’. The Charity Commission recognised that a new Scheme (Constitution) was required giving Halsall Parish Council the means and the powers to manage the Trust effectively. In arriving at this conclusion the Commission wrote and underlined the following :

“The Councillors should ask themselves whether they are prepared to give up their valuable time on an ever increasing basis in order to run the Trust and accept the accountability inherent in doing so.”

Fortunately for the village, the Councillors, two of whom are still active, Dave Corfield and Ray Brookfield, together with other Councillors elected since the revised Scheme came into being in December 2006, felt it was/is worth the effort. However, make no mistake, managing this valuable community asset, keeping it viable and within charity law takes effort, a lot of effort, by Councillors who, unlike their counterparts at Borough and County, are unpaid volunteers. In similar vein, without the help and dedication of Gary Southworth and the Halsall Cricket Club, the job of doing so would be that much more difficult.

In the face of considerable opposition - the police had to attend one public meeting to prevent a breach of the peace - the Trust did as was asked and 'regularised' the position. Seventy years on from the day Lady Lethbridge sold the field, the efforts of many people and the stewardship of Halsall Parish Council has retained for the village an asset worth supporting and enjoying.

Patrick Bell, Chairman - Halsall Parish Council

Halsall St Cuthbert's Sunday School

When we met on the 8th February it had been planned that we went outside to look for signs of Spring. Unfortunately Storm Ciara stopped us doing that. Hopefully, the children will have found signs since then and drawn or photographed them to put in their 'signs of Spring' booklets.

**In March Sunday School meets on the 8th and the 22nd
at 9.30am in church.**

Our April dates are the 12th and 26th.

Tara Kenyon and Ann Cushion



Halsall St Cuthbert's School : March Update

School Admissions

Applications for admission to the reception class in September 2020, have now been ranked using the school's agreed Admissions Criteria. Prospective parents are likely to be informed later this spring term.

If there is anyone who wishes to access a place for their child at Halsall St Cuthbert's in year groups 1-6, please contact us as soon as possible. When places become available, we can then let you know.

Mothers' Day Service

This year, we have initiated a change in response to a growing concern highlighted through the Parent Questionnaires and because of the significantly lower number of children attending on the Sunday. People's lives are just becoming more and more busy.

We intend to schedule our Mothers' Day Service for Friday 6th March at St Cuthbert's Church at 2-00pm. It will be the 1st time that some of our children have actually been involved in a Mothers' Day service. It'll be a great opportunity for all of our children to worship in church and it should be a lovely occasion for their family and friends.

We are expecting the event to be very busy.

Premises Improvements

- New LED lighting has been installed in the dining room, the Parish Centre and the staffroom. This should further help reduce both our electricity costs and maintenance costs over the next few years.
- Outdoor play equipment has been painted
- The Faith Garden is undergoing a major renovation.
- We have also applied for funding to refurbish the boys' and girls' cloakrooms and toilets. Hopefully we'll be successful.

Breakfast Club

Mrs Lucy Edney is now the new manager of the school's Breakfast Club.

I'm sure that she'll be successful in maintaining the excellent provision that the club provides.

The club opens at 7-30am. Charges are £3-50 before 8-00am and £2-50 after 8-00am.

School Owls

As part of a whole school Geography initiative, we have introduced the children to four **Travelling Owls**. In order to support children in learning some key locations around the globe, we have enlisted the help of four cuddly owls to accompany us on our travels. There are two large maps (UK and World) displayed in the school hall. These are ready for us to map any continents, countries or cities our school owls visit.



Whenever the children are off on their travels and don't mind an extra passenger, the owls will join them on their trip. The children were recently involved in an owl-naming competition and the owls have since been named Paul (after Reverend Paul took one owl for a visit to Cork in Southern Ireland), Luna, Snowball and Donut. This half-term they will be travelling to London, the Lake District, Austria, Scotland, the Maldives and York. They also have trips to Greece, Dubai, France, Croatia, Antigua and Mexico in the pipeline! What a lucky parliament of owls we have at Halsall! The initiative has certainly grabbed the children's attention and each child can't wait for their turn to take an owl on holiday.

Sporting Success at St Cuthbert's (Report from Mrs Crane)

The children at Halsall St Cuthbert's have recently participated in a number of events organised by West Lancashire School Sports Partnership.

Our 5/6 Netball team won the West Lancashire District Competition and will now compete in a play-off competition, to find out if they will get through to county finals in Blackpool. They have some friendly matches against Scarisbrick Hall planned, to help them prepare for this.

The Y6 Benchball team came a fantastic 2nd out of 11 schools at the Benchball competition at Ormskirk High School. The team was undefeated right up until the final, where it lost 7-6 to Burscough St Johns. The children were a credit to the school.

We also had a team of Y4 children competing against 12 other schools at the Indoor Athletics Competition. In this, children compete in a variety of running, jumping and throwing events. Our amazing team won **Gold** this competition this year, an incredible achievement considering we were the smallest school there.



Doug Scholes (Head Teacher)

CHALICE ROTA

March 2020



1 st March	Ann Cushion	Lynda Bramwell
8 th March	Tara Kenyon	Lynda Bramwell
15 th March	Colin Throp	Angela Banks
22 nd March	Gwyn Williams	Elaine Ayre
29 th March	Sarah Mitchell	Lynda Bramwell

VILLAGE NEWS

www.villagenews.com

THE FAVOURITE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

- February 2020

TROUBLESOME TEDDIES



TEDDIES IN LOCAL SCHOOL COME TO LIFE WHEN STAFF AND PUPILS GO HOME

Children from class H at Halsall St Cuthbert's Primary School took their teddies into school recently and some of the teddies were left overnight. The next morning the children were cross and horrified when teacher Miss Hampson checked the security cameras. The naughty teddies had been captured on camera writing in children's school books, playing with clocks and eating chocolates!

Throughout the week the teddies kept getting into mischief. They were pictured in Mrs Floweth's classroom eating oranges and swinging on the ropes, they played pirates in class H and played noughts and crosses in Mrs Crane's class! Mrs Galley wasn't happy as the teddies had sprayed water on her important work documents. The teddies also went into Mrs Rankin's office and messed with her paperwork. Pinned up on her notice board she found photocopies of the teddies bottoms. "I couldn't believe they could be so naughty!" Mrs Rankin said. They even went in to the head teacher's office, tried on his glasses and ate his lollipops "the teddies are rudies" said the school's head teacher Mr Scholes.

Whilst in Mr Scholes' office they used his phone to call Tesco and ordered party food to apologise for the trouble they had caused over the week. When the children arrived at school on Friday they were scared and upset because they could not find their teddies. The whole class went on a hunt around the school to try and find the mischievous teddies. Finally they sat down in the hall and noticed the teddies were hiding on the stage behind the curtains. Miss Hampson opened the curtains and the teddies had set up a lovely picnic to say sorry for all the trouble they had caused. They all enjoyed the delicious picnic; they had cupcakes, jellies, Pom bears and drinks followed by a dance party and games.



Big Spring Clean of the Church

Looking for volunteers to help sweep down the interior walls of the church please.

Week Beginning 9th March. Contact Stephen Henders for more details.

Tel 01704 841085 or mobile 07908688167

The next job is having a spring clean of the lower sections from windows downwards. Help needed, we have our teams but would really appreciate volunteers on a one off basis. We would plan the work so designated teams are cleaning different areas at times to suit.

Contact Enid Banks on 07977920956
or St Cuthbert's PCC

Let's make a difference. Thank you.

Hi Everyone

Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group invite you to 'be part of the pick' for the #GBSpringClean on

Sunday 5 April at 2 pm
starting from the Memorial Playing Field.

Litter pickers hi-viz and sacks can be provided.
Please wear gloves.

#litterheros welcome.



For more information contact Conor 077711961932
or via the Halsall Proud & Tidy Facebook page.

If you cannot make Sunday 5 April – feel free to take part in your own time and post a picture of what you have picked.

Let's be kind to the environment on our doorstep.

Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group



Our report this month is dedicated to Brian Lloyd. He's the person you see out and about brushing up, painting, hedge cutting, litter picking and generally doing whatever else is needed to keep our beautiful village looking it's best all year round. You may have noticed fences being painted with green preserver. That's Brian doing it! You may have noticed the Memorial Playing Field hedge looking neat and straight. That's Brian who has done it! The

overgrown hedge at the corner of Gregory Lane and the main road has been cut right back so drivers at the mini roundabout have a clearer view of traffic coming from the right. That's Brian who has done it! The list of jobs he does is never ending. He sees something needs doing and just gets on with it! We are very lucky to have someone like Brian who cares so much about the place where he lives that he is prepared to get out there and make a difference. He doesn't like any fuss but if you see him in your road or round and about in the village take him out a cup of tea, or a piece of cake, or simply stop and say thank you for all he does. In the meantime, "Well done Brian, you're a legend".

We will be organising some community tidy ups over the next couple of months and will post the dates and venues on the Halsall Community Facebook Page. If you are not on Facebook and would like to be kept informed then please email either Eleanor or Enid and we will be sure to keep you posted. A few of us getting together for an hour or so can make a huge difference.

As always thank you to all those who pick up litter when they are out and about. It is a never ending job that we all need to keep on top of.

For further information about our work please post on our Facebook site (Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group), or contact Eleanor Wroe (elliwroe@hotmail.com or 01704 841216) or Enid Banks (enidbanks@aol.com or 01704 567654)



Halsall Scarecrows

There are so many people who pass through our village each June and enjoy seeing our Scarecrows. This year we are hoping for a bumper crop in the middle of the village and ask anyone and everyone to get their thinking caps on and come up with more brilliant ideas to wow the locals and visitors alike. There is no theme, no competition and no rules. The only thing to limit you is your imagination!

Once again we will be holding our Treasure Trail weekend on

Sat 20th & Sun 21st June

This year we will be asking you to
"Come find Wurzel"

and as the weekend includes Fathers Day there will be something special for all the Dads out there too.



Scarecrow Trail

Watch this space!

Find us on Facebook - Halsall Scarecrows

It would be appreciated if all Christmas Wreaths & Christmas Pots etc could be removed from the Churchyard by the end of March please



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SANCTUARY LIGHTS



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)





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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 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

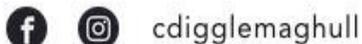


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