

Halsall News



March 2025

© HEIDI BIRCHALL

**Saracen's Head
Crown Green Bowling Club**
(rear of Saracen's Head, Summerwood Lane, Halsall)

New Members and Visitors Welcome

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

We have several league teams for those looking to play competitively

Friendly Social Bowling is hosted twice weekly

Thursdays 1.30pm - 4pm

Sundays 1.30pm – 4pm

We will provide the bowls and tea & biscuits!

- Anyone is welcome to come along to the Socials.
- You don't have to be a member, or a bowler, to join in
- A very friendly crowd of bowlers who will welcome you, and a great way to try out bowling.
- Tuition can be arranged if you are new to bowling

Come along and give bowls a try.

Only £25 for your first year's membership

For further information, please contact
Lynda Hodge on 07435 971762

Check our Facebook page and website for more info
<https://www.facebook.com/saracensheadbowlingclub>
<https://saracensheadbowlingclubhalsall.wordpress.com>



It would be appreciated if all Christmas Wreaths, Grave Pots, Decorations and dead flowers could be removed by mid March please.



POSTER Competition

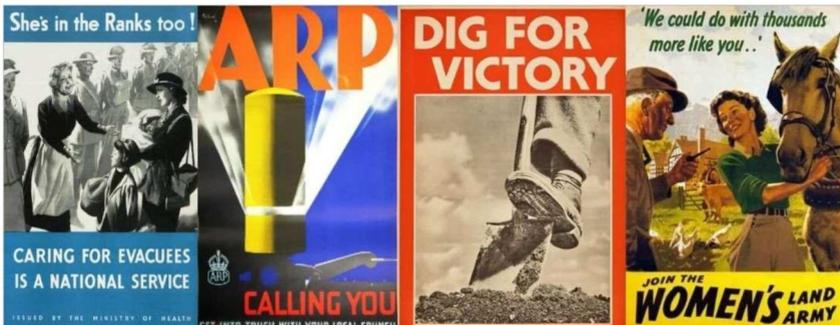
8th May 2025 is 80th Anniversary of VE Day
(1945 End of WW2 in Europe)

Halsall Parish Council would like a poster exhibition in the War Memorial Hall to commemorate the contributions made by all Halsall residents to the wider war effort.

- Competition will judged in 3 groups primary (5-11), secondary (12-18) and adult
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes of £100, £50, and £25 per group
- In the style of the WW2 posters, hard copy A4, or digital file such as JPEG
- Inspiration from internet and halsallhistory.co.uk/home-history/

For further information please contact Halsallnews@gmail.com

Deadline for entries: Sunday 27th April





**St Cuthbert's are throwing open the doors of the church.
Friday 9th May to Sunday 11th May 2025**

We would like to get to know you (or get to know you better)

There will be something for everyone from tours of the work in the graveyard,
to displays and trails in church, tea and cake and lots more..
Get the date in the diary and come and join in....
More information in next month's magazine.

Lent



**Discussion with worship exploring the theme of
finding hope and reconciliation in a hurting world?**

Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9pm
St Cuthbert's School (due to flooding in the Millenium Centre)

11th, 25th March and 1st, 8th April

**On 18th March all church volunteers are invited to safeguarding training
7pm – 9pm with the Diocese.**

You are welcome to come to all or some of the sessions.

Saturday 17th May

St Cuthbert's Church

Organ recital with the world famous Professor Ian Tracey

Tickets £10.00 including a glass of wine
(alcohol free options available)

Children under 16 free

Tickets from church or Pam Carr 07947 359437



The Rector Writes

In the February edition of the Halsall News, it was interesting to read letters from my predecessors about keeping Lent in 1965. I loved the call from Canon Bullough to “make a good start with celebrations of Holy Communion at **7am** or 10am.” I am not sure how well received a 7am church service would be today!

Whilst the times of the church services for Ash Wednesday have changed (11am at St Thomas’, 7pm at St Cuthbert’s - with services in school for St Thomas’ and St Cuthbert’s school communities too) the focus on prayer and coming together for worship in church has not changed at all.

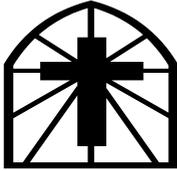
I recognise this is a difficult request in light of recent events within the Diocese of Liverpool. Like many of you, I was shocked and saddened by the allegations broadcast by Channel Four News at the end of January. There are many unanswered questions as well as feelings of anger and sadness. I want to assure you that St Cuthbert’s is committed to upholding the dignity of all people, but to acknowledge we are also flawed human beings who are held together in the love of God.

The Church asks us to observe the 40 days of Lent as a way of preparing for Easter. This year, in our Diocese as well as St Cuthbert’s, it is a time for honesty, humility, repentance, unity, hope and blessing. This year in particular, Lent is more than denying ourselves a luxury or two - it is about asking important questions:

- How do we listen well to each other and celebrate our differences?
- How do we break down the barriers that stop people encountering God’s love?
- What does it mean to love God and our neighbour as ourselves, and how do we live this out with all our being?

Please do join us for our Lent course exploring how we find hope and reconciliation in our broken and hurting world, or come and immerse yourself in the majesty and holiness of worship.

Every blessing, Susan



Service in the United Benefice for March 2025

As we mark Lent and look towards inhabiting Holy week so we can celebrate Easter, what acts of kindness can we share with each other and our wider community as part of our Lenten commitment?

Sunday 2nd March the Sunday before Lent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion (with Church without walls)
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist

Wednesday 5th March Ash Wednesday

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion with imposition of ash
7.00pm St Cuthbert's said Communion with imposition of ash

Thursday 6th March

9.15am St Cuthbert's said Morning Prayer
1.30pm St Cuthbert's said CW Holy Communion with prayers for healing

Sunday 9th March first Sunday of Lent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's CW communion
11.00am St Thomas' Church Parade celebrating families

Wednesday 12th March

11.00am St Thomas' said CW holy Communion

Thursday 13th March

9.15am St Cuthbert's said Morning Prayer
1.30pm St Cuthbert's said CW Holy Communion with prayers for healing

Sunday 16th March second Sunday of Lent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion (with Messy Church)
11am St Thomas' CW Eucharist with Baptism

Wednesday 20th March

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 21st March

9.15am St Cuthbert's said Morning Prayer
1.30pm St Cuthbert's said CW Holy Communion with prayers for healing

Sunday 23rd March third Sunday of Lent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthberts CW Communion
11am St Thomas' All age Communion

Wednesday 26th March

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 27th March

9.15am St Cuthbert's said Morning Prayer
1.30pm St Cuthbert's said CW Holy Communion with prayers for healing

Sunday 30th March fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's celebration of mothering Sunday with school
11.00am St Thomas' All age Mothering Sunday Service

Advanced notice Sunday 6th April at 9.30am (weather permitting) will be an outdoor service with Church without walls. All welcome



The Disability Project Parish Grant Scheme

St Cuthbert's PCC are delighted to announce that we have been awarded a significant grant from The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England to create ramped access from the lychgate into the graveyard and church building. I would like to thank the hard work of the standing, committee at St Cuthbert's, and the Diocese for their support in helping us write the successful bid.

The grant will cover three quarters of the projected costs, which means we can now start getting all the legal permissions we need to alter the grounds of a grade one, historic building.

We hope that the community will help and support us to complete this essential but major piece of work over the next two years. At Easter we will be launching a fundraising campaign to cover the shortfall, and we hope to show you the plans at the open church event in May.

THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL

Rector	The Rev Susan Salt	07730 197656
Curate	The Rev Glen Gardner	0151 287 1686
Reader	David Walker	0151 520 2496
Church Wardens	Carol Ward	07522 206664
	Pamela Carr	01695 423817
Verger	Sarah Mitchell	01704 889237
		07808 064996
P.C.C. Secretary	Edward Carr	01695 423817
P.C.C. Treasurer	Colin Throp	01704 841281
Organist	Vacancy	

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)



Access to St Cuthbert's Church

If you require the ramps to be put over the steps in order to gain access to church services or to visit the graveyard, please ring to arrange a mutually agreeable time.

Carol Ward 07522 206664

World Day of Prayer Friday 7th March 2025

World Day of Prayer 2025

Cook Islands

'I made you wonderful'



Maghull Baptist Church, starting at 2pm

followed by refreshments

with a liturgy written by women from the Cook Islands.

Come along meet new friends and learn more
about this exotic part of our world.



**Coffee morning February 4th March in the Choir Vestry,
St Cuthbert's Church, 10 -11.30am**

Meet old friends and make some new ones and take the opportunity to have a quiet moment in church. If you know someone who is lonely why not bring them along?

They will be assured of a warm welcome.

YOUR CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT, HALSALL

For enquiries about baptisms or weddings or service information

Phone: 0151 526 2292

Email: stthomassteph@btinternet.com

The office is staffed Monday-Wednesday 9.00am—1.00pm.

Our website, www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk contains information about services and events, archive material including historic school records, up to date Parish Magazines as well as those dating back to the 1800's.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Prayer and worship is at the heart of all we do.

It is only with the generosity of our community that we can sustain our wonderful church and keep our clergy.

St Cuthbert's is responsible for funding everything we do as a church. Despite what some people think none of our activities are directly funded by the Diocese or the National Church.

You can use the Parish Giving Scheme to make one off donations by scanning this QR code.



FRIENDS OF ST CUTHBERT'S

You can also support St Cuthbert's by becoming "a friend".

All the funds raised through this scheme are directed to the maintenance and repair of the church building and grounds.

There is a minimum donation of £20 per year to join, but you can then choose how much and how regularly you donate.

For further information please contact info@halsallstcuthbert.co.uk

Thank you for supporting us.

Without you we cannot be the church we aspire to be.

Sunday 4th May
HALSALL VE Day Party
Shirdley Hill Green



80 VE DAY
 80TH ANNIVERSARY
 A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 MAY 2025

St. Thomas' & St. Cuthbert's

 Lydiate & Halsall
 with Downthorland

SHIRDLEY

SH
HILL

SAVE THE DATE







Please join us for Halsall's GB Spring Clean on
 Saturday 12th April at 10am

Meeting at The Memorial Playing Field

Please wear gloves. Hi-viz vests, bin bags and litter pickers will be provided.

Together we can make a real difference!

Conor and Clare Edwards

Halsall News Of Yesteryear— March 1967

EASTER

"Easter" is the English name for this great Christian festival. The original name was Pascha, and the name used still in France, for example, is "Paques." The Anglo-Saxon historian, the Venerable Bede, tells how the name Easter came to be used by the early English, as follows:—

"Eostur month . . . had formerly its name from a goddess of theirs who was called Eostre, whose festivals they used to celebrate in it, and from whose name they now designate the Paschal season, giving to the rejoicings of the new festival the accustomed name of the old observance." It may seem strange that the name of a pagan goddess should have been given to a Christian festival, but this has happened more than once. "Yule" was a pagan mid-winter feast, and it became transferred to the Christian feast of the Nativity—Christmas.

To me, the origin of the name Easter has a wonderful significance. The pagan festival of Eostre was a Spring festival. These pagan deities were closely associated with the seasons, and with the growth of flowers, and fruits of the earth. This would be a festival of rejoicing for the new-life and promise of Spring. After the winter the trees were budding, green blades of the crops appearing, violets and primroses, daffodils and crocuses flowering in field and hedgerow. The songs of blackbirds and thrush cheering the early morning. Men rejoiced with Nature, and worshipped the god whose influence they believed was responsible for all this. There was a core of truth behind this pagan festival which found its transfiguration and fulfilment in Christ's Resurrection to renewed life.

The Resurrection speaks to us of all that Spring means, and, of course, far more. It speaks to us of Spring as something true of our own nature. The Winter of death is not the end, there follows the Spring with renewed life, fragrant, joyous, youthful.

In Easter we have the most joyful of all Christian festivals, and we English are fortunate in the name the festival bears, and its consequent inseparable relationship in our minds with the season of Spring.

SOME THOUGHTS FOR PASSION SUNDAY

"Our deepest need is one which we can never supply . . . it is that we should be lifted off that centre of self about which from our birth we tend to revolve, and set moving in a new orbit with God as centre." (Temple).

Self-centred as we are we cannot reorganise ourselves about some other centre. The rich young ruler came to Christ asking: "What good thing shall

I do to inherit eternal life?" The answer was: "Sell all that thou hast, and take up thy cross and follow me." He turned away sorrowfully, for he had great possessions. Here it was wealth, but it might have been almost anything else—pleasures, career, fame. Most of us are infected by this canker of self-centredness. There are people, like Gabriel Oak in Hardy's "Far from the Madding Crowd," about whom Bathsheba could say that she—"had not yet learnt the simple lesson which Oak showed a mastery of by every turn and look he gave—that among the multitude of interests by which he was surrounded, those which affected his personal well-being were not the most absorbing and important in his own eyes. Oak meditatively looked upon the horizon of circumstances without any special regard to his own standpoint in the midst."

Such selflessness is all too rare!

Nowhere are the contrasts between the two orbits, the self-centred one, and the God-centred one so sharply drawn as in the story of the Passion of Christ. Christ stands out as absolutely God-centred, while in the other characters we find many gradations of self-centredness. The tragedy is due entirely to man's self-centredness.

The facts have peculiar features that we do well to note. Caiaphas, the Pharisees and Sadducees—his enemies—were not the notorious sinners upon whom society looks down, but people who were looked up to as highly respectable citizens, and members of the synagogue. Even people of ill-repute had no quarrel with him, and it was the sneer of his enemies that he was "a friend of publicans and sinners."

Indeed they were not the well known sins which shock respectable people which sent Christ to the Cross, but the respectable sins which are in the hearts of all of us. "Not the flesh, but the world, got rid of its King" Worldliness is always the effective enemy of Christ. The desires of the flesh are known and recognisable, but our deepest sin is always something of which we are unconscious, or even of which we may be proud.

They crucified Christ, and saw no harm in it. Self-centred, self opinionated, themselves and their interests, determined their course. The very qualities they claimed as virtues were sinful, when they could thank God that they were not as other men are.

There is nothing so blinding as self-centredness, nor so fatal in its consequences.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

On Tuesday, 7th March we meet in Church for a Lenten Devotional Service at 7.30 p.m.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Gas Emergencies	0800 111 999
Electricity NW	105 or 0800 195 4141
United Utilities (water / flooding)	0345 672 3723
Flooding - Highway	0300 123 6780
Police Contact (non urgent)	101 OR 01695 566058
Local Police Officers or PCSO's	01695 566444
Street Lighting Fault Reporting Line	0300 123 6780
Fire Safety Helpline	0800 169 1125

POLICE CONTACT DETAILS

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, 4110 Billy Matthews e-mail
Billy.Matthews@lancashire.police.uk

or alternatively Neil Cronshaw who is the Community Beat Officer
for Halsall at 7176@lancashire.police.uk

**Residents should phone 999 in an emergency
and 101 to report a crime and obtain a crime incident number.**
Local contacts are for local issues and consultations only.

Sefton Warm Spaces

a space for community
and warmth in Sefton



in partnership with  

**Warm Spaces Sefton and St Thomas' Church
Luncheon Club.** Every Wednesday afternoon 12.30-2.30pm

**Change of venue due to flood damage in the Millenium
Centre**

Now in the **Guide Centre**, behind the
Parish Hall, 288 Southport Road, Lydiate, L31 4EQ

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- 2 A buyer will visit your home address or place of work, I.D will be presented to view your car.
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Company Number: 11266056

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DOG FRIENDLY KIDS MENU FREE PARKING SPECIALITY LATTES FRIENDLY STAFF

Wild Root is a plant-based café located on New Cut Lane, Halsall, proudly rooted in our community. Many members of staff, including the owner Charlie, grew up and live in Halsall and attended Halsall St Cuthbert's Primary School, fostering a deep connection to the area.

Wild Root is not only for vegans, but people who are health conscious or wanting to increase their plant diversity in their diets. Everything at Wild Root is made in house from wholefoods and can be enjoyed in a cosy, welcoming atmosphere, reflecting the values of the community we've grown up in and continue to serve.

MON- SAT 9AM-4PM
SUNDAY 10AM-4PM



FOLLOW OUR STORY!

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HALLS FOR HIRE

ST AIDAN'S HALL Hire

Hourly rates are as follows

One-Off Users £15 per hour, Regular Users £10 per hour
Kitchen, amplifier & speakers, projector & screen,
ample parking

Cathy Smith 07935 657880
HalsallTrust@gmail.com

MEMORIAL HALL and PLAYING FIELD Hire

The hall is available for bookings; days, evenings, Saturdays
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Catering service available from Bakehouse Café next door
Folding Tables and Folding Chairs available to hire

Cathy Smith 07935 657880
HalsallTrust@gmail.com

HALSALL ST CUTHBERT'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL

Tuesday Evenings from 6pm or Saturday.

Contact Miss Hampson at School Tel; 01704 840253

HALSALL PARISH CENTRE

The Parish Centre is available for private lettings
Please contact Miss Hampson at school
For details of charges and availability Tel; 01704 840253

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Ormskirk, L39 5DZ

01704 891555

22a, Liverpool Road North,
Burscough, L40 5TP

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Covering all areas



Whats On

CLUB/GROUP	MEETINGS	CONTACT
1st Halsall Scout Group Boys & Girls age 6-14	Scarisbrick Village Hall Monday 6.00 -8pm	Sue 07792 479205 Jane 07887 685219
Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group	Various working parties around the village.	Eleanor Wroe 01704 841216 Or Enid Banks 01704 567654
Saracen's Head Crown Green Bowling Club	Various. contact Lynda for details.	Lynda Hodge 07435 971762
Ormskirk & District Lions Club	Charity supporting local causes. Looking for new members.	Sylvia Corfield 01704 840705
St Cuthbert's Church	Services 9.30am every Sunday .	Parish office 0151 526 2292
Yoga	St.Cuthbert's School Wednesdays from 7.30pm	James McLoughlin 07852 192440
FROG Friends of Shirdley Hill Village Green	9.30am Tuesdays & Fridays	01704 840607
Jigsaw Library Its free to join and free to bor- row.	We ask for a donation of a jigsaw then you can borrow as often as you like.	Sue Charnock Facebook Page
Halsall Bees & Butterflies Bri- gade	Meeting once a month See article for details	Clare Edwards cedwards1144@gmail.com
Halsall Badminton Club	Halsall School Thursday 7.30pm	Jim 01704 840908 Margaret 01704 840305
YOGA	St Aidans hall Mondays from 6pm	Angela 07513802976

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair	Mary Lyons	01704 840607
Vice Chair	Elizabeth Wright	07817 056145
Councillors	Raymond Brookfield	07771 798167
	Noel McCarthy-Thomason	07485 151395
	Andy Timon	07979 768562
	David Adams	07795 083885
	Keith Wright	07507 209674
	Beth Roberts	07961 697064
	Julie Ferguson	07415 099652
	Vacancy	
Parish Clerk	Chris Pyne	Clerk@halsallparish.gov.uk
Hall Booking	Cathy Smith	07935 657880
Borough Councillor	Marilyn Westley	Cllr.MWestley@westlancs.gov.uk
		07738 680752
	Alexander Blundell	Cllr.Blundell@westlancs.gov.uk
	Jane Marshall	Cllr.Marshall@westlancs.gov.uk
County Councillor	David O'Toole	01695 421056

HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL
MEET 2ND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH
Next meeting 7:30pm 12th March 2025
At St Aidan's Hall L39 8SF

April 2025 MAGAZINE

**Closing date for Articles and Adverts :
13th March 2025**

Contributions by Email to halsallnews@gmail.com

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

NEWS FROM HASALL PARISH COUNCIL

Halsall Parish Council meets on 2nd Wednesday of each month, Next meeting is 7:30 pm 12th March at St Aidan's Hall, Renacres Lane.

PLANNING (Full Details available at westlancs.gov.uk)

Planning Applications

2025/0084/LDP, 22 Elm Parks Drive, convert garage into habitable room

2025/0067/FUL, 3 Plex Moss Lane, ground & 1st floor extensions
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2025/0015/TPO, 5 Halsall Farm Grove, remove fallen tree

2025/0012/FCA, 74 New Street, remove a conifer tree

2025/0040/FUL, Malt Kiln Barn, Halsall Rd, demolish and erect a 5-bed house

2025/0019/TPO, 5 Willow Brook, remove 3 trees

2025/0075/FUL, 3 Halsall Farm Grove, add land to residential garden

Recent decisions

2025/0012/TCA, 74 New Street, remove a conifer tree	- Approved
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2024/0176/FUL, Grainstore House, Plex Lane, change to finish	- Approved
--	------------

2024/0699/FUL, 176A Renacres Lane, 2 storey extension	- Approved
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Halsall Parish Council will be electing a **Co-opted Parish Councillor** at the meeting on 12th March. Thank you to all the applicants who showed an interest in joining the Council.

New Cut Lane - Residents approached the Council with concerns about speeding and state of pavements. The Council agreed to write to Lancashire County Council Highways and Lancashire Constabulary about the problems.

Heartbeat Northwest, a charity, provided CPR and Defibrillator training to a group of residents at St Aidan's Hall and £140 was raised in donations for the charity. Please contact the Clerk for further training requests.

80th Anniversary of VE Day (8th May) Shirdley Hill Community Association and Rev Salt are coordinating activities for this celebration. A Village Fete is being planned on Shirdley Hill village green (4th May) and Rev Salt has agreed to light the beacon on the evening of 8th May. More details to be discussed at the next Council meeting on 12th March.

Halsall West End Cricket Club - received a s137 grant of £500 to purchase replacement equipment for maintaining the Recreation Ground. The Recreation Ground consistently does well in the Lancashire Best Kept Village competition and HWECC are thanked for their contributions and best wishes for this year's cricket season.

Potholes and Street Flooding complaints should be reported via the Love Clean Streets app on mobile phones. You can send a photo of the pothole, mark it on a map and you receive a reply when it is fixed.

The Parish Council Website includes agendas and minutes of meetings halsallparish.org.uk/

The council will be moving to a new website, probably in early March , HalsallParish.gov.uk to comply with new government guidelines.

Upcoming events and news are posted on **Facebook Halsall Village Community Forum** www.facebook.com/groups/200983146975703 also on **Facebook is Shirdley Hill Community Association** www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100081833388874

Mary Lyons, Chair and Chris Pyne, Parish Clerk

HALSALL WAR MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD AND HALL TRUST

Halsall Parish Council is Trustee for the Hall and Recreation Ground which is a self-funding Charity no 521111 regulated by the Charity Commission.

The Moores family have kindly agreed to a donation to the Bees and Butterflies Brigade who will be carrying out additional planting of spring bulbs and wildflowers at the Recreation Ground.

The Bakehouse have completed a refurbishment, moving their kitchen into a rear room creating space for more tables in the Cafe.

The Memorial Hall has increased its hire fees to £15 per hour for one-off bookings and £10 for regular weekly or monthly bookings.

The "Trust" is at www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095608597326

Mary Lyons, Chair ,and Chris Pyne, Parish Clerk

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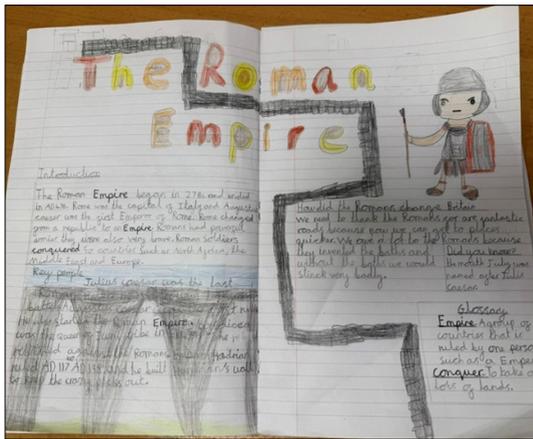
Halsall St Cuthbert's CE Primary School



Celebrating Children's Writing

A change to our usual school report this month as I'd like to celebrate the wonderful writing produced by our Year 3 pupils.

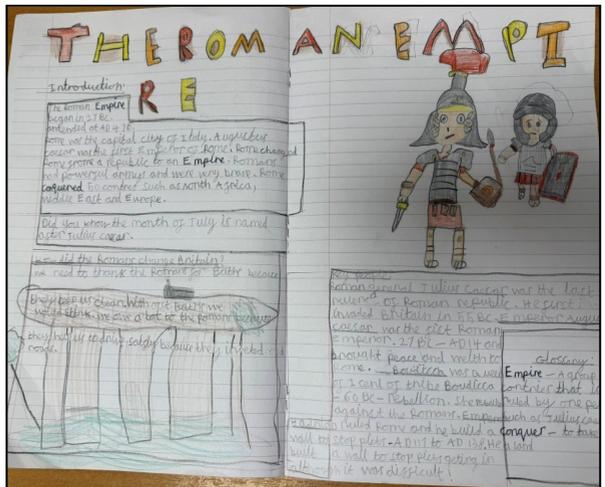
I had the privilege and the pleasure of observing one of their History lessons the other week and I was really by the children's knowledge of the Roman Invasion of Britain.



Report by Nancy Heyes

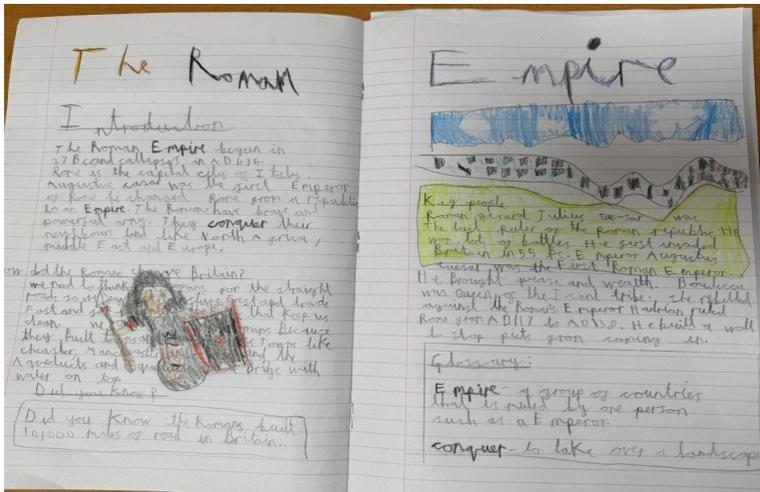
Report by Hugo Singleton

After weeks of exploring the topic of the Romans in their History lessons, the children were given the opportunity to apply this knowledge whilst writing non-fiction reports in English.



Wherever possible, we like our children to write for a purpose (and for an audience) so they were set the challenge of producing a report for inclusion in the next publication of Halsall News.

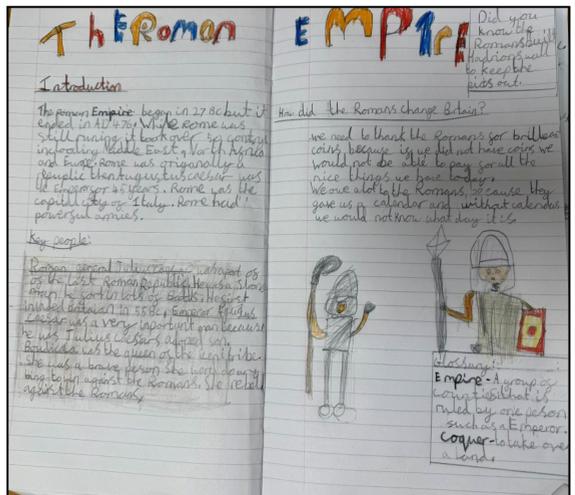
Report by Evana Tenser-Hart



Report by Florence Holmes

We hope you have enjoyed reading these reports. We aim to upload more examples of our children's work on to our website over the coming months.

Please visit the History page in the curriculum section of our website to find out a little more.



Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group



Our Bishops Walk planting project has made a good start with work beginning on the slope. Sacks and sacks of nettle roots have been dug out on the middle section of the planting plan. The longest root we've dug out so far was 2 metres (well done Conor!) but there is plenty of opportunity for you to beat that record!

A lot of extra work has been made by the winter storms and we need lots of help mending the boundary fences and building up the dead hedges. It's a very satisfying job and not too strenuous for those who don't like digging. Our planned dates for working parties in March are -

Saturday	1st	March	10am to 12 noon
Thursday	13th	March	1pm to 3pm
Saturday	29th	March	10am to 12 noon

In addition if there are any spells of nice weather we may have some extra dates at short notice which we will let people know by email. If you would like to come along and join us please let us have your email address to add to our list of jolly volunteers who help as and when they can.

It's also time to start thinking about our entry in the 2025 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition. We are now back in the Large Village Class having been in the Champions class for the past 4 years. Further details in the April newsletter.



For further information about our group please contact -
Eleanor Wroe elliwroe@hotmail.com or
07817 55 75 33
or Enid Banks enidbanks@aol.com or
07977 920 956



The Bees and Butterflies Brigade – March 2025



With spring in the air I hope you are feeling ready to get outside, clear your head and start connecting with nature! I love this time of year, when it can be chilly but sunny; when the first flowers are bursting forth and the birdsong is joyful.



The Bs have a couple of meetings planned for March, since it's such a good month for planting. The first is in collaboration with The Canal and River Trust. I've been hatching a plan with them to repair the hedgerows and plant some wildflowers between Bridge 25 (The Saracens Head) and Bridge 24 (Hill Bridge), thus creating an improved "wildlife corridor" between Halsall Cutting and the village. It's a long-term plan and it may take a few years to complete, but if we do a section at a time we'll get there in the end.



What do I mean when I use the term "wildlife corridor"? A wildlife corridor is an area of land that connects fragments of good habitat, allowing wildlife to move between these spaces. Because of these connections, fragments can function more like a larger habitat area; more food and shelter is available across this larger area, and so more wildlife can be supported. The Canal and River Trust recognizes that canals act as valuable wildlife corridors and they are keen to work with us to improve our local stretch.



So, to make hedge planting a bit easier for us, volunteers from The Trust have been clearing and preparing a 25m section of canal-side near Hill Bridge. The deal is that The Trust provide the hedging whips (small hedging plants) and The Bees and Butterflies Brigade complete the planting. Planting the whips will actually be quite easy and very satisfying! We'll be meeting at **The Saracens Head** on **Saturday 15th March at 10am** – please do come along if you'd like to get involved.



Our second March meeting is on **Sunday 23rd at 2pm in St. Cuthbert's Memorial Garden**. We'll be planting beautiful, shade-tolerant shrubs that bear flowers (for pollinating insects) and berries (for birds and small mammals). Some of the shrubs will also provide good nest sites for popular birds such as robin and blackbird, which we really want to protect and encourage in the village.



If you'd like to join The Bs or you'd like some help to make your garden more wildlife-friendly, do get in touch on the email below – I'd love to hear from you.

Clare Edwards
cedwards1144@gmail.com



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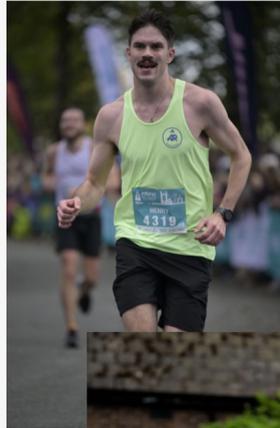


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