

Merry Christmas  
& Happy New  
Year



# Halsall News

December/January 2016

### 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)
HALF PAGE	£20 per month	(£127 per annum)
QUARTER PAGE	£14 per month	(£65 per annum)

There are 10 issues of Halsall News a year

**To advertise please contact Mrs Diane Marsh**  
**74 New Street Halsall Tel 01704 841079**  
**Email; [dianemarsh60@gmail.com](mailto:dianemarsh60@gmail.com)**

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

### FEBRUARY 2016 MAGAZINE

**Closing date for Articles: Monday 18th January**  
**Contributions by Email only to the editor**  
**Chris Birks at**  
**[enquiry@4cornersdesign.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@4cornersdesign.co.uk)**

**Closing date for Adverts: Friday 15th January**



**Halsall News can now be viewed online at**  
**[www.halsall-parish.com](http://www.halsall-parish.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 Parish mobile	0151 526 0512 07518 926086
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

**Parish Mobile:** 07518 926086

Email: [frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com](mailto:frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com)

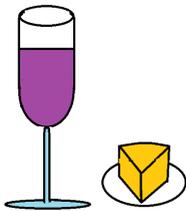
**Parish Surgery:** Anyone wishing to arrange a Baptism or Wedding should ring the Rector's Secretary to make an appointment. The phone number of the office is 0151 526 2292 and the office is staffed Monday-Wednesday 9.00am—1.00pm or you can email at:

[stthomassteph@btinternet.com](mailto:stthomassteph@btinternet.com)

**The Sick:** This parish is committed to the care of the sick. Names of those in need of this ministry, either at home or in hospital, should be given to 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.

## **Date For Your Diary**



**Fundraiser for the Spire Fund**

**Cheese & Wine Evening**

**Saturday 27th February 2016**

# SANCTUARY LIGHTS

## DECEMBER

- 2nd Joyce May Core (In Memoriam)
- 2nd Jennifer Kitching (Birthday)
- 6th James Hilton (Wedding Anniversary)
- 6th Albert Pilkington (Birthday)
- 7th Margaret Stopforth
- 8th Jane Grimshaw
- 9th Nellie Sutton (Birthday)
- 13th Kenneth Alan Bailey
- 14th William Maxwell Boardman
- 15th Cecil Rhodes
- 16th Jessie Grimshaw (Anniversary)
- 17th Lily Gaskell
- 20th Harold Gaskell
- 25th Harold Dean
- 25th Joseph Balmer
- 28th Barbara Brookfield
- 29th Doreen Porter (Birthday)
- 31st James William Bailey (Birthday)

## JANUARY

- 1st Elizabeth Rhodes
- 3rd R J Critchley
- 7th Joan Aindow (Birthday)
- 7th John Marshall (Birthday)
- 8th Edward Shacklady
- 9th Gladys May Core (Remembrance)
- 11th Margaret Haldane (Anniversary)
- 12th Marjorie Dunbavand (Birthday)
- 14th The Mercer Family
- 15th Jack Huyton (Birthday)
- 20th Henry Serjeant
- 25th Tom Dennett (Birthday)
- 26th Jack Huyton (Anniversary)
- 27th Albert Pilkington
- 27th George Gaskell
- 27th Rose Mary Bailey Anniversary)
- 28th John Johnson (Birthday)
- 29th Richard Bolton Ainscough (Anniversary)



## The Rector Writes:-

Christmas comes but once a year, but Oh! My word it seems to have come round very quickly this time. Where! Oh where! Has the year gone?

No doubt, by now, many of you are in the middle of Christmas shopping, planning what to buy, planning what to eat and trying to remember who you have invited for that special meal. Christmas is certainly in the air (and has been if you shop at Tesco or Asda since early October). From this week on many of us will begin the round of Carol Services, Nativity Plays and Social Gatherings (meals, works parties etc) that are all part and parcel of the modern day run up to Christmas.

Christmas is of course a special time when we feel, amidst all that is happening, a certain warmth and friendship, cheerfulness and forgiveness towards one another. Charles Dickens wrote, 'How many old recollections, how many dormant sympathies does Christmas time awake?' How true! It is the season of re-unions. It is the time we remember all those who we love and care for, and have loved and cared for in the past. Somehow, in some way their spirits seem closer to us at Christmas, their words and smiles and 'little ways' are remembered with fondness and love.

Christmas is also a time, as Christians, we will recall the timeless truth of a boy born to be King. We shall be told the story of the Shepherd's in their fields; of the wise men and their star and of the angels proclaiming the news that changed the world, the news that a baby had been born in Bethlehem. What a story! But for us, and for millions of people, it is more than a story, it is a reality, a truth, that the baby born in the stable is actually God's own Son.

But how do we approach this truth, this reality? Has the story of Jesus' birth become so familiar that it is something we give no more than a nodding glance to? In this day and age when so much of Christmas, of Jesus' Birth, seems to have been taken over by the 'commercial Christmas' it is so much more important for all Christians to recapture the truth and the reality of this amazing event. And the truth and reality is simple, 'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life'.

God's love for the world; God's love for you and me was so great, so immense that he sent from heaven his only Son so that we may have hope for the future. For me that is the meaning of Christmas, through the birth of God's own Son we are given a hope and the promise of eternal life. And this truth, this reality is, I think, worth more than a nodding glance to.

So as you prepare for Christmas I would urge you to take some time to think about Jesus' Birth, revisit the old familiar stories and see if you can get anything new from them and please come and say thank you to God for all that he does for you. (You will find our Christmas Services listed elsewhere in this magazine)

Above all I wish each and every one of you a very peaceful, happy and joyful Christmas and New Year.

With Love

Paul

## Chalice Rota

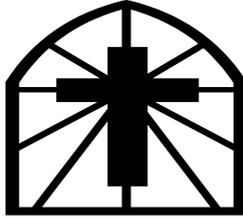


### December 2015

6 <sup>th</sup> December	Gwyn Williams	Ann Throp
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Mike Hilton	Lynda Bramwell
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Diane Comfort	Malcolm Sergeant
27 <sup>th</sup> December	Beryl Sephton	David Jessop

### January 2016

3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Sarah Mitchell	Elaine Ayre
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Ann Cushion	Malcolm Sergeant
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Tara Kenyon	Stephanie Hilton
24 <sup>th</sup> January	Colin Throp	Lisa Sinclair
31 <sup>st</sup> January	Gwyn Williams	Ann Throp



**Sunday Services in the United Benefice for**  
**December/January**

**Sunday 6th December—Advent 2**

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

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3**

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

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 4**

8.00am	BCP – Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Eucharist and Nativity	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	Eucharist and Nativity	St Thomas'
4.00pm	Carols around the Tree With Marshside Brass Band	St Cuthbert's
6.00pm	Carol Service	St Thomas'

**For Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services please see separate advert**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December – St John/Christmas 1**

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
10.30am	CW Eucharist with Carols	St Cuthbert's

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – The Epiphany**

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

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January – The Baptism of Christ**

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Eucharist (& Baptism)	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW – Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January – Epiphany 2**

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

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Epiphany 3**

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

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Candlemas**

10.30am	United Benefice Sung Eucharist	St Cuthbert's
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**Mid-Week Communion Services for December and January**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – St Thomas's Church – 10.00am

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – St Thomas' School – 9.00am**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Haskayne School – 11.00am**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December – St Cuthbert's School – 9.15am**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – St Thomas' Church – 10.00am

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – St Thomas' Church – 10.00am

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December – NO SERVICE

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – St Thomas' Church – 10.00am

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January – St Thomas' Church – 10.00am

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January – NO SERVICE

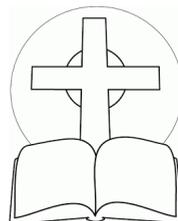
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January – St Thomas' Church – 10.00am

**Halsall From the Registers**

**FUNERALS**

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

Inez Marjorie Sumner





## **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR CAROL SINGING**

St Cuthbert's have been allocated 2 one hour slots to sing Carols at Tesco in Southport on Thursday 10th December from 7.00pm to 8.00pm, and Morrisons in Ormskirk on Thursday 17th December from 7.00pm to 8.00pm.

**All proceeds from these events will go towards the spire fund and will assist in attracting the required funds from the Heritage National Lottery fund.**

A sign up sheet will be placed at the back of the church for singers and anyone willing to hold the collection tins.

A short practice will be held in the choir vestry following the morning service on 6th December at approximately 10.30am.

Please come along if you are able.

If the required number of volunteers do not come forward it will not be possible to run with these events which are an essential part of our fund raising efforts.

If you feel that you are able to assist please sign the sheet at the rear of the church or e mail me at [postmaster@acdfpamerc.plus.com](mailto:postmaster@acdfpamerc.plus.com)

# ST CUTHBERT'S CHRISTMAS FAIR



Saturday 5th  
December from 2.00pm  
onwards in the school hall.

A fun event for all the family.  
Meet Father Christmas, Grand Draw  
(1st prize £100.00 gift voucher)  
fruit and veg stall, cake stall, tombola,  
Christmas wreaths and plants, cards, sweets  
and books, children's toys and clothing,  
afternoon teas, and  
much more.



Entrance free



## Christmas Services

**PLEASE NOTE THE TIME FOR THE CHRISTINGLE SERVICE ON  
CHRISTMAS EVE**

### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve

8.30am	Morning Prayer	St Thomas'
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b>	<b>St Cuthbert's</b>
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	St Cuthbert's

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion + Carols	St Thomas'
9.30am	Eucharist and Carols	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	Eucharist and Carols (Children bring a toy to show the Rector)	St Thomas'

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December - St John /Christmas 1

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
10.30am	CW Eucharist & Carols	St Cuthbert's



# Christingle 2015



**CHRISTMAS EVE AT 4.00pm**

**St Cuthbert's Church**

YOU are invited to this fun Service for all the family which supports the work of



CHILDREN AND ADULTS JOIN IN THE FUN AND COME IN  
A FESTIVE HAT - YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO!!!!!!

**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW EARLIER TIME**

# Carols Round the Tree



Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 4.00pm

At

St Cuthbert's, Halsall

Come and Sing your favourite Carol

With Marshside Brass Band



Followed by Mince Pies and Mulled Wine!

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Mobile: 07766663382**



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FUNERAL DIRECTORS Ltd.**

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

## WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS

### DECEMBER 2015 / JANUARY 2016



DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSONS	
<b>December</b>			
6th	Lynda Bramwell	Jim Critchley	Len Davidson
13th	Malcolm Serjeant	Sara Jessop	Anne Cushion
20th	Lynda Bramwell	Elaine Ayre	Philip Banks
27th	Malcolm Serjeant	Christine Jones	Rebecca Trecarich
<b>January</b>			
3rd	Lynda Bramwell	Bill Banks	John Wroe
10th	Malcolm Serjeant	Beryl Sephton	Bill White
17th	Lynda Bramwell	Ann Critchley	Eileen Houlgrave
24th	Malcolm Serjeant	Eleanor Wroe	Stephanie Hilton
31st	Lynda Bramwell	Tina Roberts	David Jessop



## CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR

### December 2015 / January 2016



6th December	P Carr E Carr	E Houlgrave S Lloyd	A Grimshaw	J Showering
20th December	B Knowles E Wroe	J Quinn	K Mudd	S Jessop
3rd January	E Banks N Harbinson	M Webster L Wilkinson	C Meehan D Backhouse	E Parry
17th January	A Critchley P Waterworth	S Waterworth	K Twist	K Orritt
31st January	P Carr E Carr	E Houlgrave S Lloyd	A Grimshaw	J Showering

## **NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Reports from Working Groups**

#### **Fracking**

M Allchurch, Cllr. D Corfield, Cllr. S Corfield, Cllr. L Campbell  
The survey conducted last year determined that the majority of Halsall residents are against fracking and as a result (HAF) Halsall Against Fracking was born.

Emails are now circulated to more than 50 people to keep them informed of all the news and everything coming out of Frack Free Lancashire. HAF are affiliated with FFL and a fledgling group called Renewable Energy Alliance Lancashire (REAL) working to support suitable renewable energy projects on the basis that you can't be anti-fracking and also anti - everything renewable.

At the moment everything is on hold but HAF are prepared to carry out peaceful protests should the situation change.

#### **Flooding/IDB**

Cllr. B Critchley, Cllr. R Brookfield, Cllr. N Campbell

The group has been involved in meetings with the Environment Agency, NFU, WLBC and LCC together with other parishes to publicise what is happening and would urge residents to write to those bodies and their MP in support of the setting up of an Independent Drainage Board even if that results in a small increase in the precept if we are to avoid losing farming land and flooding to local properties.

#### **Transportation**

Cllr. D Corfield, Cllr. S Corfield

Following the withdrawal of the 300 bus service from Shirdley Hill the Transportation Group have been campaigning for a Parish Based Bus Scheme and this has resulted in a LCC consultation paper being issued recently by LCC.

#### **Parish Improvements**

Cllr. D Corfield, E Wroe, E Banks

This group is looking at ways in which grant and infrastructure levies can be utilised to make improvements around the villages. We have recently applied for funding to help extend the Memorial Hall to enable more events to be held and generate more income

**The Chairman wishes to thank all those involved in the groups who give freely of their time to help make Halsall a better place to live in**

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

### **GRANTS**

County Councillor David O'Toole has asked the Council to advertise that small grants are available from him and can be gifted to faith groups, children and young peoples' groups, older persons' groups, and community groups.

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

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

For information and the latest news visit:

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

### **PARKING**

Reports of cars obstructing footpaths along New Cut Lane and Summerwood Lane have been received and we will be asking the police to investigate and post notices and issue fines where appropriate. 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.

### **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at St Aidans Hall, Renacres Lane, Shirdley Hill, Halsall.

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

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

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

## **Halsall St Cuthbert's : December Update**



### **School Christmas Concert**

The children will be performing the musical ANNIE this year and as usual, there will be 3 shows. (Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> at 10-00am, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> at 2-00pm and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> at 7-00pm)

There'll also be a Nativity performed by the reception children on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> at 9-30am.

Tickets for the shows are £3 and all proceeds this year will be donated to Alder Hey Hospital.

### **PTFA Bonfire and Fireworks Night**

Despite the miserable weather throughout the day, there was still a good turn-out for the bonfire and the PTFA raised just in excess of £3,500.

A big thanks is due to all the people who helped with the organisation and worked tirelessly throughout the day. It really was a fabulous team effort.

The PTFA Bonfire also enabled much-needed funds to be raised for the following:

The Learning Tree Nursery

Halsall Beavers

Halsall Cubs and Scouts.

St Cuthbert's Church Steeple Fund

Ormskirk Clock tower Rotary Club

I'm sure they'll all be pleased with their profits!

Many apologies to any local residents who may have been inconvenienced on the night. Some drivers did park indiscriminately and inconsiderately but it almost impossible to marshal parking over such a wide-spread area. The field had also become waterlogged so more vehicles had to park on the roadside.

Next year, the PTFA Bonfire and Fireworks display will be on the Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Admissions September 2016**

If there is anyone who wishes visit school and meet Miss Leggett and the Early Years' Team, please do not hesitate to contact us. 01704-840253. You are very welcome to arrange a tour.

Online applications are presently being made by parents for children to start in September 2016.

### **Groups Hiring the School Premises**

Please could we ask all users (brownies, cubs, scouts, caravans, archery club, holiday club, party groups, etc) **not** to enter to PE stockroom and take out school equipment to use for their sessions (balls, bats, beanbags, hoops, etc) Unfortunately, so many items have gone missing over the past year and the school is constantly having to fund replacements. We have locks on the doors but when these have been left unlocked children have been seen to just help themselves. Many thanks for your understanding in this matter.

### Dates for the Diary

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December : Firemen Talk to years 2+6 (pm)

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December : Talent Show (pm)

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December : Christmas Party

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December : Toy Day and Break-Up for the Christmas Holidays

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December : Staff Christmas Party

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January : INSET Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January : INSET Day

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January : School Re-opens D Scholes (Head Teacher)

*From all at Halsall St Cuthbert's.*

*Have a great Christmas and a happy and healthy New  
Year. God Bless.*

## Halsall St Cuthbert's Sunday School



The next meeting of the Sunday school will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> December to prepare for the Family Nativity service. This performance will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> December during the 9.30am service.

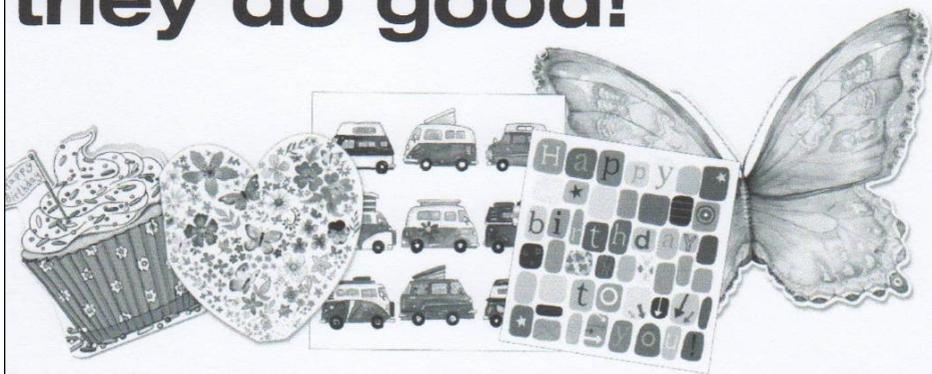
We were all so proud of our three children who laid the Sunday school cross of poppies at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. So, we say a big thank you to Max, Lucy and Matilda for being such excellent role models for the other children.

Wishing you all peace and joy at Christmas.

**Tara Kenyon and Ann Cushion**

(Sunday school dates for January and February are the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> January and the 14<sup>th</sup> February, with our Family service on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.)

# 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:**

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## 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**

## **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**

**Halsall Environment Group**  
**We have received the judges report for 2015**

**THE LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2015**

**JUDGES' REPORT - HALSALL**

The village was generally tidy, well kept & litter free. However, the footpaths along both sides of the main road needed sweeping as they held a lot of debris from the overhanging trees & bushes.

Private properties were well maintained but some of the commercial properties needed attention to either the building or the surrounds.

St. Cuthbert's Church was in excellent order with tidy, well cared for grounds & graveyard. The War Memorial was also in good condition.

The Saracen's Head was excellent with an attractive frontage & a pleasant beer garden. However, part of the car park was untidy. The bowling green at the side of the pub had some weeds in the gutter around the green & some of the shelters needed painting.

St. Cuthbert's Primary School was in good condition but one of the signs was in need of repair & there were a few weeds around the buildings.

The Memorial Hall, the playing fields & the play area were all tidy & litter free.

The owners of Manor House Farm had made considerable effort to maintain the site in immaculate condition; it was extremely clean & tidy.

Overall Halsall is a very well kept village with just a few areas needing attention.

**We would like to thank everybody in the village who have helped to make such a big difference to our surroundings.**

**Please contact either Eleanor Wroe 01704 841216 [elliwroe@hotmail.com](mailto:elliwroe@hotmail.com) or Enid Banks 01704 567654 [enidbanks@aol.com](mailto:enidbanks@aol.com) if you would like to find out more about our group**

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### Urgent Notice

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.

The Rector  
The Revd Paul Robinson.  
Phone 0151 5260512  
or Email:  
frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com

## Gardener`s Corner

Tina Lloyd



December & January at-a-glance

The garden is magical in winter. The colour palette is limited, but the strong shapes & skeletal framework provide its own kind of beauty & don't forget the garden can be a great source of home-grown material for a natural feel to Christmas decorations in & outside the home.

Happy Christmas & A Happy New Year.                      Happy Gardening.

### **General garden tasks**

Continue winter digging if soil is workable.

Plan & begin any landscaping jobs.

Clear away any debris to prevent harbouring slugs & snails.

Rake up the last of the leaves.

Send off for seed catalogues to browse through on darker rainy days.

Carry out lawn repairs if weather conditions allow.

Move or plant deciduous trees or shrubs if the soil is workable.

Prune ornamental vines.

Cut shoots for indoor decorations.

Organise your Christmas tree.

Sow seeds of hardy plants.

Plant seasonal outdoor tubs & hanging baskets for Christmas.

Plant fruit trees & bushes.

Continue to check stored fruit.

Tidy plants in the greenhouse & continue to water sparingly.

Check any bulbs in store.

Check tubs planted with bulbs for mice disturbance.

Make provisions to prevent pond from freezing over.

Clear up the shed, clean tools, wash pots & trays – spring will be here before you know!

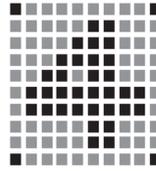
### **Watch out for**

Chilled pot plants – pot plants that have been standing in the open outside shops may have come straight from a warm & sheltered greenhouse. Poinsettias are especially vulnerable.

### **Plants in their prime**

Prunus `Autumnalis`. Viburnum. Mahonia. Japonica. Cotoneaster. Fatsia. Malus. Photinia. Pyracantha. Skimmia. Clematis `freckles`. Jasmine varieties. Winter flowering pansies.

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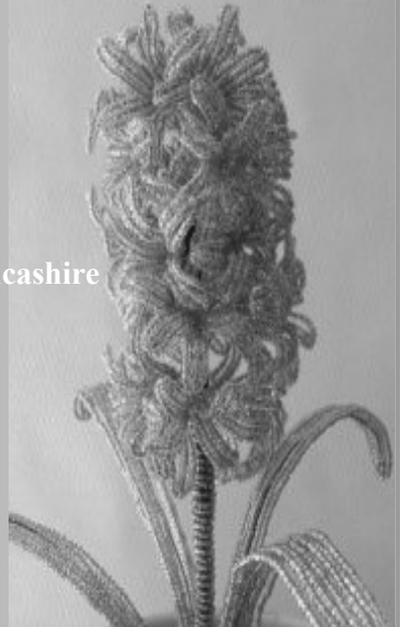
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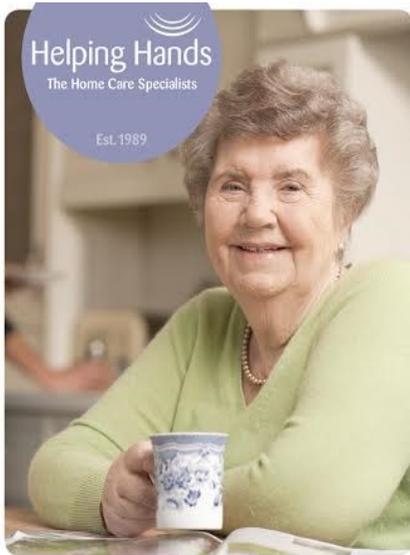
# What's On

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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## Halsall Weather 1500-1699

In 1502 in the reign of Henry the Seventh the swallows left early which boded a cold winter for England. The sea froze at Marseilles in southern France and the Thames did likewise in London. A severe easterly wind flow across Eastern Europe kept the fields in Halsall hard as iron until well after plough Sunday after the feast of the Epiphany. Most of the villager's clothes were made of wool and they often remained damp, being very difficult to dry. To venture out in a cold wind with damp clothes would literally freeze the clothes on your back.

The early years of Henry VIII's reign were cold with the Thames frozen in 1510,1511,1517 and 1523. In 1527 chronicles recorded the wettest period in English history when rain fell every day from April 12<sup>th</sup> until June 3<sup>rd</sup>. However, it was all change in 1533 when Ann Boleyn gave birth to Elizabeth during a summer of cloudless days, grain was plentiful even in the North. The fruit was so heavy on the branches it made the trees bow to the ever giving Sun. The Moon shone on fragrant nights on the warm sandstone of Halsall church. This trend continued in 1538-1541 with 1540 being described as the year of the Big Sun. Drought followed and became widespread with many rivers reduced to a trickle until nature restored the balance with a very wet summer in 1542. At the end of Henry's life in the winter of 1546/7 an intense frost set in, to speed him on his way to the grave and in 1556 in the reign of Mary I, a drought was responsible for the six fold increase in the price of wheat, making many peasants very unhappy and hungry. The hot summer of 1558 caused storms which blew the lead off many churches in the north.

In 1564 the court of Elizabeth I played sport on the ice on the Thames (the little ice age). The more widespread usage of glass, by those who could afford it, eased the cold when winter winds blew. Extremes in weather in 1577 caused a tornado on March 27<sup>th</sup> in the North which damaged barns, cottages and again caused damage to the roof of the church. In 1588 a series of storms due to the southerly aspect of the jet stream caused violent storms which helped the Royal Navy to defeat the Spanish Armada in the Channel. The storms blew all around the coast and lasted several days.

1607 is known as the great winter. Mature trees died because of the severity of the frost. Drought occurred regularly in the early part of the century and in 1637 leaves became so brittle on the trees because of the dryness that they fell in early September giving a wintry appearance to the countryside. However, there followed bitter winters and poor harvests. The year 1652 had snow in the winter which lasted on the ground until mid March while 1653 had a widespread drought. An angry storm on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1658 shook the houses on the night Oliver Cromwell died. The summer of 1666 was dry and this helped the fire in London to become established. From mid November in 1683 the winter was one of four coldest winters on record. The ground froze at nearby Manchester to a depth of 12 inches. This was the winter described by novelist R D Blackmore in his novel Lorna Doone. The end of the century was marked with successive cold winters. In 1697 huge hailstones were reported over North West England but the following year was a good harvest in the north west and the century finished with good summers and harvests.

**Stephen Henders**

Next time, the weather in Halsall 1700-1899

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