

HALSALL NEWS



Photo by Kirstie Lawton

March 2023

PLATINUM TRAVEL

AIRPORT TRANSFERS & EXECUTIVE TRAVEL



HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL
WE MEET 2ND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH
Next meeting 7:30pm 8th March at St Aidan's Hall
PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARDS FOR DETAILS

April 2023 MAGAZINE

**Closing date for Articles and Adverts :
3rd Tuesday in Month, 21st March 2023**

**Contributions by Email only to Chris Pyne
chrispyne@gmail.com**

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

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 6701
Police Contact (non urgent)	101 OR 01695 566058
Local Police Officers or PCSO's	01695 566444
Street Lighting Fault Reporting Line	0300 123 6701
Fire Safety Helpline	0800 169 1125

POLICE CONTACT DETAILS

**Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, Christopher Hamill e-mail
847@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.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair	Elizabeth Wright	07817 056145
Vice Chair	Jimmy Ridley	07941 591937
Councillors	Raymond Brookfield	07771 798167
	Andy Timon	07979 768562
	Melissa Schofield	07512 584644
	Mary Lyons	01704 840607
	Keith Wright	07507 209674
	Kim Pyne	01704 841467
	Noel McCarthy-Thomason	07485 151395
	Vacancy	
Acting Parish Clerk	Chris Pyne	01704 841467
Borough Councillor	Denise Hirrell	07419 922246
County Councillor	David O'Toole	01695 421056

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	Elaine Ayre	07896 301322
	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	Edward Carr	01695 423817

Any news about local voluntary or charitable events are published free of charge. Please send me your notices.

Always looking for new photos for the magazine cover, some spring-themed ones for April and May would be welcome. I will publish a credit for your photo or you can be anonymous.

Thank you to all of our advertisers for supporting the Halsall News.

New adverts are very welcome as they support the news articles and public information in this local magazine.

chrisjpyne@gmail.com or Chris at 01704 841467

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST.CUTHBERT, HALSALL

Parish Surgery

Phone: 0151 526 2292

Email: stthomassteph@btinternet.com

Parish Surgery: Anyone wishing to arrange a Baptism or Wedding should ring the Parish Secretary to make an appointment. The office is staffed Monday-Wednesday 9.00am—1.00pm.

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 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.

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.

Elaine Ayre 07896 301322



CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

March 2023

12th March	P Carr	J Bond A Grimshaw	E Carr	A Webster
26th March	E Wroe	J Wroe S Richards	G Williams S Kierans	J Stone



The Rector Writes

There are times when it seems like the world is moving from one disaster to another. The war in Ukraine is now in its second year, with no sign of any resolution. We continue to witness the overwhelming devastation and ongoing suffering of so many in the aftermath of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. And beyond the news headlines there are other people and places enduring the myriad challenges of climate change, extreme poverty and exploitation by those with power and money.

This year the church's season of Lent falls in March. Lent can sometimes seem like a time of gloomy despondency as we are asked to honestly reflect on who we are. Lent and Easter speak to us in a way that Christmas never can, because they speak directly to the reality of our messy and broken world. A world where terrible things happen to so many. Perhaps that is why people try to ignore it.

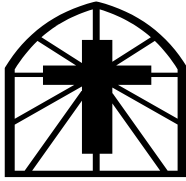
The church asks us to observe the 40 days of Lent as a way of preparing for Easter. You might feel called to deny yourself a luxury or two or commit to taking on a challenge. You could attend the Lent course on the Lord's Prayer at St Thomas' Lydiate or come to a short service of Morning Prayer at 8.30am on Thursday or Friday at St Cuthbert's.

If we dare to pause and are honest with ourselves, both our own experiences and those we witness on our television screens can lead us to understand more deeply the human reality of the Christian faith:

- Jesus was someone betrayed and ostracised by his friends but never overwhelmed.
- Jesus was revered and adored by those with nothing to lose but reviled and ridiculed by those with power and influence.
- Jesus was willing to die to restore humanity's relationship with God and creation.

If we take up the invitation to come and see, we will find that Jesus' life and ministry mirrors our own lives with its inevitable twists and turns. We will also learn, if we are willing to be open, how Jesus brings light, hope and direction even in the face of death.

Susan Salt



Sunday Services in the United Benefice for March 2023

Sunday 5th March

- 8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion
& Church Without Walls
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist

Sunday 12th March

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

Sunday 19th March - Mothering Sunday

- 8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Mothering Sunday Service with St Cuthbert's Primary School
(No Messy Church)
11.00am St Thomas Family Service for all ages
(Arrive from 10.15 for activities and refreshments, followed
by short Family Communion Service)

Sunday 26th March

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

A warm invitation is extended to everyone to join us at any of our United Benefice Services.

Lent Course

This will run on Wednesday Evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm in the Lady Chapel of St Thomas' at Lydiate on 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March 2023. We will be looking at and reflecting on the Lord's Prayer using words, music and art. All are welcome. If you have never been to a Lent group, then why not give it a go this year as part of your preparation for Easter?

Advance Notice of Services in Holy Week

A chance to create a bit of space in our busy lives to reflect on what the death and resurrection of Jesus means to us and the world today. Each day during the week we will have a simple, said reflective Communion Service using various forms of words with space to pause, ponder and pray. You are welcome to come to one or all of the services.

Sunday 2nd April - Palm Sunday

- 8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion
(No Church Without Walls due to school holidays)
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist

Monday 3rd April

- 7.00pm St Cuthbert's Said Holy Communion

Tuesday 4th April

- 7.00pm St Thomas' Said Holy Communion

Wednesday 5th April

- 7.00pm St Cuthbert's Said Holy Communion

Thursday 6th April – Maundy Thursday

- 7.00pm St Thomas CW Holy Communion & Vigil until 10pm

Friday 7th April – Good Friday

- 11.00am Walk of Witness starting at Our Lady's and finishing at St Thomas'
2.00pm St Cuthbert's Good Friday devotions

Saturday 8th April – Easter Saturday

- 7.30pm St Cuthbert's Easter vigil, blessing of the Easter Candle & renewal of baptismal vows

Sunday 9th April – Easter Sunday

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

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)



It would be appreciated if all Christmas Wreaths and Grave Pots could be removed by the end of March, please.



CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for more volunteers to join our small band of Cleaners.

It is not hard work, just dusting, and hoovering. Your commitment would be one hour, every 6 weeks. Please come and join us to keep our church looking beautiful.

If you are interested please contact

Pam Carr on 01695 423817 or email pam.carr1974@outlook.com

Supporting St Cuthbert's Church

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. The website provides links to the Parish Giving Scheme, the Friends of St Cuthbert's Scheme and how to contact us.

How to Donate

Regular donations and "one off" donations can now both be made via our Parish Giving Scheme. You can choose how regularly, how much and whether your donation can be gift aided. Your gift will then be passed directly to St Cuthbert's. You can scan the following QR code to make a donation or search using the following web address.

Scan to access the Parish Giving Scheme



Donations can also be made in Church either on the plate during our services or by using our "Goodbox" electronic payment system which is located close to the entrance (opposite the font).

Or www.parishgiving.org.uk

Friends of St Cuthbert's

If you would like to join our friends scheme there is a link to the forms on our website home page. All funds raised through the scheme are directed specifically towards the repair and maintenance of the Church and grounds. There is a minimum donation of £20 per year but you can choose how much and how regularly you would like to donate.

Further information can be obtained by contacting us via our e mail address: info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk

Thank you so much for your support.



WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS

March 2023

	Warden	Deputy Warden	Sides persons
5th March	Elaine Ayre	Anne Grimshaw	Beryl Sephton Len Davidson
12th March	Pam Carr	John Wroe	Bill Banks John Wroe
19th March	Elaine Ayre	Colin Throp	
26th March	Pam Carr	Angela Webster	Christine Jones Rebecca Ridley

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Thanks, Stay Safe
West Lancs Neighbourhood Police Team
Neil Cronshaw PCSO Ormskirk

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Medieval Time



When the church was built 1270-1320, time was only accurate once a day and that was midday when the Sun was at its highest and therefore with the aid of a stick in the ground, or a sundial on a building; the shadows would reveal morning and afternoon and the day was divided for work purposes. If it was very cloudy it would be hard to determine noon accurately, but the circadian rhythms of life and the habits of the body clock would permit quite good estimates.

Hours were similarly marked this way before time pieces became widespread. Monks in the nearest abbey at Burscough, might have used candles of a certain width or length, in order to gauge twelve passing hours and calculate services times in the monastery. A parish church was less complicated, but it was important to have the service of Mattins as early as possible, perhaps when the Rector woke up. Mass had to be said before midday and Vespers or evening service as light faded. The seasons and length of day would make a difference to service times and in the winter when the church was so cold, the Mass in church was said during the lightest hour before noon.

Knowing the time to ring the angelus bell for the middle of the day was very important in an agricultural community when workers would rely on a signal to recite the Angelus and eat their food in the fields. Most churches were built with the main altar due east making the church itself readable like a sundial. Halsall St Cuthbert's, however strays 12 degrees out to east north-east equating to what we would call today 'one full hour'. This had the effect of making sun dials or markers on the walls show apparent midday an hour early.

The reason Halsall church was built out of alignment was probably due to the need for secure, firm foundations on the sandstone. The problems for medieval villagers because of this misalignment meant that midday was perceived an hour before, causing mix up for trade and business with people from outside the village. It could also have made mornings shorter and afternoons longer. Halsall depended on the Sanctus bell being rung at the correct time to summon people for Mass, to mark noon and to mark curfew.

It is a curious fact therefore that Halsall gave its Sanctus bell to Melling church which had no bell. The time was rung then from the 6 bells in the bell tower. When Halsall requested the return of the bell in the 19th century it was broken. The present Sanctus bell was a gift by Lady Hilda Lethbridge in 1948 and is from a Spanish ship which ran aground during the Armada of the 15th century.

By the 15th century timepieces were being used in London and clocks were appearing on some buildings but Halsall was a backward and remote area and did not acquire a clock until the 17th century ¹. The sundial installed in the 18th century is a flat, stand-alone model and not a permanent addition on the building like that at Ormskirk, so the mis-alignment was therefore recognised but would not be common knowledge to the ordinary villager.

Stephen Henders

¹ Lancashire quarter sessions note a petition in 1654 to pay wages to Henry Clarke for dressing the church and tending the Clock.

Saracen's Head Crown Green Bowling Club

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

New Members Welcome

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

Social Bowling twice weekly

Thursdays 1.30pm - 4pm with Pete & Beryl

Sundays 2.00pm – 4.00pm with Marty

We will provide the bowls and tea & biscuits!

You don't have to be a member ..or a bowler.

Tuition can be arranged if you are new to bowling

Come along and give bowls a try. 50% Discount on your first year's membership fee if you decide to join us.

For further information, please contact

Lynda Hodge on 07435 971762

Check our Facebook page and website for more info

<https://www.facebook.com/saracensheadbowlingclub>

The Village Bakehouse

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Halsall Scarecrows

Enid (Banks) & Eleanor (Wroe) have enjoyed organising the Scarecrow Event over the last seven years but they have both taken the decision that the time has come for them to take a step back.

They would like to thank all those who have supported them over the years by making a scarecrow. There have been some fabulous ones on show, too many to fit on the page - but here are just a few of them to remind us of the pleasure they gave to the people of Halsall and also to the drivers passing through.



Their thanks also go to those who supported the Scarecrow Trail Weekend. It was lovely to see so many families taking part to help raise funds for the Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group.

So is that the end of the Scarecrows in Halsall? Well, that's up to you. Are there people in the village who would like to see it continue in some form or other and be willing to get together to plan and organise it and maybe raise funds for a different cause or just do it for fun?

If so, please get in touch with either Enid or Eleanor and let's see if there are enough willing volunteers to get things underway.

Enid enidbanks@aol.com
Eleanor elliwroe@hotmail.com



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What's On!

Club/Group	Meetings	Contact
1st Halsall Scout Group Boys & Girls age 6-14	Scarisbrick Village Hall Monday 6.30-8pm	Karen 07973953651
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
FROG Friends of Shirdley Hill Village Green	9.30am Tuesdays & Fridays	01704 840607
Jigsaw Library Its free to join and free to borrow.	We ask for a dona- tion of a jigsaw then you can borrow as often as you like.	Sue Charnock Facebook Page
Halsall Badminton Club	Halsall School Thursday 7.30pm	Jim 01704 840908 Margaret 01704 840305

If there are any community groups, social groups, sports groups or well being groups starting up let me know and I can add them to the 'What's On' section.

Chris Pyne 01704 841467 or chrispyne@gmail.com

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I run a jigsaw club from my home in Scarisbrick. I have over 200 jigsaws available to lend out which has proved very popular during lockdown. I read that the virus can stay on cardboard for 24 hours so all jigsaws are quarantined for 72 hours before being lent out. Being close to the Morris Dancers, I am well positioned for people to swap jigsaws on their journey to/from hospitals/shops.

Its free to join and free to borrow. We just ask for a donation of a jigsaw then you can borrow and return as many jigsaws as often as you like. I have done over 60 jigsaws since lockdown began so it has saved many of us a lot of money. I have attached the link below.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1526267210867010>

If anyone has any jigsaws they could donate,
I will happily collect. Thank you.

Sue Charnock

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

Please note that all advertisements must be paid for prior to being included in the magazine.

All adverts include a listing in Trades & Directory Services section for further 12 months

To advertise please contact Chris Pyne
01704 841467 or chrisjpyne@gmail.com

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Planning

2022/1358/FUL Gettern Farm, Plex Moss Lane. First Floor Extension.
2022/1318/FUL Renacres Hall Farm. Proposed Canopy for displays
2022/1324/FUL Convenience store at Moss Road / Bentham's Way, Halsall. WLBC Borough Councillor Denise Hirrell has asked for this application to be called-in to Planning Committee due to objections raised by residents.

Report from Halsall Parish Council -Traffic & Road Safety Group

Detailed analysis of the most recent collisions show that 8 out of 10 were caused by motorists crossing to/from Morris Lane to Renacres Lane (1 left turn and 1 not specified). New "Dragon's Teeth" road marking are being proposed to warn motorists of approaching the junction plus a refresh of other road markings and signs.

The council has approved a proposal to purchase its own speed recording and traffic monitoring device so that locations in the parish can be measured and analysed. Priority locations can then be escalated to Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and LCC Highways.

News about our Staff and Councillors

Following the statutory notice of a Councillor vacancy in March, the Council will consider applications for a voluntary co-opted Councillor at the April meeting. Any one interested in joining the Council should contact the Chair, Elizabeth Wright and submit a written CV application to Parish Clerk (halsallparishclerk@gmail.com).

St Aidan's Hall Committee

A new group of councillors and residents has been formed to manage repairs and improvements to the Hall. There is potential to make more use of the Hall for bookings. The Council wishes to thank volunteers for assisting with the work.

Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th March 2023 at the St Aidan's Hall, Renacres Lane, Halsall at 7.30 p.m.

A list of Councillors and contact numbers are at front of the magazine.

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

Cllr Elizabeth Wright, Chair Halsall Parish Council 07817 056145
Chris Pyne – Acting Halsall Parish Council Clerk 01704 841467



We are holding Halsall's GB Spring Clean 2023 on

Sunday the 12th March at 2pm,

starting at the Memorial Hall Playing Field.

If you are able to join in it would be fantastic to see you. Please bring gloves if you have them. I should be able to provide Hi-viz jackets and litter pickers. If you cannot be there on the day, then pick a little litter next time you are out for a walk or a jog.

No one is too small to make a big difference.

A small act can change the world.

See you soon.

Conor

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Regular Events at Memorial Playing Field & Hall

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Mon	19.00 20.00	Belly Dancing Class	Lynn Campbell 07764 635550
Tues	11:00	Flow Strong Fitness & Dance Fusion	Christine Kearns 07792 590581
Tues	19:30 21:00	Halsall Family History (Alternate weeks)	Chris Pyne 01704 841467
Wed	13.45 14.45	Dog Training	No vacancies
Wed	18.00 19.00	Puppy/Beginner Dog Training Advanced Dog Training	Andrea Little 07854 592371
Thur	19.15 21.15	Maghull Dog Training Society	Ken Wyatt 0151 287 5600
Sun	11.00	Halsall F.C.	Paul Williams 07810 448136
Sun	14.00	Southport W.F.C.	Noel Warham 07939 726286

HALSALL WAR MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD & HALL

The Trust is an independent self-funding charity that manages the Memorial Hall and Playing Field.

Christine Kearns has a new dance class on Tuesday and another staff training day has been held for a local company. The Hall is available most daytimes and our access to the internet with a projector is ideal for any instructional events. Anyone want to setup an IT class or organise a party with a video link to overseas relatives ?

On Sundays, Halsall FC play at 11:00 and Southport WFC play at 14:00, so for home matches the car park will be very busy. Please do not obstruct Cross Lane residents' access along Cross Lane.

The noticeboard has a weekly list of events.

Chris Pyne	Secretary	01704 841467
Liz Wright	Chair	07817 056145

HALSALL HOBBIES

Everyone has hobbies from Astronomy to Zoology so tell us about your hobby. Write an article for Halsall News and you might connect with a fellow hobbyist in our community or help someone start a new interest.

ORMSKIRK MUSIC SOCIETY (OMS)

I am a member of OMS which is a registered charity and has been performing in West Lancashire since 1967, keeping up a tradition of friendly music-making in the heart of our community, including Halsall residents past and present.

There's something for everyone: we've just played Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and Fifth Piano Concerto with the amazing Tom Kimmance and on 1 July, we'll be featuring the music of stage and screen.

Our orchestra rehearses on Thursdays 7.45-9.45pm at Asmall Primary School, Tennyson Drive, Ormskirk, L39 3PJ. We have various vacancies but are particularly interested to hear from string and brass players. There is no audition and we encourage players to come and try us out.

Our choir rehearses on Fridays 7.30-9.30pm at the same venue and we are recruiting all voice types. You don't need to be able to read music and we don't hold auditions.

Our next concert has a foot on both sides of the Atlantic. The choir and orchestra will be performing Randall Thompson's Frostiana, a beautiful setting of seven poems by legendary American poet, Robert Frost, including 'The Road Not Taken'—Two roads diverged in a wood, and I / I took the one less travelled by... The orchestra will be taking centre stage for Elgar's Enigma Variations, featuring the mighty 'Nimrod'. We've been working on some website content to take a deeper dive into the programme so do check us out at ormskirkmusicsociety.org.uk.

The concert is at 7.30pm on Saturday 25 March at St Johns Church, Burscough, L40 4AE (opposite Tesco). You can book tickets online via our website, by phone 07906 129393 or buy on the door—£12 (adults), £5 (student/U18), £25 (family: 2 adults and up to 4 children).

Contact Clare on 07906 129393 / clarebhamilton@hotmail.com.

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Southport	Shirdley Hill	Halsall	Haskayne	Ormskirk
07:50 (Hospital)	07:56	08:06	08:12	08:34
09:27 (Hospital)	09:33	09:43	09:49	10:08
11:45 (Lord St)	12:03	12:13	12:19	12:38
13:45 (Lord St)	14:03	14:13	14:19	14:38
16:30 (Lord St)	16:48	16:58	17:04	17:23
Ormskirk	Haskayne	Halsall	Shirdley Hill	Southport
08:40	08:59	09:05	09:15	09:22 (Hospital)
10:45	11:04	11:10	11:20	11:40 (Lord St)
12:45	13:04	13:10	13:20	13:40 (Lord St)
15:25	15:44	15:50	16:00	16:20 (Lord St)
17:25	17:44	17:50	18:00	18:07 (Hospital)

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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.

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.

Move 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

Tina Lloyd www.mosshousecottageplants.co.uk

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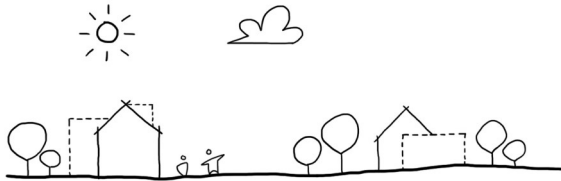


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