



HALSALL NEWS

DECEMBER 2024
JANUARY 2025

February 2025 MAGAZINE

**Closing date for Articles and Adverts :
13th January 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.***

HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MEET 2ND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH

**Next meeting 7:30pm 11th December 2024
at Memorial Hall, Halsall L39 8RN**

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, 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.

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	
	Melissa Schofield	07512 584644	
	David Adams	07795 083885	
	Keith Wright	07507 209674	
	Beth Roberts	07961 697064	
	Julie Ferguson	07415 099652	
	Parish Clerk	Chris Pyne	Clerk@halsallparish.gov.uk
	Borough Councillor	Marilyn Westley	Cllr.MWestley@westlancs.gov.uk 07738 680752
Alexander Blundell		Cllr.Blundell@westlancs.gov.uk	
County Councillor	Jane Marshall	Cllr.Marshall@westlancs.gov.uk	
	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	Carol Ward	07522 206664
	Pamela Carr	01695 423817
	Sarah Mitchell	01704 889237
Verger		07808 064996
P.C.C. Secretary	Edward Carr	01695 423817
P.C.C. Treasurer	Colin Throp	01704 841281
Organist	Edward Carr	01695 423817



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



Worship for all ages

1st December 2024 – Advent Sunday at 9.30am

Church without walls will be leading the service for everyone.

We will meet outside (weather permitting) so bring something to sit on and wrap up warm.
We will be thinking about the Shepherds and why they were the first to hear about the birth of Jesus.



Advent Quiet Services

As we prepare to celebrate the amazing gift of Jesus this Christmas, why not come and spend a quiet hour reflecting on our faith and sharing in a simple said Eucharist?

St Thomas' Church Lydiate
Monday 2nd December 7pm
Monday 9th December 7pm
Wednesday 18th December 7pm



Christingle Service for all the family

Sunday December 24th at 4pm St Cuthbert's Halsall

Come along as we think about the true meaning of Christmas and raise funds for the Children's Society

Make your own Christingle,
create your own Christmas prayers and memories.
All are welcome.
All we ask is a donation towards the work of the



www.childrensociety.org.uk



The Rector Writes

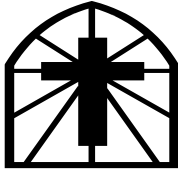
Bishop John, in his letter to the parishes this year, talked about finding calm this Christmas. My first thought was that is a major challenge in so many ways. Ongoing conflicts across the world seem to be stuck in a gruelling cycle of attack and counter attack, with no indication the conflicts are calming. At home many people feel disillusioned with the state of the world. Many are struggling to make ends meet, others feel there is just not enough time to balance family and work life, let alone the additional burdens of caring for older relatives or the wider community. In addition, at this time of year church life moves at a faster pace, with additional services, visits to be made and school assemblies to be delivered. It does not feel calm!

Silent Night, Mohr and Gruber's famous carol reputedly first performed on Christmas Eve over 200 years ago, still provides a moment to quietly reflect on the transcendent moment of Christ's incarnation. Through the inevitable trauma of labour and childbirth comes the time when all is still and we can sleep in heavenly peace. While the shepherds are quaking and the choirs of angels are singing, at the centre is the calming presence of Jesus. Jesus, who later would calm the storm, who would create time for prayer and solitude in the midst of his busy ministry, and who would stand calmly defiant in the face of the persecution that led to his victory on the cross.

Calm, of course, is not the absence of activity. It is something more profound than that. Calm comes when, despite the frenetic activity of Christmas preparations and the chaos of life, we know deep within our spirits that in Christ all is well, and all will be well.

This Christmas, let us try to find some calm in our own lives and within our community. Let's come together to hear a different message that speaks of calm, mutual respect and hope - not anger, division and despair. Let's heed the words of another famous carol: 'Oh hush the noise ye men of strife, and hear the angels sing.'

May the peace of Christ dwell in you this Christmas time and be your inspiration in the coming year; Susan



**Service in the
United Benefice for
December 2024
January 2025**

This month we prepare to celebrate the God's amazing gift of God's love, Jesus, the Christ child. Why not make a bit of space for Christ as you prepare for your Christmas by coming along to a service or two?

Sunday 1st December – Advent Sunday and the start of the Church's year C

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's Outdoor service led by Church without walls
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist
4pm BCP Sung Evensong with All Saints Rainford, at Rainford Parish Church

Monday 2nd Dec

7pm St Thomas' Advent Quiet Service

Wednesday 5th Dec

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 6th Dec

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

Sunday 8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's CW Eucharist
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist
7.00pm St Thomas' Carol Service for the recently bereaved

Monday 9th Dec

7pm St Thomas' Advent Quiet Service

Wednesday 10th Dec

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 14th Dec

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

Sunday 15th December 3rd Sunday of Advent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion (**NO** Messy Church)
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist
4.00pm St Cuthbert's Carols with Marshside Brass band, mince pies and mulled wine

Monday 16th Dec

6.30pm St Thomas' Lydiate Scout and Guide Carol Service

Wednesday 18th Dec

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 19th Dec

9.15am St Cuthbert's said Morning Prayer
1.30pm St Cuthbert's said CW Holy Communion with prayers for healing
7pm St Thomas' Advent Quiet Service

Sunday 22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's CW Eucharist followed with refreshments after the service
11am St Thomas' All Age Eucharist
7pm St Thomas' Nine lessons and Carols

Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

4pm St Cuthbert's Christingle Service
4pm St Thomas' Christingle Service
11pm St Thomas' Midnight Eucharist for Christmas
11.30pm St Cuthbert's Midnight Eucharist for Christmas

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

9.00am St Cuthbert's Eucharist for Christmas
11.00am St Thomas' All age Eucharist for Christmas

Saturday 28th Dec

7pm St Thomas' Quiet Service for Holy Innocents to remember babies and children.

Sunday 29th December First Sunday of Christmas (normal pattern of services)

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's CW Eucharist
11am St Thomas' CW Eucharist

There will be no mid-week services on Wednesday 1st January or Thursday 2nd January 2025.

Sunday 5th January 2025 Second Sunday of Christmas

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion (No church without walls)
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist

Monday 6th Jan

7pm St Thomas' said Holy Communion for the Epiphany

Wednesday 8th Jan

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 9th Jan

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

Sunday 12th January 2025 The Baptism of Christ

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

Wednesday 15th Jan

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 16th Jan

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

Sunday 19th January 2025 Second Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's BCP Holy Communion (with Messy Church)
11.00am St Thomas' CW Eucharist

Wednesday 22nd Jan

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 23rd Jan

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

Sunday 26th January 2025 Third Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am St Thomas' BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St Cuthbert's CW Eucharist followed with refreshments after the service
11.00am St Thomas' All Age Eucharist

Wednesday 29th Jan

11.00am St Thomas' said CW Holy Communion

Thursday 30th Jan

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

All are welcome.

**Why not make a New Year's resolution to find out a bit more about our churches
and the Christian faith?**

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)
- 27th Harry Blundell (Birthday)
- 28th John Johnson (Birthday)
- 29th Richard Bolton Ainscough (Anniversary)

LIGHTING UP ST CUTHBERT'S TREE

You may wish to remember a loved one or simply support our Christmas Tree by sponsoring a light.

If you would like to do so please leave your donation in an envelope (provided at the back of Church) and complete the details before placing in the donations box

The names of donors (if wished) along with those that are being remembered or events that are being celebrated will be displayed around the Tree from 13th December.

Thank you for your support and don't forget that we will be singing carols and enjoying mulled wine and mince pies on Sunday 15th December at 4pm. All are welcome so please come and join us!



**Christian Chatter—January 27th 7.30 - 8.30pm
St Thomas' Millenium Centre**

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.



LUNCHTIME CLUB
AT
ST AIDAN'S HALL



4th December 2024

10 til 1

soup, roll & drink (no charge)

18th December 2024

12 til 3

Christmas Lunch £10.00 (bookable in advance)

15th January 2025

12 til 3

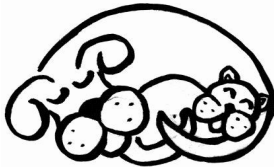
Lunchtime club £7.00

29th January 2025

10 til 1

soup, roll & drink (no charge)

Contact Noel on 07485 151395 for further details



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ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE

47. Birds in the Wilderness

IN these notes, we have now considered about fifty creatures, great and small, which are mentioned in the Holy Scriptures. Some of the more familiar animals were of immense importance to the early Hebrews, for they were almost entirely dependent on them for their living. These were the animals, domesticated in man's early ages, that are still as essential to mankind to-day. Others, probably known to country-dwellers, find mention in the Bible only in literary and metaphorical passages, while many are referred to incidentally, perhaps in a single verse, or else are found in contexts which give little help in identifying them; such are some of those animals prohibited as food to the Israelites, listed in Leviticus, chapter 11, where it is virtually impossible to know just what kind of things they were.

For instance, the bird referred to as a swan can hardly have been the huge water-fowl that we know so well, and the Vulgate is perhaps nearer the mark when it uses the word 'Ibis.' The 'Cormorant' also seems to have been

a water bird, probably a sea bird, but the word which is so translated in two of the three passages is elsewhere rendered pelican.



Wesometimes hear the expression 'a pelican in the wilderness,' and, knowing this strange bird's fishing habits, we ask ourselves how such an expression could possibly be correct, but in this we should realize that the Biblical wilderness was merely a desolate, lonely place; it might or might not be the desert that we usually picture it to

be. John the Baptist is pictured living in the wilderness, but yet he did his preaching in the valley of the River Jordan, where he used to baptize his disciples.

By the time you read this note I hope that I shall have paid my first visit to the Holy Land to see, in their own natural surroundings, many of the creatures about which I have been writing. I hope that I shall then be in a better position to complete a book on the animals of the Bible that I have long been wanting to write.

GEORGE CANSDALE

Constantine the Great. A.D. 306 to 316



He makes Treves his capital and he adorns it with fine buildings



He leads his army across the Alps to march on Rome



Constantine issues the Edict of Milan granting Christians freedom to worship



Crowds assemble joyfully to attend the consecration of new churches

PUZZLE COLUMN

23. ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS QUIZ (open to all)

Below are twelve questions which all relate, in one way or another, to the Advent and Christmas season. They are not particularly easy, but that is not important, because you may do anything you like (short of writing to the Editor of Question Page) to discover the answers.

1. What is the significance, in the Calendar, of 'O Sapientia'?
 2. Why was St. Thomas called Didymus?
 3. What is the emblem of St. Lucy?
 4. What creature—other than an eagle—is associated with St. John the Evangelist?
 5. What ancient Roman feast was kept on December 25th?
 6. Give the name of a notable person baptized by the last person mentioned in the December Calendar.
 7. What was the old English nickname for the Innocents' Day?
 8. Name some of the people of whom St. Nicholas is the Patron.
 9. What association can you discover between the Feast of the Conception of the B.V.M. and the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion?
 10. What connection is there between the Yule log and the Nativity of Christ?
 11. With which Christian Holy Day is the robin properly associated? (Brush up your legends.)
 12. In lighter vein—why are you, or should you be, glad to see the back of St. Thomas?
- Two book tokens for half a guinea will be awarded for the best answers examined, and—fair's fair—this month the Clergy do have a handicap: their answers must be given in some form of 'poetry.'

24. CHRISTMAS TOPS AND TAILS (age limit 13)

The aim of our Christmas puzzle is to complete the pattern with five-letter words from the following Christmas carols: 'O little town of Bethlehem'; 'Once in royal David's city'; and 'While shepherds watched.'

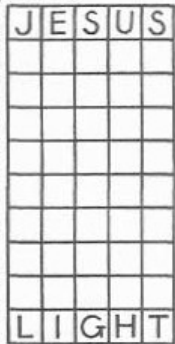
In choosing words to complete the pattern the following rule must be kept: Each word must begin with the same letter with which the previous word ended. Thus the second word will have to begin with S, and the ninth word will have to end with L.

Be careful to see that each new word begins with the last letter of the previous word, e.g. Greet—Thread—Dread.

Three 5s. book tokens for the first correct entries examined. Don't forget your name, age, and address. Entries to: The Puzzle Editor, THE SIGN, 28 Margaret Street, London, W.1.

Closing date for both puzzles: December 15th.

September winners: See page 55.





**St Cuthbert's Carol Service
Sunday 15th December at 4pm
with Marshside Brass Band**

Come and sing all your favourite Christmas carols.
Followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

You are welcome at any of the other Carol services in the
Benefice

Sunday 8th December 4pm

St Thomas' Light in the darkness a reflective carol service

Sunday 22nd December 7pm

St Thomas' Nine lessons and Carols

Ormskirk Music Society Choir

Calling all singers...

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Call 07908 688167

Email sjhenders1@gmail.com

ormskirkmusicsociety.org.uk



Registered charity 512004



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Sat 7th Dec 9-4pm
Sun 8th Dec 9-3pm



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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

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If you require any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.



HALLS FOR HIRE

ST AIDAN'S HALL Hire (new rates from January 2025)

Hourly rates are as follows

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

Contact Chris Pyne 01704 841467
Halsallparishclerk@gmail.com

MEMORIAL HALL and PLAYING FIELD Hire

The hall is available for bookings; days, evenings, Saturdays
after 7pm and Sundays
Changing Rooms, Showers, Toilets, Kitchen, Main Hall with
Dance Mirrors. Tables and Chairs for 60+ guests.

£12 per hour, £10 per hour for regular users
Catering service available from Bakehouse Café next door
Folding Tables and Folding Chairs available to hire

Contact Chris Pyne on 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

MLS INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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22a, Liverpool Road North,
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- 4 Payment for vehicle.
- 5 Collection of vehicle and paper work at your convenience.

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Tristan R, Burscough

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Company Number: 11266056

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What's On!

Club/Group	Meetings	Contact
1st Halsall Scout Group Boys & Girls age 6-14	Scarbrick 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
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 Brigade	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.Cuthbert's School Wednesdays from 7.30pm	James McLoughlin 07852 192440

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.

halsallnews@gmail.com

NEWS FROM HASALL PARISH COUNCIL

Halsall Parish Council meets on 2nd Wednesday of each month, Next meeting is 7:30 pm 11th December at Memorial Hall recreation ground.

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

Planning Applications

2024/0902/FUL 32 Linaker Drive, single storey rear extension

2024/0843/FUL La Mancha, change of use to holiday let
- going to WLBC Planning Committee

2024/0718/FUL, 38 Heathey Lane, revised plan, further extensions

2024/0715/FUL, 1 Halsall Farm Grove, children's play structure

Recent decisions

2024/0752/PNC, Green Barn. Asmall Lane - change to dwelling - agreed

2024/0724/FUL, 3 Plex Moss Lane, extension - refused

2024/0400/LDP, 165 Carr Moss Lane, gym in outbuilding- agreed

Halsall Parish Council elected **David Adams** as a **Co-opted Parish Councillor** at meeting on 13th November. Thank you to all the applicants that showed an interest.

Friends Of the Green (FROG) Shirdley Hill Village Green volunteer group won best Public Garden category, Lancashire Best Kept Village competition, for a 2nd year running. Congratulations to the volunteers and all Shirdley Hill residents who support the group and village green.

There will be a Christmas Tree Lights Switch ON Event on 1st December from 4:30pm, hot wine & mince pies to encourage you to join in with the carol signing.

The Shirdley Hill Community Association are having a Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 18th Dec at St Aidan's Hall from 12pm. Tickets £10.

And a New Years Eve event at St Aidan's from 8pm. Tickets £10.

The cost of hiring St Aidan's Village Hall will increase to £15 per hour for one-off events, £10 per hour for regular weekly or monthly hires paid in advance, from 1st January 2025. The Hall has limited capacity at weekends but is free most weekday evenings.

Potholes and Street Flooding complaints should be reported via the Love Clean Streets app on mobile phones or website at www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/report-it-on-the-go/ 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/

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 weather stayed dry for the **Remembrance Sunday service** on 10th November and approximately 50 people came back to the Memorial Hall for the free buffet and refreshments.

Memorial Hall is available to hire, currently £12 & £10 per hour but that is likely to increase next year. It is booked most weekday nights but there are bookings available at weekends and during the day.

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

Mary Lyons, Chair ,and Chris Pyne, Parish Clerk

*Halsall Parish Council would like to wish you all a
Merry Christmas
&
a Happy New Year*



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The service includes:-

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Halsall St Cuthbert's CE Primary School



Firework Display

I'd like to express our sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused to Halsall residents on Tuesday, 5th November, we had hoped to have more cones and barriers in place but these were not delivered on the day. We did try our best to improvise with bales of hay to try and prevent parking along narrow parts of the road but these were actually picked up and moved by inconsiderate motorists. We hope to secure more cones and barriers next year to try and minimise the disruption caused to residents. The firework display forms an important part of our fundraising for the year, and also provides a valuable fundraising opportunity for other community groups such as St Cuthbert's church, Rotary and Young Farmers. We are always looking for ways to work together with our local community so if there are any other charities or organisations that would like to be involved in this event please contact school. We would be particularly keen to hear from any organisation that could help with marshalling the local roads, (Summerwood lane, Carr Moss & New Street) in return for a donation to their charity or group and can provide hi-vis jackets if needed. Many thanks to Rainford Young Farmers who do a fantastic job of managing the parking!

Primary Admissions

The National closing date for Primary applications is Wednesday 15 January 2025, please telephone 01704 840253 or email at bursar@halsall.lancs.sch.uk if you would like to arrange a tour or find out more information about the school.

Christmas

As in every Primary school across the country, this half term is always a busy one, but it still remains one of my favourite times of the year as the children's enthusiasm and joy for Christmas can be so infectious. However, it's important that in the busy run-up to festivities and countless shopping trips, that we try and find time to pause and think about the true meaning of Christmas;

May love come alive within your heart
As Christmas time draws near.
May hope fill each room you decorate
And bring joy to those you hold dear.
May peace be before you at every meal
And faith ring through every song.
For Christ is alive, the light of the world
May he bless you all season long.

Up-coming events/Enrichment

Cinema Night

Friday 29th November

Jack & the Beanstalk Pantomime

Friday 6th December

Reception Nativity (It's A Baby)

Monday 9th December at 9:30am

KS2 Production (Cinderella Rockerfella)

Monday 9th December at 2pm, Tuesday 10th December at 2pm
and Wednesday 11th December at 7pm

KS1 Nativity (Hooray in A Manger)

Thursday 12th December at 2pm and Friday 13th December at
9:30am

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December

Christmas Eucharist Service in school

Tuesday 17th December at 9am - all welcome

Christmas Party

Wednesday 18th December

Christmas Enterprise Week & Christmas Fair

Thurs 19th Dec at 3:30pm



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CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 14th December 2024 at 3pm

St John the Baptist Church

School Lane, Burscough, L40 4AE

Ernest Tomlinson Gaelic Lullaby

Mark Hayes Carols of Eastern Europe

Delibes Suite from La Source

Hertel Clog Dance from La Fille Mal Gardée
arr. Lanchbery

Trevor Duncan High Heels and Meadow Mist

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REVISED ADVERTISING RATES

Due to increasing costs we have had to revise the advertising rates. These will come into effect from January 1st 2025

The Halsall Newsletter is distributed free to all the households in the Parish of Halsall. Approx 1000 households on 1st of each month.

It can also be viewed on line at

<https://halsallparish.org.uk/information/newsletter/>

and

<http://www.halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk/archive/>

Advert Size	One Month	One Year
Full Page	£40	£ 250
Half Page	£30	£140
Quarter Page	£20	£75

The deadline date for adverts is usually the 13th of each month

You can send your advert to this email address halsallnews@gmail.com as a photo, a pdf document, or a word document.

Noel McCarthy-Thomason
Editor
07485 151395

Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group

Looking ahead to 2025 we will be concentrating again in Bishops Walk.

The large sloping bank that runs adjacent to the main road is earmarked for extra planting. First of all we have to prep the area to get rid of all those pesky bindweed roots and reduce the amount of nettles on the area. Our trusty adviser Clare Edwards (leader of the Butterflies & Bees Brigade) has been guiding us in the best way to tackle this and we hope to have made a start on clearing some of the bank already. We plan to have a working party on a Saturday morning once a month to complete the project and if you would like to come along and lend a hand you will be most welcome.

As always, thank you to all the willing volunteers who have helped throughout 2024 by litter picking, mowing, mending fences, weeding and brushing up. What a difference you've made to our wonderful village.



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)

Ormskirk Music Society Orchestra

We are recruiting!

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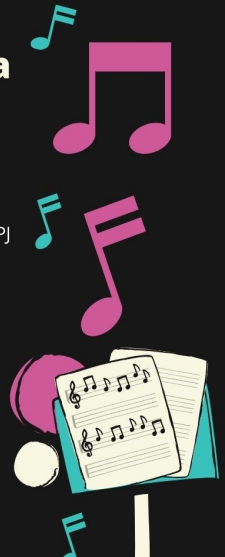
For more info call Helena on 07595 353104

Email hgarritt@talktalk.net

ormskirkmusicsociety.org.uk



Registered charity 512004



The Bees and Butterflies Brigade

When I think back over our planting sessions this year, I remember everyone's hard work but also the chats and laughter we've shared. We have dug out brambles, barrowed soil, piled logs, sowed seeds, put in plants, made habitats and planted bulbs.....all with a sense of doing something good together. That's a great feeling to have! Thank you to everyone who has helped to give nature a home – you are all amazing! A special thank you goes to our Parish Council, for helping us to fund our planting, and to all those in the church and local businesses who have enabled us to achieve so much.

There is no doubt that being outside and connecting with nature is good for us, especially if we take the time to be peaceful and notice what is going on around us. Make a plan this winter to dodge the worst of the weather and get outside if you can. Aim for the woods or the local canal-side, try to have no fixed destination and don't feel you have to rush back. As you explore, take the time to engage as many senses as you can. What does the air feel like on your skin? Is it cool or frosty? Can you smell damp earth or decomposing leaves? What can you hear? Is it the song of a wren or robin? Or is it a blackbird scuffling up leaves to find insects? Do you see the spider making a web amongst the twigs and branches? Can you sense that there is more life out there, hidden from view? Stop and stand or sit for a moment and try to feel closer to nature – feel that you belong in this place. Special, connected moments can give us hope that everything will be alright; they can help us put our worries in perspective and give us solace or joy.

Recently, I found beautiful holly and ivy entwined together in a hedge – look closely and it's a world of shapes, patterns, lines and textures (ouch), woven to perfection.



You can find lots of ideas to help you connect with nature at wwf.org.uk, (World Wide Fund for Nature) – just click on “Get your daily dose” and explore the different options. There are great ideas for adults and children and you can send off for a free pack which includes a nature journal to get you started. I've got mine already!

The Bees and Butterflies Brigade will next meet outdoors in late winter/early spring 2025 and we have plenty of plans for the year ahead. Do join us if you can and whatever you do this winter, have a happy one.

Clare Edwards cedwards1144@gmail.com



Friends of Shirdley Hill Green

Shirdley Hill Green once again was the winner in the 'public garden' category of Lancashire's Best Kept Village Competition 2024. Needless to say, we were delighted to win for a second year. Keith Doyle and Mary Lyons proudly attended the presentation ceremony to pick up our certificate.

During this past year we have made considerable progress on the Green. We now have two sheds, which have proven invaluable for storing tools and having tea and coffee in when then the weather turns inclement. The beds and pots all looked spectacular this year, including a new raised bed for the shrubs that will reduce risks from flooding and a new corner plot and another raised bed being added in the next few weeks.

We are still enjoying the company of the frogs, fish and the moorhens who I am pleased to say had two hatchings this year.

We could not have done any of this without the support of the Shirdley Hill community and Halsall Parish Council. Many have donated time, money and gifts in kind, others provide encouragement when they stop for a chat whilst walking the dog. There are too many people to mention, so a big thank-you to everyone who has supported the Friends of the Green (FROGs) during 2024.

We hope you will join us on Sunday 1st December when we turn on the Christmas lights and sing a few carols round the tree whilst drinking glühwein and eating mince pies.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in the new year. Heres hoping Shirdley Hill Green remains the best in Lancashire in 2025.

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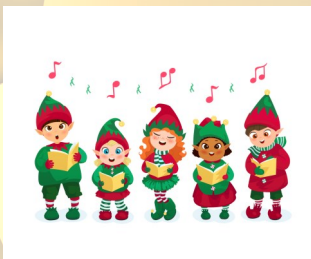
ST CUTHBERT'S CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our Christmas Raffle is an important part of our fundraising calendar, and we greatly appreciate the support that has been given in previous years to help us to keep St Cuthbert's church operating. It costs us around £180 per day to run the Church.

During November friends of St Cuthbert's may knock on your door with raffle tickets to sell and we hope that you will be able to support us by buying tickets again this year.

The draw will take place on 8th December.

Thank you for your support.



***WE WILL BE SPREADING SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER BY
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***SARACENS HEAD ON THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER
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