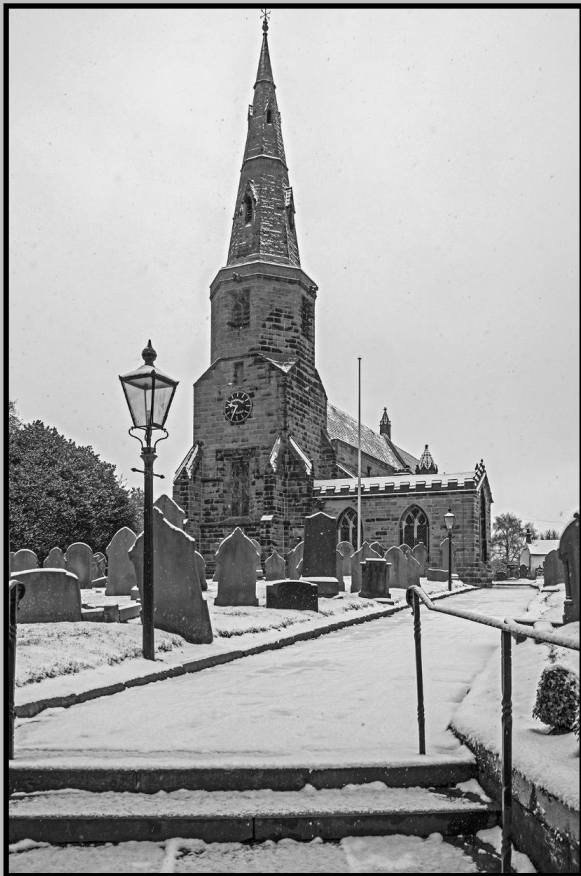


HALSALL NEWS



February 2020

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

March 2020 MAGAZINE
Closing date for Articles: Monday 17th February

Contributions by Email only to Susan Roberts
susanroberts2805@aol.com

Closing date for Adverts: Monday 17th February
susanroberts2805@aol.com

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.

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



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

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Patrick Bell	01704 840607	Chairman
Neil Campbell	01704 566354	Vice Chairman
Brian Young	01704 840091	
David Corfield	01704 840705	
Raymond Brookfield	07771 798167	
Sylvia Corfield	01704 840705	
Elizabeth Wright	01704 562847	
Lynn Campbell	01704 566354	
Barry Assheton	07444 776451	

Parish Clerk

Dave Bond	01704 534090
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Borough Councillor

Maureen Mills	01704 840160	Surgery before Parish Council monthly meetings.
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THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL

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

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, Darren Carr

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

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

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

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST.CUTHBERT, HALSALL

The Rectory
Church Lane
Lydiate
L31 4HL

Phone: 0151 526 2292

Parish Mobile: 07518 926086

Email: stthomassteph@btinternet.com

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

stthomassteph@btinternet.com

The Sick: This parish is committed to the care of the sick. Names of those in need of this ministry, either at home or in hospital, should be given to the parish office on 07518 926086 or 0151 526 2292. The Blessed Sacrament (Holy Communion) is reserved in church and can be taken to the housebound or ill. Holy Oil is also kept for the anointing of the sick.

The Dying: Alex can be contacted at any time in order to minister to the dying on 07798 702831 or 01695 422306.

Halsall St Cuthbert Hub website

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

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

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

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

General enquiries about the site can be directed by e-mail to:

info@halsallstcuthberthub.co.uk

Digital



Resources

Our churches have a website, a Facebook page and a Twitter feed. Hopefully they will provide a gateway to those that already exist and an information resource for those wanting more information about our churches. Weekly Newsletters and service times should be uploaded regularly. If you are interested, please sign up to the Facebook group and Twitter feed. You might also like to make suggestions for content on our website and please let me know any errors you spot!



www.tsncs.church



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



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

The following websites are also recommended:

www.pray-as-you-go.org – a Jesuit resource of Daily Prayer set to music you can listen to.

www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-daily-prayer - C of E daily prayer
www.churchofengland.org/lent - C of E daily reflections for Lent

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

Come and Join Us

At our

FAMILY EUCHARIST SERVICE

On

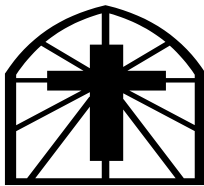
Sunday 23rd February 2020

At

9.30am

(Refreshments available from 9.15am)

A Great Celebration for ALL the Family



Halsall St Cuthbert's Sunday School

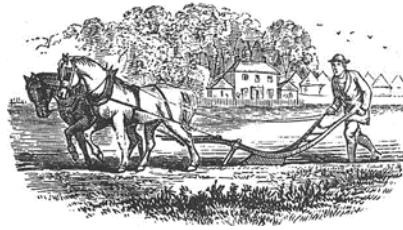


It was a pleasure to see lots of children and their parents enjoying the Plough Sunday service. A big thank you to Matthew Webster for inviting them to have their pictures taken with his tractor and plough. It is something they will always remember.

In February we will meet on the 9th at 9.30am. A 'Family Service' will take place on the 23rd, with refreshments from 9.15am.

We only meet once in March on the 8th, as the school's Mothering Sunday service takes place on the 22nd.

Tara Kenyon and Ann Cushion



The Agricultural Year & The Church: **Celebrating Farming – Praying for Farmers**

Christian Scripture bears witness to the creative power and wisdom of God. In communities such as ours that have such a close link with farming and agriculture, it seems natural to observe the church's traditions linked with the agricultural year. It is easy in our modern comfortable lives to become detached from and feel like masters of creation, but anyone who depends on the weather will testify that we can't yet control everything. Ancient society lived close to the land, and it is no surprise that many of our ancient Christian festivals all have agrarian roots. The Christian tradition, has assimilated, but with differing emphases and in different times and places, particular agricultural festivals. Much of this is bound up with the need to provide food to sustain human life, and the accompanying sense of a proper humility before God as source of all things, gratitude for his goodness, and responsibility in stewarding the resources of the earth. Having just enjoyed 'Plough Sunday' I thought I might include this list of notable festivals and see whether we might think about observing them.

Plough Sunday – 1st Sunday After Epiphany – 12th January.

Asking for God's blessing on all our endeavours for the coming year.

Rogationtide – 3 Rogation Days for the 18th – 20th May 3 days before Ascension.

Asking for God's blessing on the land – Beating the Bounds.

Lammastide – 2nd August

Celebrating the 1st fruits of the Harvest

Harvest Festival – 11th October

(Some Dates May Change)

So What Happens Next?



Dear Friends,

One of my favourite programmes as a young boy was Dad's army. Whenever trouble was just around the corner Corporal Jones would run around in a blind panic proclaiming.

"Don't Panic Mr. Mainwaring!"

On occasion this was accompanied by the Scottish Private James Frazer staring wildly at any onlookers announcing, "we're doomed"!

As I write this many of you are in Cork for Paul's installation in his new parish. I know I'm not saying anything new when I say that at the same time as wishing him well, we are sad to see him go. Paul's departure brings with it unwelcome change. Some of us will be looking to the past, remembering previous incumbents and old ways of doing things, perhaps finding old wounds that haven't healed. Many of you have asked me about what plans the diocese has for our future. So, what can we expect? What happens next?

Of course, none of us can know what the future holds, perhaps the only certainty is that there is only one Paul and so whatever and whoever comes next it will certainly be different. So, we are called to trust. Trust in God and trust in one another.

I am reminded of one of the great Christian mystics Julian of Norwich. In the earliest surviving book in the English language written by a woman, she reveals how, when considering a hazelnut, she came to trust God. Seeing how small and insignificant the nut was, she wondered why it existed at all. In the nut she saw and came to realise that God made it, God loves it, and God keeps it. From that she came to realise that if our creator God cares so much about a hazelnut, then how much more so are we cared for, loved and kept, leading her to proclaim.

"All shall be well and all manner of things shall be well".

In the short term little is likely to change. All those that lead our worship and manage our churches have met and we have a plan for maintaining our current pattern of worship and many have offered assistance in supporting weddings, baptisms and funerals. Of course, losing a full-time incumbent means we will all be asked to contribute a bit more, none more so than our wardens. So please do all you can to help them as much as you can and if you have time and energy, now is the time to offer your services to unburden those who already do a lot.

The process of appointing a new incumbent involves many things, not least our discernment of where God is calling us next. So, pay attention to your prayer life, and your own personal discipleship. I encourage you all to engage with our Bishop's rule of life and stay attentive to where God might be calling us. Listen with your hearts and your heads and with your eyes and ears open, and trust that God will reveal to us his will.

There is preparatory work to be done by the deanery deciding how our churches fit into the deanery plan. We will need to elect parish representatives and prepare a parish profile, all before a post can be advertised. There is an in-depth guide to the vacancy process on the diocesan website which can be found here:

<https://liverpool.anglican.org/Vacancies-Processes>

So there is lots of work to be done behind the scenes and it is likely to feel like the process is taking some time. But that time can be useful too if we use it to our advantage.

Waiting gives us time to adjust, it gives us time to listen to each other and discover each other's fears and longings. It gives us time to think about where the spirit is leading us, what we are doing well revealing God's glory to the world and where we could develop more.

This week we enter a week of prayer for Christian unity. Christians across the world will be praying for each other and for the healing of schisms. This week we enter a week of prayer for Christian unity. Christians across the world will be praying for each other and for the healing of schisms and division within the church. This year the Christian churches of Malta are using the stories of Acts 27 and 28 (when St. Paul was shipwrecked on Malta) to inspire us to *Unusual Kindness*. Some of our discernment process will be easy, some may be difficult. Sometimes we will agree with each other and other times we may not, at all times we are called to *Unusual Kindness*, loving one another as God has loved us.

We have two beautiful thriving, growing parishes. I have no doubt we are known and loved by God and have bright futures ahead of us. Let's proclaim to the world the love of God and work for the coming of his Kingdom.

Alex

Offer Lancashire Constabulary a helping hand this winter

Lancashire Constabulary is asking local people to lend officers a helping hand this winter, by taking simple steps to reduce their risk of becoming a victim of crime.

The *Helping Hand* campaign aims to encourage people across the county to do their bit in keeping our county safe, offering a helping hand to the Constabulary and their local communities by following simple, but effective, crime prevention advice.

This winter, to keep its communities safe, the Constabulary is:

- Increasing patrols, creating a visible presence throughout the county
- Hosting additional neighbourhood policing surgeries to offer crime prevention advice and answer any queries or questions
- Working with local businesses across Lancashire to help them reduce their risk of becoming victim to crime at one of the busiest times of the year for retailers
- Giving out crime prevention materials throughout the county, such as purse bells
- Cracking down on drink and drug drivers to increase safety on our roads during the winter months.

You can support the Helping Hand campaign and Lancashire Constabulary by following these 12 tips:

1. Avoid leaving/storing keys where they can be seen or reached through a letter box or window - some criminals use fishing rods and hooks to pick up keys and take them through the letter box.
2. Consider using timer lights or leave a light on in a room and draw the curtains when you go out at night.
3. Before you answer the door, stop and think if you are expecting anyone - not all burglars wear a balaclava.
4. Avoid doorstep sales or offers, such as drainage clearance for cash up front. Bogus traders often offer too good to be true deals to con you

5. Avoid getting stranded on a night out by booking a cab home in advance. Let your friends and family know your plans. Remember to ask for the drivers name and registration number to ensure you get into the right car.
6. Love your mobile? It takes seconds to be snatched, so try to avoid using it unnecessarily in crowded places.
7. Together, we've got security wrapped up - when out and about, look out for yourself and others, remain vigilant and report anything suspicious by ringing the Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321.
8. Ensure that your car is prepared for the colder months - you wouldn't fly without the proper checks being carried out, so why drive without them?
9. There's no safe drink/drug drive limit. Both drink/drug driving costs lives.
10. When buying or selling online, anyone can fall prey to cyber criminals. Always use secure sites - look out for the padlock symbol in the website address bar. It means that all banking details you put into the site at checkout are safe.
11. Be wary of anyone calling saying they are from your bank. Also, avoid clicking on any links in emails that seem to be from your bank. Both phone calls and email are methods fraudsters use to try and gain access to your bank account. If in doubt speak directly to your bank.
12. When defrosting your car, never leave it unattended while your key is in the ignition. It takes just a matter of seconds for you to become a target.



NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING

2019/1214/FUL - Dicconsons Farm, Dicconsons Lane - Change of use of existing barn to two dwellings, including demolition of an existing building to the rear and construction of new rear extension

2019/1233/FUL - 69A Renacres Lane - Proposed single storey front extension projecting 1.9m from existing dwelling house and conversion of loft to living accommodation

2019/1240/FUL - Hollybrooks Farm, 1 Moss Road - Proposed change of use of detached garage to a single storey dwelling bungalow with separate access and the construction of a detached garage for the existing house

2019/1257/FUL - 72 New Cut Lane - Erection of 1 No. replacement dwelling (in lieu of No. 72) and 7 No. new dwellings, all with private gardens, in-curtilage car parking and served by a new access road, all following demolition of No. 72 – The Parish Council will be objecting to this application.

PARKING ALONG SUMMERWOOD LANE

Cars parking either side of Summerwood Lane at school times and when funerals and weddings are taking place at St Cuthbert's are causing an obstruction and prevent large vehicles, including the emergency services from passing through.

Please use the Memorial Hall car park whenever possible.

PARKING ON NEW STREET NEAR TO THE JUNCTION WITH CARR MOSS LANE

This is creating a dangerous situation for cars trying to turn out of Carr Moss Lane because their line of sight is obstructed and we would ask that people refrain from parking so close to the junction before a serious accident occurs.

PARKING ON CARR MOSS LANE NEAR TO THE JUNCTION WITH LINEKAR DRIVE

Once again the Parish Council would ask people to use some common sense when parking their cars and not to park so close to the junction as to restrict residents of Linekar Drive from being able to see oncoming cars approaching from both directions when exiting the drive.

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL continued

PARKING ALONG MOSS ROAD

Cars parking on pavements are causing problems along Moss Road. Can residents please park in their driveways if possible and leave enough room when parking on pavements to allow prams and wheelchairs to get through.

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant Darren Carr attended our December meeting and addressed policing, speeding, parking and other concerns with the council and those members of the public in attendance.

Sgt Carr indicated that he was happy to answer any queries residents may have going forward and anyone wishing to ask a question should email either himself at

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

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

Parish Council Meetings

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th February 2020 at 7.30 p.m. at St Aidan's 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 in advance of the meeting so that this can be arranged in an organised manner in order to minimise any disruption.

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

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

Halsall St Cuthbert's Primary School

Breakfast Club

In response to requests from parents, we have decided to trial opening earlier each day at 7-30am. This should help our working parents.

Sessions will cost : £3-50 per day before 7-30am
£2-50 per day after 8-00am



There will be no need to book. Children can just turn up.

If the child is absent there is no fee to pay.

There are no extra journeys for the children along the main road, on cold, frosty and wet and windy mornings.



To keep the children occupied, they'll be able to read, use the computers, play on the iPads, watch TV, play construction games, draw and colour, do their homework and just chill.

There'll also be a free, healthy breakfast available each morning with the option of fruit/cereals/sandwich/milk.

The children will join others in the playground at 8-40pm and will be supervised by staff until the bell.

All profits are re-invested into school to purchase class books and resources, certificates, playtime games, baking ingredients, sports kit, biscuit treats etc.

Thanks for your support for our school.

WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS

February 2020



2nd	Lynda Bramwell	Anne Grimshaw	Beryl Sephton Tara Kenyon
9th	Stephen Henders	Angela Webster	Ann Cushion Rebecca Ridley
16th	Lynda Bramwell	Elaine Ayre	Elaine Ayre Philip Banks
23rd	Stephen Henders	Colin Throp	Eileen Houlgrave Ann Critchley



CHALICE ROTA

February 2020



2 nd February	Gwyn Williams	Ann Cushion
9 th February	Diane Comfort	Lynda Bramwell
16 th February	Beryl Sephton	Ann Throp
23 rd February	Sarah Mitchell	Elaine Ayre



CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

February 2020



2nd Feb	E Banks	N Donaldson S Roberts	M Webster	L Wilkinson
16th Feb	A Critchley	P Waterworth C Moss	S Waterworth E Robinson	K Twist M Mills
1st Mar	P Carr	E Houlgrave A Webster	E Carr J Aynsley	A Grimshaw

Halsall St Cuthbert's Update:

Rev Paul : Sad Farewell

We have now said goodbye to Rev Paul Robinson as he moves on to take up a post in Cork in Southern Ireland. Rev Paul will be sadly missed at Halsall St Cuthbert's, by staff and parents and especially by the children. He has been a tremendous asset to the school for over 18 years and has been a major reason for the school's growth and success. We have many fabulous and fond memories of him and we will reminisce about these, for many years to come.

Our thoughts and prayers go with him on this new and exciting challenge in his life.

God Bless him.

Admissions in September 2020.

The closing date for reception admissions in September 2020 has now passed. If anyone has any concerns or needs further information or advice, please ring school. (01704-840253) We are hoping to accept at least 20 children this year.

Christmas Shows

Thanks to everyone who came along to the Wizard of Oz shows and reception nativity, to support the children and help us raise funds for our nominated charities.

The children certainly entertained us with their acting, singing and dancing.

From the ticket sales, raffle, closing donations and DVD sales we raised a phenomenal £3,002 for CLIC (Cancer and Leukaemia in Children) and Zoe's Place. The generosity that our parents and families show is absolutely amazing.

A big thanks also to the staff, for all their hard work and for providing so many wonderful opportunities for our pupils to perform, to shine and grow in self-confidence.

Attendance

The children did brilliantly through the autumn term with their attendance. Altogether, 33 children attained 100% and had no absences at all. That equates to more than a 1/5th of the children on the school roll. Considering the length of the term and the number of bugs and viruses that were prevalent over that period, it certainly was a fabulous achievement.

Dog Mess

Once again, we have found dog mess on the school premises. There was mess on the activity trail and mess on the school field. Several children have been very upset and this is unacceptable. The people who allow their dogs to do this are extremely inconsiderate and give dog owners a bad name. Please could everyone be vigilant and let us know if they see anyone on school premises with a dog.

Let's keep our children safe. Thanks.

12th Place in National Table : Brilliant Achievement

A few weeks ago, The Times newspaper produced a list of the top 50 small primary schools in England. (less than 200 pupils) To create its ranking list, it used the aggregate of the “scaled scores” in Mathematics, Grammar and Reading from the Key Stage 2 SATS last summer 2019.

Halsall Primary was placed equal 12th out of over 5,000 schools. This is a magnificent achievement and the staff and their team of TAs deserve great credit.

Kenyon Shield Awards :

These were our shield winners for the autumn half-term.

Congratulations and well done to these pupils. Keep up the good work.

Rec : Charlotte Roberts

Year 1 : Oliver Major

Year 2 : Hollie Milliken

Year 3 : Adam Molloy

Year 4 : Jaspa Moss-Langridge

Year 5 : Imogen Cringle

Year 6 : Olivia Hughes

Kidz Club and Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club : Following requests from parents, the school has agreed to open its morning club from 7-30am and provide a healthy breakfast. To help parents, the club adopts a flexible system whereby children do not need to book in advance, they just turn up. The children have access to computers, they can play on the iPads, do jigsaws, use construction games, draw, read, complete homework etc. There's lots to keep them busy. Fees are £3-50 before 8-00am or £2-50 after 8-00am.

There are also no fees to pay if a child is absent for any reason.

After-School Club : The Kidz Club continues to provide excellent, on-site childcare from 3-30pm until 5-30pm.

Through the spring term 2020, fees are £4, irrespective of the length of stay.

To help parents, the club adopts a flexible system and no fees are payable if a child is absent for any reason.

Toy Sale

The children brought in all their unwanted toys in early January for our big TOY SALE. This is always a fabulous occasion for the children. They love searching through all the tables strewn with donated toys to hunt out a bargain. Altogether we raised £175 for Christian Aid. Once again, thanks for your generosity in giving and helping those who are less fortunate.

Building Improvements

- We've recently installed a Curriculum Kitchen. It's proving very popular with our baking groups. Thanks to the PTFA for funding this fabulous resource.
- New LED lighting has now been installed in the reception classroom.
- New PIR, outdoor security lighting has been installed in the car park.
- Roller shutters have been replaced and repaired in the reception class.

Doug Scholes (Head Teacher)



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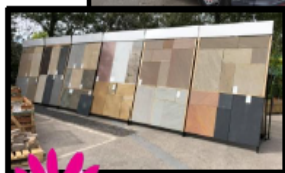
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Bloom & Gro Tub & Basket 56LT

£4.50 or 3 for £10

Bloom & Gro John Innes Enriched Multi Purpose 56LT

£4.50 or 3 for £10

Top Soil 25KG

£2.49 or 10 for £20

Mushroom Compost 40LT

£2.49 or 10 for £20

Decorative Aggregates 22KG

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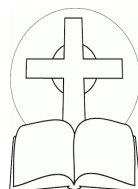
**ALL PROCEEDS TO ORMSKIRK &
MAGHULL LIONS**

HALSALL FROM THE REGISTERS

Weddings

28th December

**Christopher Sharples &
Laura Scott**



A Faculty

A document on display in Halsall choir vestry is a faculty from the 18th century for the purchase and erection of a private pew. This was a time when legalese (The formal language of legal documents) was to the fore and personal property was all important. Owning a pew was like having a piece of 'real estate' and required the expertise of solicitors. St Cuthbert's was under the jurisdiction, at this time, of Chester Diocese and the person overseeing this matter was the Vicar General and principal to Bishop Samuel in the diocese of Chester. His name was Peregrine Gastrell and he was the nephew of Francis Gastrell who was Bishop of Chester in 1714-1725 and one of a long line of Gastrell's who had made a mark in public life.

Peregrine named his son after his uncle Francis. He steered him towards a career in the church and the Rev Francis Gastrell bought and lived in New Place in Stratford upon Avon. This had been William Shakespeare's house and attracted attention from sightseers. Francis became very annoyed by this and in 1756 he destroyed a Mulberry tree which it was reputed Shakespeare had planted. Called to account for this by the authorities, an on going conflict ensued with the people of Stratford. This escalated until in 1759 he demolished the house entirely. This was a severe case of 'cutting one's nose off to spite your face' and would no doubt have given Shakespeare a good laugh as well as material for one of his famous insults.

"I was seeking for a fool when I found you"

"There's no more faith in thee than in a stewed prune"

"You scullion, rampallion, fustillarian!"

You can see the document which Peregrine signed permitting the installation of a pew in the vestry at Halsall Church. Peregrine signed the document with his seal of office in 1738 but by 1748 he was dead. Fortunately he did not see his son run out of town by many townspeople who saw the vengeful act by Francis as a gross act of vandalism.

Stephen Henders



We are asking God for a bigger church so we can make a bigger difference - more people knowing Jesus, more Justice in the world.

From the Liverpool Diocese Website:

For many years we have been working to achieve growth in our diocese. We have used different ways to express this, but the aim and direction of travel has remained the same – consistent with the whole of the Church of England. When Bishop Paul was installed, he adopted our growth agenda refreshing it by saying

“we are asking God for a bigger church so we can make a bigger difference; more people knowing Jesus more justice in the world”.

To help us do this we are calling every worshipping Christian in our diocese to:

1. Sign up to the Bishop of Liverpool's rule of life which will encourage and support us to Pray, Read, Learn, Tell, Serve, Give, **#RuleOfLife**

www.ruleoflife.org.uk

2. Bring 1 person into the regular worshipping and serving life of the church **#BringOneFriend**

www.liverpool.anglican.org/BringOneFriend

3. Do 10 acts of service or find 10 new points of connection beyond the walls of the church **#DoTenThings**



SANCTUARY LIGHTS



FEBRUARY

1st	Marion Chadwick
4th	Peter Bradshaw
5th	Margaret Dutton (Birthday)
7th	Rose Mary Bailey (Birthday)
11th	Alice Jane Ryding (Birthday)
12th	D A Simpkin
12th	Dorothy Cheetham (Anniversary)
13th	Maureen Bailey (Birthday)
13th	Joseph Haldane
15th	John Pilling
15th	John Henry Moorcroft
16th	Anne Louise Moorcroft
16th	Les Marshall (Remembrance)
17th	Robert Heaton (Birthday)
18th	William Stopforth (Birthday)
19th	Lillian Dennett (Birthday)
21st	Nancy Ainscough (Birthday)
25th	Joseph Balmer
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Halsall Village Proud & Tidy Group



Spring will soon be on the way and we can look forward to warmer weather & some sunshine. I am writing this in mid January and it's already quite warm, the snowdrops are out and even some of the daffodils are in flower! Maybe we will pay for it with a cold snap later, but however long we have to wait Spring will definitely arrive. Hurrah!!

Brian has been out and about tidying up over the winter, painting fences and keeping on top of things in Bishop's Walk and because of his hard work the village is looking in quite good shape. Good work Brian! Thank you!

One of the big challenges we set ourselves last year was to find a way to repair and reclad the old battered green storage hut on the Memorial Playing Field which has been in a bad state for at least 10 years. With the help of grants from the Parish Council, County Council & the Memorial Trust the project has been completed. However, it could not have been done without a very generous donation of £450 worth of roofing timber from Newlands Timber Merchants in Ormskirk. A big thank you to Newlands! Another very kind Halsall resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, paid for £750 worth of cladding for the roof. A wonderful gesture. Thank you! As you can see from the photos it's a big improvement and will last for many more years.

As always, there are still a few grot spots we want to improve this year - one of which is the railings on the bridge in Summerwood Lane which badly need painting. We are in talks with the Canal & River Trust who are responsible for the bridge and hope to start working with them to get the job done before June when the Best Kept Village judging starts again.

Thanks to all those who pick up litter when they are out and about. It is a great help in keeping our beautiful village neat and tidy.

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



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Gardener`s Corner

February at-a-glance.

The first signs of spring are starting to appear if you don't mind going out to look for them! February is a subtle month with catkins and the first bulbs cautiously pushing their heads above the wintery earth, while keen gardeners desperately look for some real gardening to do. Happy gardening.

General Garden Tasks

Make new beds and borders

Finish off winter digging

Order plug plants

Prune certain types of clematis – refer to a good gardening book for exact advice

Renewal – prune old shrubs, deciduous hedges and climbers

Brush snow off conifers, large evergreens and hedges to avoid splaying or breaking

Move deciduous trees and shrubs (ideally do this in November or early March)

Plant lily-of-the-valley crowns

Keep deadheading any winter flowering pansies or polyanthus in tubs and hanging baskets

Water and top-dress plants in year-round tubs and container grown herbs

Prepare soil ready for sowing, covering it with polythene sheeting to warm it up for early vegetables

Plan shallots and Jerusalem artichokes.

Prune autumn-fruiting raspberries now, and plant new canes between now and mid-march

Protect strawberries with horticultural fleece

Finish winter-pruning standard apple and pear trees

Ventilate the greenhouse at every opportunity, but water as little as you can get away with

Pot up stored dahlia tubers and lily bulbs

Spray fuchsias with water on fine days to start them back into growth

Chit potatoes if you didn't get chance last month

Take precautions to make sure your pond never freezes over entirely

Get-a-head

Prepare the greenhouse before the season gets fully underway –clean water storage barrels, watering cans, pots and seed trays, propagator and greenhouse glass.

Plants in their Prime

Hellebores, Hamamelis, Viburnum, Mahonia japonica, Sarcococca, Skimmia japonica 'Rubella, Clematis 'Freckles', Jasmine, winter- flowering pansies, Saxifraga apiculata, Daphne mezereum, Abeliophyllum distichum (white forsythia), Sempervivums

Bulbs – Iris reticulata, Crocus, Narcissus (varieties) scilla, Anemone blanda

Tina Lloyd

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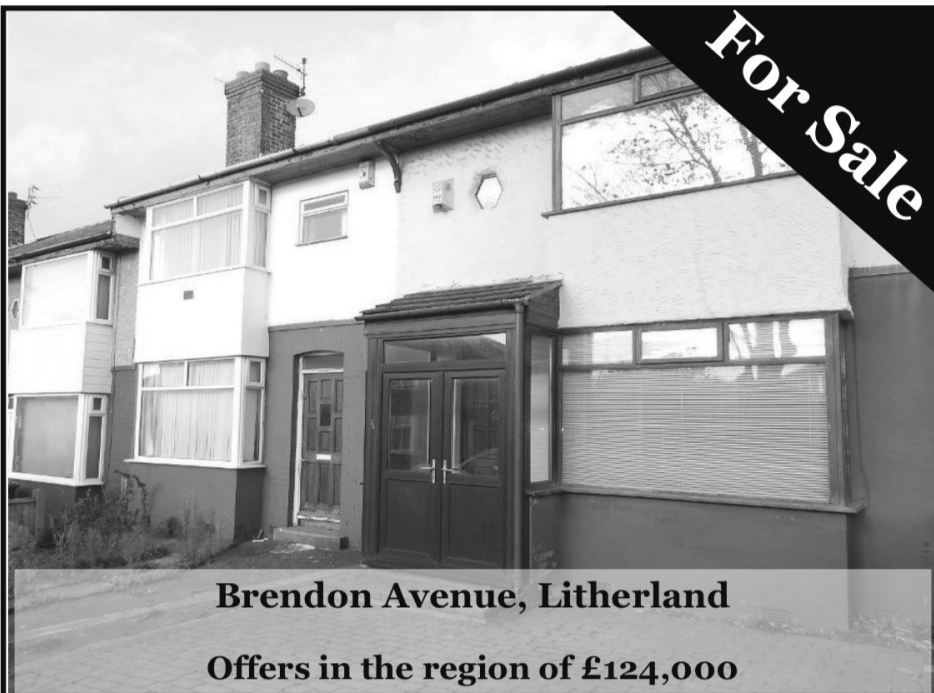
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