



Flag Flying Dates

6th: Coronation Day

HALAM NEWS

May 2026

If you would like to contribute to a future edition of Halam News please send your article (as you would like it to be printed) using the details at the bottom of this page by the 23rd of the month for inclusion the following month. All content is included at the discretion of the Editor.



Bin Collection Dates

Green (Mon): 4th, 18th

Brown (Fri): 8th, 22nd

Silver (Mon): 11th, 25th

Teal (Tues): no collection this month



Parish Pump



Thank you and Good Luck to Ed and The Waggon Team

A fantastic turnout saw more than 60 Halam residents come together for the 'Drink Us Dry' night at The Waggon on Saturday 18th April. As always, Team Waggon made everyone feel very welcome, with great food, a disco and a sing-along.

It was a bittersweet evening. After 10 years as landlord, Ed is moving on to work as an employed chef, and the brilliant team are all going their separate ways.

They have all put so much into making the Waggon the heart of the village, & Ed's class in the kitchen is respected far and wide. It was fantastic to have this final evening to show our love and thanks and to wish them all the very best for the future. They will all be missed & I hope they stay in touch.

Here's hoping Thwaites completes the planned refurbishment and quickly find a new landlord so the pub can reopen soon. Singing optional, of course!

Paul Rawson, Manor House



Maureen Spear

Maureen Spear of The Cottage, The Turnpike sadly passed away on Tuesday 17th March, aged 89. She spent her last 8 months nearer to her family in a care home in Northampton, where she was well looked after and loved by all. Maureen was born in Leeds, trained as a teacher, and retired as Head Teacher of King Edward Junior School in Mansfield. After living in Southwell, Maureen moved to Halam where she lived for 45 years. Maureen loved life and lived it to the full. She will be very sadly missed by family and friends.

Halam WI

Halam WI will proudly be celebrating its 70th Birthday at our May meeting on Tuesday 5th May at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. We are all incredibly proud that our village has such a thriving and busy WI as we reach this major milestone. We will be celebrating with a Kitchen Dancing demonstration with local instructor, Jo Kingston, and it wouldn't be a birthday without some cake and fizz - we look forward to seeing all of our members to raise a glass. As always, new members are very welcome! Follow us on social media @HalamWI or drop us an email at halamvillagewi@gmail.com if you would like to find out more...

Halam Annual Parish Meeting

Thank you to all those who attended the meeting on Tuesday evening, it was good to so many there. Representatives of groups in the village gave short talks about their groups and their activities during the last year. The new Severn Trent Community Flood Officer, Joanna Brocklehurst-Smith, introduced herself and described the new role. District Councillor Penny Rainbow talked about changes to the planning committee, and new planning officer responsibilities, and gave an update about NSDC introduction of a weekly kerbside food waste collection service. There will a major pilot starting in September 2026 and full rollout in October 2027. Peter Harris gave some good news about the new management at the Leisure Centre and the planned re-opening of the swimming pool in June this year. Vice Chair, Chris Denyer delivered the report of the Chair because the fast train from London wasn't fast enough to deliver the Chair.



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Music at Halam Court

Sunday concerts at Halam Court, Back Lane, are up and running again this Spring and Summer. We warmly invite any Halam-ites interested in coming along for an afternoon of live music and camaraderie on any of these occasions: 3 May – Peter Shepherd makes a return visit (by demand!) with piano music by Bach, Schubert and Rachmaninov; 31 May, we have an organ recital at 2.30 p.m. by Peter Davis, the new Director of Music of St Mary's, Nottingham, playing music by Bach, Mozart and others; on 21st June, the delightful Richard Hodges comes with a piano recital which he describes as a Romantic Odyssey; finally, on 12 July, David Butterworth gives us an organ recital entitled "From the sublime to the ridiculous". Entrance is free, refreshments available, and entrance is at the rear of the house. Further info from David on 07850 833890



Halam Parish Council Biodiversity Policy

Changes to the Environment Act 2021 placed a duty on Parish Councils to consider actions they could take to conserve and enhance biodiversity in their local areas, so all parish councils must take biodiversity into account in all their decisions and actions. Soon after January 2024 councils were expected to adopt a policy and agree specific objectives. We adopted a policy in Nov 2024 and have been considering how we can achieve our goals by developing an action plan.

We are a rural village, surrounded by farms and woodland, so we have a great starting point, and on the face of it, it's difficult for the council to think about how we might contribute in a meaningful way, but there are many, often small, things individuals and organisations can do. We decided that one of the ways we can comply with the duty, could be to publish occasional 'Green Tips' like the one below, in the village news. We hope these are taken in the spirit intended; that they are suggestions to either use or not if you are more of a sceptic. As a council we would welcome anyone interested in contributing to the plan.

Green Tip for May

As the mowing season is underway, we thought this would be a good opportunity to consider cutting the grass less often and using a higher setting to keep it longer to encourage a more diverse range of invertebrates and pollinators, as well as encouraging the regeneration of native wildflowers in the public verge areas... And, according to our sources, keeping the grass longer will encourage deeper stronger roots requiring less water.

Halam Parish Council



Halam School News



Just before we broke up for the Easter holidays, we enjoyed our whole school Easter Service in church. As usual, it was very well attended, and we were able to share a range of Readings, songs and artwork with our parents. The following day was our traditional 'egg rolling' and our competition for the best decorated eggs. We had some well-deserved winners! On Monday 13th April, Oak class had their DAaRT Graduation, following the completion of the 10 week program. This was kindly funded by our amazing PTFA, and delivered by DAaRT Officer Clarke, who is a retired Police Officer. The children shared their learning with parents, presenting songs, role play scenarios and lots of information before receiving their well-earned certificates. Well done to all our Year 5 and Year 6 children!



St Michael the Archangel



Many thanks to all those who helped in any way with making Easter a wonderful celebration; from decorating the church, preparing the Easter Garden, sorting out the music all made the service a truly joyous occasion. May is only slightly less busy with services for Ascension Day and Pentecost.

A huge thank you to all those who took the time to read the appeal letter which accompanied the March Village News and especially those who felt able to act upon it; to maintain the church as an open and living space for everyone is costly and every little helps.

For everyone who lives in Halam or worships in the church and is on the church electoral roll, Tuesday 19th May is an important day as at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) it is an opportunity to hear in detail how your church has fared over the last year and also to elect the churchwardens for the coming year. Thank you for all your support.

May services everyone welcome.

3rd May - Fifth Sunday of Easter: 11.00a.m. Morning Prayer

10th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter: 11.00a.m. Holy Communion



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14th May - Ascension Day: 6.00p.m. Holy Communion at St. Giles, Edingley
17th May - Seventh Sunday of Easter: 11.00a.m Informal Service – Creation - followed by coffee
19th May - Annual Parochial Church Meeting: 6.00p.m. Coffee available from 5.45
24th May - Pentecost: 11.00a.m. Sung Eucharist
31st May - Trinity Sunday: 11.00a.m Pet Service Joint with St. Giles Edingley at Halam

Contacts: Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838 Wardens – Penni Wells 01636 813491 – Briony Dickinson 01636 812569

Food Bank: There is a collection point in the Church porch. Very many thanks to all who contribute during these very difficult times.

Message from Rev. Mary

May is one of the loveliest months of the year. The hedgerows are adorned with fresh green leaves, the gardens, and allotments welcome produce like the broad beans. The blossoms herald fruit for later. Nature is wonderful for our well-being.

May 11th is Rogation Day when we especially pray that God will bless the crops and grant us a good harvest, so, we remember all who work on land and sea.

May 14th is Ascension Day when Jesus ascended into heaven – coronation day for Him ‘so in heart and mind may we also ascend.’ There is a service of Holy Communion at 6p.m. in St. Giles, Edingley.

On 24th May it is Pentecost (Whit Sunday) when God’s Holy Spirit was poured out on the church.

‘Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire, strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth!’

On Saturday May 30th Joe and Ellie are getting married in St. Michaels; so, we ask God to richly bless them in their married life together.

So, enjoy Maytime and thank you for all you do for one another and our food bank.

Every blessing, Rev. Mary



DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT APRIL 2026 CLLR PENNY RAINBOW (Ward member for Southwell)



Planning Reforms

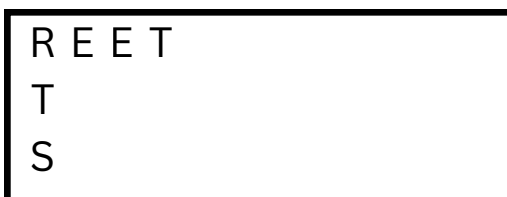
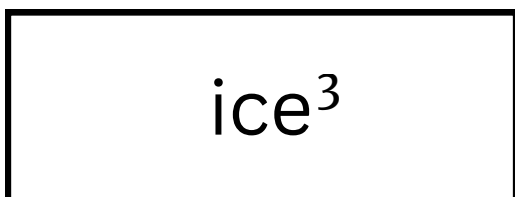
Government is anxious to speed up the planning process in its ambition to build more houses. A new power has been given to the Secretary of State to decide which planning functions should be delegated to planning officers and which should be decided by the planning committee. He/she are also at liberty to decide on the size and composition of the planning committee. A consultation was launched to which NSDC responded. It has been suggested that generally, responses were in favour of a tiered/schedule approach - Schedule 1 sets out which type of applications must be delegated to officers, with no ‘call-in’ facility to committee for members. All householder applications, minor developments (1-9 properties) and lawful development certificates all come within schedule 1, with possibly 10 - 49 properties being added. Schedule 2 will include NSDC’s own applications, plus officers and members own applications, reserved matters approvals, listed building consent, retrospective applications and tree preservation orders will be decided by committee.

Waste Recycling

A waste food collection by NSDC will start in October 2027. However, a pilot scheme of around 3000 properties will go ahead in September 2026, in preparation for the full district wide collection. The pilot areas chosen are Southwell, Lowdham, Yorke Drive and the Hawtonville estate in Newark. Compostable and bio-degradable bags will be tested along with collection caddies for both inside and outside use. A budget of £9,500 was agreed by cabinet for the purchase of bags/liners, communication material and the hire of a collection vehicle. **CLLR PENNY RAINBOW, Southwell Ward**

Dingbats

Last month’s answers: “Easter” / “Palm Sunday”





Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm on Thursday 9th April 2026 held at Halam Village Hall



Please Note: Official parish council minutes will be available after they have been approved at the next parish council meeting. Scan the QR code to link to the website.

Present: Mrs Denyer - acting as Chair, Mr Paris, Mr Bust, Mr Bevans, Mr Subramanian

Absent: Mrs Blackburn, Mr Wright, apologies accepted by the PC

Updates from previous meetings:

None to report

Open Meeting:

No comments made

Report from County and District Councillors:

Report from Cllrs Harris and Roberts circulated

Finance:

Agreed to pay:

Cleaners

Flyers for the Annual Parish Meeting

Agreed to make a donation to Southwell First Responders, for the training session held – clerk to sort

The end of year statement was circulated, the RFO answered a few questions, one amendment to be made

Letter of engagement for the Internal Auditor was signed

Village Hall:

Village Hall maintenance schedule– agreed Mrs Denyer would buy plants for the pots and planters

Painting of the Hall – agreed 3 for 2 abstentions on who to select. Clerk to contact them and sort a start date, need to arrange for the panelling to be done first. A deposit will be paid prior to the painter starting work

Shutters – clerk to clarify whether it is manual or auto and the colour

Allotments

Items that the solicitor requested have been sent off. Mr Paris to contact them

Roads & Hedges:

Replacement finger post at the cross roads – clerk is filling in the paperwork, to replace this

Footpath no 7 no further updates

Double yellow lines on The Turnpike/School Lane – still ongoing

Correspondence:

A housing need survey has been sent round, Mr Bevans to put on Facebook

Lengthsman Scheme:

The paperwork has been sent away for approval

Biodiversity

Mrs Denyer clarified that the Biodiversity Action Plan discussed at the last meeting, is still in draft form

(additions and deletions), when complete it will be sent to Councillors for either re-drafting or approval

It was reported that there had been a meeting with the Churchwardens to consider whether the Churchyard

could be included in the plan. Further discussion will take place

Planning: None

Planning decisions:

Field House – approved NSDC

Walnut Tree Cottage – approved NSDC

Date of next meeting

Annual Parish Council Meeting – Thursday May 14th in the village hall at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the public are reminded that they are welcome to attend any parish council meeting to find out about the work of the council. There is an opportunity to raise issues with the parish council at the meeting during the open part of the meeting.

