



Flag Flying Dates

17th: Birthday of HM The Queen

HALAM NEWS

July 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): 13th, 27th
Brown (Fri): 3rd, 17th, 31st
Silver (Mon): 6th, 20th
Teal (Tues): no collection this month



Parish Pump



The Waggon is Back!

By now you will all probably have heard our names mentioned, Leroy and I have been negotiating with Thwaites Brewery for what feels like an eternity. To say we are excited is an understatement and we cannot wait to meet you all very soon.

A little about us. We have been friends for well over 30 years, meeting and working together in the early 90's and then more recently working together since 2020 at pubs such as The Wollaton Pub & Kitchen, The Unicorns Head in Langar, and The Duck at Woolsthorpe.

As you all know, the pub is currently undergoing its front and back of house refurbishment, it is going to be transformed, and we are very confident you are all going to love the new look. Outside is also undergoing a makeover. We are planning quite a change outside in the walled terrace area and hope to continue to develop the area over the next year or two.

So, what can you expect? A pub at the heart of the community offering a very warm welcome in relaxed surroundings. Our aim is to serve delicious, fresh, seasonal dishes using locally sourced ingredients. There will be a "a la carte" menu serving a mix of pub classic and modern dishes, with sandwiches on the menu at lunch. Sunday will be the perfect place to enjoy a Sunday roast. The food will be complimented with award winning cask ales and a drinks offer that has a little of something for everyone including, premium beers and ciders, spirits, wines, bubbles and cocktails, look out for "Fizz Friday"!

We are planning a mid-July opening, with an early sneak preview for the villagers that we plan to announce very soon. For now, keep an eye out for our posts on Facebook and Instagram, see you all soon! **Simon Barnes**

Halam's entry for the East Midlands in Bloom competition

We are now looking forward to the judges arriving on Thursday 9th July. They will be here at 11.00am and will spend an hour with us in the village making their assessment. Everything is growing so well at the moment, that it seems to be a constant battle to keep the weeds in their place. We would be very grateful if you could clear the weeds from gutters (safely), and also the footpaths by your houses. Where hedges are putting on growth it would be much appreciated if residents would cut them back so that footpaths are a safe width to walk on. If you have any questions, please let us know at: bloominghalam@outlook.com

Betty Godber

The family of Betty would like to thank everyone for their kindness, messages, cards and tributes after her loss at the end of May. Betty moved into Halam aged 5 and apart from a few short periods lived most of her 99 years in the village. She always took an active part in many aspects of village life and although she enjoyed holidays she never wished to live anywhere else. It was humbling to see so many of you in church for her funeral.



Halam WI

Following a very successful evening of painting last month, we are back in the village hall on the 7th for our July meeting. WI member, Debbie Kenyon, will be leading us through a Summery Cookery Demonstration. Looking ahead to next month, we will be "out and about" with a visit to the gardens of Oak Tree Alpaca Farm in Woodborough. New members are always very welcome - if you would like to know more about Halam WI, please do follow us on social media @HalamWI or send us an email halamvillagewi@gmail.com.



Parish Council Resignations: End of an Era

Patrick and Mandy Rickett have worked for the Parish Council as Clerk and Finance Officer for many years but will now be leaving us. Patrick has been contracted as Clerk since 1984, in addition to his 'day' job. Mandy is an elected volunteer Finance Officer and has been managing the council accounts since 1999. The roles of 'Officers' of Parish Councils are changing because of changes in legislation (coming in thick and fast) and are influenced by the modern trend for litigation. When Patrick was contracted in 1984 and Mandy volunteered in 1999, local government was quite different, the increasing demands of the roles have meant that they have given far more of their time in supporting the council than was envisaged back then. There is a lot more to keep up with, more training required, and the roles are becoming increasingly more professionalised. Patrick and Mandy will leave their roles on 4th July, and on behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank them both for the work they have conducted and the service they have given to the council for an exceptionally long time.

Christine Denyer, Chair, Halam Parish Council



Halam School News



On 2nd June, our Sustainability Champions met with their counterparts from the other feeder schools at the Mitre Trust's Eakring base. There, they explored the Rewilding Project. The children shared the fantastic work already going on in our school as well as considering more ways of increasing biodiversity in our outdoor environment.

Oak class went off on 3rd June, for their residential visit to Hagg Farm in Derbyshire for 3 days. They took part in a range of activities such as, archery, climbing, orienteering, bushcraft and stream scrambling. Everyone had a great experience away from home, developing resilience, communication and team building skills. School was very quiet without them! Oak class also attended a Safety Awareness Day at Sconce and Devon Park, on Newark on 12th June. They learned lots about what to do in different emergency situations - some useful life skills.

Cherry Class visited the Minster Cathedral on 19th June, to take part in Time Travelling activities, along with many other Nottinghamshire schools. The event is a special pilgrimage and educational program, offering lots of practical and fun activities for all.



St Michael the Archangel



July is the month when we have a service in church to mark the end of the school year and we send our best wishes to those who are moving on to secondary school. We are pleased to see new people at our services, so if you have visitors over the summer rest assured a warm welcome awaits them at St. Michaels. Summer is also the time when gardens are full of blooms, if anyone wishes to place a vase or small arrangement in church, please do so. If you are unsure or have any questions contact one of your churchwardens, their details are below. Help is always welcome! Thank you for all your support.

July services everyone welcome.

5th July - Fifth Sunday After Trinity: 11.00am Morning Prayer

12th July - Sixth Sunday After Trinity: 11.00am Holy Communion

19th July - Seventh Sunday After Trinity: 11.00am Informal Service – 'Mary Magdalene' - coffee afterwards

26th July - Eighth Sunday After Trinity: 11.00am Sung Eucharist

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

In July nature reveals its full beauty in gardens, hedgerows and allotments. enjoy all the colours, textures and produce. July 3rd is the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle; when he didn't understand things he said so, but eventually he could proclaim to Jesus, 'my Lord and God'. On July 15th at 9.15 we invite the leavers of our school at Halam to go on a pilgrimage around our beautiful church. On July 21st our two churchwardens, Penni and Briony will be admitted to office. So, pray for them in this special ministry. July 22nd is the feast day of Mary Magdalene – the first person to tell about the risen Jesus.

It is with great sadness that we record the deaths of two of our faithful worshippers at St. Michael's; Betty Godber and Christopher Kells. We pray especially for Briony and family and Trisha and her family. We thank God for their faithful witness to Jesus. Thank you for all you do for our food bank and one another.
Every blessing, Rev. Mary



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Report for Halam News: Halam Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm on Thursday 11th June 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: Chris Denyer, Catherine Blackburn, Andrew Paris, Ganesh Subramanian and Charlie Wright

Apologies: Chris Bevans and Simon Bust

Updates from the Previous Meetings

1. Amendments to Councillor Duties – Village Hall Booking: to be managed by Charlie Wright
2. HR Committee Selection – Charlie Wright (Chair), Ganesh Subramanian and Catherine Blackburn. HR Terms of reference to be reviewed at next meeting

Open Meeting

1. A parishioner raised the issue of cattle in a field where there is a public footpath. The cattle had acted in a very aggressive manner to walkers. It was agreed to refer the issue to the County Footpaths Officer and the Clerk will also speak to the landowner.
2. The question was asked as to whether there would be a Harvest Supper event this year. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Finance

Agreed to pay:

1. Village Hall cleaners, 2. Plants for village pots and planters, 3. East Midlands in Bloom flyer, 4. Village Hall panelling, 5. PAT test for village hall, 6. Deposit for the hall painter, 7. Internal auditor fees

Annual Audit Report

1. Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025-26 – approved by the internal auditor
2. Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025-26 – these were reviewed by the parish council and signed by the Chair and Clerk

Village Hall

1. Maintenance schedule – to be updated at the next meeting
2. Painting of the hall – will commence 30th June and is expected to take three weeks
3. Shutters for kitchen hatch – further measurement/discussion is required with the manufacturing company
4. Panelling for the main hall – now completed
5. Update village hall lettings policy – to be reviewed next meeting

Allotments

New allotment holder contracts have been circulated and signed.

Roads & Hedges

1. Replacement fingerpost at the crossroads – information has been sent to County Council Highway. Now awaiting their approval.
2. Stiles on the footpath from Cutlersforth to Machin's Farm – the stiles are in a dangerous condition, and the footbridge is virtually impassable. It was agreed to refer the issue to the County Footpaths Officer, and the Clerk will also speak to the landowner.
3. Footpath No.7; from W & H carpark to St Helen's Lane – the bridge over the Beck has now been re-instated.

Website

The Parish Council Website will continue to be managed by Catherine Blackburn until a new clerk is appointed.

East Midlands in Bloom

Six gardens have been nominated to represent the village; one entry will be chosen by the parish council. Chris Denyer has prepared a draft portfolio to be sent to the judges.

Residents are reminded that judging will take place on 9th July, so an effort to tidy gardens and frontages around the village would be much appreciated.

Correspondence

A Resignation letter has been received from both the Clerk and the Finance Officer. They were both thanked, by the Council, for their long service to the parish. It was agreed that the Staffing Committee will request NALC to advertise for a locum clerk whilst arrangements are made for a permanent replacement.



Lengthsman Scheme

The grant for this year has been applied for. Work to be done will be discussed at the next meeting – councillors to look round the village to formulate a list of tasks.

Biodiversity: Nothing to report this month

Planning: None this month

Planning Decisions: None this month

Date of next meeting

Thursday 9th July 2026 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

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.



District Cllrs Karen Roberts and Peter Harris Report for July 2026

Details are on the Council's website - see The Council - Calendar of Meetings for links to each of the papers and reports.



Previously we reported on the changes at the District Council taken in private. However, information has now come out-the Chief and Deputy Chief Officers are leaving Castle House in advance of the creation of the Unitary Authority. A number of changes have resulted from this, Matt Finch now The Directorate and Nick Wilson is the Chief Finance - the 151-Officer.

Also, Peter Harris has joined the Cabinet and Keith Melton chairs the Audit and Accounts Committee. We are doing this to ensure that Southwell and the villages do get a good hearing and share of resource in the last months of the District Council. At present there are no significant capital projects in our area-and we do ought to have some support We will report back.

Up until now the Cabinet has been composed of members from the leading group of Labour and Newark Independent, and one Conservative. It will be noted that nearly every one of the decisions taken by the Cabinet this year and last were unanimous.

It is clear that most of the capital money is being spent in Newark, Ollerton and Clipstone. Although much of this is directly grant funded money from the Government, the District Council is paying significant sums in order to shore up large over budget costs. For example the Newark Castle development is now £2million over budget.

Last year the Council underspent nearly £1.9million on its day to day 'revenue' budget. Peter and Keith are looking at how this money is being allocated to support other towns and villages.

At the AGM David Moore was elected Chair and Debbie Darby Vice Chair.

Food waste will be collected on a pilot basis soon, starting in September on the Southwell round. Although the money for publicity is insufficient and challenged by Peter, the Council are looking how to ensure that this goes smoothly - in the way in which the Silver Bin, also under the direction of Peter when he was in the Cabinet earlier-was introduced. Other villages will be introduced to the scheme in October next year.

Southwell's Small Town of Culture bid-as featured in the Bramley earlier, is now with the Government and we await to see if we are shortlisted to get additional money to develop a plan to support residents access to heritage and culture.

Karen Keith and Peter are delighted to report that the Leisure Centre-now wholly owned by the community in its Southwell Leisure Centre Trust and not run by the District Council is working well with over 1,100 members. The swimming pool has now been repaired-the Trust reopened on June 15. Members can join the Southwell Leisure Centre but can join up to go to Bingham and other Leisure Centres in Rushcliffe if they wish. Southwell Leisure Centre has also created a new cafe facility which we hope will be of benefit to both users and those waiting for other users at the Centre.

Peter Harris and Karen Roberts

Dingbats

Last month's answers: "Lemonade" / "Crying Shame"

