



Please remember to send articles and other info (birthdays, exam success, upcoming events etc) for the **HALAM NEWS** by 25th of each month to:
halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

You can also drop them in to The Manor House, Radley Road. Articles may be edited or held over due to space constraints.

Sponsorship of each edition is £10. Thanks to

The Waggon & Horses,

for sponsoring this New Year edition

PETER THOMPSON 01636 814026

A NEW YEAR MEANS NEW BEGINNINGS

On January 1st it's usual to look to the future with anticipation of what the new year may hold and for 2011 that hopefully means big things for 2 new businesses! We can look forward to new tenants (Richard & Chris) in the Waggon & Horses and John & Lesley Stoppard (of Radley Road) have just opened a new butchers shop in Farnsfield (the produce is of excellent quality if turkey and venison at Christmas was anything to go by!). More details below on both ventures, but we wish them much success and encourage all villagers to become regular customers! **Peter Thompson**

NEW BUTCHERS SHOP IN FARNSFIELD



Butchering has been a Stoppard family trade since 1870, and our newest venture is a butchers shop on Main Street in Farnsfield.

We will be specialising in the freshest produce; All beef will be personally selected from Newark Cattle Market or from local farmers with whom we have been dealing for over 30 years. The beef will be hung for 21 days to enhance tenderness and flavour.

We will also be making sausages and burgers on site, and selling home made pies and pasties and home cooked hams.

We opened on 10th December and were very pleased to welcome many villagers in the shop during the run-up to Christmas. We hope to be able to be of service to you in 2011 and beyond!

John & Lesley Stoppard

ST MICHAEL'S PROMISE PROGRAMME

On behalf of Revd David McCoulough, the Churchwardens and PCC I would like to thank all those who gave so generously in support of the 2010 Promise Programme for the Church, including those who have supported St Michael's in the past and continue to do so. It is too early to report the final results but the initial estimates are encouraging. We hope to have some figures in the next issue of **HALAM NEWS!** Thanks again.
Tony Andrews, Planned Giving Secretary

HALAM VILLAGE HALL

Unfortunately a burst pipe over the festive period caused flooding and damage to the floor and fixtures in the village hall. The Parish Council are organising repairs etc. and hopefully the hall will be fully functioning as soon as possible. More info from the Parish Clerk.

TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD: JANUARY 2011

"The Holly and the Ivy, when they are both full grown
Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown."

We all learnt to sing this carol in primary school, but I am sure that we never gave much thought to the meaning contained in this carol's verses. We are grateful for holly and ivy to decorate our homes at Christmas as we can depend on the colours that they give to this drab season. Long before Christ's birth holly and ivy played a large part in the pagan winter festival Saturnalia and the early Christian church embraced the symbolism into its own structure. But what does it mean – the holly bears the crown?



Holly was deliberately planted in woods containing oak and ash to stimulate and encourage growth of such trees which were then cut down for oak timber, or for ash poles and charcoal. As for the holly - that was left uncut and so over the years holly trees would reach in excess of 60 feet in height and be the tallest tree in the mixed wild wood.



The other plant associated with Christmas is the Mistletoe. When Glenys and I moved to Halam in 1978 there was no mistletoe in the village. Glenys in the first winter of our being here inoculated two of the apple trees in the paddock and the result is for all to see - it is now everywhere in the village - growing largely on apple trees but also on willow and hawthorn and poplar; So decorate your homes with ivy and holly every Christmas but never forget the mistletoe which can be most useful if you are tongue-tied at parties!
David Herbert



NEW FACES AT THE WAGGON

From later this month Richard Shaw (Formerly of Halam House Farm, Radley Road) and Christian Wilson (Partner) are very pleased to be taking over the tenancy of the Waggon and Horses.

It is our strong belief that the village needs a traditional pub that serves quality home cooked food and fine cask ales! We are therefore asking the villagers of Halam to tell us what you would like your local pub to offer?

We have a new website: (www.waggonandhorseshalam.webs.com) & there is an "ideas and feedback" page where we would ask as many people as possible to give us their views. Please be assured your views are of the utmost importance to us, and we guarantee to respond to all feedback given and will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

You are all very welcome to come into your local from **Friday 21st Jan 2011** and we would like to invite you to join us for our official opening day on **Saturday 29th Jan 2011** from 12pm.

Also, we would like to take this opportunity to wish Roy and Laura every success in their new business venture.

We look forward to seeing you soon and making many new friends!

Chris & Richard



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES — 11TH NOVEMBER 2010 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: S Bust, A Fraser, D Herbert, G Herbert, A Paris & M Thompson **Apologies:** D Parrish
Matters Arising: Grit: 1 tonne of grit has been ordered – 5 bags of 20kg each only arrived. To be used sparingly!
Village Hall: Storage Heaters – now all working. Need to be turned on 24hrs before any hall booking
 Letting policy – Marina Thompson working on draft wording. Fire evacuation procedure to be included in the letting documentation. New booking rate to be £10 per hour Fire Risk Assessment – to be completed by Millennium Fire Services
Schedule of Halam PC Works Nothing further to report this month
Lancaster Bomber Memorial: Stone has been chosen – this is being supplied free-of-charge by Lafarge, Loughborough. Waiting planning approval
Christmas Tree: Will be put up this week. May need new outdoor lights
Grit Bin: A bin is on order (paid for by County Cllr Andy Stewart). This grit is for use on public highways and pavements, it is not for use on private paths or driveways
Open Meeting: County Councillor Andy Stewart reported that parish meetings with the County Highways representatives are still continuing Other matters discussed:-1) Icy state of Radley Road
Planning:
 1. New Holbeck Farm, Radley Road: Installation of single 250kW wind turbine – to be discussed at District Council Planning Meeting, 7th December 4pm at Kelham Hall. Parish Council member to attend to support application
 2. Norwood Park Golf Club, Norwood Park: Display of advertising banners – approved 5 to 1 abstention. Comment added that the parish council has no objection to banners being used to publicise special events, but that they wouldn't want to see permanent banners
Finance: Clerk's wages – to be discussed at the next meeting
 Agreed to pay Building Regulation Fee
 Unanimously agreed to keep next year's precept at £7,500
Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 13th January 2011 at 7.00pm in the village hall



Linda & Neville Croston would like to wish all their family and friends a very happy 2011. Instead of sending Christmas cards, this year they made a donation to the "Make a Wish" foundation which helps terminally ill children

HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.



The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 4th January (February meeting on Tuesday 1st)** The meetings are at 7.30pm
 (please check venue for Jan) **Glenys Herbert 812335**

**ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
 JANUARY 2011 SERVICES**



Jan 2nd 08:00	Holy Communion	Revd David McCoulough
Jan 9th 11:00	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough
Jan 16th 09:30	Family Communion	Revd David McCoulough
	11:00 Holy Baptism - Henry Ben	
Jan 23rd 11:00	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough
Jan 30th 09:30	Holy Communion @ St Giles, Edingley	

A Big Thank You to all who support the life and work of St Michael's in a rich variety of ways. Cleaning, flowers, social events and concerts, donations and regular giving, looking after fabric and churchyard, help with children at the school and general goodwill throughout the Parish.
 Thanks be to you and thanks be to God.

Happy New Year
The Reverend David McCoulough

**ST MICHAEL'S HALAM ALL AGE WORSHIP
 JANUARY — APRIL 2011**

Sunday Feb 6th 9.30 a.m. Candlemas Celebration
 Candlelit Church - please bring torches/glowsticks

Sunday March 6th 9.30 a.m. Pancake Sunday
 Thinking about Lent and eating pancakes
 Pancake races after the service



Sunday April 3rd 9.30 a.m. Mothering Sunday
 Bring mums, aunties and grandmas, traditional simnel cake and posies for all the ladies

Sunday April 24th 11 a.m. Easter Day Celebration
 Celebrate the new life of Easter - Easter egg hunt, paint/design an egg competition, egg races

A Short Monthly Service for Children of all ages!

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PETER THOMPSON 01636 814026

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- Dora Rylatt would like to thank everyone for their donations to the 2010 poppy appeal which raised £200.56
- Congratulations to Imogen Lucking on passing her Modern Jazz dance medal with honours!

FLOWER ARRANGERS WANTED

The PCC of St Michael's Church needs more volunteers to join the team of flower arrangers who beautify our Church. A high degree of professionalism is not required, just the ability to arrange or refresh the flowers on the altar pedestal on an occasional basis. A roster is in the Church porch but volunteers can also contact Gwendy Roe on 812264 or call at Bailey Cottage.

WHERE HAVE I BEEN?

As some of you may know the editor travels far and wide as part of his "day" job, so in each edition of **HALAM NEWS** there will be a competition to guess where he has been in the last month, with a prize at the end of the year for the person who gets the most correct answers! Answers to this month's competition should be submitted by email to halam.news@hotmail.co.uk by the 15th of February. Include your name and address on the email! The clue for this month is:

"These twin cities sit on a walzing river".

Good luck!!

FEBRUARY

The word *February* is believed to have derived from the name 'Februa' taken from the Roman 'Festival of Purification'. As part of the seasonal calendar February is the time of the 'Ice Moon' according to Pagan beliefs, and the period described as the 'Moon of the Dark Red Calf' by Black Elk. February has also been known as 'Sprout-kale' by the Anglo-Saxons in relation to the time the kale and cabbage were edible.

TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD: FEBRUARY 2011

We are very fortunate here in Halam to have a churchyard that is cared for by an enthusiastic band of helpers and whose efforts were singled out for praise last year when the judges for the Best-kept Village competition visited us. The judges praised the combination of careful grooming and judicious planting that gave the churchyard such vibrancy and colour and at the same time left opportunities for wildlife. Churchyards are often given the name "God's Acre" in so far that they are havens for wild flowers and varied fauna. Last year grass snakes, bumble bee colonies, toads, shrews and harvest mice have all been seen here in Halam churchyard.

Walkers passing through Halam use the churchyard as a resting place for sandwiches, and many come just to sit and enjoy the peace. At a time when burial space is becoming more limited (Southwell cemetery is now closed to burials), there is no danger of Halam becoming a closed site. Halam churchyard is available for burials to all irrespective of faith, creed or race. Churchyards, however, were not always places for peaceful burial and many parishes denied burial to non-conformist folk. In fact one such case was when a poor quarryman, Robert Roberts of Llanfrothen in Merioneth tried to have his young daughter buried in the local parish churchyard and the local vicar objected and padlocked the gate. Fortunately Roberts sought the help of a young 23 year old Welsh lawyer who championed the rights of the quarryman and went to the churchyard and cut the padlock and chain and the grieving family could bury their young daughter by candlelight. It was one of the earliest cases that the young lawyer had taken on but he became famous as a champion of the underdog throughout Wales and even England - two years later he became a MP and later in life he became Prime Minister - his name: **Lloyd George**.

David Herbert



THE WAGGON RE-OPENS

It was heartening to see so many villagers joining in with the opening day celebrations for the Waggon and Horses on Saturday January 29th. New tenants, Richard and Chris, were extremely pleased with the turn out for the visit of the shire horses at lunchtime and the opening night disco, and would like to thank everyone who came along to support them. New kitchen equipment will be installed soon so that food will be available for visitors to this Thwaites house - more details to follow. In the meantime do drop in for a pint or a glass of wine and enjoy your revitalised village pub!



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES – 13TH JANUARY 2011 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Simon Bust, David Herbert, Glenys Herbert, Andrew Paris, Di Parrish & Marina Thompson

Apologies: Andrew Fraser

Village Hall Storage Heaters – now all working. Need to be turned on 24hrs before any hall booking
Letting policy – Marina Thompson to circulate the draft policy for comment/feedback. Will be discussed further next meeting. The hall has suffered internal damage due to a burst water pipe. The hall is now out of commission until repairs have been carried out. An insurance claim is currently being filed by the Parish Council. Halam School PTA has offered to hold a fund-raising event to help with any additional repair costs. This will be a **Quiz** in School Hall on Friday **March 18th** run by Dave Berry! Possible future village events were discussed:-

- Royal Wedding – April 2011,
- Royal Legion/Poppy Special Weekend – 10-12 June 2011
- The Queen's Jubilee - 2012

Lancaster Bomber Memorial:

Planning approval has been given by the District Council. Draft lease being arrange with the Norwood Park Trustees for approval by them and the Parish Council. Aiming for an unveiling on 10th April

Grit Bin: A bin is due imminently. 1 tonne of grit has already been delivered.

Open Meeting:

County Councillor Andy Stewart reported that the County Council have used 24,000 tonnes of their road salt during the recent icy period. More reserves are on order (from Peru)

Other matters discussed:- 1) Thanks for the Christmas tree to the Clerk & Chairman 2) Thanks to Ian and Pat for gritting the paths at St Michael's Close 3) Pot holes on Radley Road. The County Council number for reporting potholes is **08449 80 80 80**, or highways problems can also be reported online at www3.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/travelling/roads/report-road-problems 4) Cllr Nora Armstrong reported that the planning for the barn at Hill Farm, School Lane had been refused at Appeal

5) Vacancy for School Governor at Halam School. Parish Council have been requested to provide a governor for the school. Andrew Paris (or Simon Bust) to consider filling the position. 6) Cllr Nora Armstrong: thanks to Glenys Herbert for representing the Parish Council at the recent planning meeting (wind-turbine at New Holbeck Farm)

Correspondence: Newark & Sherwood DC, Draft Climate Change Strategy Consultation – Andrew Paris to advise/respond as appropriate

Planning:

1. Beckside Cottage, Gray Lane: Householder application for the erection of an orangery – supported unanimously

Planning Decision: Memorial Stone, School Lane – approved by District Council

Finance: Clerk's wages – to be discussed at the next meeting

Unanimously agreed to reimburse Marina Thompson for expenditure on kitchen refurbishment

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th February 2011 **at 7.30pm** in the village hall

HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.
The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 1st February** (**March meeting on Tuesday 1st**)
The meetings are at 7.30pm
(please check venue for Feb) **Glenys Herbert 812335**



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ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
FEBRUARY 2011 SERVICES



Feb 6th	08:00	Holy Communion	Revd David McCoulough
	09:30	Morning Worship	Revd David McCoulough
Candlemas celebration - candle lit church, please bring torches and glow sticks			
Feb 13th	11:00	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough
Feb 20th	09:30	Family Communion	Revd David McCoulough
Feb 27th	11:00	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough

HALAM OPEN GARDENS



Halam Open Gardens will be on Sunday June 26th this year. We welcome all our regulars but would be delighted if anyone else in the village would like to be included. Your garden doesn't have to be grand - interesting or amusing is just as good ! Don't forget, this is a valuable fund raising event by the people of Halam for their village, and your help by participating or just visiting the gardens is much appreciated. Please contact Paul Oakley tel 813896 or David Herbert tel 812335

ANY OLD TABLES?

If you have an old table or 2 that you are thinking of getting rid of, but which could be used in the Waggon & Horses, then Richard or Chris would be pleased to hear from you!





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PETER THOMPSON 01636 814026

WHERE HAVE I BEEN?

The answer to last month's quiz was **Budapest**.

Answers to this months competition should be submitted by email to halam.news@hotmail.co.uk by the 15th of March.

Include your name and address on the email!

The clue for this month is:

"If the 500 is 100 in 11 & the Superbowl will be 46 in 12, then where have I been?". Good luck!!

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- It has been a double birthday celebration in the Whitaker household in 2012 with John turning 40 in January and Tracy closely following in February - congratulations to them both!
- Halam's very own boffin Prof. Ed Copeland will hit the big **5-0** on 3rd March - so Happy Birthday Ed!

HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 1st March** (April meeting on Tuesday 5th) The meetings are at 7.30pm (please check venue for March)

Glenys Herbert 812335



HALAM QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 18th March, 7:30 start in the School Hall
With famed Quizmaster - Dave Berry

Teams of up to 6 people **£4 per person**
(proceeds split between Halam School PTA and Village Hall)
There will be a licenced bar but bring your own nibbles
Donations of raffle prizes gratefully received!

Book your place by contacting:

Helen Fynn (0795 105 3683) or Marina Thompson (814026)

THANK YOU!

Olive Sharman and her family would like to thank all those in Halam who helped to give Ron a rousing send off! I lost my lovely man on the 5th February. The church supported us from that moment on; The Rev David McCullough turned up the next day unannounced to give us his blessings and prayers and offer help and support; David Herbert, as always, was very kind, and to these and all the others who helped behind the scenes to make things run smoothly – our heart felt thanks - not forgetting the Organist Alec Wells who, as ever, did a magnificent job playing Rons favourite hymns.

Thanks also to Chris and Richard at the Waggon and Horses who created the wonderful atmosphere for a wake for all to remember. My memories of that wake are hazy but everyone says it was a good get together to remember a well loved and respected member of the community. People gave generously and over £1000 was collected for Macmillan Nurses

Olive Sharman

HALAM - LANCASTER BOMBER MEMORIAL - DEDICATION - SUNDAY 10TH APRIL 2011

For the last year or so Tony Denyer and Andrew Paris have been working on getting a memorial erected to the memory of the seven airmen who were killed in 1943 when their Lancaster bomber crashed in Halam parish. At the start of February the site was prepared and levelled and the stone was delivered. Thanks to the generous donation from Lafarge Aggregates & Concrete UK the memorial is a large boulder, which will have an inscription in memory of the airmen who died that tragic night. The memorial site is just off School Lane on the edge of the golf course. The stone stands on a piece of land kindly donated by Sir John Starkey and the Trustees of Norwood Park; there will be a seat and interpretation board to give more information about the plane and its crew.

We are planning to have a memorial service in Halam church and a dedication of the stone on 10th April this year – the anniversary of the crash. The service will start at 11 a.m. in the church, followed by a blessing at the memorial site at round 12 noon. Afterwards it is planned that refreshments will be available in the Waggon & Horses.



We have managed to trace relatives of many of the crew members including the nephews and nieces of the Australian pilot; they are planning to come across from Australia to attend the service and dedication. We are hoping to have many other relatives attending on the day, as well as representatives from the RAF. Everyone will be welcome to attend, and it would be great to see our friends and neighbours from the village at the events.

We were very lucky in securing some funding from Nottinghamshire County Council, & Shani Lambert from the County Council has been invaluable in getting the project underway. **However we are still around £2,000 short of funds, and although we hope to hold some fund raising events later in the year, any donations (however small!) would be very gratefully received.** To find out more please contact Tony (814708) or Andrew (815844) or andrew_paris@yahoo.com

RON SHARMAN (1933 - 2011)

On the 5th February this year Halam lost one of its most notable and respected residents. A Halam villager through and through and a great supporter of this rural community, Ron Sharman was born in 1933 in a cottage on the Turnpike near the Halam Beck and, at age of seven, his parents moved to Littledale. They



moved again when he was eleven to Holbeck Farm where Ron remained for the rest of his life, except for a short interlude in Southwell when he was first married. His entire schooling was at Halam School – in those days this was an all-round education that prepared him well for his life in the farming community. He was a fast learner - and had to be - because at the age of 25 he took over the running of the Holbeck Farm on the death of his father. These then are the bare bones of his presence with us, alongside Olive his wife, his sons Ian and Richard and his daughters Anne and Nancy. His hobbies were shooting and conservation and ‘making light’ of the bureaucracy that bedevils farming today.

He was a gentle, loving giant of a man who loved fair play. He was a man of few words but full of meaningful expression. He built up his farming business relentlessly and progressively until he had one of the largest milking herds in the district, the ‘Holbeck Herd’, and of this he was justly proud. He moved with the times though and was never afraid to make important decisions. This was in evidence last year when his sons sold off their Holstein herd (a herd which he had carefully bred over years) to replace it with one of Montbéliarde cattle in order to support the production of Stilton cheese. This ability to adapt to circumstances was one of Ron’s great qualities – whether it meant he had to be calving cows, de-icing the milk lines on freezing mornings, sorting out a stubborn combine harvester or giving the muck-spreader a kick!

He was a stalwart supporter of the Southwell Ploughing Match for 50 years and he made sure that those of us who were not farmers in the village supported the event every year - we did not dare say no!

Shooting was his relaxation and alongside it went the benign conservation of hedgerows and flora and fauna - he said that you could not run a successful dairy industry without having a proper respect for the environment. He was a great traditionalist and shoot days had their own proper protocols and the social gatherings that followed each shoot were as important as the shoot itself and the handling of dogs. He was a life-long supporter of the village pub but had been saddened in recent years by the limited access that the village had for a well-earned pint. Likewise the President’s tent at the Southwell Ploughing Match was a natural haven for him at the end of a busy show day and that is where, under his guidance, I gave up my fear of alcohol (!)

His natural courage and love were evermore evident during his last short illness, which he made light of, and which he minimised in the presence of his family. His family was his life; his herd was his life; the land was his life. When he was at Halam School he, together, with his classmates, was asked to write an essay about what he liked doing best on holiday - his answer was short and to the point (typical of Ron) “ I love helping Dad muck spreading ”.

An honest man is now at rest,
The friend of man, the friend of truth,
The friend of age, and guide of youth;
Few hearts like this, with virtue warmed,
Few heads with knowledge so informed;
If there’s another world, he lives in bliss:
If there is none, he made the best of this.

Robert Burns

David Herbert

THE ROYAL WEDDING,
APRIL 29TH 2011



The Parish Council will be organising a Halam event(s) to help to celebrate the wedding of Prince William to Kate Middleton. Some of the options could be:

- Setting up a wide screen TV to watch the event live, and celebrate with a glass of champagne
- Afternoon tea for the village on the School field, with traditional games and sports
- A Royal Quiz held at the Waggon & Horses

In order to assist with the planning and organisation, could you please contact either Glenys Herbert (812335) or Marina Thompson (814026) to let them know:

- If you have any other ideas for events
- If you will be in the village on that date and wish to participate in the festivities
- If you are willing to volunteer to help with the organisation of the events or provide equipment (e.g. loan of gazebo/tent etc)

We hope this will be a memorable village event and one that as many villagers as possible participate in!

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Each year Halam is entered into the Nottinghamshire Best Kept Village competition, and this month the Parish Council will decide whether or not to enter for 2011. The judges look at the whole village including the general upkeep of household frontages and communal areas.



The feedback from last year, was that we have a lovely village but with a little more attention, we could again, be a contender for the final. To help Halam get into the final this year, could all villagers check the state of the pavements, roads and signs near their home and if you think any area needs attention, then contact either the Clerk to the Parish Council (Pat Rickett 813181), any Parish Councillor, or Notts County Council directly on 0844 372 8381

Thanks for your support - **Marina Thompson (814026)**

LIFE IN NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Exhibition of "Life in North Nottinghamshire past and present" continues at Thoresby Gallery until Sunday 20th March. The following talks are open to all:

Sunday 6th March

2pm until 4pm

'The German Internees at Boughton Camp'

Irene Miller of Ollerton Yesteryear group shows a DVD with introduction and narration. Includes coffee/tea and biscuits.

Sunday 13th March

2pm until 3pm

The Wellow Maypole

Janet Carr gives a talk on the subject of the history of Wellow Maypole and celebrations.

Sunday 13th March

3pm until 4pm

Laxton History Society

Stuart Rose, Clerk to the Gaits & Commons of Laxton Court Leet will speak about 'Laxton: England's Last Open Field Farming Village'

Sunday 20th March

2pm until 4pm

'The Chesterfield Canal'

Dr Geraint Coles of The Chesterfield Canal Trust
1 ½ - 2 hours including coffee/tea and biscuits.

Anyone interested in attending the talks should let Caroline at Thoresby Gallery know:

caroline@thoresby.com 01623 822365

Like an army defeated
The snow hath retreated,
And now doth fare ill
On the top of the bare hill;
The Ploughboy is whooping-anon-anon:
There's joy in the mountains;
There's life in the fountains;
Small clouds are sailing,
The rain is over and gone!"

- **William Wordsworth, March**

NEWS FROM THE WAGGON & HORSES

The Waggon is now serving lunches daily from 12:00 to 2:30 and is open for coffee and bacon rolls from 10:30 every Sunday

SUNDAY NIGHT FAMILY QUIZ

Starting from 13th March, and every Sunday night thereafter, we will be having a family quiz night. The quiz will start at 7:30 pm, so bring your thinking caps!



VICARPIDIA

"Not Wikipedia, but Vicarpidia"

This Lent, why not come down to your local pub and ask the Vicar any questions you have about the Bible, the Church, faith and religion? The Revd David McCoulough will be in the Waggon on Tuesday 15th and 22nd March between 7:30 and 8:30pm. It's an informal and relaxed opportunity to chat, ask those niggly questions and have a social drink!



For more details or to get in some quick questions email:

davidmcc@southwell.anglican.org



TEA @ TWO THIRTY

Every Tuesday the Tea at 2:30 ladies and gents meet for a natter over a cup of tea. Everyone is welcome!



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ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
MARCH 2011 SERVICES



Mar 6th	08:00	Holy Communion	Revd David McCoulough
	09:30	All Age Morning Worship (Pancake Sunday)	Revd David McCoulough
Mar 9th	19:00	Ash Wednesday cluster service with St Giles	
		Holy Communion with ashing	
Mar 13th	11:00	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough
Mar 20th	09:30	Family Communion	Revd David McCoulough
Mar 27th	11:00	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH - PROMISE PROGRAMME

We do not yet have the final figures for the results of the Promise Programme but the increase in giving achieved is about £4500 pa allowing for gift aid which is a uplift of about 55%. In addition there were some generous donations. Although we fell short of our target, it is a creditable achievement, particularly in today's financial climate. The Parochial Church Council would like to offer warm thanks to all those who helped with the programme and those who give financially to St Michael's.

Tony Andrews

TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD (MARCH 2011)

When I was a young lad living in Wales I looked forward to three important days each year: the first was, naturally, Christmas Day; the second was St David's day and the third was Whitsunday. Christmas was wonderful - I would have a stocking with an apple, some toffees, some shiny new pennies, a pair of bed socks and a Rupert Annual: that was all - but these were treasures indeed! Whitsun was almost as important because if I was reasonably well-behaved in chapel in the previous few weeks I might be allowed to go on the Whitsun treat - so for those few weeks I caused no disturbance in chapel, did not try to burn holes in the bibles or hymn books with sunlight focussed by a magnifying glass secretly brought into chapel as a diversion; and I was careful to comment sensibly in some way on the uplifting message of the day! So what of St David's day? St David's day - 1st March - was my day. I could adorn my school blazer, my school cap and my satchel with an excess of patriotic symbolism. It was the one way that I was permitted to show individuality - I would wear a daffodil from the garden in my lapel, and have two enormous leeks - one on my satchel and the largest across my chest like the bandolier of an Italian brigand. I was not alone - my fellow pupils wore leeks or daffodils - and so did the folk in the town. It was a national day of pride. The daffodil was, and is, a symbol - but what of the other floral symbols in the UK? The Irish are proud of the shamrock and wear it on St Patrick's day. The thistle - Scotland has it as an emblem, but I have never seen one worn on St Andrew's day; and as for the Rose - why don't the English wear it on St George's day? Perhaps the English should think of wearing the rose. English men have always been reserved - the only floral tribute they seem to wear is a carnation in the city or at a wedding. And what about birthdays? My birthday was never celebrated at home and I never had a party - but have made up for it since. Birthday celebrations are wonderful, and like the wearing of a daffodil, are a form of poignant symbolism.

David Herbert

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES — 10TH FEBRUARY 2011 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Simon Bust, David Herbert, Glenys Herbert, Andrew Paris, Di Parrish & Marina Thompson **Apologies:** Andrew Fraser
Matters Arising: 1. Pavement up Halam Hill needs sweeping - District Councillor Nora Armstrong will get this addressed 2. Fly tipping - more illegal dumping has taken place on School Lane. This has been reported to the District Council. **A blue van was seen in the area on Sunday night (6th Feb); did anyone see anything suspicious?**
Village Hall: The insurance loss adjusters are assessing the water damage claim. The like for like cover should allow for a replacement floor in the main hall, new units in the committee room as well as general repairs required. **Letting policy** - Marina Thompson to collate the comments/feedbacks. Will be discussed further next meeting. The hall will be rented out for the District Council elections in May at a rate of £10 per hours (15 hrs)
Lancaster Bomber Memorial: The site has been set out and the stone delivered. Clerk to check into authority to sign the lease and then a draft will be discussed for approval.
Community Climate Change: A Paris reported on this Dist Council report. A response regarding waste policies had been submitted.
Celebration of Royal Wedding: 29th April this year; parish council agreed that a celebratory event should be held. Marina Thompson and Glenys Herbert to report back.
School Governors: Andrew Paris is to be the PC's nomination for governor for Halam School
Open Meeting: Matters discussed: 1) Drains on the Turnpike - County Councillor Andy Stewart reported that these are still to be worked on 2) Water on the top of Radley Road - County Council have this on their schedule of works 3) Turnpike bridge - Cllr Bruce Laughton reported that this was to be checked out to see if the flow underneath can be increased
Planning: Halam Cottage, Radley Road: extensions and conversion of single dwelling to form two semi-detached dwellings - agreed to support 4 for. 1 against with 1 abstention
Finance: Clerk's wages - a modest increase in salary was agreed in line with current guidelines and taking into account the length of time since the last increase. Unanimously agreed to pay NALC subscription and dog bin emptying costs. The costs associated with the forthcoming parish council election were discussed
Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th March 2011 at **7.30pm** in the village hall

Please remember to send articles and other info (birthdays, exam success, upcoming events etc) for the **HALAM NEWS** by 25th of each month to:

halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

You can also drop them in to The Manor House, Radley Road. Articles may be edited or held over due to space constraints.

Sponsorship of each edition is £10. Thanks to **Pressed Express** (see advert) for sponsoring this edition

PETER THOMPSON 01636 814026

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- Congratulations to Tracey & Jon Whitaker of the Old Plough on the birth of a little sister for Max. Sophia Elizabeth popped out at 23:54 on 24th March weighing 6lbs 2.5 ounces
- Belated Happy **60th** birthday to Patricia Kells of School Lane

WHERE HAVE I BEEN?

The answer to last month's quiz was **Indianapolis**

Answers to this month's competition should be submitted by email to halam.news@hotmail.co.uk by the 15th of April

Include your name and address on the email! The clue for this month's European destination is: "If you take the Main river to the sausage factory, then where have I been?". Good luck!!

HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 5th April** (May meeting on Tuesday 3rd) The meetings are at 7.30pm (please check venue for April)

Glenys Herbert 812335



CHANGES TO ADDRESSES

Look out for a local consultation which could lead to all Halam addresses having to have house numbers - for instance, Ashdene could become # 31 Radley Road. & The Old Rectory # 3 Halam Hill etc. More details from **O. Fallpiro @ Kelham**

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

The Parish Council will be entering the Best Kept Village competition again. Judging takes place during May/June.

Please help by ensuring that frontages are clean and tidy. Any road and/or pavement issues should be reported to the Clerk

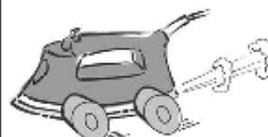
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ATTENTION ALL CHILDREN! MAKING MUSIC IN HALAM CHURCH!

It would be great to have some younger members singing with Halam Church Choir. Any children who would like to come and sing would be made most welcome - and you would earn a bit of pocket money into the bargain! Our rates of pay would be £8 per month for attending 4 choir practices and 4 Sunday services. Choir practice takes place on Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm until approximately 7.30pm. And if you play piano or keyboard there will be opportunities to play our fabulous new organ. Do come and join us!

Contact **Glenys Herbert** Tel: 812335 or **Karin Davis** Tel: 815854 or talk to the **Reverend McCoulough** or **Mr Cullen** at Halam School.

TALES FROM CHURCHYARD APRIL 2011

It is to be hoped that everyone has filled in the census form by now and sent it off. But what a rigmarole - and was it necessary? Those that govern us like to know a lot about us - indeed as early as 1086 King William of England arranged for a census to take place and the result was bound into the Domesday Book. Since then sporadic census counts were taken but it was not until 1801 that they became a regular feature. Thereafter every 10 years a census has been taken with the exception of 1941 - the census was not carried out during the war as much of the population was scattered throughout the Empire and Europe. The census began in a simple way and its objectives were also simple. A member of the community who could read and write in a fair hand was appointed enumerator for the day. It was his task to go round the allotted part of the town or village, gain access to each property and sit down and list everyone at that house that day - record their age, name and occupation. The first house visited in a village usually belonged to a prominent member of the community; from then on the entries became more hurried and less legible, so that often the last few pages of the particular entry might be difficult to read by later assessors. No-one was exempted - so that in 1861 when the enumerator visited a prominent member of the community at Osbourne house on the Isle of Wight - the head of household was given as 'Victoria' - occupation 'Queen' and then it listed her family one by one and the servants - it included the Queen's age and where she was born. All houses were visited by the enumerator, and also anyone in a caravan such as travellers or people living rough. There are many instances of unconventional overnight abodes in the routine census such as sheds, byres and barns!

The only real information needed in a census is Name; age; marital status; occupation; place of birth; country of origin; employer or employee, and the relationship to the head of household. Names were given in full, as has always been the case; genealogists of the future find additional names most helpful in tracing links, however this has latterly been done away with.

It will be 100 years before anyone will learn what Halam was like in 2011 but it is interesting to note what Halam was like 150 years ago: - The enumerator was Jason Adamson, a flour dealer living close to the first citizen recorded in the 1861 census - a painter of the name of John Roe. Looking through the census for that year Halam had many residents with surnames Kemp, Glazebrook, Rogers, and Hallam. There were two wheelwrights: Wright and Bradley; 8 farmers; 6 framework knitters and 10 silk winders; 2 blacksmiths; 2 shoemakers; 3 market gardeners, an innkeeper by the name of Bell, and a plethora of dressmakers and agricultural workers. The population was 382 persons - number of houses 99, of which 2 were being built and 4 uninhabited - giving a good general picture.

It was a very thorough and effective way of carrying out the census and it was also relatively cheap! The 1861 census for England, Wales and Ireland cost about £41,000 and costs as late as 1911 was £147,000. Compare this with this census today, which is expected to cost £478,000,000 - yes millions! No longer do we have an enumerator for Halam but we have a book of many pages pushed through the letterbox of every household and an army of enforcers whose job it is to make sure everyone fills in the form - the cost of policing alone comes to £250 million pounds. The form is available in some 56 languages and residents should fill in the information in English (with help if necessary). At a time where government spending should be limited and contained why should so much money be spent acquiring information already available in the public domain via Revenue Office, government agencies etc. Surely we really are in the age of the bureaucrat, an age of profligacy much of which could be corrected by having an enumerator in every location. There was no cost of the enumerator in 1911 - it was a privilege and honour in an age of public service - what could be better to do in the age of this 'big' society?

David Herbert



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**ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
APRIL 2011 SERVICES**



Apr 3rd	08:00	Holy Communion	Revd David McCoulough
	09:30	All Age Morning Worship	Revd David McCoulough
Apr 10th	11:00	Sung Eucharist & dedication of Lancaster Bomber Memorial Revd D McC & The Ven. (Air Vice Marshall) Robin Turner DL CB	
Apr 17th	09:30	Family Communion (Palm Sunday) Palm Procession from Waggon at 09:25	Revd David McCoulough
Apr 21st	19:00	Holy Communion & Foot Washing (Maundy Thursday)	Revd David McCoulough
Apr 22nd	10:30	Good Friday devotions	Revd David McCoulough
Apr 24th	11:00	Sung Eucharist (Easter Day) Easter Egg competition and Easter Egg hunt	Revd David McCoulough

The next **Laxton public walk** in the calendar is on **Saturday 2nd April at 10.00am** **MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE AND VILLAGE** **Approx. 3.6 miles, +/- 3 hours** On this second walk in the series; Stuart will introduce walkers to the medieval architecture and landscape of this 18th century village, explaining how the open field farming system shaped the development of the village with its central farm buildings surrounded by fields. The walk will include a visit to the castle – known as the best preserved motte & bailey castle in the county,

STORMING TO MONGOLIA

Many villagers will have been pondering the presence of the ambulance in the grounds of the Old Rectory, now I feel I should explain this after getting a number of worried callers asking if The Perks family were all well. So here goes. During this up and coming summer the Perks boys and some good friends shall be departing the UK bound for Ulaanbaatar. You are forgiven if you have no idea where this is; it is in fact the capital of Mongolia. This 10,000 mile trip will take us through 16 countries; Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Mongolia to name but a few. The ambulance will be our mode of transport and upon arrival it shall be donated to the local health authorities in Mongolia for use as a 'mobile clinic,' providing a much needed boost to the Mongolian health services. We shall also be raising money for *Help for Heroes* and *Christina Noble's Children Foundation*, a charity based in Mongolia who care for homeless and orphaned children, giving them a roof and an education, things we may often take for granted. For more information about the team, our goals and how you can help visit:

www.stormingtomongolia.co.uk or email stormingtomongolia@gmail.com.

Angus Perks

ELECTING A NEW PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting on April 14th will be the last for the sitting Parish Council and a new Parish Council will be elected in May. The deadline for nominations is Noon on 4th April and nomination forms etc can be obtained from the Parish Clerk or directly from the District Council. Some members of the current Parish Council will not be seeking re-election, so there is an opportunity for some new people to serve. An election will only take place for Halam PC if there are more candidates than available seats. More details at www.nalc.gov.uk or www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk where you can also download the nomination pack.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES – 10TH MARCH 2011 AT 7.30PM

Present: S Bust, A Fraser, D Herbert, G Herbert, A Paris, D Parrish & M Thompson

Matters Arising: Halam Parish Council – election is coming up on Thursday 5th May. There will be some vacancies to fill on the Parish Council at that time. Nomination forms are available from the Clerk and also from Kelham Hall.

Village Hall: Letting policy – Marina Thompson circulated a draft documents. Agreed unanimously to adopt with a couple of amendments. Insurance claim – insurance company has agreed to replace units and ceiling in the Committee Room. Need flooring receipt to progress claim for the carpets/vinyl further. Agreed to replace the damaged floor in the main hall with “like for like” oak floor.

Solar Cells – grants may be available for public buildings to have these fitted on the roof. Will investigate further to see if viable.

Lead theft – some lead has been stolen from the village hall and the roof damaged. A further insurance claim will have to be made. **Did anyone see anything suspicious near the village hall over half-term?**

Lancaster Bomber Memorial: Andrew Paris reported on the draft 199 year lease – agreed to sign document. Unanimously agreed to buy a wreath for the parish council chairman to lay at the dedication service on 10th April – all villagers welcome on that day.

Halam “Twinning”: Marina Thompson reported on an approach made by the village of Ceron in the Burgundy area of France to investigate the possibility of twinning with Halam. Awaiting further correspondence. It was felt that this would be more suitable for a “Twinning Committee” rather than the parish council. Volunteers will be sought to form such a committee.

Celebration of Royal Wedding: 29th April this year; Marina Thompson circulated a report with some ideas for celebrating the event. A wedding photograph competition, flower arranging, art competition and baking challenge will be investigated further.

Open Meeting: Matters discussed:- 1) Work on Edingley road & pavements - County Councillor Andy Stewart reported that there were no plans for work of this nature for Halam 2) Cutting of services for elderly, especially the home monitoring system – Cllr Stewart to investigate the details and report back to next meeting 3) Grass verges by the ford – with drain work scheduled, concern was expressed regarding damage to verges in the village. Notts CC Highways will be contacted to be made aware of these concerns 4) State of Halam ford – situation to be looked at further once winter water levels have fallen

Correspondence: County Councillor Andy Stewart: repair work to be carried out on the Turnpike drains during March County Council Civic Service; 26th June date clashes with Open Gardens. No one to attend service. Best Kept Village: agreed to enter Halam in 2011

Finance: Clerk's wages – unanimously agreed to pay

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 14th April 2011: **Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm, followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm** in the village hall

HALAM NEWS

MAY 2011



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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- Welcome to Halam to **Howard & Ann Godfrey** who have moved to Manor Fields and to **Nick and Sally Dutton and family** who have moved into Greenacres, Radley Road
- Good luck to the **Marchant** and **Miller** families who have moved to pastures new!
- There are a raft of 50th birthdays this month, with **Sandra Fraser, Simon Fowler and Graham Podmore** all hitting the **BIG 5 0** Congratulations to them all!

WHERE HAVE I BEEN?

The answer to last month's quiz was **Frankfurt**

Answers to this month's competition should be submitted by email to halam.news@hotmail.co.uk by the 15th of May. Include your name and address on the email! The clue for this month's European destination is: "I was walking along Unter Den Linden to where JFK delivered a famous speech" Where have I been? Good luck!!

HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 3rd May** (June meeting on Tuesday 7th) Meetings at 7.30pm (please check venue for May) **Glenys Herbert 812335**



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ROWENA CROSTON WEDS



Congratulations to Rowena Croston of Radley Road, Halam and Phillip Clegg of Wallasey who were married in Cheshire on April 9th. The happy couple are now living in Norwich.

TWINNING OPPORTUNITY FOR HALAM

We have been contacted by Christine Browne who is a resident of a small village called Ceron in the Burgundy region of France, who are looking to "twin" with a similar village in UK and they have identified Halam as a possible partner. In order to take this forward it will be necessary to set up a twinning committee and anyone interested in participating should contact **Marina Thompson** on 814026

TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD, MAY 2011

What a dreadful winter we have had and what a wonderful spring. We really are in debt to the Gulf Stream and the warmth that it brings for our relatively mild winters. We should forgive the Gulf Stream this last winter for having a temporary loss of memory - perhaps like some of us it is getting old.

We live at 55 degree North in latitude and were we to walk around the globe at that latitude we would walk through Lithuania, Russia, Kamchatka, Alaska, Hudson Bay and Labrador and we would be walking through snow in all these places this Easter apart from Lithuania. Yet as I gardened on Good Friday in the heat I was surrounded by a blizzard of brimstone, butterflies and orange tip butterflies which had been brought out of their ghostly forms by the warmth. Is there anything as glorious as the English Spring? The cold winter has resulted in the death of many of the shrubs in the garden and the church yard. At Ashdene we have dug up 45 shrubs and in the church yard we have had to dig up some 20 shrubs, but this brings new excitement and planting opportunities. However the loss of our 80 year old Pawlonia tree in the garden at Ashdene has been a great disappointment. Thirty three years ago when we came to live in the village there were 3 large Pawlonia trees, the other two were down School lane but these sadly disappeared 10 years or so ago. The Pawlonia comes from China and is also known as the "Foxglove" tree or "Empress of China" tree. It was little known in this country until about 1920 when Kew Gardens acquired about 15 specimens. It gave four specimens to Buckingham Palace Gardens and one to Wells Cathedral garden and one to Canterbury - the rest it kept. The Pawlonia has become an invasive weed in parts of the USA because the moist, warm climate of California and the moist spring of the south east seaboard have been instrumental in its spread. It was first planted in the States as an ornamental tree in copses and groves and it is these early plantings (now mature trees) that have led to a new type of theft. Chinese gangs have been entering public and private gardens with chain saws and escaping with the trunks of the trees which is prized by the Chinese to make coffins and bridal dowry chests. Another use has now been found and this is the making of surf boards as the wood does not need glazing and is prized by most professional surfers.

So we end on a Easter note. The last principal tree in Halam is no more but there are young seedlings of it in the village and one especially in church yard which was planted by accident as the seedling was in pot of cranesbills which I planted in the church yard in 2004. Halam will therefore still have a glorious Pawlonia in due course and this time in a public space

DAVID HERBERT

halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

HARRY RICKETT 1927 - 2011

Harry had been connected with Halam all his life. He was born in Halam House, to which his parents had moved from Craddles cottage in 1922. He went to the village school and then to the Grammar school at Southwell. He left grammar school to become an apprentice bricklayer at the age of 16, at Nix's the building firm in Oxton. There he stayed for some 20 years and then moved to work with his father who ran a transport and coal business. At a young age he joined the Home Guard after a bit of jiggery pokery. He was under the command of Mr Tomlinson and their headquarters was the Reading room cottage. He was under age when he attempted to join the Home Guard at first, Mr Tomlinson having asked him his age and Harry answering truthfully "I am 15 sir". He was told to go back home and when he returned the next week he was told to give his age at over 16 and this he did. In 1944 he signed on to join the Navy but this career was not pursued because of the cessation of hostilities. Harry embarked on a career of builder which he proudly carried on with well until his middle 60's. He gave up work reluctantly but was always able to give advice to his two sons to aid them on their own individual businesses. This then is the broad bare outline of his working life but tells us little of him as a person

Harry met Joyce his first wife whilst he was digging a ditch in Calverton at Coghills hosiery firm (where Joyce worked) and so emboldened, in 1961 he built their marital home in the grounds of Halam house. This was known as Halam Dale

They moved to Halam House for a short period to help with the shop and petrol pumps, and coal business that his father was involved with. They were there for 2 years before moving back into Halam Dale. These were happy years during which his family was born - Andrew, Patrick and Jill. This happiness was cut short by Joyce's untimely death after 26 years of marriage.

Harry then had a renaissance of spirit and life as he tried to get over the great sadness of his loss. He joined a number of reprobates in the village, going on expeditions to fish in Scotland, to take part in wild goose chases in winter months, and sea fishing at Whitby and Bridlington. He entered into the spirit of his new found friendships by mimicking their cheating at scrabble and their love of healthy tots of whisky. All the time he had an inscrutable quality but suddenly he lost the desire to shoot and fish and developed a strong respect for life so much so that he would not "hurt a fly" or a spider and did not wish the hunt to cross his land.

His life was transformed once again at Hazleford Ferry 20 years ago. He noticed a very attractive widow in distress because her car had broken down. He did the courteous thing, lifted the bonnet and with it his hopes rose too. He married Margaret the following year and she became a great support to him. With her support he became a champion of the open garden weekend in Halam & had a regular stream of visitors each year who came to admire his garden and ask him advice Gardening thus became his great love, as did travelling and he and Margaret travelled widely around the globe. They did so much together and were so good for each other that these last few years were for Harry a golden age.

Harry was wise, caring, thoughtful and generous with his time and advice. He always was active in maintenance of the church fabric and this he did at his own expense He never spoke ill of anyone and had great delight in his grandchildren. He would always get the whisky bottle out immediately any of the reprobates turn up and loved to reminisce about their shared adventures. He was uncomplaining and this was evident in the last miserable 4 months of his life when he had so much to bear, yet even then he delighted in his visitors. For him his life was to be enjoyed as "last of the summer wine". He will be sadly missed by Margaret his wife and his children Andrew, Patrick and Jill and their families. The village has truly lost one of it's sons.

David Herbert

We would like to Thank everyone for their support and kindness at this sad time and our thanks also go to the Waggon and Horses for providing the food and drink after Harry's funeral

The Rickett family

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL APRIL 2011 SERVICES



May 1	08:00	Holy Communion
May 8	11:00	Sung Eucharist
May 15	09:30	Family Communion
May 22	11:00	Sung Eucharist
May 29	09:30	Family Communion (Jt service)
June 5	09:30	Blessing of animals service

Revd Canon John Smith
Revd David McCoulough
Revd David McCoulough
Revd David McCoulough
John Quarrel
Revd David McCoulough

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALAM

Organ Recital

Philip White-Jones

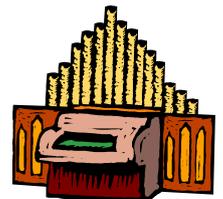
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Sunday

22nd May 2011

7.30pm

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Alec Wells 813491 or David Herbert 812335
Email karinlindley@hotmail.com

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING — 14TH APRIL 2011 AT 7.00PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Simon Bust, David Herbert, Glenys Herbert, Andrew Paris & Marina Thompson **Apologies:** Di Parrish

Matters Arising:

- 1) Mr Harry Rickett died this afternoon. Mr Rickett was a long standing member of the parish council. The parish council observed a minute's silence
- 2) Jubilee Tree – a suitable replacement is still to be sourced
- 3) Police speed monitoring – Andrew Paris will talk to John Whittaker regarding revitalising Community Speed Watch and police support will be sought
- 4) Beat Officer to be invited to a future parish council meeting (and other "guest" speakers?)
- 5) W.I. notice board has been repaired

Chairman's Review:

Simon Bust reviewed the past year. There had been monthly parish council meetings plus addition meetings to discuss specific matters – thanks to all who attended. Planning issues had been important again this year, but the District Council had generally been in agreement with the parish council. County Councillor Andy Stewart had been most helpful with support and information over the year, including providing funding for the village hall, and a new bench at the end of Holme Lane. He also helped to get work done on the drains in the village.

The big issue this past year had been the refurbishment of the village hall. The hall had been greatly improved and thanks were given to Marina Thompson and Glenys Herbert for all their efforts in getting the work done. Unfortunately there had been a major set-back due to a burst pipe at the start of December and repair work was subject to an insurance claim. The replacement floor in the main hall was due to be laid imminently.

The Open Gardens event went well and was well attended. The Harvest Supper/Games Night was a success, but it was felt that the evening should be split in future into a traditional style Harvest Supper, and then on a different date, a Games Night. Andrew Paris and Tony Denyer were congratulated on the erection of the Halam Lancaster Bomber Memorial, and a memorable dedication event. The parish council were happy to have supported the planning application for the memorial and to adopt the site to provide insurance cover.

The Chairman thanked the parish councillors for their work and support over the year. Thanks also to Mrs Janet Simmons (auditor) and to the clerk, Patrick Rickett, and to Mandy Rickett. Chris Bevans was also thanked for cleaning the bus shelter.

Open Meeting:

The question was raised of the parish using the school hall for more events and activities. This is already possible, and Andrew Paris will discuss the publicising of this at a future governors' meeting. It was agreed that there would still be a need for a village hall even if the school was used more.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES — 14TH APRIL 2011 AT 7.30PM

Present: Simon Bust, David Herbert, Glenys Herbert, Andrew Paris & Marina Thompson **Apologies:** Di Parrish

Matters Arising: A drain cover was stolen from the verge outside the pumping station. A horse put its foot down the hole and fell, throwing its rider who had to be taken to hospital in the air ambulance. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police immediately. Missing covers can be reported to Nottingham County Council on 08449 808080. end_of_the_skype_highlighting calls cost 3p per minute from BT landlines (inc VAT). Mobile and other providers costs may vary

Village Hall: Work is now complete, apart from the replacement floor in the main hall (following the burst pipe flooding). The floor is being laid imminently. Once the floor is down, the hall will be open for lettings. The drying out of the hall following the flood has resulted in an electricity bill of over £1,000. This will be the subject of an insurance claim for the excess heating costs.

Halam School PTA raised over £200 for the hall refurbishment from the recent school quiz night. Marina Thompson will pass on the parish council's thanks. Solar Panels – to be discussed at a future meeting.

A further insurance claim is being made to replace the lead which was stolen recently from the village hall roof.

Householders should check their houses for lead theft, e.g. lead flashing on roofs, porches or round chimneys.

Bomber Memorial

Andrew Paris reported that the memorial service and dedication had gone very well. The church service was attended by around 150 people and there were over 200 people at the memorial site for the dedication ceremony. Relatives of the airmen had travelled from Australia as well as from all over the UK to be at the events. It was a memorable day.

Halam Twinning The mayor of the French town Ceron is investigating the legal aspects of a proposed twinning. More information will be available shortly.

Celebration of the Royal Wedding The Waggon & Horses is serving breakfast on the day and will have a large screen TV for the event. Later there will be a "Posh Picnic" on the school field, followed by a Royal Quiz in the pub.

Home Monitoring Services Waiting for further information from Cllr Andy Stewart

Open Meeting Matters raised: 1) Support for the village pub 2) Possible duplication of facilities village hall/school hall

Planning: Manor Farm, Radley Road: householder application for the erection of an orangery to the rear – supported unanimously

Finance: Unanimously to pay: auditor 2009/10, cost of bag of salt, insurance for the Lancaster Bomber Memorial, dog bin payment and contract, and bus shelter cleaning bill. Also agreed to reimburse Marina Thompson for replacement kitchen units (from insurance claim)

Date of Next Meeting: Village hall, Thursday 12th May 2011 – **7.00pm Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, followed at 7.30pm by the May Parish Council Meeting**

HALAM LANCASTER BOMBER MEMORIAL

In the early hours of Saturday 10th April 1943, Lancaster ED823 belonging to 1661 Heavy Conversion Unit took off from RAF Winthorpe, near Newark. At 1.25 am the aircraft crashed in to a field off School Lane, just eight miles from the airfield. Tragically all seven crew members were killed in the crash.

I read about the accident a couple of years ago and felt that the events of that sad night should not be forgotten, and that the loss of seven lives in our parish should not go unmarked. So Tony Denyer and I set about trying to raise funds, find a suitable site, and get a stone appropriate for the memorial. The County Council's "Local Improvement Scheme" helped with funding, the Trustees of Norwood Park leased us some land at a pepper-corn rent, and Lafarge Aggregates and Concrete donated a six and three-quarter tonne boulder from their Mount Sorrel quarry. The memorial became a reality.

On 10th April this year, 68 years to the day since the crash, we held a memorial service in Halam church, followed by a dedication ceremony at the memorial site. The events were very well attended; over 200 people stood in silence as the Last Post was sounded at the stone. Tony and I managed to contact six out of seven of the families of the airmen, and we were delighted that four sets of relatives were able to come to the dedication. At the service were the son of the plane's navigator, the brother of the bomb-aimer, and the brother of the rear-gunner. The pilot's nephews and nieces came all the way from Australia to be present at the dedication. It was a most memorable and very moving day.

Our thanks to all who helped to bring the memorial to fruition, and to all who gave donations to the project. There are still some outstanding planning and legal costs to be settled so further donations would be gratefully received.

Andrew Paris & Tony Denyer
Halam Lancaster Memorial Group



The first **Choir** rehearsal for the children will be on Wednesday 4th May at 6.30pm for approximately one hour at Church. There is still room for any further applicants who can just turn up on the night, or have their parents contact **Glenys Herbert** on 812335.

From May onwards the **Library van** will call just once every 4 weeks stopping outside Halam School at **11:15am**. Dates are: **May 4, June 1 & 29, July 27, August 24, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 14**



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The Waggon will be opening for coffee every weekday from 9am starting 4th May. With a great selection of coffee's to choose from, Danish pastries and cakes, why not drop in and try us out?



01636 813109



Please remember to send articles and other info (birthdays, exam success, upcoming events etc) for the **HALAM NEWS** by 25th of each month to:

halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

You can also drop them in to The Manor House, Radley Road. Articles may be edited or held over due to space constraints.

Sponsorship of each edition is £10.

Thanks to **Steve Brown** for sponsoring this edition

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- Welcome to Halam to **Glass** family (Gray Lane), and the **Pass** family (The Turnpike)
- Happy **40th** Birthday to **Jason Lucas**, of Gray Lane who reached this milestone on 21st May!

WHERE HAVE I BEEN?

The answer to last month's quiz was **Berlin**

Answers to this month's competition should be submitted 15th June, by email to halam.news@hotmail.co.uk Include your name and address on the email! The clue for this month's destination is:

"You have to be a mile high to watch the Rockies and the Bronco's"

Where have I been? Good luck!!

HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 7th June (July meeting on Tuesday 5th)** Meetings at 7.30pm (please check venue for June) **Glenys Herbert 812335**



TWINNING OPPORTUNITY FOR HALAM

No one has shown any interest in driving this forward, so it's unlikely to happen

ROYAL WEDDING FUN

About 30 people gathered in the Waggon for breakfast and to watch the Royal Wedding, and about 50 villagers turned up for the **posh picnic** and traditional games on the School field in the afternoon. The **Holmes family** of Gray Lane were multiple winners, taking prizes for the childrens and adults "patriotic" cakes and the Royal Quiz held in the Waggon in the evening

CHARLOTTE WEDS NABEEL



Congratulations to Charlotte Hallam and Nabeel Naaman who were married at Halam Church on Saturday 21st May. Charlotte is the youngest daughter of Tony and Maureen Hallam of Back Lane

TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD, JUNE 2011 - THE CUCKOOS AND THE ICE SAINTS

One of my favourite poets is W H Davies who came from my home town of Newport in South Wales. He was a great friend of my great uncle and was called the tramp poet. Many of you will know his poem:

**"What is life, if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare"**

But he wrote some 300 poems one of which includes the lines:

**"And hear the pleasant cuckoo, loud and long
The simple bird that thinks two notes a song."**

The cuckoo may be simple when it comes to his song - it is only the male cock bird that sings in that fashion, but the female has all the brains, as she lays about 25 eggs a season- all in different nests and each is laid in the host nest in about 10 seconds. Each egg mimics the eggs of the host bird.

The cuckoo song of two notes heralds the onset of spring as far as I am concerned and I first heard it this year on the 18th April. I get so excited when I hear it and then I am often disappointed when I don't hear it again for several days or even a week or so. The song makes me feel sure that the bad weather has gone and that spring will then be wonderful! But, I overlook the malign influence of the "Ice Saints". These are a group of mediaeval divines whose feast days are the 11th, 12th 13th and 14th of May. Our forefathers would say that planting should be left until after the last of these dates, as sudden frosts and even snowstorms are possible. Indeed we all know the saying 'N'er castv a clout 'til May is out' - the 'May' here refers to may blossom and not the month.

And the Ice saints - what were their names? Three of them were Mamertus, Servatius and Boniface, and I doubt if we anyone remembers those names - but the fourth name we know very well because he is associated with a champagne bar! - His name St Pancras!

Footnote - the Pawlonia tree which in last month's notes was stated to be dead - is in fact alive and had one flower on the day that the May Halam News was circulated - and now it is coming out in leaf exactly one months after the cuckoos arrival.

DAVID HERBERT

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OPEN GARDENS



Open gardens will be on June 26th this year. Any donations of books for the book stall or tombola prizes to Ashdene please. Thanks.

Paul Oakley & David Herbert

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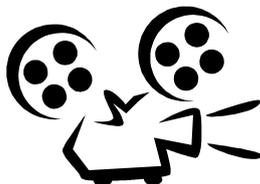
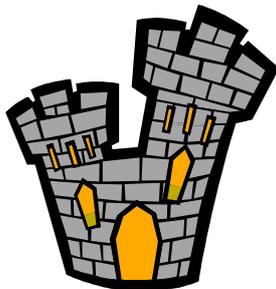
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LAXTON HERITAGE DAY

Laxton is Nottinghamshire's jewel – the last open field farming village in the country where strip farming is still practiced as it was across most of the Midlands in mediaeval times, managed by the ancient and legally constituted Court Leet and Jury.

Sunday July 3rd offers an unrivalled opportunity to learn more about the way this unique village works now and to delve into its history. There will be tours of the fields, the church and the motte & bailey castle; talks by a leading historian, a display by Laxton History Group featuring many items not normally on view to the public, heritage films and photos plus many other attractions. There will be live craft demonstrations, Morris dancing by Rattlejag from Retford, vintage ploughing and a visit from a large group of vintage tractors taking part in a road run, and a host of other opportunities for all the family to have fun and learn more about the countryside, Laxton and its heritage.

Refreshments are available all day and proceeds will support St Michael's Church, Laxton.



The Heritage Day, is open between **10am and 6pm** on **July 3rd**, and is based around **Crosshill Farm, High Street, Laxton**, where parking is available on site

Tickets are priced **£5** on the gate or **£4** in advance from www.laxtonheritageday.org.uk where full details of all the events on the day can be found. Under 12s free.

For more information or to offer to help on the day please call 01777 870541 or 01777 870042

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL JUNE 2011 SERVICES



June 5	08:00	Holy Communion	Revd David McCoulough	July at St Michaels: 3 rd July @ 9.30 Rock and Roll Sunday (also America / International Service – so wear something that connects with one of the themes) Will Elvis be with us?
	09:30	Morning Worship Blessing of animals service	Revd David McCoulough	
June 12	11:00	Sung Eucharist Baptism of Freya Hallam	Revd David McCoulough	
June 19	09:30	Family Communion (Jt service)	Revd David McCoulough	
June 26	09:30	Sung Eucharist	Revd David McCoulough	

400 Years Anniversary of King James Bible - During July to mark this important landmark in the history of the church, our nation and our language all readings in church services in July will be from The King James Translation

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES – 14TH APRIL 2011 AT 7.30PM

Present: Simon Bust, David Herbert, Glenys Herbert & Andrew Paris – NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS – Sarah Godfrey & Janet Simmons

Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman:

Simon Bust was elected Chairman, with Andrew Paris as Vice-Chairman, voting was unanimous

Election of Other Officers:

The following officers were elected unanimously:-

Christmas Charities – ARP & SB, Press Officer – ARP, Transport – GH, NALC representatives – SG & JS
Snow/flood warden – SB, Flag officer – SB, Crime reduction – ARP, Internal auditor – TBC; now that Mrs Simmons is a parish councillor she cannot act in future as the internal auditor, Financial officer – Mandy Rickett

Matters Arising:

From County Councillor Andy Stewart: 1) Drains – being worked on, 2) Thank you to all who stand as parish councillors 3) Thanks to the parish council for their support of the Halam Lancaster Bomber Memorial

Other matters: 1) Drain covers on Radley Road have been stolen – hazard for walkers and riders. Clerk to liaise with Notts County Council and Severn Trent, 2) Home monitoring – will only be supplied free to those in real need (criterion to be decided by the County Council). Others will be available but will have to be paid for

Village Hall: The replacement floor should be laid imminently. The insurance company has offered £500 towards extra heating costs incurred in drying out the hall – agreed to accept this as any increase would be highly unlikely. The large outstanding electricity bill will be paid in instalments.

Village Hall Committee: It was agreed that a Village Hall Committee should be organised to manage the letting, maintenance and general running of the hall. The Clerk to check any legal aspects, and Glenys Herbert to discuss with Marina Thompson.

Parish Council Election: The council could run with only six members instead of seven councillors, or the vacant post can be advertised and a seventh member co-opted onto the council. This has to be agreed unanimously to be legal. Agreed to advertise the vacant councillor position.

Open Meeting: Problems with BT phones in the village. Clerk to contact BT.

Correspondence:

1) New Councillor training - to be held at Epperstone village hall, in June, 7pm to 9.30pm. Agreed to pay for Mandy Rickett, Sarah Godfrey and Janet Simmons to attend.

2) Parish Paths Partnership – although the official scheme has been scrapped, funding for a single annual cut may be available. The County Council have requested that an annual survey of the parish footpaths be carried out, and serious problems reported. Chris Mercer will be asked if he is prepared to take this on.

3) Proposed new Standing Orders – Andrew Paris to compare with the “old” version and report back.

Finance: Unanimously agreed to pay 1) PC insurance, 2) R H Joinery (insurance claim), 3) Carpet Connection (insurance claim), 4) Wreath for Lancaster Bomber memorial dedication, 5) Flower tribute for Harry Rickett

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 9th June 2011, at 7.30pm in the village hall

Thanks to **Andrew Fraser, Di Parrish** and **Marina Thompson**, who recently stepped down, for their service to Halam as Parish Councillors



Family Fun Day

Monday 30th May - 12pm to 7pm

Bungee Run

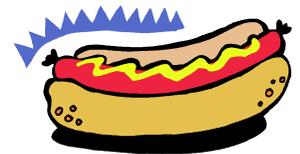


Face Painting



Bouncy Castle

Ice Cream Stall



Hot dog & Burger Stand