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HALAM NEWS

February 2022

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 below by the 25th of the month for inclusion the following month. Please do let me know of any big birthdays, weddings or reasons to celebrate the achievements of residents. Interesting contributions are always welcome. Please note your article will not be edited & it will be printed as you send it.

The
Waggon
AT HALAM

Latest Menu
Attached

Brown: 2nd & 16th
Silver: 7th & 21st
Green: 14th & 28th

A New Distributer

I would like to start this month's edition by saying a massive thank you to Glenys Herbert who has decided to step down from her role as a distributer of the Halam News, a job that she has done with pride and passion for many years. Kindly stepping up to fill her boots is the lovely Katie Bowling of School Lane.

Halam WI

Our next WI meeting is Tuesday 1st February 7.30pm at the village hall. We'll be holding the AGM. We have a full year of speakers and activities booked and we're looking forward to seeing everyone after our Christmas break. If you're thinking of joining our WI please look at our Facebook page for meeting dates and upcoming events or contact me for more details.

Sara (sara_subramanian@yahoo.co.uk)

Halam Events Committee

It has been decided that the "Tempting Fete" event will now become a biannual event, so will not now take place until 1st July 2023. Instead, this year, efforts are going to be put into celebrating the Queens Jubilee in June. We have lots of ideas and full details will be announced once we have firm plans in place. If you would like to get involved or if you have any ideas, please feel free to get in touch.

Halam Christmas Charities

The Halam charities date back to legacies left in the 17th and 18th century, originally to provide "bread and coal" at Christmas. Under the terms of these legacies, the funds must be given to parishioners of Halam, so the trustees of the charity fund, made up church and parish council representatives are tasked with distributing a modest sum to village residents.

Some years ago, it was decided to give a Christmas gift to every retired person in Halam. After much consideration this was amended to a gift given to every household where one of the people living there was over 60. In previous years this has been a gift of a "goodie bag" of Christmas fare. Last year, partly due to Covid and partly due to previous feedback, the trustees decided to take a different approach and gift cards were distributed instead.

For all those who received their gift card, the trustees hope that this was acceptable and proved to be useful. The scheme is reviewed every year and your feedback would be appreciated – was the gift card a good idea or did you prefer the Christmas goodie bag?

Any household is at perfect liberty to opt out of the Christmas charity gift – and many do. Again, this is reviewed at the trustees annual meeting at the start of November. At that meeting the trustees also compile the list of eligible households. It is surprisingly difficult to keep track of those who have turned sixty, and which houses need adding to the list, so apologies to anyone who was eligible last year who was missed (or would like to opt out of the scheme) – please let the charities' secretary Deborah Woods know on 813897 or speak to the church wardens.



St Michael The Archangel



Services in Church

Please note all services are at 11.a.m.

Sunday 6th February Morning Worship

Sunday 13th February Holy Communion (Contemporary Language)

Sunday 20th February All Age

Sunday 27th February Holy Communion (Traditional Language)

Contacts:

Priest - Rev. Mary Foden Currie 01623 479838 Wardens - Glenys Herbert 01636 812335 and Penni Wells 01636 813491

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

Message from Rev Mary

As I write the sun is shining even though there has been a keen frost. It amazes me how the most delicate flowers can appear in the cold days. One of my favourites is the snowdrop. The beginning of February heralds Candlemas in the Church calendar when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the Temple forty days after the birth. Snowdrops were also called Candlemas bells because of their purity.

Candlemas is sometimes spoken of as the day when the Church's year changes direction. We stop looking back to Christmas and begin to look forward to Lent, Good Friday and Easter – the growing time of the year. Gardeners get ready!

Part of a prayer for Candlemas says: "Come freshly to us now Lord God. Kindle again the light of your love. Kindle an unswerving flame in lives around, that darkness may be driven back."

February sees the wedding of Kimberly Butler and Luca Sibilla. So please pray for them as they begin their married life together. These are still uncertain times so please keep caring for one another. Every blessing.
Rev. Mary

Halam Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 pm Thursday 13th January 2022 **held at Halam Village Hall**

Present

Simon Bust, Mr Andrew Paris, Mr Chris Bevans, Mrs Sarah Godfrey, Mrs Glenys Herbert, and Mrs Janet Simmonds

Apologies

Mr Ganesh Subramanian

Village Hall

The electrical contractor will sort the agreed heating upgrades as soon as possible.

The hall's wi-fi will be progressed – Finance Office and Chris Bevans

A Fire Regulations assessment has been undertaken and, while the hall is currently compliant with all requirements, some improvements to the emergency lighting and signage were suggested. Clerk to draw up specifications from the assessment and quote(s) to be obtained.

An Omicron grants may be available for the hall (due to the lack of bookings and increased costs) – Andrew Paris to investigate further.

Allotments

Severn Trent have charged £150 for a site visit and quotation to run water up to the allotments. The cost includes a standpipe at the allotments plus the cost of closure of the top end of Gray Lane - £2,768 + VAT. It was proposed that a package of improvements was put together – water, parking and improved access – and grants funding be investigated, e.g. Prince's Countryside Trust. Andrew Paris to investigate further. Funding might also be available from the Severn Trent Community Fund – Simon Bust to contact Severn Trent.

Roads and Hedges

The hedges along the top of Gray Lane are encroaching onto the lane.

Similarly the hedges along St Michael's Close are overgrown.

The Clerk & Chairman to investigate both issues.

Editor: Chris Bevans **T:** 07967 132014 **E:** halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

W: www.halamvillage.org.uk **FB:** Halam Village Community

Dog Bins

The new dog bin will be put in place this week.

Open Meeting

1. The Chairman and Clerk were thanked for arranging the village hall Christmas tree.
2. A parishioner highlighted the report from Notts. County Highways that had been submitted as part of the planning application for the proposed residential development (6 dwellings) on the land At Evergreen Barn, School Lane. They pointed out that despite previous negative comments from the parish council and residents of the village, the Highways report supported the proposed alterations to the junction of School Lane/Turnpike – moving the School Lane junction forward and reducing the width of the Turnpike. The parishioner stated that the general opinion locally was that this would make the junction more dangerous, not safer, and asked that the parish council addressed this as they believed that the Highways report was simply wrong.

At this point it was questioned whether Sarah Godfrey should remain at the meeting as she had a major interest in the application being discussed. Mrs Godfrey said she felt she could remain present but would take no part in discussions or any voting.

After much discussion and input from the parishioner it was agreed unanimously that the parish council should write to both the planning department and NCC Highways disputing the Highways report, pointing out the hazards that the proposed junction alterations would create, and that despite numerous visits over the past years, Highways had never made any such proposals: if the proposed alterations were the answer to the dangers of the School Lane/Turnpike junction, why hadn't this been proposed before by the Highways professionals?

3. Janet Simmonds reported that there had been drains problems at St Michael's Close in December with sewage coming up in the gardens and pathways. Severn Trent didn't come out to sort the issue so a neighbouring property arranged for a private firm to deal with the blockage (main sewer on Radley Road). The Chairman will contact Severn Trent about this lack of response.

Planning

None

Planning Decisions

None

Finance

Precept – Last year the precept was reduced from £8,200 to less than half at £4,000. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to keep it the same for this year (2022-2023) i.e. £4,000

Unanimously agreed to pay for 1) auditor fees, 2) Fire Assessment, and 3) Severn Trent site visit charge

Date of next meeting

The next parish council meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th February 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.

Dingbats:

Last month's answers were "Left Overs" and "Unfinished Symphony"

M₁Y L₁I₁F₁E

Mail Male



Opening Hours

Monday & Tuesday Closed

Wednesday to Saturday 12 till 11pm (Food Served: 12 till 8.30pm)

Sunday 12-4pm (Food Served: 12-3pm)

Two Courses £15 Three Courses £18

Starters

Bowl of Soup & Homemade Bread

Warm Jerusalem Artichoke, Blood Orange & Feta Salad

Duck Rilette, Homemade Toasted Bread & Dill Pickles

Soused Mackerel, Roast Beetroot & Potato, Horseradish Mayonnaise

Potato, Parmesan & Truffle Oil Scotch Egg

Mains

Waggon's Pork Schnitzel, Fried Egg, Fries & Winter Slaw

Roasted Cauliflower Steak, Harissa Chickpeas & Minted Yoghurt

Braised Shin of Beef, Dauphinoise Potatoes, Buttered Tender Stem Broccoli & Red Wine Gravy

Stoppard's Hangar Steak, Mushrooms & Onions, Skinny Fries, Peas & Pepper Sauce
(Steak £2 Supplement)

Chicken & Chestnut Mushroom Pie, Short Crust Pastry, Chips, Peas & Gravy

Waggon's Steak or Crispy Chicken Burger, Onion Slaw, Dill Pickles
Barbecue Sauce & Fries (Add Bacon & Cheese £1)

Pan Fried Seabass, Leek Mash, Kale & Citrus Butter Sauce

Twice Baked Cheddar Cheese Soufflé, Leek Sauce, Fries & Salad

Beer Battered Haddock & Chips, Chunky Tartar Sauce & Minted Mushy Peas

Side Orders

Mixed Seasonal Vegetables £2.50 · Beer Battered Onion Rings £3.00

Hand Cut Chunky Chips £3.00 · House Dressed Salad £2.50 · Fries £2.50



Opening Hours

Monday & Tuesday Closed
Wednesday to Saturday 12 till 11pPm (Food Served: 12 till 8.30pm)
Sunday 12-4pm (Food Served: 12-3pm)

Desserts

Chocolate Orange Bread & Butter Pudding & Custard

Warm Profiteroles, Toffee Fudge Ice Cream & Dark Chocolate Sauce

Honey & Vanilla Roasted Rhubarb Pavlova, Vanilla Ice Cream & Chantilly

Passion Fruit Panna Cotta

A Selection of Thaymar's Luxury Ice Creams

Wedge of Cheddar or Stilton, Balsamic Onions & Homemade Bread

To Accompany

Château Lamourette Sauternes 75ml £4.25

Banyuls 5 Ans D'age 75ml £4.25

Taylors LBV Port - 50ml £3.95

To Finish

Americano £2.50 Espresso £2.00

Cappuccino £2.60 Double Espresso £3.00 Liqueur Coffee £4.95

Latte £2.60 Hot Chocolate £2.95

English Breakfast Tea, Earl Grey, Peppermint, Chamomile, Green Tea,
All £2.00 Each

All our products are locally sourced whenever possible. All food is freshly prepared to order so your patience is appreciated. If you have any allergies or dietary requirements, please let us know and we will do our best to adapt the menu to your needs. Please note if you choose just one course all meals are individually priced so prices may vary.