

# HALAM NEWS

APRIL 2012



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](mailto: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 is £10 per edition.

PETER THOMPSON 01636 814026

## HALAM & DISTRICT W. I.



The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 3rd April** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. The May meeting will be on **Tuesday 1st. Glenys Herbert 812335**

## HALAM TODDLER GROUP

Halam Toddler group is held every other Friday at the village hall, from 10.30am to 12pm, £2 per family. Come along for a cup of tea and chat while your little ones play. The next session is Friday 20th April.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

- Belated happy birthday to Bill Kemp of School Lane who turned 80 and Betty Godber of Radley Road who was 85, both in February
- Good Bye and Good Luck to Patricia and Chris Kells who have moved to Bleasby
- Welcome to Jim and Terri Burn who have moved into the Kells' old house on School Lane
- Happy 80th birthday to Canon David Keene for April 11th

## HALAM DIAMOND JUBILEE PATCHWORK

Accompanying this months Halam News you will receive a numbered envelope containing an instruction sheet, some light blue thread and your Diamond Jubilee Patchwork block. We would ask that you please complete your embroidery as soon as possible and return the patchwork block to Marina Thompson (The Manor House, 814026), Glenys Herbert (Ashdene, 812335) or Olive Sharman (Spindlewood Cottage, 813302). The design is based on 160 patchwork blocks (equal to the number of households in the village) and so we need to get back all issued blocks as soon as possible. If you need assistance, help will be provided, please contact one of the people named above. If you do not receive your envelope, please contact Marina.



## NEW ADDITION

Jack Christopher Patrick Bevans, born on St Patricks Day, to proud parents Chris and Katy Bevans, weighing in at 7lbs 5 oz. Granny and Pops Jane & Simon Bust and Great Grandma Eleanor Bust are over the moon!

## 'SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL' RECYCLING SCHEME

This scheme raises funds for our school through the recycling of inkjet/laser cartridges and mobile phones. The school receives up to £150 for mobile phones and £1 per cartridge. If you would like to help us raise funds for new climbing equipment in the playground please bring your used cartridges and phones from home or work to the school office.  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



Congratulations to Henry Parkinson (29) of School Lane, Halam, and Emily Jenkins (27) of Mapperly, who have announced their engagement

New website for Halam School : [www.halamschool.typepad.com](http://www.halamschool.typepad.com)

**Open Gardens** this year will be **Sunday June 24th**



## CHAMPAGNE, STRAWBERRIES AND A NIGHT AT THE 'FLICKS'

After the sell out Irish night on March 16<sup>th</sup> when a capacity crowd watched The Guard, the Oxtan Projection House is proud to present its next film event on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> – blockbusters, with a hint of romance.

The first film is **The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn** which was only released late last year. Featuring a star-studded cast including Simon Pegg and Daniel Craig and directed by Steven Spielberg, it will appeal to all ages. Intrepid reporter Tintin and Captain Haddock embark on a treasure hunt for a sunken ship commanded by Haddock's ancestor.

The second film is **Bridesmaids** (15), a highly-acclaimed romantic comedy starring Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph and Rose Byrne. Competition between the maid of honour and a bridesmaid, over who is the bride's best friend, threatens to upend the life of an out-of-work pastry chef. As an added inducement to encourage that romantic feeling we will be offering strawberries and champagne, in addition to the usual popcorn, snacks and drinks.

As ever, the films will be shown on a large screen with a superb sound system in the comfortable surroundings of Oxtan Village Hall.

Doors open at 5pm and the first film will be shown at 5.30pm. Doors open at 8pm for the second film which is shown at 8.30pm. Tickets cost £4 per film, £3 for children and concessions. Tickets are available in advance from Oxtan Village Shop, Ethel Cottee on 0115 9653477 or Roy Walker on 0115 9653595. Tickets on the day will incur an additional cost of £1.



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## ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL - APRIL 2012 SERVICES

April 1	8:00	Holy Communion (Palm Sunday)	Rev D McCoulough
	9:30	All age worship & Palm Procession (Meet at Waggon & Horses car park at 09:20)	Rev D McCoulough
April 5	19:00	Holy Communion & Watch service (Maundy Thursday)	Rev D McCoulough
April 6	10:30	Devotions (Good Friday)	Rev D McCoulough
April 8	11:00	Sung Eucharist (Easter Day) (egg race, Easter egg hunt & design an egg competition)	Rev D McCoulough
April 15th	9:30	Family Communion (prayers for Lancaster crew)	Rev D McCoulough
April 22	11:00	Sung Eucharist	Rev D McCoulough
April 29	18:00	Benefice Evensong at Haram	Rev D McCoulough

## ST JØRGEN'S CHURCH, AABENRAA, DENMARK

The excellent girls' choir of St Jørgen's Church are coming to stay in Haram in early July, to give 3 concerts in the area. Some accommodation is still needed. If anyone would like to put up two or three of these delightful people for a maximum of six nights, we would be most grateful. The girls range in age between 12 and 18, and there are also eight adults, being the conductor, accompanist and priest and helpers. All reasonable expenses would, of course, be met. If you might be interested and would like more details, please contact David Butterworth on 07850 833890

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES — 8TH MARCH 2012 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** S Bust, A Paris, C Bevans, S Godfrey, D Herbert, G Herbert, J Simmonds

**Matters Arising:** pot holes in roads – **problems can reported online through the County Council's website or on 08449 80 80 80**

**Village Hall:** a discussion was had regarding whether the hall should be sold; this isn't practicable at present because of outstanding mortgages. The lock on the disabled toilet needs attention. The village hall committee presented their three month report. It was unanimously agreed to buy new thermal blinds for the windows (from the funds raised at last year's harvest supper). The new village hall website is now live – [www.halamvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.halamvillagehall.org.uk) Storage heaters – one or two should be left on at all times. Village hall committee to arrange notices regarding heating instructions.

**Queen's Jubilee:** village patchwork quilt is being organised.

A village beacon is being arranged, and presentation mugs are being sorted by the Chairman, S Bust.

**Trees:** dangerous and overhanging trees – County Council have been informed. The clerk to identify which trees need attention.

**Drains:** still waiting for the work on the drains on The Turnpike. Apparently the delay is being caused by a electricity cable having been laid on top of the drain culvert. County Council are working on this.

**Grit Bin:** County Council will organise our blue grit bin asap.

**Open Meeting:** Matters discussed: 1) street lights – proposal to turn off street lights between midnight and 5.30 am. Parish council requested that the lights be left on at i) the corner of Holme Lane, ii) the corner by Strickland Farm, and iii) at the Turnpike/Radley Road crossroads. 2) allotments – tyres on the allotments to be stacked up to one side awaiting disposal (may cost £1 each to scrap); dyke needs clearing of debris from old (collapsed) bridges. 3) Rubbish & litter around the village – this is a growing problem, nationally as well as locally; **fly tipping can be reported online at the Newark & Sherwood District Council, or on 01636 650000. Where possible can villagers help tidy up and keep the village clean – we have entered the Best Kept Village competition again this year.**

**Planning:** The Waggon & Horses, The Turnpike: new pantile interlocking concrete tiles to be removed and natural slate tile roof tiles reinstated to front elevation. New pantile interlocking concrete tiles to be removed and original authentic pantiles to be reinstated to front elevation – approved unanimously (this is a listed building)

### Planning Decisions:

Newark & Sherwood District Council have approved the following planning applications:

1) Two The Cottages, The Turnpike 2) Maythorne House, 5 Manor Fields

**Finance:** Unanimously agreed to pay clerk's wages

**Date of Next Meeting:** **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2012, this will be the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm** followed by the parish council meeting at 7.30pm in the village hall.

## TALES FROM THE CHURCHYARD

I have begun to venture back into the churchyard now that warmer days are returning and I am delighted as always to see very many worm casts on the grass and many molehills - a sure sign of an abundance of juicy worms. Charles Darwin is known today as a revolutionary biologist who with his book '*On the Origin of Species*' paved the way for our greater understanding of the natural world. Not many people know, however, that he wrote another book '*The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms, With Observations on Their Habits*', published in 1881, and it sold even better than '*On the Origin of Species*' during Darwin's lifetime. When Darwin first started looking at worms no-one appreciated the key role they had in agriculture. In the mid 19th century most people thought earthworms were pests, but Darwin was convinced they were valuable for turning over the soil, in part by chewing it up and pooping it out.

The public perception of the worm as something of no importance or even a pest exists from the earliest of times. The Romans had a word for the worm – 'vermis' and by the middle ages the term 'vermis' or 'verm' was applied to any creature that seemed unpleasant and especially worms as they were small wriggling creatures ugly to behold. With time the word 'vermin' became widely used and today is applied to a wide range of animals for which we have low regard. The Latin word vermis had its origin back in the Sanskrit of northern India from where the word 'kermes' developed from 'Krmī' meaning insect or worm. Kermes in turn gave rise to our word for crimson! Meanwhile the Italians had developed a word for a type of pasta – vermicelli, and the description of vermicelli (small worms) was given to the cochineal insects of South America by the Spaniards. This led to the naming of a dye from crushed Cochineal insects - namely vermilion.

Wormwood is a daisy-like plant known as vermouth in Germany and from this plant we get the drinks of raki, absinthe, pernod and so on. The drink brings about amazing change in us and in the middle ages the English described this change as ver-mod- (Dutch courage) and we still use see this usage in werewolf and in the French liqueur Vermouth.

So the simple wiggly worm has been proved to be a vital blessing to gardeners, and agriculturists, as well as giving us the names of striking colours, stimulating drink and a favourite Italian dish. But our indebtedness does not stop there - surgeons talk of the vermiform appendix, the anatomist talks of the vermis lobe of part of the brain and many a young man is keen on worming his way into the heart and affections of a pretty girl. We should not use the expression 'he is a worm' - a derogatory phrase - in fact the humble worm is very important. An old playground song went like this:

Nobody loves me, everybody hates me, I think I'll go and eat worms  
Long fat curly ones, short fat wriggly ones, I bite their heads off  
I suck their bodies out, I throw the skins away  
Nobody knows how well I thrive, On worms three times a day!

David Herbert