

HALAM NEWS

APRIL 2008



Welcome to the new look HALAM NEWS, which I hope you will find both interesting and informative. Articles, adverts, & other items for publication are welcome from all. You can submit articles through the new email address :

halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

Alternatively you can post them/drop them in to:
HALAM NEWS, c/o THE MANOR HOUSE,
RADLEY ROAD, HALAM. NG22 8AN

Cut off date for submissions is 25th of each month.

Sponsorship (£10 per issue) is also very welcome and thanks to **David Butterworth** of Back Lane for sponsoring this months edition

Under new Editorship

I'm pleased to be the new editor of HALAM NEWS and would like to thank Karin Davis for undertaking this role for the past 4 years. I am however, saddened that my first issue has to include obituaries of our fellow villagers Mike Todd and Ron Atkins

Although only a small publication, HALAM NEWS provides a valuable service for the village and it is important that reaches out to all residents with accurate information. I will try to ensure that this is the case.

If anyone has any ideas for one-off or regular items they would like to see included in HALAM NEWS, please let me know.

Peter Thompson (tel: 814026)

HALAM VILLAGE HALL – AN UPDATE

As Halam Village Hall was the cause of some consternation in last months issue, HALAM NEWS contacted Parish Council Chair, Simon Bust, in order to get a status update:

Q : ***What is the current situation with the Village Hall?***

A : The Parish Council is committed to keeping the Village Hall as a facility for all villagers to use, but as everyone in Halam knows, it is really in need of improvement and the Parish Council is in the process of applying for grants from various bodies to help with the funding of any improvement activity. We have had some positive responses from some of the grant applications and the Village Hall is on the agenda to be discussed at every Parish Council meeting and what we are doing is reported in the Village News each month.

Q : ***What options are available to the Parish Council?***

A : The Parish Council has looked into various options for the Village Hall since the publication of the Parish Plan, and this included the recent village consultation on the proposal for a new hall on Ron Sharman's field, which didn't achieve enough support to move forward. No other sites for a new hall have been identified.

Currently the Parish Council is therefore going ahead with basic improvements to make the existing Village Hall more attractive and a better place to use, as well as making sure that it meets the requirements for buildings used by the public. It is intended that the improvements will include new kitchen and toilet facilities and redecoration, and some of the grants we have been looking at are specifically related to these areas.

The Parish Council intends that the improvements will make the Village Hall a nicer environment and that it will be used for more village social events and other activities. It will be important that villagers continue to support and run events/hire the hall when the improvements are finished, as the grant givers expect to see increased usage in the future.

Q : ***Why is it taking so long?***

A : The grant application process can take a long time, and we have to fit in with the timescales laid down in the process, plus the Parish Council wasn't able to apply for grants when we were looking into the possibility of a new building, as the grant givers would not have looked favourably on an application for a building which may have been sold. We now have requested multiple grants and we will continue to look for other sources of funding which we could apply for.

Q : ***Will the precept be going up to fund any of the work?***

A : The precept has been set at the same level for this year as last year and the Parish Council hopes that the grants we are applying for will be enough to cover the cost of any work that is done.

halam.news@hotmail.co.uk

Ron Atkins

31st July 1930 - 18th March 2008

It is with sadness that we report that Ron passed away on Tuesday 18th March. Ron was born at Hill Farm in Halam and was baptised at St Michaels Church. He and Cynthia married in 1953 and they had three children Jane, Susan and Chris, two grandsons and twin great granddaughters. The family lived in Radley Road ever since their house was built. These are the basic facts, but alone they give away nothing as to the true nature of Ron

He was first and foremost a countryman. His father was a market Gardener and farmer at Hill Farm in Halam and his grandfather was a game keeper as was his great grandfather. Ron kept the family love for the country very much alive, working for many years at Radley Farm with the Tinleys as a cowman. He was forced to retire from this occupation after a serious accident, but he continued to enjoy beating on shoot days and following the hounds.

Ron did not take retirement lightly and was an early bird every day always walking his dogs at between 5.30 and 6 am every day and he took a fiendish delight in tapping on my study window at about 6 am everyday to prove that he had already been dressed and out walking whilst I was still in my dressing gown. If for any reason one met him whilst he was out walking, he would always stop for a chat and those chats often turned out to be deeply philosophical musings. He was a great believer in fresh air and the windows of his bedroom would always be wide open every morning even in the coldest of weather. The only time he would forsake the great outdoors would be in the evening at the pub over a pint and darts.

He was a determined and courageous man who made little of his physical infirmities no matter how great they became and in the end they became very great, limiting his mobility. It was that characteristic courage that allowed him to overcome knee surgery and make him once again most mobile

He was a loving husband, father, grandparent and worshiped his twin great granddaughters who gave him such joy and pleasure. He loved to be teased by them and the more he feigned crossness at their teasing the more enjoyment all three of them had. In short he was a hard working countryman whose God was the fresh and open air, and whose fellow worshipers included the Hunting Field; the pheasant shoot and Aston Villa F C.

"Lie down, lie down young yeoman;
The sun moves always west;
The road one treads to labour
Will lead one home to rest"
A E Houseman "A Shropshire lad"

David Herbert

A Sincere Thank You

I don't know where to begin to thank everyone who has given and offered their help and support to my family at this difficult time. From cards to messages of sympathy including recollections of happier times, to practical help and shoulders to cry on. I could not have found my way through this crisis so far without your help and I am proud to be member of this Village.

Carolyn Todd

Condolences

Condolences also go to the Sharman family on the recent death of Robert Sharman who lived at Hough-on-the-Hill and to Rebecca White (ex - Waggon & Horses) on the death of her mother Marion Hodson after a long illness.



Halam & District Women's Institute

The next meeting of Halam & District WI will take place on Tuesday 1st April in Halam Village Hall. The guest speaker will be **Canon David Keene**, and the subject of his talk will be:

"My Life - Continued....."

The competition will be **"A Fancy Biscuit"**
Everyone is welcome to attend.

For information contact Glenys Herbert.
Tel 812335

VILLAGE VENTURES

CHRIS GARRICK & JOHN ETHERIDGE IN CONCERT

Legendary guitarist – played with Stephane Grappelli; John Williams; Yehudi Menuhin; Nigel Kennedy, and Virtuoso violinist – played with Cleo Laine; Luka Bloom; Brian Ferry

**THURSDAY 8 MAY 2008 7.30PM
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, HALAM**

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All tickets **£8** (including interval glass of wine)
available from: Karin Lindley: 815854; Bev Perks:
812181; Glenys Herbert: 812335; Penni Wells: 813491
Email: karinlindley@hotmail.com



Michael J Todd QPM

Oct 10th 1957 - March 11th 2008

A 'proper copper'. He did more to restore confidence in British policing than anyone - not just in Manchester either. Guts, determination, integrity and skill as a leader. (Derek, ex-policeman)

It is undeniable that Michael Todd was a very highly regarded Chief Constable. Anyone who has read the tributes paid to him by not only politicians, senior Police Officers and other high ranking officials, but also the rank and file officers that he commanded (such as the one above) cannot fail to have been moved by the sense of loss and sadness they conveyed.

Mike rose through the ranks of the Police from joining the Essex Constabulary in 1976 moving to the Metropolitan Police on an exchange scheme, and, having been recognised as a high flyer, moved to Nottinghamshire in 1995 to become Assistant Chief Constable at the early age of 38. Moving back to the Met he achieved the rank of Assistant Commissioner under Sir John Stevens, before being appointed as Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police in 2002. He led his force by example, often going out on patrol, and strongly believed that the purpose of his job was to apprehend and jail criminals and terrorists.



Mike Todd as the world knew him



The Mike Todd we knew in Halam - having just scored a stunning goal in the "lads v dads" football game at a summer barbeque!!

At Mike's funeral in Halam on Good Friday, William Hill paid a very moving tribute to him on behalf of his close friends, capturing most eloquently the spirit of the Mike Todd we knew in Halam:

- **To our kids, Mike was the dad who whose car had hidden blue flashing lights and the one they all wanted to ride in (even the adults!)**
- **To us, he was the guy who worked with Carolyn to make their garden fit for a magazine feature but really wanted to make space for a Police TARDIS to be like Dr Who!**
- **He was a staunch supporter of Catherine, Matthew & David at Halam School and would always try to get back for school plays, sports day and other events & could often be seen in the school hall enthusiastically supporting them in the latest school production sat in a chair sized for a six year old!**
- **The miles he put on his Range Rover delivering kids to Tozer & Newark Operatic Society must have hastened its replacement!**

The Mike we knew was a character, larger than life with a great sense of humour, but he always managed to retain his professionalism whilst still acting and being one of the lads. Many of us from Halam were fortunate to share trips away and days out with Mike. Whether it was fun filled family weekends to Center Parcs, hilarious "boys" weekends in Munich or Dublin, regular Boxing Day walks around the village or summer barbeques, it was always a delight to be in his company.

Mike enjoyed living in the village of Halam, where he felt his family was safe from the focus his position could bring, where he could unwind with friends who respected the confidence he placed in them & where he was the dad who ferried his kids around on weekends, or played Warhammer games.

Mike Todd was the sort of individual who only comes along very rarely, the sort that whatever your connection, whether it be personal or work related, you felt incredibly proud to have been associated with him. He had an uncanny ability to fit in, to put people at ease, to provide help & advice but not use his position to gain advantage or status.

Although tragically taken early from them, his family can take comfort in the wonderful memories of a very special person, as we all will. Most especially the sight of the then Asst Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police skipping down Radley Road hand in hand with his twin boys having collected them from Halam School is something that will remain with us for ever.

Mike, may you Rest in Peace, the world is a lesser place with your passing.

Peter Thompson, Andrew Fraser, William Hill

**Fear no more the heat o' the sun
Nor the furious winter's rages;
Thou they worldly task has done,
Home art gone, and ta'en thy wages:**

**Fear no more the lightning flash,
Nor the all dreaded thunder stone;
Fear not slander, censure rash;
Thou has finished joy and moan;**

**No exorciser harm thee!
Nor no witchcraft charm thee!
No ghost unlaid forbear thee!
Nothing ill come near thee!
Quiet consummation have;
And renownéd be thy grave!**

*Extract from Cymbeline by
Shakespeare- Act IV scene 2
Chosen and abridged by
David Herbert*

Notes from Halam Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March 2008

Attendees : Simon Bust, David Herbert, Glenys Herbert, Di Parrish, Marina Thompson **Apologies :** Andrew Fraser, Andrew Paris

Matters Arising :

1. The Parish Council wished to Thank Karin Davis for good work editing the Halam News for the past 4 years.
2. **Design Statement** - Glenys Herbert and Shirley Grayson have embarked on this project and will present a draft copy of the document at the next meeting. Wymeswold's design statement is being used as a guide.
3. The new Village **Notice Board** is ready to be erected and there will probably be an unveiling on the evening of the Annual Parish meeting (April 10th)

Planning Applications:

- Becks Cottage, Gray Lane - passed unanimously
- Porch at Greenacres, Radley Road - passed unanimously

Planning Decisions

- Tremont—approved

Village Hall:

Progress is being made on obtaining grants for specific items:

- B&Q are looking to donate kitchen units
- Dulux are considering paint to the value of £500
- East Midlands Ceramics will donate tiling
- Veolia are being approached for a major grant for structural work
- Wren grant application is still ongoing

Next Meetings:

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING — April 10th at 7pm, Halam Village Hall

April Parish Council Meeting — April 10th at 7.30pm, Halam Village Hall

Concert Week Success

Well Done to all the children at Halam School who raised over **£1380** for the **NSPCC** with a sponsored spell - this is the most that the school has ever raised with such an event!!

“Thank you” to everyone from Halam who took part in, helped with or attended the recent week of concerts marking the opening of the new Minster School, which culminated in a performance of Haydn's Creation on 8th March in Southwell Minster. Ticket sales for the week exceeded £3000 - a great result! **Marina Thompson**



St Michael the Archangel, Halam - April Services

6th April - Easter 3

8.00am - Holy Communion, Rev D McCoulough

9.30am - Family Communion, Rev E Kirk

13th April - Easter 4

11.00am - Sung Eucharist, Rev R Perry

20th April - Easter 5

9.30am - Family Communion, Rev D McCoulough

27th April - Easter 6

11.00am - Sung Eucharist, Rev D McCoulough
& Baptism - Maisie Bingham

2.30pm - Baptism - Seule family, Rev R Perry

Halam C of E Primary School April Social Events



Halam School parents are springing into action this month with two PTA organised events which are open to all!

This term's **Yummy Mummy** evening will be held on **Friday 18th April**, 7.30pm at Hexgreave Hall. For a nominal ticket price of £2 you'll see a short presentation by Michelle Rogers (Aloe Vera Consultant), a **Virgin Vie** make over by Helen and have the chance to enjoy sample mini facials and relaxing hand massages offered by qualified Halam Mums. The emphasis is on rest and relaxation so we invite you to bring your own tippie and join us for nibbles.

We're encouraging family frolics on **Sunday 27th April** with a **Breakfast Walk** kindly hosted by the Old Reindeer at Edingley. Bacon Butties will be available from 10.30am and there'll be a choice of a steady 5km or an energetic 10km circular route to follow all the way back to the pub! Ticket price includes a breakfast butty and cuppa at £2.50 per adult, £1 per child.

Tickets for both events are available from the school office or by contacting d.hallam3@btinternet.com. We hope you can join us!