



# High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



February 2014

## *Village Hall*

### **a. *Valentine Quiz Night - 14th February 2014***

In order to assist with raising money for Phase Three of the refurbishment programme, the Village Hall Committee are pleased to announce that we will be holding four Quiz nights per year with the first being the Valentine Quiz on Friday 14th. Please come along and support both the quiz and have a terrific night out. To book a team please contact Margaret on 244203. Entry fee is £3.00 per person.

### **b. *An Evening with Nicky Moore and Friends - 8th March 2014***

Back in September 2012, Nicky Moore brought a number of his singers and friends back to perform and to help us raise money for the Village Hall. Nicky has been a great supporter to this Village and we are pleased to announce that there will be another performance by Nicky and Friends on Saturday 8th March. Tickets are £12.50 and are available from the shop.

Guests this time include Emma who many will remember appeared on the reality TV show *Lakesiders*. Listen to some great performances including another brilliant rendition of *Barcelona* by Nick and one of his stars. Come on along to see talent of tomorrow performing today it really is a great night out.



### **c. *Golf Tournament***

Following the successful event last year we are looking to hold another event again this year. Details to follow next month.

### **d. *Booking***

Are you a group looking for a venue to meet on a regular basis? If so have you considered using the Village Hall. You can hire the main hall, the Green Room or both rooms for a variety of activities be it meetings, children's parties, etc etc. Many evenings already have regular bookings but there are many opportunities available during the day. For more details please contact Crystal on 251849.

### **e. *Village Market / Boot Fair - Saturday 1st February.***

An opportunity for anyone to bring along their unwanted goods and have a table alongside the regular traders. The market starts at 9:30am and finishes at 11am. The usual stalls will be there including bread, vegetables, cakes, knitwear, cards, pet food, books, candles, sweets, jewellery and more. Please see the advert inside on page 5 for full details on how to book a table.

***Friendly Club Holiday***  
***TORQUAY***  
***Saturday 6th to 13th September***

We have some spaces, are you interested? We are staying at the Cavendish Hotel, close to the beach, theatre, and shops. It has an outdoor pool, indoor pool, sauna, games room, evening entertainment, bars and lifts. Cost is £358pp which includes coach from High Halstow and return, 2 full day outings and a half day trip. On a half board basis, so breakfast and dinner is included. Double, twin and a few singles are available. If you are interested and want to know more, please contact me on 250677.

***Margaret Whitebread***

***Memorial Hall***

Happy New Year to High Halstow.

The Hall is run for the people of High Halstow by a keen Committee of volunteers and very helpful supporters. We do not make a huge profit from the Hire Charges made and generous donations given, therefore, making us self-supporting, to keep the Hall in a good condition considering it is over 90 years old.

If you are new to the village you may not be aware that you can hold children's parties and (especially if you do not have enough room) family get-togethers, as we found to be popular last year, or maybe start a new club in addition to those who already use the Hall.

For information call Angela on 251756 or during February and March Ann on 251914.

*I would like to thank the many people in the village that have given me their 'Best Wishes' and support during my illness last year, and to let them know that I have been given the 'all clear' and will be looking forward to a much better 2014.*

*Many Thanks.*

*Ann*

***Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors***

Gary Jerreat, one of your Parish Councillors will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 11th February from 10.30 – 12.00pm and every 2nd Tuesday in the month.

Come and tell us your problems or find out about projects we are undertaking. If we can't answer your questions there and then we will get back to you.

***High Halstow Parish Council***



***High Halstow Hikers***

In January we had one of our more unusual walks, and not just because it didn't rain. We met just outside Greenwich Park and walked through the park to the River Thames. On the way we passed the 700 year-old oak tree round which Henry VIII is said to have danced with Anne Boleyn and the magnificent buildings of the National Maritime Museum. The tide was in making the river look attractive as did the Cutty Sark in its amazing protective glass cage. We then walked under the river via the foot-tunnel, which is well lit and in excellent condition, to reach the Isle of Dogs. The walk along the riverfront and around the large dock basins reveals the complete renovation of the area into a pleasant (and very expensive) environment. The biggest contrast of the day was to find Mudchute Farm with flocks of Jacobs sheep just over a mile from the massive glittering office blocks of Canary Wharf. After walking through Millwall Park, the original site of Millwall Football Club we returned under the river and had a short break in the Old Brewery a relatively new microbrewery that will serve samplers of 1/3 pint (as long as you buy 4!). With renewed energy we walked back through Greenwich Park and up to the area of the Royal Observatory, the site of the Greenwich Meridian and a World Heritage site. Turning back to see where we had walked provided a stunning view of the Royal Naval College in the foreground, the contrast of Canary Wharf behind and the city and St Paul's Cathedral to the west. All this is just 35 minutes drive from High Halstow.

Our February walk be on Sunday 9th and will start and finish at the 11th Century Dirty Habit pub in Hollingbourne at 10.00. The walk will include part of the grounds of Leeds Castle and will take around 2.5 to 3 hours. It has some moderate slopes but does not include the steeper routes from Hollingbourne up to the Downs. The postcode of the pub is ME17 1UW. The drive to it takes about 35 minutes: take the M20 towards Ashford and leave it at junction 8 onto the A20. At the first roundabout take the first exit into Eythorne St, continue onto B2163 and finally onto Upper St where you will find the Dirty Habit.

On Sunday 9th March we will do a local walk, starting from Sharnal Street and along bank of Medway and Stoke Saltings; and on Sunday 13th April around Camer Park and Meopham. As always if you have any queries please contact Mitchell either on

[mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com](mailto:mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com)

or 01634 254428.

## ***Record Numbers***

Lovely weather for ducks as a record number lands at RSPB Cliffe Pools The North Kent Marshes are a vital winter retreat for European ducks and waders that escape the frozen north, a birdwatching spectacle that has drawn ornithologist Murray Orchard to Cliffe Pools for the past forty years.

This month Murray counted 720 of one of the UK's most attractive ducks, the Shoveler, dispersed across the flooded clay pits. Murray said, "This count is probably the highest at a single site in Kent since 1961. In my experience, the last two winters have seen the largest gatherings of waders and ducks in the history of Cliffe Pools. I have never before seen so many Shoveler in one place at one time; the total is four times the national threshold and almost twice the international threshold for conservation significance." The male Shoveler has an enormous beak and striking plumage and is normally seen in much lower numbers, less than a hundred, than the other species of duck.



The clay pits became an RSPB reserve in 2000, and are unique in the Thames Estuary for their saline lagoons. Murray lived near Cliffe for thirty years and regularly travels down from his home in Hertfordshire; counting birds on this scale takes experience and patience, skills Murray has honed since the age of 12 when he started birdwatching in his garden. Murray said, "Seeing these Shoveler was a great pleasure but they were hard to count, taking part in the Big Garden Birdwatch this weekend will be a much simpler task." Cliffe Pools recently attracted 10,000 Dunlin at high tide, which Murray described as "twisting and turning like a huge cloud of smoke over the pools," and 9,000 Black-tailed Godwits were recorded last winter.

The information gathered by enthusiasts such as Murray, and all those participating in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, provides a finger on the pulse of nature in the UK, buying time to respond to conservation threats before long term damage is done to UK wildlife.

## ***High Halstow Gardening Club***

The wet weather has definitely curbed any attempts at gardening but has given us a chance to pour over the seed catalogues planning for the better weather.

Our next meeting will be the club's AGM on Tuesday 11 February at 8.00pm. The membership year commences from this meeting and it is an opportunity to renew your subscription for another year. We have several vacancies on the committee this year and we hope volunteers will come forward to help run the club. Margot Sturt has decided to stand down as Treasurer after a sterling period of service to the Gardening Club so it is vital that we have someone willing to take this role.

There are still some places left for our Annual Dinner to be held on Friday 21 February at the Village Restaurant (the Old BP Club). This year we are having a set meal that will be waitress service with a choice of starters, mains and deserts. The cost will be £25.00 per ticket; this will also include a raffle ticket. If you would like to join us, please contact Margaret Shuter at 45 Christmas Lane, High Halstow, tel: 01634 251196.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM and/or the Annual Dinner.

## ***Dramarama***

### ***Red Riding Hood and her many friends save High Halstow from the Hearts***

Dramarama delivered a fantastic pantomime, telling the story of Little Red Riding Hood with a twist. Many additional children's characters were added including the three blind singing mice, the three little pigs, Mother Hubbard, the Grand Old Duke of York and Old King Cole. Tickets for the Saturday matinee soon sold out, and the many children in the audience certainly joined in as much as they could. Sales for the Thursday, Friday and Saturday night shows were all very good (thanks very much to the Village Shop for all their help with ticket sales). It is true to say that the group wouldn't be able to exist without the fabulous support we receive from our audience. Pictures from the show are available on the village website. Our next show will be in the summer, please watch out in the HHT for further information.





## ***Resume of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 8th January 2014***

The first meeting of 2014 was held on 8<sup>th</sup> January and was chaired by Gary Thomas, George being away.

Josh Gordon had resigned from the Parish Council, due to his move out of the parish. He was one of the youngest parish councillors in Kent, which brought a new perspective. We thank him for his time given to the parish and wish him well for the future.

A planning application for the motor bike track at the end of Dux Court Road was discussed. The site lies within Hoo St Werburgh parish. Consequently High Halstow PC is not a statutory consultee and had not been notified, but the site affects far more High Halstow residents than those of Hoo. Members of the public gave evidence of their experience of the existence of the track in use and the Parish Council put in an objection based on noise and air pollution.

It was expected that a draft budget for 2014/15 would be presented for discussion and adoption, but this has been deferred to February, due to having to wait for information from Medway Council. This means that we were also unable to set the precept (the amount raised through Council Tax), which again has been deferred to February. Christine Watson and the Clerk have been tasked with seeking advice from a skatepark manufacturer on what would be possible to install and where it could go on the Recreation Ground, with costings. Chris will be on holiday the week of the February meeting so it won't be discussed until the March meeting.

Ray Collins attended a meeting where he learned that policing on the Peninsula consists of 2 sergeants, 5 constables and 3 PCSOs. At the same meeting there was a presentation on rural broadband, which is expected will be improved in about a year's time.

The December parish council surgery received complaints about the dog bins – if you find them full, please take your bag home with you and use your dustbin – don't leave it lying on the ground next to the bin, where it poses health risks, apart from it being untidy and unpleasant.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 8 pm in the Memorial Hall. Everyone is welcome.

## ***Free help available from Kent Fire and Rescue Service***

Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) is appealing to people to make sure their homes, and those of loved-ones and people they care for or come into contact with, are safeguarded from fire. Just three breaths of fire smoke can be life-threatening and sadly, it is often older residents, or those with mobility problems, physical or mental health issues or impaired sight or hearing, who are injured by fire.

KFRS offers free safety advice and a range of free services to ensure vulnerable members of the community are protected from the risk of fire. Where needed, KFRS community safety team can provide free home safety visits. These take around 30 minutes and include advice on escape routes, night time safety routines and fire hazards in the home and, if needed, the fitting of free smoke alarms.

In addition, KFRS's vulnerable persons team is able to provide specialist advice to help people stay independent in their own homes for longer and equipment for more at risk residents, including smoke alarms designed for visually and hearing impaired people. Specialist help might include providing items such as fireproof bedding and fire retardant materials for immobile smokers, and safety gadgets such as cooker switches for dementia sufferers who have become forgetful about turning the cooker off.

Free advice is available to all residents in Kent and Medway. Eligibility for a home safety visit is assessed on an individual basis and takes into consideration age, health, mobility, lifestyle and other risks.

For more information please go to [www.3breaths.info](http://www.3breaths.info), call 0800 923 7000 (free of charge from UK landlines) or email [home@kent.fire-uk.org](mailto:home@kent.fire-uk.org).

## ***Bus Shelter Goodwood Close***

The Parish Council have requested that Medway Council paint on the road a box marking the Bus Shelter, as the bus is having difficulties in parking in its allotted space. As a result consultation will take place with the residents along Heronsbank to determine how far back the starting point of the box will be

***HH Parish Council***

# **The Big Boot Fair & High Halstow Village Market**

**£5 per Stall / Table**

**Saturday 1st February 2014  
From 9:30am - 11:00am**

## *Stalls Include*

*Fresh Vegetables, Fresh Bread, Cakes, Cards, Jewellery  
Books, Sweets, Candles, Knitting and much much more.*

## *The Cafe*

*Why not come along to the cafe for a drink and a snack.  
Meet up with friends for a chat. Speak to a local Councillor about  
any issues you may have.*

## *Boot Fair*

*Clear out the garage and loft of those items you no longer use or  
want. It's a great way to meet people and make some extra  
money, whilst having a clear out.*

**To Book a Stall / Table**

**Please Contact Michelle on 254121**

## **Prayer chain**



In the summer, people from the church visited some of the homes in High Halstow offering to pray for anyone who was sick, anxious, bereaved or in any kind of need. These prayers were for their family, friends, neighbours in the village, and for what was happening in the wider world. We have done this for several years because we believe that prayer does change things and

that God does answer prayer. We also asked if there was anything they wanted to give thanks for.

At those times in our lives when things seem to go wrong and when we feel at the end of our tether there we would like to offer you our help through our confidential prayer chain. This can be made use of by contacting Mrs Diane Welch on 251 495. Simply phone Diane and if you prefer total confidentiality then only initials would be used instead of your full name. She will pass your prayer need to the next person on the prayer chain and so on successively till everyone on the chain has the information and will bring your prayer request to God. If you would prefer a face to face chat about anything, in strict confidence, that may be troubling you please feel free to contact Mrs Gill Ellen on 253059 or Rev Stephen Gwilt on 250637. If no one is there please leave a message and one of us will get back to you as soon as possible.

## *Friends of St Margaret's Church*

December saw two events raising money for the above

The first was the second Christmas Tree Festival. Over twenty decorated trees were in the hall representing all parts of village life both young and old. The artistic levels were fantastic and it was great to see people viewing the trees working out what the tree represented. Trees entered for the first time included the school, The Responders, Deangate Golf and Matt Crozer.

Thank you all to the groups, individuals, families and businesses for putting in a tree. Many thanks to Karmann Dancers, Dramarama and the Choir for performing on the day along with all of you who came to support this event.



For more pictures please visit <http://www.highhalstow.org.uk/photos/Christmas-Tree-festival-2013>

The second event was the Santa's Visit on 24th December. We were so lucky with the weather as twenty-four hours earlier we thought we would need a boat rather than a sleigh but all was well in the end. Many thanks to Santa and his helpers on the day as well as Bob in the shop who kindly allowed for the presents to be delivered prior to Santa sorting them out

Nearly £1,100 was raised between the two events

### **Future Events**

There are a number of events being planned for 2014 and more details to appear next month so please watch this space.

### **Web Site**

The Friends Web Site is to be brought up to date over the next few weeks. This can be found at <http://thefriendsofstmargarets.org.uk>

### **How You Can Help**

"The aim of the Friends is to support the PCC in maintaining the fabric, the churchyard and furnishings of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow"

Please join us and help to ensure that future generations can continue to use and enjoy this lovely church by completing the Standing Order mandate overleaf. We are aware that there are some mandates completed which the bank have not yet actioned and we will be in touch with you shortly to resolve.

We have already helped the parochial Church Council last year with a grant of just over £1,000 and along with your subscriptions and money raised from fund raising events we will be able to ensure that future generations can continue to use and enjoy this lovely church.

## Application Form and Standing Order Mandate

Please complete the form below and return it to the address at the bottom of the page. Once we have received the completed form we will keep a photocopy and send the original Standing order Form to your Bank so that they can process payments.

### Your Name and Address

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Email: 

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### Your Bank:

To 

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(Bank/Building Society)

### Banks Address:

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### Your Account:

Account No: 

---

 Sort Code 

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Please pay to Barclays Bank PLC, Medway Towns Branches  
For the account of The Friends of St Margaret's Church,

Account No: 37144454 Sort Codes 20 – 54 - 25

Amount in Words 

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The sum of £2.00 ☐ £3.00 ☐ £5.00 ☐ £ ☐ Other Amount

On the 

---

 day of 

---

 (Month) and a like sum each month until further notice

Signed 

---

 Date 

---

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS REPLACES ANY PREVIOUS STANDING ORDER FORMS

Please send this form in the strictest confidence to

The Treasurer, 2 Cooling Road, High Halstow, Rochester, Kent. ME3 8SA



## ***Note from the Editor***

The High Halstow Times is a friendly point of contact and all views expressed are those of the individual. No letter will be published without the name and address of the writer being supplied to the editor, which will be published alongside the letter. If you have a matter for complaint, it should be brought to the attention of the Parish Council, which meets on the second Wednesday of every month, at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. Members of the public are always welcome.

Disclaimer Please note High Halstow Parish Council: 1. makes no endorsement of any of the businesses listed in the High Halstow Times 2. is not responsible for the content of external websites. 3. the information is offered 'as is' with the wish to be helpful.

Advertising rates are £15 per quarter page per edition; £30 per half page per edition. Items should be sent to [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk)

## ***Allotments***

As you may be aware the Parish Council have a number of allotments which are rented out each year. Although there are currently no vacant allotments, there is also no one on the waiting list. Should you wish to be put on the waiting list please can you contact me (Chris Watson) on 256529 or email me at [chris.watson123@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.watson123@btinternet.com).

## ***High Halstow Relief in Need Charity***

This charity exists to assist those in the Village who are in need, especially widows and widowers. The trustees wish to remind the people of the parish that they will give consideration to any request for a particular need, at any time during the year. If you, or an elderly relative would feel safer at home with a telephone 'Lifeline' the Charity could help with this. All requests are dealt with in complete confidence and there is no need to wait for the October form.

The trustees are:

Rev. S. Gwilt	- The Rectory
Mrs L. Munday	- 22 Willowbank Drive
Mr S. Bailey	- 27 Cooling Road
Mrs J. Gillies	- 22 Leaman Close
Mr J. Myatt	- Decoy Hill Road
Mrs C. Peek	- 2 Willowbank Drive
Mrs J. Collins	- 6 Marsh Crescent

## ***Project 90***

Project 90 is now into its eleventh year and as well as the usual litter picking other improvements to the Village has been undertaken over the years. This has included repairing of the cricket fence, tree planting, hall repairs, painting, clearance of the allotment site, and much much more

This is a chance for people to give up 90 minutes for once a month and help keep the village the special place we believe it is

As a result we are looking for additional things that can be carried out in order we can plan and perhaps attract other people along to help out. If you have ideas please let your Parish Councillors know and if you wish to help the next day will be February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting in the car park at 8:30. Tea and cake served at the end of the session

## **HHPC**

## ***Responsible Parking***

Complaints have been received by the Parish Council on the number of cars parked on the kerb, or irresponsibly parked opposite turnings, side roads or on corners. Please make sure that your parked car is not causing an obstruction to other drivers or obstructing pedestrians on pathways. Medway Council is aware of the issue on the peninsula as a whole and are considering random patrols of the smart car to issue tickets. We would prefer no penalties are issued so the Parish Council is asking people to park properly in order to avoid the issues.

## ***Need to Hire a Hall***

If you are interested in hiring either of the halls in the village for a party, function or meeting please contact:

Memorial Hall - Angela Forward 251756

Village Hall - Crystal Wakefield 251849

Please do not call on a Sunday.



**WI**  
**High Halstow**  
**Women's Institute**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February**  
**7.30pm**  
**Memorial Hall**

**Speaker**  
**Bel Shearman**  
**“The Pampered Chef”**

**All welcome**  
**£1.50 including**  
**refreshments**

**Kings Kitchen**

A Coffee and Cake Café  
for the Whole Village.

Open 10.00am - 1.00pm  
every Tuesday  
in the Memorial Hall.

Why not come in and enjoy a cuppa and a  
chat.

A warm welcome awaits you.



**High Halstow Pre-school**

Modular Building, Primary School, Harrison Drive,  
High Halstow, Rochester, Kent. ME3 8TF  
01634 255088

Proprietor/Manager Mrs Anita Russell BA (Hons), EYPS

- ✓ 'Outstanding Provider' Ofsted
- ✓ 2009-10 Extensive Outdoor Facilities
- ✓ Excellent Links with Primary School
- ✓ Friendly, Qualified Staff
- ✓ Affordable Childcare

Open Weekdays, term time only  
8.45 am - 3.30pm

Morning, lunch, afternoon and all day sessions  
available.

Children are funded for 5 free sessions the  
term following their third birthday.

Don't take Ofsted's word that we are an  
outstanding provider, come and see for  
yourself.

Ring 01634 255088



For more details,  
call Natacha  
on 254178

**Toddler Group**

Come and join us for a cake & a  
coffee while the toddlers play!

A great way for Mums & Kids  
to make new friends.

Babies to 4 year olds,  
just £1 for two hours of play.

Every Thursday, 9am to 11am at  
the Memorial Hall, High Halstow.

**Your first session is FREE!**

**PAUL HUGHES**

**Double Glazing Repairs**  
NO CALL OUT CHARGE FREE ESTIMATES

- Misted Units Replaced
- Cracked Units Replaced
- Broken Hinges
- Cat Flaps Fitted
- Locks Repaired
- Damaged Handles
- Doors Re-Adjusted
- Windows Fitted



**M: 07815 948637**  
**H: 01634 256631**



# Jonathan Computers

Contact Jonathan directly on the Office No: 01474 879878 or

**Freephone: 0800 321 38 79**

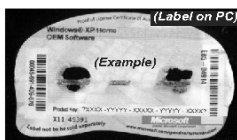
Email: sales@jonathancomputers.co.uk



## **REALLY IMPORTANT!!!!**

**Does your COMPUTER run....**

**Does this look familiar???**



**Currently from 8th April 2014\***

**Microsoft™ Support**

**for ALL XP™ Versions will discontinue!!!!**

**YOUR COMPUTER WILL BE AT SEVERE RISK!!!!**

**I Can upgrade\*\* or supply new computers with...**

☐ Windows™ 7 on.... and **NOT** the new unpopular Windows 8™ on!

\* As currently stated by Microsoft™ as at 1st December 2013. \*\*Subject to Old PC Specification.



**You may become vulnerable to:**

- ☐ Destructive Viruses!
- ☐ Banking Fraud!
- ☐ Total Computer Failure!
- ☐ On-Line Credit Card Theft!
- ☐ Identity Stolen!
- ☐ Being Spied On!

(All Antivirus products will cease to update at this time also)

**If Running XP you will need to upgrade\*\* or replace your old PC To keep yourself Secure!!!**

**I Am Based In High Halstow So Can Be Quick To Respond**

I will deal with you personally so I can provide you with the best service. I offer a fast and friendly service and explain any problems about your computer to you in an easy to understand way.

*Regards Jonathan*

## **LOCAL ELECTRICIAN**

**Domestic + Commercial + Industrial  
NAPIT PART P APPROVED ELECTRICIAN**

**Steve Waldie**

Full & Part Rewires - Consumer unit changes - internal power sockets & lighting - External power & lighting - Bathroom fans - Testing & inspection - Alarm Systems

**No Job Too Small - No Call Out Charge**

**All work fully insured and guaranteed**



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## **Take Care**

... Supporting your Independence



### **Home Help Service**

**Are you ...**

- An older person?
- Living with a disability?
- Having difficulty with day-to-day tasks in your home due to ill health?
- Convalescing?

**We can help you with ...**

- Housework ■ Laundry/Ironing ■ Shopping ■ Support to the shops and appointments ■ Respite sitting service ■ Companionship for outings and community activities ■ Handyman/Gardener service

Our Community Assistants are carefully chosen and matched to you. We believe that having the same face is important for continuity and your wellbeing - CRB checked, fully insured and referenced.



**01634 316821**

**www.take-care-ltd.co.uk**

## **HANDY ANT Property Maintenance**

**Interior & Exterior ~ Domestic & Commercial**

I am a skilled tradesman who lives in High Halstow and has learned many skills in my 29 year career. I am a clean and conscientious worker who respects other people's property. Some of my skills are listed below.

Electrics ~ Washing machines ~ Dish washers  
Roofing ~ Tiling ~ Carpentry ~ Facia and Soffits  
Flat pack furniture ~ Wood flooring ~ Gutters  
Curtain tracks/poles ~ Painting & Decorating ~ Drains  
Flat screen TV's ~ Plastering ~ Plumbing ~ Fencing  
Bathroom re-fits ~ Kitchen re-fits ~ Landscaping

Insurance work undertaken  
Please contact me if the work you require is not listed or for free friendly advice  
Quotes available via phone or email for small jobs  
Hourly rate basis is £35.00 first hour  
Then £20 per hour thereafter  
Daily rates available on request  
References available  
No job too small

Mobile: 07947706106 Home: 01634 252430  
asrutherford@btinternet.com

**ANTHONY RUTHERFORD**  
5 LEAMAN CLOSE, HIGH HALSTOW, ME3 8EZ



## Dates for Diary

### Every Tuesday:

King's Kitchen

10:00

Memorial Hall

Bell Ringers

19:30

St Margaret's

Church

### Every Wednesday:

Tai Chi

10:30

Memorial Hall

### Every Thursday:

Mother and Toddler's

09.00

Memorial Hall

Sugar Babes

19.00

Memorial Hall

### Every Friday:

Pilates with Joy

14:15

Memorial Hall

### Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers

09.00

Memorial Hall

### Other Dates:

Saturday 1st:

09:00

Village Market

Village Hall

Sunday 2nd:

09:00

Family Service

St. Margaret's Church

Wednesday 5th:

19:30

Women's Institute

Memorial Hall

Sunday 9th:

High Halstow Hikers

Details in HHT

Tuesday 11th:

20:00

Gardening Club

Memorial Hall

Wednesday 12th

20:00

Parish Council –

Finance Meeting

Village Hall

Friday 14th:

19:30

Village Hall Quiz

Village Hall

Saturday 15th:

08:30

Project 90

Village Hall Car Park

Friday 28th:

20:00

Quiz Night

Memorial Hall

*Local groups, please let us know the dates of your meetings/events for the coming year so we can include them in the HHT and on the website.*

## The Village Shop

### Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm

Sunday 8am – 2pm


Telephone number: 01634 254561

## Learn GUITAR

Professional guitarist and guitar teacher offers 1 to 1 tuition. All ages and abilities welcome. Graduate of London Guitar Institute and playing experience includes The Who and Robbie Williams. Can inc practical, grades & theory.

**CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS AND DEALS AVAILABLE**  
HOME VISITS OR AT HOME STUDIO IN CHRISTMAS LANE

**Call Matthew 07967 125091**



GUITAR LESSONS  
07967 125091

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## Divine Party Cakes



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### Your Parish Councillors

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e.mail: [george@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:george@highhalstow.org.uk)

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Gary Jerreat 01634 253999

Lesley Munday 01634 250276

Christine Watson 01634 256529

Your councillors may also be contacted  
through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269

[clerk@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:clerk@highhalstow.org.uk)



## Readers Letters

Dear Editor,

### Friends of St. Margaret's

Now that the Christmas Season is well behind us, I recall a letter that I had read in the December issue of the High Halstow Times. It was from Vic Godding and referred to the maintenance of the burial ground at St. Margaret's Church. Despite the fact that our Rector, Stephen Gwilt, has explained the situation in some detail as to how our church and parish are run, there are still misapprehensions over this matter.

St. Margaret's Church receives no money from either the Government or Rochester Diocese to run the parish. The parishioners, by their donations, cover the cost of the Rector's stipend themselves and up to now have, in the main, provided the money for the maintenance of the church and the graveyard, with the generous help, on occasion, of the Parish Council. This is an immense undertaking for a small number of people (some 90 on the electoral roll) and it is only due to their generosity that we have been able to maintain our lovely church, so far, as a lively going concern for the benefit of the whole village.

Fortunately the recent formation of the 'Friends of St. Margaret's' (an independent body) has come to our aid. Already the Friends have provided money to help with the maintenance of the Church Fabric. The Friends have raised the money mainly by organising functions such as the Christmas Tree Festival and last summer's Music Festival and by people in the village agreeing to donate money monthly by Banker's Order. I would ask everyone in the village to consider giving regularly to the Friends, by adopting this method, which would ensure a regular income.

I would reiterate that the Friends are concerned **only** with the cost of maintenance and upkeep of the church building (and **not** the daily running costs of the church).

If you wish to set up a Standing Order please complete the Form printed elsewhere in this edition of the High Halstow Times.

Thank you and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Fred Beringer.

**PROJECT 90**  
90 minutes spent improving  
the village

The next Project 90 will be  
Saturday 15th February  
8:30am - 10:00am

Village Hall Car Park

**4 Families  
@Four**



*An exciting and fun filled time for all  
the family, what ever size or shape your  
family is like. Why not come along on  
Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 pm  
for an hour of games, crafts, stories,  
singing, puppets and praise.*

*With free tea/coffee,  
biscuits and cold drinks.*

**Starts Sunday  
2nd March**



**4 Families  
@Four.  
All sorts  
Of families**

Next edition March 2014; Contributions for March should be sent  
by 24th February to:

Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ  
or e.mail to [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk)