



High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



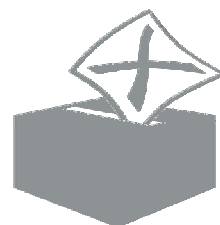
March 2015

Medway Council Parish Election 7th May 2015

There is a guide to be published in full on the Parish Council website shortly which aims to provide practical advice for people who want to stand as a candidate in the Medway Parish Council Elections on Thursday 7th May 2015. The advice is provided as a guide to the requirements for candidates during the election.

It will explain amongst other things the following:

1. The role of a Parish Councillor.
2. The Deadlines including as to when you have to complete and return your nomination paper to.
3. How you get nominated (How to become a candidate).
4. The Nomination Form.



You can find out more about High Halstow Parish Council by contacting the Parish Clerk

Roxana Brammer
53 Capelands
New Ash Green
Longfield
Kent DA3 8LQ

Tel No 01474 874343

Email: clerk@highhalstow.org.uk

The full guide can be viewed from March at <http://highhalstow.org.uk/>

This will be your chance to stand as a Parish Councillor

High Halstow Friendly Club

We meet at 2pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month for 2 hours in the Memorial Hall. We have quizzes and games, sometimes a speaker and always refreshments that are naughty but nice, and at least 3 outings a year. The membership cost is very small. If you would like to come along and see what we get up to you would be made very welcome. We next meet on the 25th March when we will be doing something crafty for Easter.

Overhanging Bushes, Shrubs and Trees

Hopefully the first signs of Spring are soon to be with us, could residents please take a look at any flora they have growing on their property to ensure that it is not causing an obstruction to public pathways. It can be hazardous to have to step into the road or onto the grass verge when the path is obstructed or partially obstructed by an overgrown tree or bush. And an overhanging branch can cause a nasty scratch or worse. Please be considerate to others and get the clippers and shears out.
HH Parish Council

Bootfair: Saturday 21st March at the Village Hall
Mothering Sunday Service: Sunday 15th March at 9:30am

Lotions & Potions Evening

Sadly we are out of the county darts competition. It could not have been closer. On the deciding game we needed a double 1 and they a double 2. They just got it before us, but we still retain the District Cup.

A very enjoyable evening was had by several members who went to the Medway Little Theatre. Three WI ladies took up the invitation from the Gravesend Soroptimists to attend their monthly meeting with a speaker from Darenth Valley Hospital who works with women that have suffered FGM (female genital mutilation). An informative time but stomach churning at the procedures they are subjected to. There are a lot of people who work tirelessly to educate and ultimately stop this barbaric custom.

Last month we were really entertained by Matthew Kearsley-Lawson. Although demonstrating his culinary skills and talking us through the superb sauces, chutneys and jams that he produces, he was also a comedian who had us laughing for most of the evening. Next month we go from inside the body to outside. Lila Brewer will show us the benefits of Aloe Vera and bring along some of the lotions and potions that are made from this plant.

Fancy an evening out once a month, not far to go, good company with refreshments and the opportunity to do all sorts of things? Then come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 4th March at 7:30 in the Memorial Hall. We will be pleased to see you.

High Halstow Village Hall Refurbishment Works Phase Three

The plans for Phase Three have been sent out by the architect and will be on display at the Parish Council meeting in March (11th) as well as the Boot Fair in the Village Hall (Saturday 21st March see details below)

In addition the plans will be available shortly on the website <http://highhalstow.org.uk/blog>. This phase is to start work on the main entrance, new kitchen, new bar as well as stairs to the room upstairs. Please have a look and comment accordingly.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on
Wednesday 8th April at 8 pm
in the Memorial Hall.

It would be very much appreciated if village organisations would please send written reports of their activities during the previous year to the Parish Clerk, either by email to clerk@highhalstow.org.uk or by post to High Halstow Parish Council, 53 Capelands, New Ash Green, Longfield, Kent DA3 8LQ.

All parishioners are invited to attend and to raise anything they wish. If you would like to submit a formal motion for the agenda, this should be received by the Clerk by Monday 30th March at the latest.

The meeting will conclude with the Chairman's buffet, which will give the opportunity for a chat to councillors and fellow residents.



Well it's the start of our 5th Year for the Model Railway Club, and I'm pleased to say that 2014 was the best year for the club so far.

We were invited to show the main club layout at Hoo St Werburgh Church, summer fair, where several faults came to light with the functions on the layout. These have been worked on and corrected.

We also built a small "Thomas the Tank" engine layout, which we showed at High Halstow Christmas tree festival. We were amazed at the interest from today's children. Who says all children want to play computer games?

So for this year we have two new projects, as well as working on the main club layout.

Project one is to build a new slightly bigger, and more portable 'Thomas the Tank' layout, and project two is to build our "N" gauge layout which has languished in store for a couple of years.

So if you're fed up with this cold weather, with nothing to do, why not come and join us. We meet on a Thursday night in the Scout hut in Hoo. Its warm and dry, tea or coffee on hand, and we have three interesting projects to work on.

Only one problem, parking is very limited, so please use the public car park at the back of the Spar Supermarket.

Please give me a phone call on 07527596630 to check on times of the meeting.

Ralph

High Halstow & District Gardening Club

This month's meeting was our AGM led by our Chairman, Ron Fletcher. Ron gave his report outlining the club's activities over the past year and thanked the committee for their hard work in carrying out their various duties. The committee were re-elected for another year but Ron advised that owing to his forthcoming house move that his position of Chairman will then become vacant.

Following drinks and nibbles, the evening was completed by a gardening themed quiz which was won by Alison Wells with Rosemary Collins and Marj Ives as runners up.

Club membership is £5 per annum per person and membership can be renewed until 30 April.

Members and friends enjoyed a very good evening at our annual dinner at The Windwill pub. Many thanks to Margaret Shuter for organising the successful event.

Our next meeting will be the member's Spring Show on Tuesday 10 March. The benching of exhibits will be from 7.30pm for judging to commence from 8pm. Weather permitting, we should have another good display of spring flowers plus cooking and handicrafts items.

Auction 14th March/Boot Fair 21st March

The Hall Committee have decided to cancel the auction due to take place on Saturday 14th March. There are a number of reasons – a number of key people will be missing from the party of helpers and poor ticket sales being two of the reasons.

All the items donated will be utilised elsewhere.

The hall is organising a boot fair on Saturday 21st March and a lot of the items will be on a stall to fundraise for the hall. There are some items that are being held back as raffle prizes and the remainder will be offered in a silent auction at the Boot Fair. For those who don't know what a silent auction is you come along and view the items on offer. Decide what you want to bid and place your bid for the items in the envelopes provided and at the end of the Boot Fair the envelopes will be opened and the person who has bid the most for each item will be the lucky recipient. There are several celebrity items being offered – autographed photos of

David Jason,
Philip Schofield,
Paul O'Grady

and some of the cast members from Eastenders (not Bobby I'm afraid).

There is a Michael Jackson King of Pop Tee shirt and a Frank Sinatra book by his daughter which includes a Collectors CD. There is also a Lazy Susan with porcelain bowls.

Why not come along and get yourself a nice item – just be careful you don't bid unnecessarily high – although that would be good news for the hall!

We would like to thank everyone who donated the items originally – we are very grateful for your support. Should you wish to book a stall please contact Margaret on 244203


Village Hall Hiring Facilities

We have been asked to clarify that you can book the small room (Green Room) on its own should your group not require the main hall.

For example if there is badminton being played in the main hall you could still hire the Green Room at the same time for a meeting or smaller group activity.

For full details please contact Crystal on 251756.

St. James'
Sure Start Children's Centre
For families with children aged 0-5 years




Stay and Play
High Halstow Memorial Hall
Every
MONDAY
1.30pm - 3pm

Drop-in to this Stay and Play session for 0- 5year olds to enjoy fun activities with other families and to learn new skills with your child.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
St. James' Sure Start Children's Centre
St. James' Church of England Primary Academy High Street Isle of Grain ME3 0BS
01634 270341 E: childrenscentre@stjames.medway.sch.uk
www.stjamesisleofgrain.org.uk

Sure Start Children's Centres
Medway



Medway
Serving You

High Halstow Hikers

We had a great turnout of 26 walkers for our February walk from Upper Upnor encouraged by the lovely bright and wind-free weather and the long-break since our walk in early December. The route was straightforward taking the path past the wall of the Castle to Lower Upnor and past the Arethusa Centre and along the foreshore to Hoo Marina (now called Port Werburgh). To do this walk the tide has to be out so the river is not as pretty as it can be but it is always pleasant and interesting to look across and along the river. Along the way one passes 4 yacht clubs with most of their boats out of the water for their winter-care. Much older are the remains of Cockham Wood fort built in 1669 as a result of the raid by the Dutch on Chatham. Although it is now a ruin it still seems remarkable that some of the brick structure remains intact while much of the foreshore has slipped into the river. We followed the Saxon Shore Way through the Marina and then through the less attractive but economically important industrial estate and on towards Kingsnorth before turning North past the 3 fishing lakes at Abbots Court and then to Hoo Church. At that point many of us were surprised to see large fields of daffodils beginning to break from bud towards flower. The walk was then a straightforward east to west to Chattenden then dropping into Upnor. After a bit of muckiness in the early part of the walk this was all good underfoot and very enjoyable. And was nicely finished off by a very good value and quality lunch in the Kings Arms.

To find walks with good conditions this time of year is difficult so for our March walk we have chosen to do one along the Thames in Central London. The walk will be on Sunday 8th March. We will meet at Strood station and catch the 9.05 which is due to reach Cannon Street at 10.10. From there we will do a circular walk



initially east towards Tower Bridge and cross the river to walk west along the Southbank probably as far as Westminster where will cross and make our way back mainly along the Embankment. Many of London's most iconic sights will be seen along the way. We expect to get a train back around 2pm.

As always all are welcome but on this occasion please let Mitchell know (mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com or 07950335926) if you expect to come. You should be at Strood station by 8.50 so that a group fare can be purchased (£8.80/person return). Please also bring a packed lunch.

The April walk will be on Sunday 12th and involve Cobham, Ashenbank Wood and some of Shorne Country Park. On Sunday May 10th we will walk around Hadlow.

Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors

Chris(tine) Watson & Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 10th March 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

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.

Half Pipe Open

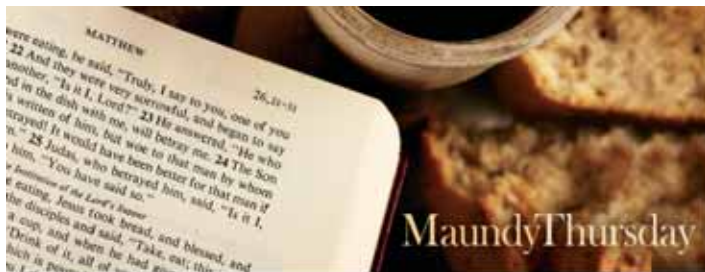
The Half Pipe equipment has been installed and was officially opened on Saturday 7th February. Parish Councillors, funders and members of the community were all present. Alex Smith (pictured) who is one of the young people that are using the equipment was unfortunately unable to give a demonstration as, after a frost, the half pipe was too wet to use.



It is proving to be a good addition to the equipment on the recreation field and the youngsters are really enjoying using it. Thanks must go to the Parish Council for providing the bulk of the funding and to Cllr. Phil Filmer, Cllr. Tony Watson and A.C. Goatham & Son for providing some additional funding, to make this project a reality after a lengthy planning time. Thanks also to everyone in the community who supported this project and helped to make it happen.

If you're in the vicinity when the better weather comes and there are youngsters on the equipment, stop and watch them, it is great to see them enjoying themselves, whilst socialising and exercising at the same time.

Chris Watson – HH Parish Council



2nd April at 7:30pm

The Recreation Hall High Halstow

Join us for a simple fellowship meal followed by a candle light service of communion and reflection

For more details contact Rev. Stephen Gwilt on 01634 250637
or stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk



Medway Parent and Carers Forum will be holding a free workshop and their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 10th March 2015
9.30 am – 2.30 pm
at Gillingham Golf Club,
Woodlands Road,
Gillingham, Kent ME7 2AP

Our guest speaker is renowned barrister Steve Broach who has a particular interest and expertise in the rights of disabled children and adults and the focus will be on transition from children's to adult services and the Mental Capacity Act.

Please join us from 9.30 am for registration and refreshments.

To book your place contact Medway Parents and Carers Forum stating if you have any dietary requirements

Email medwaypcf@googlemail.com
Or message us on facebook

www.medwaypcf.org.uk

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 |

Resume Of The Parish Council Meetings Held on 14 January & 12 February 2015

As there was no report of the January meeting in last month's Times, this report covers both the January and February meetings.

The main event in January was to adopt the budget for 2015/16 and to set the precept. The precept is the amount of money raised through the council tax to fund the operations of the parish council. Gary Thomas, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented a draft budget which was adopted. There was a discussion about the precept and it was eventually voted to increase this by 2%.

As questions were being asked about the support for the Recreation Hall, Gary (this time with his Chairman of the Hall Committee hat on) gave a presentation on the history of the hall refurbishment over the last 15 years. This was especially useful for those in the audience who had not been living in the village for all that time.

Chris Watson reported that the skateboard half-pipe had been well received by young people in the village, although the Chairman had received one complaint about the noise, which will be monitored.

A scheme has been agreed with Medway Council, whereby the public footpath across the Recreation Ground from The Street to Ruggles Close will be surfaced in a similar way to the all-weather path at the other end of the ground. It is expected work should start mid-March.

The absence of a doctor at the surgery on occasion was discussed and a letter written to the practice manager, asking for prior warning if possible that no doctor will be in attendance. This could be done by a notice on the board outside the surgery and on the practice website. Lack of a doctor was raised again by members of the public at the February meeting and the practice manager is being invited to the next meeting.

Also at the February meeting it was reported that signs erected in the Recreation Ground had been removed the next day.

If you live near Half Moon Way you will have noticed the new path leading to the bus stop. This will prevent those who use this stop from having to walk either on wet muddy grass or in the road.

A speaker about a community fund, known by the initials DERIC, had been expected, but did not arrive. This is about volunteering to help vulnerable neighbours. We hope to hear more on another occasion.

Finally it was announced that Margaret Church, who has been doing the payroll for many years, will not be continuing after the end of the fiscal year as she is moving away from the area. The Parish Council would like to thank her most sincerely for looking after the payroll for them, especially with the recent changes by HMRC to contend with. We wish her well in her new home.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th March 2015 at 8pm in the Memorial Hall.

**Advance notice: the Annual Parish Meeting,
which is the meeting for parishioners, with the annual reports etc,
will be held on Wednesday 8th April.**

Noisy Scooters/Motorbikes

A number of complaints have been made about scooters and motorbikes racing around parts of the village, particularly around early and late evening. The bikes are known to be loud and a nuisance especially when young children are being put to bed and trying to sleep. It is thought that the motorcyclists live in the village and are not passing through but riding around as fun.

Please could whoever is responsible for these bikes/or are the parents of the young adults responsible for the bikes ask the riders to be more considerate to other residents in the village. Police constables in uniform, that have reason to believe that a motor vehicle is being used in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public do have the power to seize or stop the vehicle under Section 59, Police Reform Act 2002.

HH Parish Council



If you want to make a difference to vulnerable people living in your community and see how this can benefit the community as a whole then you are invited to attend a public meeting in your local area, to hear more about an exciting project and what it can mean to those living in your village and Hoo Peninsula as a whole.

Feel free to join us at any of the meetings listed, regardless of where you live

In the meantime if you want find out more about this project or if you thinking about getting involved email Carla : carla.vanzyl@medway.gov.uk

You can also write to: Carla van Zyl, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR

Grain

**Tuesday 3 March
7.00 for 7.30 start
Village Hall,
Chapel Road**

Allhallows

**Wednesday 4 March
7.00 for 7.30 start
Village Hall**

High Halstow

**Thursday 5 March
7.00 for 7.30 start
Recreation Hall**

Stoke

**Tuesday 10 March
7.00 for 7.30 start
Lower Stoke Village Hall,
Grain Road**

Cliffe

**Thursday 12 March
7.00 for 7.30 start
St Helens House,
The Buttway**

Cliffe Woods

**Tuesday 17 March
7.00 for 7.30 start
Emmanuel Church,
Parkside Parade,**

Hoo

**Wednesday 18 March
7.00 – 7.30 start
Jubilee Hall,
Pottery Road**

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e-mail: info@divinepartycakes.com

Sadie 01233 501832

Sephia 01634 254175



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- Windows Fitted •**



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

Makaton Signing Course Appeal

My daughter is 3 and half years old and has an undiagnosed disorder. This has presented her with several difficulties. She has bulbar palsy, global development delay, she has a Gtube for feeding, chronic constipation, hip problems and SPD. One of her daily hurdles is her inability to communicate orally. This causes Gracie considerable frustrations which can be upsetting for both Gracie and her family. Her distress can sometimes lead to Gracie experiencing further problems with her breathing which, as you can imagine, is both alarming and unsettling for everybody.

My family and I have worked hard to independently introduce signing with Gracie and this has been extremely positive for all. Unfortunately it has been an awful struggle to receive the necessary training for this essential skill. Signing courses for children on the NHS are few and far between due to funding. Their learning of signing has been largely down to independent investigating, funding and commitment by my family.

Through our experiences and journey, Gracie and my family now know of a considerable number of families, with children struggling with communication difficulties that reside on a long waiting list for very limited signing courses. Makaton is the most common signing course for children however it would probably surprise you to know that there are only a few Makaton trainers in Kent! As well as this, the cost for one parent to be trained in a basic Makaton course is £150. For many families this would be an additional struggle during an already very difficult time.

So what is the vision? Initially, we are hoping to raise enough funds to train 3 members of the charity in Makaton. Subsequently they would be able to deliver the training courses to disabled families in Kent. This would be a free service to those families. In addition to the signing course for parents, we are hoping to open 'Sing and Sign' support groups for families and their children.

Once the signing courses are established we will be working hard to continue fundraising for those children that struggle with all types of communication difficulties. There is a range of specialised equipment available but it is virtually impossible to access via the NHS and incredibly expensive for parents to afford. The charity would be looking to purchase equipment to assist individual children in their family home. For example, an eye gaze system costs from ten thousand pounds. An amount well beyond the reach of most families but could considerably change the life of a disabled child.

We have our first Makaton workshop booked for the last weekend in February, we already have 20 persons on this course including NHS staff!! We are looking to run another course shortly after. However to do this we need to continue to raise money to fund the courses. Our first fundraising event was on 25th January at Play Football, Gillingham. This was a charity 5-a-side football tournament and raffle and we raised £1000. We are now looking to set up a support group locally in Hoo for 'Sing and Sign' sessions and supply speech and language therapists and other professionals for families to talk to obtain support and advice needed.

The charity is snowballing quickly and gaining a lot of support as people can see how beneficially the charity will be. We have some amazing events planed including: Four fundraisers who are cycling from Gillingham (Dorset) to Gillingham (Kent) which is 200 miles in 2 days. On the 30th May a Dinner/Dance and a Charity Auction on 13th June. On New Years Eve there will be a 'Beat the Clock Run', Rochester to Big Ben, 32 miles before the clock strikes midnight.

Currently we have a Facebook and twitter page for promoting the charity
(<https://www.facebook.com/pages/More-Than-Words-Charity/>)

(@morethanwordsc)

Online donation - www.make-a-donation.org/charity/more-than-words-charity

If you require any further information then please don't hesitate to contact us on the email:
morethanwordscharity@gmail.com



***All things Dramarama including
Robinson Crusoe (January '15)
& A Taste of the Musicals / Blood Brothers (September '15)***

Yo Ho Ho a pirates life for me...but luckily not for our hero Robinson Crusoe.

Robinson, set sail onboard Captain Seasalt's ship to find the treasure but unfortunately along with the rest of the crew was shipwrecked by Davy Jones. Luckily for everyone involved the 'Spirits of the Sea' (still sounds more like a luxury cruise liner!) saved them from the fate of Davy Jones locker. Robinson was washed ashore where he met the impeccably well spoken Man Friday who helped him save Margarita Juicilita, Nutty Nick, Captain Seasalt and his daughter Juanita from becoming the main course at the cannibals feast.

After showing the nasty pirate Cut-Throat that his plan to steal the treasure for himself was thwarted, and his 'not so clever' side kicks Skull Duggery and Cross Bones that they were not going to share in the bounty, the crew found the treasure with the help of a modern day sat nav, and all sailed home happily.

What more could an audience want from a fun packed 2 hours of jokes, songs, dances, plenty of laughter and excitement know as the annual Dramarama pantomime in High Halstow.

Tickets sold out for the Saturday matinee in a matter of weeks, and Saturday night ticket sales were soon hotting up, however the Thursday and Friday night tickets were slower to sell and it is being considered to have an early and late matinee performance on the Saturday, so that more people with children might come along and adults without children might prefer the Thursday or Friday night performances.

As we do after each pantomime performance, we collected money for a nominated charity, this years charity was the Crohns & Colitis UK charity and thanks to all your generous donations we have raised £260.

After the success of last years 'Tea at the Blitz' which was a World War II based show and an afternoon tea, this year we are going to perform 'A Taste of the Musicals'. This will be a 2-part show with songs and dances from the musicals then a condensed performance of the show Blood Brothers. The Saturday evening performance will be accompanied by an evening buffet with a licensed bar, whilst the Sunday afternoon show will be followed with an afternoon tea. The dates for the shows are Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th September, and ticket prices (which include the cost of refreshments) will be confirmed soon. Please keep the dates free, more details to follow in the High Halstow Times.

Dramarama are also planning to host a 'Murder Mystery' evening in October, which will be along the lines of a 3 course meal with a show and the chance to solve the crime. Details to follow.

A Taste of the Musicals

Saturday 25th September

&

Sunday 26th September



Mothering Sunday, Mothers day ? What is the difference ?

The modern American holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated on the second Sunday in May 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in Grafton, West Virginia. Her campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her beloved mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died. Interestingly enough deplored printed mothers day cards and said "A printed card means nothing," she said, "except that you are too lazy to write to the woman who has done more for you than anyone in the world."

On the other hand, Mothering Sunday has been celebrated in Britain for over 400 years and has always been the 4th Sunday in lent.....why not come this Mothering Sunday and find out more of it's true meanings and significance.

Mothering Sunday 15th March
Special celebrations
9:30 am High Halstow &
11:00am Allhallows



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.

For more details,
call Natacha
on 254178

Your first session is FREE!

EASTER SERVICES

"Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"

Matthew 20:28

29th March Palm Sunday
8:00am HH Holy Communion
9:30am HH & 11:00am AH Morning prayer
with a Palm Sunday theme and Palm Crosses.

3rd April Good Friday
An Hour at the Cross 2pm Allhallows Church
This is a special service of reflection with video, music and voice to direct us to aspects of the passion Story

5th April Easter day
8:00am HH Holy Communion
9:30 HH & 11:00AH Special Family Communion
with video, stories, children's activities and songs to celebrate the greatest story ever told.

6:30pm HH Easter Celebration
An informal service with a range of music and video items to suit all tastes and ages



*Reviving a
Great British tradition
Easter Bonnet Parade*

The Kings Kitchen
At the Memorial Hall High Halstow
on Tuesday March 31st.
Parade 10.30. Judging 11.30
Entry fee 1.00
For guys and gals !





THE ALL NEW HIGH **HALSTOW MARKET**

**TAKING PLACE AT THE MEMORIAL
HALL**

**DATES: SAT 11TH APRIL AND SAT
2ND MAY**

10 AM UNTIL 2PM

STALLS INCLUDING:

**HAND MADE CARDS, MAKE UP, LUCKY
DIP, BRIC-A-BRAC, DRAGON AND
FAIRY ORNAMENTS, HAND
BAGS, CAKES, AVON AND
MUCH, MUCH MORE !!!!**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE
AVAILABLE**

**RAFFLE FOR THE FRIENDLY CLUB
AND CHARITY**

**WHY NOT JOIN US AND GRAB A
BARGAIN !!**

Dates for Diary

Every Tuesday:

King's Kitchen

10:00

Memorial Hall

Bell Ringers

19:30

St Margaret's

Church

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

Every 4th Wednesday:

Friendly Club

Memorial Hall

Other Dates:

Sunday 1st:

09:30

Family Service

St. Margaret's Church

Sunday 1st:

13:00

Cake Festival

Village Hall

Wednesday 4th:

19:30

Women's Institute

Memorial Hall

Sunday 8th:

High Halstow Hikers

Details in HHT

Tuesday 10th:

20:00

Gardening Club

Memorial Hall

Wednesday 11th:

20:00

Parish Council

Memorial Hall

Sunday 15th:

09:30

Mothering Sunday

St. Margaret's Church

Saturday 21st:

09:00

Boot Fair

Village Hall

Friday 27th:

20:00

Quiz Night

Memorial Hall



Barking Dogs

A barking dog can be a real irritation at anytime of the day if left unchecked. Please be mindful that your dog isn't causing others sleepless nights or disturbed enjoyment of their garden. If you leave your dog

out during the day when you are out, it might be worth checking with a neighbour that they are not howling for your return. Please be considerate to those around you and how often your dog is barking.

Free Family Fun

**Saturday, 18 April, 11am-5pm
at Riverside Country Park**

The English Festival is a fun-packed day for the whole family celebrating St George's day and the most iconic and ironic English traditions...

This year we have three exciting zones as well as a picnic area for you to take a lunch break from all the excitement.

Countryside experience

Escape to the country to meet some baby farm animals in cuddle corner. Don't miss out on the sheepdog and duck herding displays.

The seaside

Take a trip to the seaside where you can relax on the sandy beach while Punch and Judy entertain the kids, or reach dizzy heights at the funfair.

The village square

Head to the village square to do a little shopping in the farmers' market, hop on board the Little Red bus, or sit back and enjoy live music from the Kent Police Band and the Swingtime Sweethearts.

See if you can find some famous English characters wandering around the park...

There is very limited parking on site, so to avoid being caught in traffic, please take advantage of our FREE Park and Ride service that will be running all day. Or park at Bloors Wharf (at the bottom of Bloors Lane) and take a lovely riverside stroll to the park.

Medway Council



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*

Village Hall Event Planner

The Village Hall Committee will be looking to put on a number of events for the coming year Below are dates already agreed

Quizathons

Friday 10th April

Friday 17th July

Friday 16th October

Village Hall Boot Fair

**Saturday 21st March
See details in HHT**

Nick Moore and Friends

- date to be confirmed

Sunday Services

8:00am High Halstow

Holy Communion BCP

9:30am High Halstow

1st and 3rd Sundays All age worship

2nd and 5th Sundays morning prayer

4th Sunday Family Communion

6:30pm High Halstow

1st Sunday Holy Communion

3rd Sunday Informal worship

5th Sunday Joint Songs of Praise with Allhallows

See notice board for venue

Baptisms by arrangement

1st or 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30am

For further information. Rev Stephen Gwilt 01634 250637

Or Email stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

Caring for the needs of the community for over 1000 years

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the day of judgment approaching. Heb 10:25

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... 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.



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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
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- ✓ 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

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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.

Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair 01634 250286
e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk
Gary Thomas, Vice Chair 01634 252812
e.mail: gary@highhalstow.org.uk
Martin Andrews 07984 791029
Stuart Bailey 01634 255537
Ray Collins 01634 250105
Gary Jerreat 01634 253999
Lesley Munday 01634 250276
Christine Watson 01634 256529
Brian Williams 07908 006448
e.mail: bdwilliams9@hotmail.com

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269
clerk@highhalstow.org.uk

Speed Limits

Please can I remind people to observe the speed limits through the Village. We should all be mindful that High Halstow

is a nice place to live where children, older residents and walkers should feel safe. Some may not be as aware of the traffic as they might otherwise be. Please be careful.

George Crozer, HH Parish Council



The Village Shop

Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm

Sunday 8am – 5pm

Telephone number: 01634 254561

DEJA VU SPIRITUAL CENTRE



*Everyone has an Angel, given to us from the start.
Trust and faith is what we need, to hear them in our hearts. ♥*

Sundays from 1st March 2015

Please join us to see mediumship demonstrated by different medium's each week. 6.30-9.30pm ONLY £3.00 ENTRY FEE.

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Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

Straight away I want you to know that I like to watch foxes at play, even though one recently killed one of my hens which chose to escape from the safety of it's compound. One particular fox has a fine time tossing ornaments around our garden at night, which is also OK by me. However, a well meaning nature/fox lover has chosen to feed Mr Fox and again I have no problem with that, only the decision to provide a "take away" container for it's meal. The mystery nature/fox lover carefully wraps the food waste in a silver foil ball for Mr Fox. Which although is very hygienic causes problems when it is time for Mr Fox to eat his meal. Yet again last night he carried it into our garden to eat, ripping and scattering pieces of foil and food over the lawn which is a bind to clear up. I would like you to consider just putting your left overs on a plate in your garden so that Mr Fox is put to less trouble in sourcing it's meal and saving me having to dispose of the mess, it is a very messy eater!

John Wilson
Christmas Lane



Boot Fair – 21st March

There will be a boot fair in the Village Hall on Saturday 21st March. Doors open to stallholders at 8am, buyers at 9am. Stalls will be £8 each. Refreshments available. This is similar to the ones we used to run in the Hall but this is a one off. Why not have a spring clean and get rid of some of your unwanted "clutter".

Please give me a ring on Medway 244203 for more details or to book a table.

Thanks
Margaret Church

Bett Harden

The late Bett Harden who sadly died on the 2nd January 2015. Sue, Brian, Hannah and Gareth would like to thank all who attended the funeral and for the beautiful flowers and donations.

Sue Cooke

FOR SALE

Wii Console and Balance Board
with one controller and one nunchuk.
Wii sports, Wii fit, Abba You Can Dance,
Zumba (with controller belt),
Just Dance 2 & 3 inc.
£50.00

Please call Margaret on 244203

A Mystery Solved!

Thanks to the High Halstow Times, all has been revealed. Our mystery 'lady with a young girl' has not only stood up but rung up and I was delighted to be able to properly thank her, her daughter and her work colleague for so kindly passing on to us such a wonderful selection of much- needed wool. We are, indeed, most grateful.

May I also credit the High Halstow Times for being instrumental in our receiving further supplies of lovely wool from readers in Cliffe Woods, Allhallows and High Halstow? We thank these kind ladies once again for thinking of us and are thrilled with their generosity. We shall make sure it is all put to good use.

Hazel Beringer
Cooling Road Home Group

P.S. Fred will just have to fend for himself now....I'm too busy crocheting!

P.P.S. Fred says: 'What's new?!'

Editors Note: Thank you Hazel for the recognition of the power of the HHT!

Next edition April 2015; Contributions for April should be sent
by 26th March to:

Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ
or e.mail to editor@highhalstow.org.uk