# **High Halstow Times**

Home of the Heron

# PARISH COUNCIL VOTES TO FIGHT CLOSURE

At the Parish Council meeting on 14th February 2018 Councillors voted unanimously to oppose the Medway Council decision to permanently close

THOUSANDS SIGN THE PETITION

# THE FIGHT TO SAVE DEANGATE RIDGE

Did you know about the closure? If you did, how did you hear about it?

We want to be able to include all our parishioners in our decision making, ensuring that everyone is able to contribute.

We are working on a plan to enable everyone to be kept informed. Perhaps one person in each road to knock on doors in an urgent situation?

If you have any ideas why not get in touch.

**Linda Atkinson** 

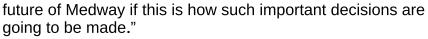
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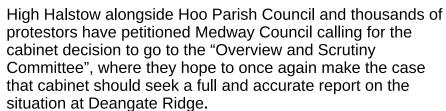
Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk

of the parish council believe that Medway cabinet based its decision on a woefully inadequate and biased report showing the club losing £200,000 a year over a seven year period.

Deangate Ridge Golf Course. Members

George Crozer Chair of HHPC said "This raises deep concerns for the





A consultation of the new draft Local Plan is set to start from March 11th to May 16th this year, details of which are not yet published. It therefore seems wholly inappropriate that the fate of such a major, public-owned resource should be determined immediately prior to this defining consultation. Residents are left to presume that development of the golf course does indeed figure strongly in development plans, and that closing it prior to the public consultation is no accident of timing, to seal its fate prior to us having our say.

For daily updated on the closure of Deangate please check out our website **www.HighHalstow-pc.gov.uk** 



### **EDITORIAL**

Well what a whirlwind month February was. No sooner had we collected our thoughts on a Neighbourhood Plan when we received short notice of the potential closure of Deangate Ridge Golf Course and of course we, as a community sprang into action. More details will follow in the coming months as our Neighbourhood plan progresses and the fight to save Deangate moves forward. But we surely must reflect on the wonder of modern social media. No sooner had Parish Council Chairman, George Crozer posted a plea on Facebook for signatures on a Petition when, within 2 hours there were people queuing out of the door at the Recreation Hall to sign. During that evening over 600 protestors signed. Facebook sure isn't for everyone but at times like that, it showed how useful it could be.

Although we are a well established community with a good mix of elderly within our village we are progressive in our outlook and are certainly moving with the times. We understand the need for housing for our younger villagers but we don't want to throw the baby out with the bath water! Lets protect what we have while looking for a solution in our Neighbourhood Plan. Please come forward if you think you can help in any way whatsoever. A little goes a long way.

### **LETTERS**

We would just like to say a huge thank you for the kindness and care the friends and neighbours on The Street showed to our daughter Jess when she had her car accident on 16 January. In particular, we would like to thank Sue, Peter, Mick and Sean and all the other neighbours to kindly came out in the freezing cold with blankets and cushions, called the ambulance and most importantly sat and comforted Jess. We are truly grateful for all your kindness which helped to ease a truly dreadful day. Thankfully Jess managed to walk away with only minor cuts and bruises. Jess would also like to pass on her own thanks to you all for your kindness.

Ian & Dave Leaman Close



# Relief in Need

The charity has existed in High Halstow for many years and is an amalgamation of smaller charities/private trusts, the oldest of which dates from 1716 and exists to help the residents of the Parish of High Halstow who are going through a time of need or hardship. This could include not only widows and widowers but also to help people of all ages and from all walks of life. Requests can also be made by organisations or groups in the Parish.

Requests for financial assistance can be made at any time of year, in writing, email or in person to any one of the Trustees. A resident can apply on behalf of someone else in the village but their permission must be obtained first. All requests area dealt with in the strictest confidence. If you are not sure about a request and think it may be rejected, do not be afraid to speak to any of the Trustees listed below about it. These funds are there for villagers who need help

Rev. Stephen Gwilt	The Rectory	01634 250 637			
Stuart Bailey	27 Cooling Road	07976 760 844			
June Collins	6 Marsh Crescent	01634 250 105			
Lesley Munday	22 Willowbank Drive	01634 250 276			
John Myatt	Decoy Hill Road	01634 256 185			
Chris Peek	2 Willowbank Drive	01634 252 604			
Natasha Turner	12 Marsh Crescent				
Office email	Office.hhrin@gmail.com				

### St Margaret's Church **Sunday Services**

Rev. Stephen Gwilt 01634 250 637 or email Stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

# 8.00 am High Halstow

Holy Communion book of Common Prayer

# 9.30 High Halstow

1st & 3rd Sundays - all age worship 2nd & 5th Sundays - Morning Prayer

4th Sunday - Family Communion

### 6:30 High Halstow

1st Sunday- Holy Communion 3rd Sunday - informal Worship

Baptisms by arrangement 1st or 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30

# **NEED TO HIRE A HALL?**

If you are interested in hiring either halls in the village for a function or meeting then please contact

Memorial Hall Angela Forward 01634 251 756 **Recreation Hall** Martin Mitchell 07752 682 437

\*\*\*Please do not call on a Sunday \*\*\*

# **Poetry Competition**

# 1st prize

# Cameron Robbins - Eleven Men Year 6

**E**leven Men from High Halstow died fighting in World War One.

Lasting four years, three months and two weeks.

**E**leven trees are being planted at the recreation ground in memory of the eleven soldiers.

**V**ictoria Crosses were awarded to over six hundred soldiers.

**E**xplosions in France could be heard all the way over in England.

November the 11th1918 was the last day of World War One.

Many new weapons were invented or first used in World War One.

**E**very 24 hours in September 1918 saw nearly four million pounds worth of bullets used.

Names for this war are: World War One, The Great War, War to end all Wars and war of Nations.

# 4th Prize - Life in World War 1 by Jessica Vernon year 5

Miles of trenches full of dirt,

Men screaming when they are hurt,

Bullets flying everywhere,

But the men are tired, they don't get care.

Home is where they want to be,

Laughing dancing or having tea,

Instead they live in bunkers dark,

A man can only dream of a park

Each morning they pray for one more day,

Surely there is a better way

### 2nd Prize

# Leo Hutchins Year 3

High Halstow Parish planted trees,

For the 11 soldiers memories,

The men they went off to war,

And weren't seen any more,

The days were cold, dark and wet,

The soldiers gave their lives, we must not forget,

I think these men were very brave to go to war,

I hope there are no more wars any more.

### **3rd Prize**

# **Becoming a man by Teddy Young year 5**

My name is Jack Brown, I am 15 years old,

I heard about the great war, the guns, the medals, the honour,

So I foolishly signed up in the hope of becoming a man.

Life in the trenches is horrible,

Shooting other men is heartbreaking,

So I foolishly signed up in the hope of becoming a man.

I never appreciated the comforts I had, at home, before the war,

I receive the occasional letter from home, the family I love so much,

I wish I was with them now,

I hope I will be with them again one day,

Why did I sign up for this, I am now that foolish man

# Resume of meeting 14 February 2018

The February Parish Council meeting was attended by all 9 Parish Councillors. There were 40 members of the public in attendance despite the date of the meeting being held on Valentines day.

Medway Council's decision to close Deangate Ridge was discussed and High Halstow Parish Council formally voted to support the parish of Hoo St. Werburgh on their objections. A petition has been submitted to Medway council containing over 3,000 signatures asking for the decision to be called in and we are currently waiting to hear if this the way that Medway Council have made the decision will be looked at by the Overview and Scrutiny committee.

It has been agreed by the Parish Council that we will go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan this means that if and when we are expected to have more houses built in the village that we have a say about where they are put and how the amenities of the area can be improved to accommodate a growing population. There will be more information available in the coming months, the Neighbourhood Plan will also be subject to public consultation – we will be asking for your views and opinions every step of the way – so please do get involved!

The next meeting will be held on the 14th March, 2018 at 8pm in the Memorial Hall.



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

Tuesday 13th March from 10.30 - 12.00pm and every 2ndTuesday 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.

George Crozer - Chairman	01634 250 286
Christine Watson - Vice Chair	01634 256 529
Martin Andrews	07984 791 029
Linda Atkinson	07825 619 353
Ray Collins	01634 250 105
Gary Jerreat	01634 253 999
Bill Khatkar	07775 668 620
Brian Williams	07908 006 448
Mick O'Hanlon	07752 873 379

Your Councillors can also be contacted on 01474 871 269 or through the Parish Clerk Mrs Roxana Brammer clerk@highhalstow.org.uk

# Village Hall Refurbishment

Whilst all the major works have been completed it is time now to ensure the hall is maintained to ensure it is a venue for you to be proud of. As a result electrical work will be carried out in the main hall during March followed by the main hall being painted. We are hoping to keep disruption to users to a minimum so the hall will be available during the evenings with the Blue and Green Rooms available during the day..

# FOR THE LOVE OF OUR **COMMUNITY**

High Halstow Parish Council voted unanimously at the PC meeting on 14 February to move forward, without hesitation to form a Neighbourhood Plan.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Localism Act 2011 gives local communities the ability to create local planning policies within what is called a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be a community-led document for guiding the

**GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY DO YOU HAVE SKILLS YOU CAN SHARE?** 

future development of our parish. It is the first of its kind for High Halstow and a part of the Government's current approach to planning.



Our Neighbourhood Plan will complement the Local Plan for Medway, national and strategic planning policy, providing valuable detail that has come directly from residents of High Halstow parish.

The Neighbourhood Plan is about the use and development of land over the next twenty years. It will set out a number of policies, developed by the local community, to shape development.

Commissioned by High Halstow Parish Council, the Neighbourhood Plan will be developed by a Steering Group of local residents. The policies and projects in the Plan will reflect the views of local people, gathered through a series

of consultation events. detailed stakeholder sessions and desk research.

We are organising a Steering Group to ensure development of our Neighbourhood Plan. We already have a list of residents who have put their name forward to get involved, but if you are also interested in giving a little time to developing ideas for the Plan please contact either Cllr Ray Collins Cllr Mick O'Hanlon or Cllr Linda Atkinson, whose contact details are listed on the Parish Council page (4).

You may have skills that could help us in our journey. Are you an Architect, IT skilled, admin skilled, have history of the village. Everyone welcome.

# **Sport for all in High Halstow**

### KL:UK Hoo & High Halstow

KL:UK is a group of full time martial arts schools dedicated to helping all of our students achieve their full potential not only in martial arts, but in life. We work in Primary and Secondary schools across Kent as well as running full time Dojos and teaching in various local venues in the South East where our focus is on Family.

Our academy at High Halstow has been running for nearly 3 years! We primarily teach Karate-Do and Aikido which emphasise self improvement through training & sport and teach our students that we have options when it comes to self protection - we do not teach Jitsu or Jutsu, Krav Maga or hardcore fighting where the emphasis is on destroying your opponent with techniques that "will definitely work on the street".

We are one of the few organisations to offer classes for students aged 3 and upwards - our Little Ninja classes teach children from tots to 5yrs old. We help them learn how to take instructions, to focus, experience team work, control, balance, memory, discipline, fitness and co-ordination. Little Ninjas take part in regular gradings, which are awarded a different coloured striped belt as they progress through the programme.

Our main goal is to help families train in martial arts and gain the benefits of confidence, fitness, self control, respect and much more. We recognise the amazing effect that training as a family can have, such as sharing a common interest and a chance to share each other's successes as a team. Siblings can train together and parents and children can train together in any weather, which not only makes it easier for a busy family but also gives the opportunity for families to learn and have fun in the martial arts together.



MARTIN MITCHELL **Master Instructor** 









The Karate Leadership UK effect
KLUK was founded in 2001 by Chief Master Marsh & Sensei Diane Marsh at Buckmore park – when Buckmore park closed down its leisure centre in 2003 Chief Master Marsh and Sensei Diane dedicated themselves to building a full time facility to ensure that their students would always have a place to train. In 2006 the Lordswood Dojo was built and Karate Leadership UK proudly offers classes to everyone of all ages and abilities, whether you have martial arts experience or are completely new to this exciting and rewarding skill. ChiefMaster Marsh started training when he was 12 years old, and has been training in the martial arts ever since. At the height of his professional fight career he won the 1998-1999 WKO World heavyweight title in Kumite (Full Contact Karate)







As usual myself and Miss Millie are massively proud of all of the KL:UK students who competed at the last competition - what a credit to our Academy you all are!

Georgia - Gold medal High Kick, 3rd Traditional Kata (Pinan Yodan)

Oscar - 3rd place creative Kata (Wakazashi), 3rd place Board Breaking

Jonathon - 3rd Place Board Breaking

Pippa - 3rd Place High Kick

Rosie - spirit medal Sparring

We've had some wonderful comments

about you all from referees and Instructors on the day, you all showed awesome sportsmanship, empathy and true Black Belt attitude.



On Saturday 10 February all of our Black Belt candidates went through the 1st assessment and are moving on to the 8 week assessment so that they can test for Black Belt in June - Well

**Sport for all in High Halstow** 

### **GARDENING CLUB**

On Tuesday 13th February we held our AGM at the memorial hall. Our committee members were re elected as follows Chairman. Mike Hughes, Vice Chairperson, Marg Ives, Treasurer, Bob Wells, Minutes Secretary, Alison Wells, Speakers Secretary Wendy White, Social Secretary, Jan Hughes, Outings Secretary Marj Ives, Committee Member Margaret Shuter.

Mike White was proposed and elected as a committee member. The position of Show Secretary is still vacant. Each committee member gave their brief outline of the clubs finances and activities carried out during 2017. Our plans for 2018 were also outlined

It was proposed that the club would increase our membership fee from 2019, charge the members who attend a speakers evening £1 from March 2018 and lastly charge an entrance fee of 50p to Adult visitors to the annual show in August. These proposals were agreed by club members.

The meeting ended with a quiz, raffle and refreshments.

On Tuesday 13th March we will hold our spring show.

This event is only open to club members. Benching starts at 19.30 and the judging commences at 20.00.

There are two seats available for the trip to see the display of daffodils at Thriplow on the 17th March cost £23 pp. Please contact Marg Ives 01634 255398 if you would like to join us. Our next speaker will be on 10th April when Jackie Aviolet will speak about Herb Cultivation and Folklore.

For further information please contact hhdgc@outlook.com or contact one of the committee members

Happy gardening

Mike Hughes









**DISCLAIMER**: The High Halstow Community Lottery is administered by a Committee formed by villagers of High Halstow and is not connected in any way with High Halstow Parish Council.

HHCL COMMITTEE Linda Atkinson, Mick O'Hanlon and Graham Coppard



Only POST CODE of the winner is shown - the house number is withheld. Not every household in that POST CODE would win even if they are playing - the house number is essential.

Game	Venue drawn	Postcode	Area	Amount	Running	
Game	venue drawn Postcode Area		Area	Amount		Total
January game	Village Shop	ME3 8DW	Drayton Close HH	£1,350		£17,960
February Draw	High Halstow	ME3 8RY	Holmes Close HH	£200		Ī
December game	Horseshoe & Castle	ME3 8TL	Medway Avenue HH	£1,200	£	16,410.00
(January draw)	Cooling	ME3 9BN	Hoo	£200		
November game	Primary School	ME2 4NY	Wanscott	£1,250	£	15,010.00
(December draw)	High Halstow	ME3 9HB	Hoo	£200		





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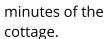
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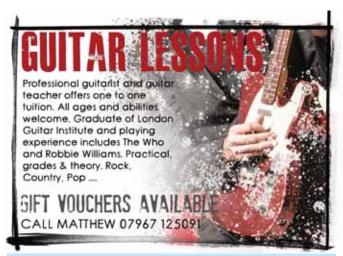




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# **High Halstow Hikers**

Finding walks with good paths this time of year is challenging and initially it seemed that selecting a circular walk around Lullingstone Country Park at the start of February hadn't solved the problem.

The walk south from the excellent Park Centre was very muddy and slippery but once the dozen of us had started to climb away from the Darenth valley conditions improved greatly except in a few spots where we needed to take a route slightly away from the well-trodden path. The walk of about 6 miles was very varied tracking through hop-fields, quiet country roads and woodland as well as crossing Lullingstone golf course in a couple of spots.

The walk to the west of the park gave good views to the other side of the valley before we dropped down to the river close to the Roman Villa which is renowned for its excellent mosaic floors.

The return to the cars took us past Lullingstone Castle and World Garden. These featured in a TV programme that detailed the exploits of the owner, Tom Hart Dyke, who was kidnapped for several weeks by guerrillas while he was between Panama and Columbia hunting for orchids for the garden!

Many dog owners were taking advantage of the widening of the River Darenth to form a lake just prior to the car park in an attempt to clean their very muddy pets. Many of us finished our day off with a pint in the excellent Plough in nearby Eynsford.

In March we should be assured of good underfoot conditions when we take a walk from **Ramsgate** to Margate.

The return to cars in Ramsgate will be by a 10 minutes train ride. However, many may choose to travel by train in which case the journey back to Medway is direct from Margate.

We will meet at 10.00 on Sunday 4thMarch by the Granville Theatre on Victoria Parade CT11 8DG. The walk is a bit longer than usual at around 9 miles but it is largely flat as it follows the coast and we will be stopping for lunch just about 60% of the way round. As ever all are welcome but given the longer journey involved if you are not a regular please let Mitchell know on mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com or 01634-254428 to avoid mix-ups.

High Halstow Football Club - Manager Graham Beale						
Date	Match	Team		HH		
18 Nov 17	League Div 4	UK Pavillion	3	5		
25 Nov 17	League Div 4	Park Regis	1	3		
02 Dec 17	League Div 4	Newtown Social	1	5		
09 Dec 17	Sittbn & Milton Cup Qtr final	Borstal	2	4		
16 Dec 17	League Div 4	Grain	2	6		
06 Jan 18	Kent Cup round 4	Kings Hill	4	8		
13 Jan 18	League Div 4	Grain	4	1		
20 Jan 18	League Div 4	Pavillion Ath	2	6		
27 Jan 18	Centenary Cup Semi final	Park Regis	0	5		
4 Feb 18	League Div 4	Newtown Social	2	6		
10 Feb 18	Kent County Cup Qtr final	UK Pavilion	1	4		

# BEST BURNEY

# Pancake race day in High Halstow

The now annual pancake race was well attended by mums and children alike. A great time was had by all and the prizes were handed out to the children.

Another exciting event for families in our village.

Quiz Night 16 March. Call Margaret on 01903 340 935 or 07702 196 179 £3 pp

**High Halstow Village Hall** 

The Quiz Nights have played a significant part in the Fund Raising for the refurbishment for which the Hall Committee are extremely grateful so if you want a fun evening, chance to win some prizes why not come along and support this event.



# Calendar

MONDAYS	Line Dancing	11:00-12:30		Memorial Hall		
Alternate Mondays	Community Choir	20:00-21:00		St. Margaret's Church		
TUESDAYS	Kings Kitchen	10:0	10:00-13:00		Memorial Ha	11
	Pilates	18:1	18:15-19:15		Memorial Ha	II
	Youth Club	19:0	0-20:45	1	Recreaction Hall	
	Bell Ringers	19:3	19:30-21:00		St. Margaret's Church	
WEDNESDAYS	Tai Chi	10:30-11:30		Memorial Hall		
THURSDAYS	Seated Exercise	11:00-11:45		Memorial Hall		
	Pilates	14:00-15:00		Memorial Hall		
	Sugar Babes	19:00		Memorial Hall		
FRIDAYS						
SATURDAYS	Karmann Dancers	09:0	09:00		Memorial Hall	
	KLUK Marial Arts	09:3	09:30		Recreation Hall	
SUNDAYS	Holy Communion BCP	08:00		Village Hall		
	Deja Vu Spiritual Centre	18:30		Recreation Hall		
Every 1st Wed	Knit and Natter	1:30 St. Marga		aret's Church		
	Women's Institute			al Hall		

Recognising the 100 years since the WWI armastice later this year, the Parish Council have planted 11 trees on the recreation ground to honour the 11 servicemen from High Halstow who were killed in the conflict.

Each tree has been given a plaque with details of the individual

Every 1st Wed	Knit and Natter	1:30	St. Margaret's Church
	Women's Institute 19:30 Memorial		Memorial Hall
Every 2nd Wed	Parish Council Meeting	Parish Council Meeting 20:00 Memorial Ha	
Every 2nd Tue	Gardending Club	Gardending Club 20:00 Memorial Ha	
Every 3rd Wed	Whist Club	14:00	Memorial Hall
Every 4th Wed	Friendly Cllub	14:00	Memorial Hall
Last Frid	Quiz Nights	20:00	Memorial Hall
1st & 3rd Sun	All Age Worship	09:30	St Margaret's Church
2nd & 5th Sun	Morning Prayer 09:30 St. Mar		St. Margaret's Church
Every 4th Sun	Family Communion	09:30	St. Margaret's Church
Every 1st Sun	Holy Communion	18:30	St. Margaret's Church
Every 3rd Sun	Informal Worship	18:30 St. Margaret's Ch	
1st & 3rd Sun	Baptisms by arrangement	09:30	St. Margaret's Church



**NEXT EDITION** - April 2018 Contributions for April should be sent to Linda Atkinson via email:

editor@highhalstow.org.uk or phone 07825 619 353

# **Editor-Linda Atkinson**

Published by High Halstow Parish Council Printed by Smart Print Services (01634 727 215)