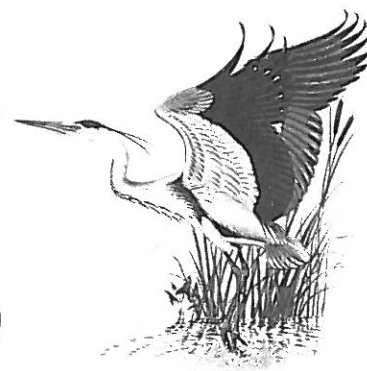


# High Halstow TIMES



*Home of the Heron*

---

April 2009

---

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Public exhibitions for Lodge Hill, Chattenden, are planned for April 2009**

Land Securities has been selected by Defence Estates to bring forward a new mixed-use development north of the A228 at Chattenden. The site is the current location of the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) and due to the RSME's planned relocation to Bicester, has been deemed surplus to the MoD's requirements. Development at Lodge Hill, Chattenden, has the potential to create in the region of 5,000 new homes, together with community facilities and new employment opportunities over the next 20 years.

**Thursday 23 April 2009**

*4pm to 7pm*

The Lodge, top of Lodge Hill Lane, Chattenden, Rochester, Kent ME3 8NE

**Friday 24 April 2009**

*5pm to 8pm*

The Main Hall, Hundred of Hoo School, Main Road, Hoo St Werburgh, Rochester, Kent

**Saturday 25 April 2009**

*10am to 3pm*

Chattenden Community Centre, Swinton Avenue, Chattenden Rochester, Kent

**Monday 27 April 2009**

*10am to 1pm*

All Saints Parish Hall, Church Green, Frindsbury, Kent

*4pm to 7pm*

High Halstow Memorial Hall, The Street, High Halstow, Rochester, Kent

**Tuesday 28 April 2009**

*4pm to 7pm*

Stoke Village Hall, Mallard Way, Lower Stoke, Rochester, Kent

Land Securities encourages you to come along to find out more about the proposed development. This is the first stage of Land Securities' consultation and there will be future opportunities for you to get involved. If you have any queries about the development, please call 0845 683 2544.

*Annual Parish Council Meeting: 8th April 2009*  
*Buckhole Farm appeal details - page 2.*  
*Queen B & Redfords to tour High Halstow - page 3*

***Town & Country Planning Act 1990,  
Cobsvie Buckhole,  
Farm Road,  
High Halstow,  
Kent ME3 8SE***

Retrospective application for change of use from grazing land to residential land for siting of three mobile homes and one touring caravan with the construction of a utility unit.

Following a refusal of planning permission by Medway Council, an appeal has now been made to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, in respect of the above mentioned application. The appeal is to be decided following an exchange of written statements and an Inquiry will be arranged for an Inspector to determine this appeal.

Any representations you made to the Council when the application was originally being considered will automatically be sent to the Planning Inspectorate. Should you wish to comment further on the appeal, please write in triplicate by 14th April 2009 (quoting the Inspectorate's appeal reference number above), to The Planning Inspectorate, Room 307, Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

If the Inspectorate receives representations after the deadline they will not normally be seen by the Inspector and they will be returned. You are able to obtain a copy of the Planning Inspectorate's booklet "Guide to taking part in planning appeals" from this Authority. If you want to receive a copy of the appeal decision you must request this when writing to the Inspectorate.

*HHPC Comment: It is suggested that anyone who originally wrote to Medway Council should consider the points they made in their original letter and whether there are any further/different comments which should be sent to the Planning Inspectorate. Anyone who didn't write with their comments originally are encouraged to do so.*

***High Halstow Village Hall  
Refurbishment Plans***

Following a successful showing of the Village Hall refurbishment plans at the last two Farmers Markets, and at the recent Dramarama production, the Hall Committee met with the architects to go through the comments and ideas. This will enable the plans now to be completed by them. In addition the architects will be carrying out a costing exercise in order to assist with the grant applications that are planned. An asbestos survey is also to be carried out shortly. The plans can still be viewed on the website [www.highhalstow.org.uk](http://www.highhalstow.org.uk) for you to view and of course we will keep you

***High Halstow Parish Council  
Special Annual Meeting***

Notice is here by given that the Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th April from 8:00pm at the Memorial Hall, High Halstow. The public are invited to attend to hear the Chairman's annual report and will be given the opportunity to ask questions of the Parish Council.

***Nicky Moore Returns***

Nicky Moore is returning to the Village Hall on Saturday 23 May for a show along the lines of the Valentines evening last year. This evening is being called Old, New, Country and Blues. That probably explains that the style of music will be varied. Nicky was conscious that some people expected him to sing the blues so he has agreed to do a couple of blues numbers. The rest of the evening will be a variety of his singers performing lots of different styles. There will be a licensed bar and the price of £12.50 includes a buffet during the intermission. Doors will open at 7.30 with the show getting started shortly afterwards. Tickets will be available from Margaret Church on 253709 or at the Farmers Markets on 4 April and 2 May. Also available from Wenda Taylor on 253169.

***Village Hall Car Park***  
**NO BALL GAMES**  
**OFFENDERS MAY BE PROSECUTED**

Due to the ongoing problem of broken windows at the hall, the Hall Committee and Parish Council have decided to implement a ban on all ball games on the car park. The cost of continually replacing broken windows has been in excess of £500 in the past 12 months. And along with the cost of replacement the broken glass is a safety issue to other users of the car park. The police will be called to anyone using the car park to play ball games on.

***Farmers Market***

The next Farmers Market is on Saturday 4 April, doors opening at 9.30. Why not come along and buy your weekend vegetables, meat, bread and cakes. We also have a huge selection of craft stalls and also this month we have two schoolgirls who are trying to raise money for a school choir trip to Canada at the end of the year and they have made lots of small Easter type gifts. Why not reward them for their initiative and purchase from them. We also have a raffle every month with a pack of fresh meat as one of the prizes. For more details please ring Margaret Church on 253709.

***Queen B & The Redfords***

- Don't Stop Me Now -
- Another one Bites the Dust -
- I want to Break Free -

And many more of the other classic Queen and Freddie Mercury hits. It is with much pleasure that the Hall Committee can announce that the Queen tribute band 'Queen B' will be returning to the Hall in October. And also appearing on the same night will be the Redfords with their blend of classic greats and modern day hits.

More details to follow soon.

***High Halstow Cricket Club***  
***March 2009***

First an apology the Colts Presentation is on the 25th July, not the 5th as I wrote last month. The Family Day on 25th May will be a modest affair, and a dry (hopefully!) run for a much more extravagant event on August 31st also a Bank Holiday when I am assured the weather will be much more reliable. This will be a major fund-raising opportunity for all groups in the village. More details of both events will follow shortly.

The warmth of recent weeks has provided good growing conditions, and pre-season ground preparations are in full swing a sure sign of cooler, wetter weather to come. We start with a home game for the 1st XI against Rainham on 25th April, followed by the U17s on 28th April. Several new members have joined us during the winter, and we hope they enjoy playing with High Halstow.

Finally, there is an opportunity for everyone to experience the ups and downs of cricket at High Halstow by joining our Fantasy Cricket competition. For the first time this popular "in-club" pass-time is going "on-line" and therefore open to all, members and non-members alike. The site is almost ready for action, so visit <http://www.highhalstow.clubfantasycricket.co.uk> to find out more. Entries must be registered by the middle of May, so there will be a chance to see some action before you make your final pick of 11 players for your team. You will be able to judge the quality of any player you do not know by their "value". All the club's players will be available for selection. It's a little bit of fun and we hope you enjoy it.

David Lapthorn  
Chairman  
HH Cricket Club

## *WI Report* *Amazed Baroness*

Three of us had a great day in Tunbridge Wells, no not shopping or eating out but spending the day with several hundred women and two great speakers. I have never had the history and workings of the House of Lords explained so well. Baroness Scott (Roz) is oh so not what you expect. She is young, committed, articulate, busy, funny, a wife, mother, quite ordinary and just plain nice. She seemed truly amazed by the length of applause that followed her talk.

Jeremy Spake was very slim, very laid-back, very honest, and probably very tired as he had flown in from his Siberian home that morning. A passionate man, whose values in people are very strong. He is now a very successful business man who splits his time between England and Russia. A 'dappy ground crewman' he surely isn't.

Yet to come, seven members are off on a guided bird walk with the Warden of Oxleas Wood near Shooters Hill. The lunch club venue has yet to be decided but last month 16 members very much enjoyed the food at The Three Crutches. Later in April some of us are attending a 'Health Day' where doctors from the Royal College of Surgeons will be talking on their speciality subject.

At the next meeting of the W.I. on Wednesday 8th April we have Betty Copleston telling us about life as a Tour Guide. Some of you may know Betty who used to live in the village. We meet in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 only £1:50 for a good evening, includes a hot drink and cake, visitors are really welcome.

**Margaret Whitebread**

## *European Health Insurance Card*

Check the renewal date on your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). More than three million will have expired by the end of March, leaving many travellers at risk of hefty medical bills. The EHIC means that should you fall ill or have an accident you will get reduced costs or free state-provided healthcare in most European countries, currently 3.3 million people have an out-of-date card and will not be covered for basic medical care.

Renew your EHIC—The EHIC can be renewed online or over the phone and will be delivered within ten days. It can also be renewed up to six months in advance of expiry. To renew or obtain an EHIC, call the EHIC Application Line on 0845 606 2030 or apply online at [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

## *Memorial Hall*

After several years of searching the Archives, old maps etc. We now have the certificate from the Land Registry, This is a great step for us, but we must give a big thank you for Irene Pearce who did most of the research for us.

The hall continues to thrive, with regular bookings, and of many casual bookings.

**Harveys Builders Ltd**  
**FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS**

Extensions • Windows & Doors • Fencing • Brickwork  
Conservatories • Glazing • Fitted Kitchens • Carpentry • Roofing  
Bathroom Suites • Tiling • Plastering • Painting • Electrical Work  
Driveways • Block Paving • Re-Pointing • Plumbing  
PVCu Soffits, Fascias & Guttering • Porches • Burglar Alarm  
Sealed Unit & Drain Work • Flat Felt Roofs  
Security Locks • Domestic & Commercial  
Insurance Work Undertaken • Fully Insured

 **FMB**  
Over 18 years experience

 **EBC**  
ESTABLISHED 1965 • COMMITMENT

*For quality work at competitive rates contact:*

**TEL: 01634 222202 • MOBILE 07768 905800**

Email: [harveysbuilders@fsmail.net](mailto:harveysbuilders@fsmail.net) • Fax: 01634 222212

Hayisham House, Main Road, Cooling,  
Rochester, Kent ME3 8DH



## ***RESUME OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2009***

The March Parish Council meeting was given a presentation on the Community First Responder scheme by Steve Joyce, our local responder. The idea behind this volunteer service is to provide a basically trained person to attend an incident and remain until the ambulance or paramedics arrive. At the moment, Steve shares one responder pack with a colleague from Wainscott. After Steve's explanation, the parish council resolved to contribute towards a pack that would remain in the parish.

The ditch on the Recreation Ground remains a problem for residents of Goodwood Close. Another site meeting with an expert from Medway Council will be sought. Subject to approval, the playpark will now benefit from funds made available to Medway Council for play areas in the district, which should mean we will be able to replace all the old equipment and lay a safety surface to modern standards. Consultation will be undertaken before decisions as to the type of equipment are made. The Recreation Hall committee asked for "no ball games" signs for the car park. It was agreed these will be provided if they can be fixed to the hall.

The footpaths in the parish continue to be monitored by our Footpaths Officer, Charles Crouch and by Cllr Ray Collins. Ray recently spent time with the new Public Rights of Way Officer at Medway Council, looking at the footpaths on the land at Buckhole Farm.

It was agreed to order two bus shelters to replace two of the existing three metal ones. Unfortunately the funds are not available to replace all three at one time. The new ones will be of timber construction, which councillors feel is more sympathetic to a rural situation.

All present were reminded of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Wednesday 8 April at 8.00 pm in the Memorial Hall. Although chaired by the Parish Council Chairman, this is YOUR meeting and gives all parishioners the opportunity to raise any matter they like for future consideration by the Parish Council. Refreshments will be provided. Do come along, meet the councillors and other residents and have your say.

### ***Appeal***

You may have heard of Blythswood Care, a National Charity with a local depot on the Medway City Estate. They combine the Christian message with practical help for those in need at home and abroad, regardless of their political or religious beliefs or ethnic origins.

Last year the facility at Medway coordinated 28 juggernaut loads of aid mainly to Romania, Serbia and Hungary. However, like most of us, they seem to be feeling the effects of the recession and are seeing a reduction in the amount of donations received. Phil Shorthouse, Corporate Aid logistics manager sates 'A major crisis has hit us, we have an acute shortage of clothing. This means that instead of normally being able to send six aid shipments this year we have only been able to send two, and only one of those had clothing in it. We are in desperate need of clothing for all ages as well as bedding and household linen'.

If you are able to donate any of these items please contact Peter Tottman on 01634 291411 who could arrange for collection of your donations. Alternatively if you are able to deliver your donations yourself you would receive a warm welcome at the Medway Depot. The depot is open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm and located at 32A Riverside, Sir Thomas Longley Road, Medway City Estate, Rochesrer, Kent ME2 4DP.

Thank you for your help on behalf of Blythswood Care.

***Chris Cahill***

### *Friendly Club*

This month (March) is the nearest meeting to Easter; members will be given hard boiled eggs and a good selection of sequins, ribbon lace etc To decorate their own egg.

Next Month on Wednesday 22 April we look forward to Gill Ellen giving us a talk on the Medway Queen, this should be very interesting, We would welcome anyone who would care to join us.

### *Garden Club*

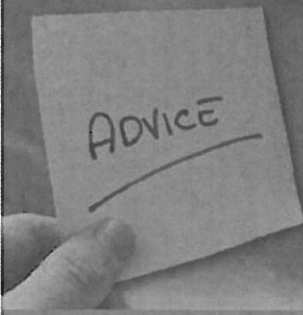
The members once again came up trumps, at our Spring Show, Although there were not as many flowers as we have had, given the very cold weather we have had, we surprised to see as many as we did. It was still enough to give this year's Judge Margaret Shuter a testing time.

Rosemary Collins won the cup for section 1, Pat Hillman the cup for section 2, and Rosemary Collins won the plate for most points in show, this means that Rosemary will be next year's Judge.

Our next meeting is on April 14 when we will have talk by Tony and Vera Orsbourne on 'Butterfly and Wildlife gardens' starting at 8pm.

### *Quiz Nite*

PLEASE don't forget this year's QUIZZATHON on Friday 24 April This is to raise funds for the refurbishment of the Recreation hall. Whilst the regular quiz evenings are for the upkeep of the Memorial Hall, we always do the Annual Quizzathon for the benefit of the Recreation Hall, after all it's all part of our village, and provides a venue for large parties and Weddings etc



**ASK US  
WHAT YOU  
CAN GET**

We're here for you. You may be entitled to benefits that will make your life easier. Come along and talk to us and we'll help get the answers you need.

Council tax and housing benefit

**Medway**  
Serving You

### *What Can You Get*

You may be entitled to benefits that will make your life easier. Talk to Medway Council and they will help you get the answers you need.

- ✍ Many people are entitled to claim benefits but may not realise it
- ✍ We all lead busy lives and it can be difficult to find out what help is available
- ✍ Sometimes just getting to the council offices can be taxing

That's why Medway Council working with its community partners has introduced new opportunities for customers to access services locally

So whether you are a lone parent, someone looking for work and struggling to make ends meet or an older person needing help, we are here to help. Tell us your situation and we'll do the rest

# HEARS RISEN!

## Easter Service Times

### Palm Sunday 5th April

10:30am High Hastow,

11:00am Allhallows,

4:00 Joy Cub Memorial Hall, High Halstow

6:30pm High Halstow

### Good Friday 10th April

3:00pm Allhallows. "An hour at the Cross"

### Easter Sunday 12th April

8:00am Easter Communion High Halstow

10:30am High Halstow, Family Easter Communion

11:00am Allhallows, Morning Prayer

4:00pm Joy Club Memorial Hall, High Halstow

6:30pm Allhallows, Easter Communion

## OPEN TRIALS EAGLES F.C.

Under 10's

Wednesday Evenings at Bly Spartans Sports Ground, Rede Court  
Road, Strood, ME2 3TU

Come and try out for a successful, family run football club

2007 2008 G.B.P.F.L. Division "B" Champions

Currently 3rd in G.B.P.F.L. Division "A"

F.I.F.A. Level 2 Coaching, Football Association Charter Standard

Contact: Dave 07787534209

### *Found*



On the Recreation Ground 19th March

CALL - 250334

### *Dear HHT,*

"My thanks to those ladies who generously gave me some of their frog spawn at this time last year and to Derek in the shop who popped over the road from time to time with frogs he found on his ground. I don't know whose 'gift' is responsible but during the night of the 10th March we were the recipients of our very own mass of eggs, the first time since 1990.

They are already protected from predators in floating 'nurseries'. Should anyone have a problem with what to do with their spawn I will gladly put them in our pond.

**John Wilson**

**Tel: 251448**

High Halstow Primary School  
Summer Fair

Saturday 27th June 2009

1pm - 4pm

Many stalls planned, more details to follow. If you would like a stall please ring

Wenda on 253169 or 07971 929515 for more details.

### *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, although this information may be withheld from appearing in the HHT upon request. 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.

Advertising rates are £15 per quarter page per edition; £30 per half page per edition.

### **PROJECT MORNING**

**90 minutes spent improving  
the village**

**Saturday 17th April**

**8:30am Start at the Village Hall**

**Free Tea, Coffee, Cakes and Buns  
afterwards for all the helpers**

### *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 - Pat Hillman 251064  
Village Hall - Ann Smith 251914

### *HH Village Website*

Did you know you can see the minutes of your Parish Council on our website! If that is not your cup of tea, you can also look-up local groups in the village, past copies of the High Halstow Times, and pictures of recent events.

For all your village needs the site is  
[www.highhalstow.org.uk](http://www.highhalstow.org.uk)

Contributions for May should be sent by 24th April to:  
Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ  
or e.mail to [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk)