



High Halstow TIMES



Home of the Heron

April 2010

Village Hall Comes Under Attack!

Unfortunately several young people, believed to be from the village, spent the evening of Wednesday 17th March (St. Patrick's day) vandalising the village hall. In total 3 windows were smashed and graffiti was scrawled on some of the walls.

The cost of repairing the damage will run into several hundred pounds and will have to come from donations and profits made at the farmers market, money which should be used for improving the hall, not repairing it against mindless acts of vandalism.

As mentioned it is believed that the perpetrators are from the village and known to regular users of the hall, the police have been informed and charges will be brought if it can be proven. In the meantime we would ask if you suspect your child was involved to please speak to them about the consequences of their actions and for everyone to report to the police any suspicious activity near or around the hall.

Village Hall Committee

Financial Business Partner Required

As I am sure you are all aware the current financial downturn has hit the Village Shop hard and the plans for the new shop are currently on hold. It is now come to the point that unless Derek is able to find a new business partner who is willing to invest finance and time to the Village Shop re-build, then there is a strong possibility that the shop and post office, will have to close. If you are interested in investing in this very worthwhile project please see Derek in the shop or call him on 250230

Is It Time to Give Up?

The village hall is yet again the target for a group of youths that seem to think it's their right to smash windows, graffiti walls and gradually destroy something that belongs to the people of High Halstow.

For 50 years the hall has been used by many of you, young and old, Doctors Surgery, Youth Club, Pre-School, Play groups, Badminton, Dramarama, Birthday Parties, Farmers Market, Boot Fairs, Soundhole and much more.

It has always been run by volunteers that give up a lot of time and very often physical effort. But enough is enough when monies raised to just keep the hall ticking over is spent on constantly replacing windows and cleaning off graffiti.

Perhaps it would be better to close the hall and knock it down to make way for a large car park or just board it up and leave as a memento of what a few youths of the village have taken away from you all. No Doctors, No Community meeting place for the residents of High Halstow.

Improvement to the hall was due to start later this year, a lot more money needs to be raised, but is it worth the commitment if it is to be used as an outlet for vandals to vent their anger on.

Be aware of what is happening and if you care, please call the police on 999 if you see or hear anything.

A concerned resident.

Farmers Market - Saturday 10th April 9:30 - 11:30

Fresh Fruit, Vegetables, Meat, Bread, Cakes, and much more - Free Entry

Annual Quizzathon - Friday 30th April - Tables still available, call Pat on 251064

Youth Group gets a visit from the Police.

Nothing new you might think, although it could be a worrying development that a church youth groups gets interrupted by the boys in blue. But it wasn't what you might think. "Street Cops Trust" is a charity formed by PC Rob Jackson while working in Medway. The idea was to provide funding for equipment for youth groups who provide somewhere to go for teenagers on Friday and Saturday evenings. The charity is run by serving police officers who raise money by holding events and receiving donations and running a charity ball each year. All the money raised is given to groups like ours who have very limited funding but are seeking to provide a very needy service for youngsters in our community.

PC Rob Jackson is seen presenting, Rev Stephen Gwilt, David Stephenson and some of our young people, a brand new PlayStation 3 Games console and controllers at our last meeting in March. Next meeting is on Friday 9th April.



Garden Club

After all the cold and windy weather we have had lately, I don't think many people had Daffodils out on Tuesday 9 March, and although there were not many, our members didn't let us down, there were a few to display.

Flowers and Pot Plants Section 1 was won by Wendy White.

The Domestic Section 2 was once again well supported and the winner was Cheryle Hassell.

But with most points in the show Wendy White will be next years Judge.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 13 April and Mrs Tallboys will be speaking on Perennial Plants.

Pat Hillman

Gas Pipeline Presentation

14th April

E.ON is developing proposals to build a pipeline from its proposed new power station at Kingsnorth to the southern North Sea.

It would take carbon dioxide captured from the proposed replacement plant and carry it to depleted gas fields for permanent storage.

The pipeline would consist of a short onshore and a longer offshore section. The onshore section of the proposed route would run northwards from Kingsnorth Power Station and cross the A228 around 4km east of High Halstow. It would then continue north between St Mary Hoo and Allhallows and reach the Thames Estuary coastline near to St Mary's Marshes before heading up into the southern North Sea.

E.ON plans to consult with residents on the Hoo Peninsula about these proposals and will hold public exhibitions toward the end of April. Ahead of those exhibitions Project Development Manager Ed Walker and colleagues will be outlining their proposals at the Parish Council meeting on 14 April, all are welcome.

Street Parking

It has come to the Parish Councils attention that people are parking their cars on the kerbs and paths. This is causing an obstruction to pedestrians and particularly pushchairs and wheelchairs, which then have to negotiate a route around the car either via the muddy grass verge or worse still into the road.



The driver of this car obviously got the path and road confused when they parked!

Please be considerate of pedestrians when parking and do not obstruct the pathways, you can be fined for parking on the path/kerb by Medway Council.

High Halstow Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held at the Memorial Hall, High Halstow on Wednesday 14 April 2010 at 8.00 pm, which meeting Members are summoned to attend and to which all parishioners are invited

AGENDA

Apologies for absence

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8 April 2009

To receive the Financial Statement of the Parish Council's Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009

Chairman's Annual Report

Reports from Local Organisations

Other business at the Chairman's discretion

Presentation by E-on on proposal to install pipeline from Kingsnorth to St Mary's Bay

Chairman's Buffet

ALL WELCOME

Farmers Market

The next Farmers Market is on Saturday 10th 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 including hand-made cards, jewellery, candles, plants and hand-made chocolates. Fancy some home-made jam, marmalade, pickles or honey, then this is the place to come. There is also a monthly meat raffle to be won, refreshments are served throughout the morning. Entry is free and you might just pick-up a bargain. Come along and try it if you have not been before, what's the worst that can happen?

High Halstow Village Hall Village Refurbishment Plans

The Plans have been signed off by the Hall Committee and the Architect would have put in for Planning permission by the time this has gone to print. The plan for the work will see the roof replaced and it is anticipated that this will be carried out during the summer. Although the main hall will be closed whilst this work is undertaken it is planned that the Doctors Surgery will continue to be open, but again watch this space for further information. Grant applications are to be completed now that planning permission is being sought in order that we can try and ensure other work is carried out sooner rather than later.

Village Hall Committee

Disaster, Darts and Denman (not the horse!!)

It was good to have male visitors at our last meeting, so thank you to those brave guys. I hope you all enjoyed hearing about the work of the police following the Zeebrugge Ferry disaster. It was harrowing but fascinating, an incident that should never have happened. Quite a few ladies enjoyed their lunch at the Sir John Falstaff at Higham, with good food and good company.

We are through to the semi-finals of the W.I. county darts tournament. Although we actually lost our last match, the opposition could not play in the next round, so they could not go through!! At our next meeting we will have a number of reports from members who have been out and about attending the annual council meeting with guest speaker Ann Widdecombe, a group that went to the Medway Little Theatre and a member that has attended Denman, the W.I. College in Oxfordshire.

The next W.I. meeting is on Wednesday 7th April, 7:30 start in the Memorial Hall. Karen from 'Mary Kay Makeup' will be giving a demonstration. So ladies if you want a new look for summer why not come and join us. Only £1:50 on the door.

Margaret Whitebread

Resume of Parish Council Meeting Held on 10th March 2010

The Meeting held in March was attended by 8 councillors, the Footpaths Officer and 4 members of the public. Cllr Mrs Pat Hillman sent her apologies as she was away visiting family. Angela Bostock was co-opted to the Parish Council and was warmly welcomed. The membership of the Council is again up to strength.

A planning application for a side extension at 1 Willowbank Drive was discussed. The drawings were revised versions of drawings previously submitted. The Parish Council had no objection but was aware of an objection from a neighbour, to which they have drawn the Planning Authority's attention. An application for a new house on the corner of Eden Road and Longfield Avenue was also discussed. The Parish Council had no objection in principle, but is asking that the sightlines at the junction are given consideration.

E-on are proposing a pipeline from Kingsnorth to St Mary's Bay to remove carbon emissions as a "carbon capture scheme". They will be making a presentation on the idea at the Annual Parish Meeting which is to be held on Wednesday 14 April in the Memorial Hall at 8 pm. All parishioners are invited and after the normal business and E-on's presentation, the Chairman will host the usual buffet.

Cllr Martin Mitchell said he had inspected the ditch on the Recreation Ground after the recent exceptional rainfall and although full, the water was contained. The annual ditch clearance, scheduled for just before Christmas, had twice been delayed through snow but had been done. There was now a need to move forward with the remainder of the ditch works. Residents of Goodwood Close would be advised when the work was to be carried out and would be reminded the bridges across the ditch had to be removed.

It was reported the new playpark had started. However work had been affected by the weather conditions. It was still hoped to complete the works by the end of the month. It was also reported that Groundwork had started work on the ground area by the kick wall and to the area of shrubs between the allotments and the toilets. The lights in the toilets are on all night and this would be reported to Medway Council.

Cllr Mrs Lesley Munday reported on youth activities. The free craft workshop held in the half-term break had been very successful and more activities for children under 11 were being planned for Wednesday 7 April on the Recreation Ground. She also said that the Mayor would be visiting the Youth Club.

The new PCSO is Sean Brooks, who had held a surgery. He had previous experience in Wainscott, where residents were sad to lose him. However their loss is High Halstow's gain.

Finally, last month we said that the Cricket Club wanted to hold a fun day but needed an organiser. Further to that, we have received the following from David Laphorn:

For the sake of clarification we wish to invite all village organisations to participate on the cricket ground with stalls, games or whatever they wish, to raise money for their own cause as the village has done in the past. It is getting everyone together that needs organising - and then publicity etc. We are happy to provide the venue for meetings etc and participate fully in arrangements, but as part of the crew, not the captain!

If you would like to participate in any way, especially if you have ambitions to be the captain, please contact David or the Parish Council.

The April meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting and we would like to see as many of you as possible there. If you're connected with a local organisation or club, we'd like to receive a brief written report that we can include in our Annual Report. Please submit this to clerk@highhalstow.org.uk as soon as possible. Alternatively, please attend the meeting and give a verbal report. The meeting itself will be on Wednesday 14 April in the Memorial Hall at 8pm.

High Halstow Cricket Club

At last the weather has begun to warm up and with drier conditions it now looks as though we will be able to play cricket before July! Preparation of the ground is about 2 weeks behind 2009, so there is much to do to catch up before the scheduled start of the season on 24th April. Our participation in the NatWest Cricket Force weekend on 27th and 28th March will (by the time you have read this) made a significant contribution to readying Rayner's Meadow for the excitement to come.

The 1st XI start with a warm-up match against Folkestone from Kent League Division 1, which will provide a stern test for them as well as of the ground for life in the upper reaches of the league. The 2nd XI will visit the old county ground at Folkestone on the same day.

The first of a number of Sunday "double-headers" takes place on 25th April with the Sunday Friendly XI taking on Gill's Travel in the afternoon, preceded at 10 a.m. by the U15s against Higham and Mockbeggar. The U13s are away to the same club with the same start time. With the U11s playing their matches on Friday evenings and the U17s on Tuesday evenings, there will be plenty for spectators to enjoy in the coming months as we work through 60 home fixtures at 4 or 5 a week.

Following a burst water pipe in the pavilion during the winter, the interior has been completely refurbished. All rooms have been redecorated and the lounge fitted with new carpets. New seating arrangements have improved the ambience and we hope that members and guests enjoy the facilities as they watch the cricket and chat with friends and colleagues. Non-playing (known as "Social") members are very welcome, in exchange for a modest £10 a year membership fee.

We have had a very successful winter securing financial and material support from sponsors, without whom many of the facilities we provide would be out of reach. The 2010 fixture card lists all the companies involved, and will be available shortly in the pavilion at a nominal cost. Of course, one is never satisfied, and with new machinery needed for our second ground at Hoo, new supporters and sponsors are always welcome. Our Sponsored Walk on 31st May will be contributing towards this project – anyone wishing to take part will find a form on our website www.highhalstow.play-cricket.com.

This promises to be an exacting but exciting season for all our teams. We look forward to welcoming new visitors and spectators to Rayner's Meadow, and trust we do justice to the village.

David Laphorn
Chairman, HHCC

Jonathan Computers

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Email: sales@jonathancomputers.co.uk

(I live in High Halstow so can offer a great local service!)



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Do you want some training on using a computer?

I can help with one-to-one training, either beginner lessons or more advanced if required. Need help with writing letters (Word), Spreadsheets (Excel), emails (Outlook), or may be just using the Internet (Microsoft Explorer/Firefox), even programs like Facebook, MSN messenger, Google, Amazon and Skype etc

(* Terms & Conditions Apply, Please enquire for details)

Protect your children from the Internet.

In March I was fortunate enough to attend an e-safety workshop at a Children's Workforce Development Council conference and as a concerned father what I learned made my blood run cold. I was so shocked with the facts that I have decided to share my training with the village and am writing a few articles that I hope will be on our village website for reference.

The DCSF "UK Children go Online" surveyed 1500 children and youths aged between 9-19 years old and received some shocking responses:

79% of young people use the internet privately without their parents' supervision.

Over 30% of 9-19yr olds who go online at least ONCE a week report having received unwanted sexual or nasty comments via e-mail, chat, and IM or text message. Worryingly, only 7% of parents/carers think their child have received such comments.

Cyber-bullying is a subject that requires greater exploration and I will cover it another time but the immediately concerning point is that 4 out of 5 children are using the internet alone, without parents' supervision.

"So what", one might say. "Give them space, they are responsible kids". "We shouldn't look over their shoulders" & "They're gonna do it anyway". These are certainly progressive, PC and 21st Century parenting viewpoints until we learn that:

40% of pupils aged 9-19 trust most of the information on the internet and 49% of children say that they have given out Personal Information.

I nearly fell off my chair when I learned that particular fact. It took several seconds for everyone in the room to recover from the realisation that nearly half the children have given out personal information yet only 5% of parents/carers recognised that this may be the case.

After digesting the stunning realisation that, statistically, one of the parents sitting either side of me had a child who had given personal information over the internet we entered into a lively discussion about social networking sites, chat rooms, instant messaging and mobile devices.

What children think may be a harmless piece of information, like the school they're from or the local football team they play for, could be all someone needs to be able to trace them in real life. We all need to remember that the internet can be used inappropriately by men, women and young people some of whom have a sexual interest in our children and might harm them.

Following some harrowing videos and training covering "Grooming", we were again shocked to find that 57% of pupils had come into contact with online pornography. We weren't told what percentage were adolescents deliberately surfing for kicks but apparently only 1 set of parents/carers in 6 think that their child has seen pornography – that means that 85% of parents/carers do not recognise that 3 out of every 5 of these children come into contact with online porn.

Ask yourself this question: Where is the computer at home? At school internet use is generally supervised, protected, filtered and monitored – Out of school only 21% of children have that protection.

The recommendation given was for computers/laptops to be used in family areas with the screens facing into the room. The suggestions for safer internet use included using child friendly search engines like yahooligans and turning on the filters on your browsers and Google preferences to exclude Adult content. It was also suggested that Parents/carers have clear rules about personal info & images, use browser history (no history deletion allowed!), look for signs of excessive use and if necessary monitor and log 'conversations'.

We were then introduced to SMART - a set of 5 rules for children when using the internet:

- S** Safe – Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information (see the CBBC's safe surfing cartoon at www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/help/web/staysafe)
- M** Meeting – Never feel pressured to meet up with online friends (see www.chatdanger.com/)
- A** Accepting – If you open, download or Accept files or e-mails from people you don't know you could put your PC or yourself in danger (www.childnet.com/sorted)

R Reliable – Not all websites or people are reliable because anybody can write anything they want (see www.quick.org)

T Tell – Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if something or someone makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied.

We are living in an age where our children are "digital kids". They have handheld mobile devices that enable them to communicate more easily than the 'Men In Black' and with access to more information than 'Mr. Spock's Tricorder'. These handhelds take pictures, record sound, film video with audio, link by Bluetooth and use Wi-Fi – radio & cellular networks to access the internet. Gone are the days of 10p in a clean hankie to use at the Phonebox – in fact, gone are the Phoneboxes!

As these new technologies have developed we have seen how they can be misused, including by those intent on harming children and young people. We are also learning how children and young people may place themselves at risk and be vulnerable to abuse.

What can we do?

Here are my TOP 3 tips for parents/carers:

As parents we must protect our children and the best way we can do that is to embrace their world and enjoy the possibilities together. It's up to you to join the fun and help your kids seize the potential.

In my opinion as parents/carers you should do your homework. Get familiar with the websites and services your kids use and the type of content they're downloading. Armed with knowledge, you can find ways to use technology to say "yes" more often.

Don't be afraid of technology. Learn to text, send a mobile photo, set up a Facebook profile, upload a video or have your kids show you how. It's impossible to guide what you don't understand. Not only that, but think of all the anxiety you can avoid by knowing how things work.

In addition it is suggested that we use all the filters and software tools available but remember not to rely on them 100%. Teach the SMART rules or create our own and encourage positive internet use. We should know what our child's school says about internet safety and talk to other parents to stay aware of what our children are doing.

Lastly - Government, industry and charities have signed up to a new set of standards to protect children and young people on the internet. The Click Clever Click Safe Code has been designed to act as an everyday reminder of simple good behaviours, to help you and your children avoid common risks online. <http://clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk> (there is NO www.)

Cllr Dr Martin Mitchell
High Halstow Parish Council

Further information is available from:

Childnet International is a non-profit organisation working with others to help make the Internet a great and safe place for children. www.childnet.com/

Learn about Internet Safety with Doogle the rabbit. Take the Stay Safe Quiz, download the screensaver and wallpaper and find out how to be SMART online. www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/help/web/staysafe

Guide to internet safety and safe surfing for young people from Think U Know. Learn about online safety when using blogs, chatting, online gaming, ... www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) works across the UK tackling child sex abuse and providing advice for parents and young people www.ceop.gov.uk/

Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), combating online child sexual abuse content in partnership with police, government and the online industry. www.iwf.org.uk

Free Family Fun

Storytelling, craft and entertainment with Medway Council Arts Development Team and Library Service. Make amazing nature and wildlife art, listen to a tantalising tale or two, meet Sparky the puppet and enjoy balloon art and circus tricks

Wednesday, 7 April	10am – 12noon 2 – 4pm	Upnor Castle* (free entry included) High Halstow Village Hall
Thursday, 8 April	10am – 12noon 2 – 4pm	Capstone Country Park (play area) Cuxton Library*
Friday, 9 April	10am – 12noon	Cliffe Woods Community Hall

SUITABLE FOR UNDER 11s, ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

*Booking is essential for workshops at Cuxton and Upnor as spaces are limited. Please call 01634 338319 to book. No need to book for workshops at Cliffe Woods, High Halstow or Capstone – first-come-first served.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ARTS TEAM ACTIVITIES CALL 01634 338319

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LIBRARY ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES CALL 01634 335896

FUSE IS COMING...

If you enjoy these workshops, there's more to come. Fuse Medway Festival is bringing a magical children's theatre show, The Doctor's Daughter to your area in June. For more information please call 01634 338319

Easter Service Times

Good Friday 2nd April

3:00pm High Halstow

**A time of reflection,
prayer and worship**



Easter Sunday 4th April

Easter Communion

8:00am, 10:30am & 6:30pm

St. Margaret's church, High Halstow

11:00am, All Saints church, Allhallows

4:00pm Joy Club

Memorial Hall, High Halstow



Village Speed Limit

Please be aware that the speed limit within the village is 30mph, speeding is a major cause of accidents and fatalities are more likely at speeds above 30mph. Some areas are considering lowering the speed limit to 20mph in built up areas. Traffic Police can prosecute anyone exceeding the speed limit. Please drive carefully.

HH Parish Council

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. Past copies of the HHT are available on the village website www.highhalstow.org.uk

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.

Youth Night



A place to just hang out and be yourself
Friday 9th April and the first Friday each month
Youth Open Night at the Memorial Hall.
7:30-10:00pm entrance free.

Come and try our food Olympics
and see if you can strike Gold

Bring your own PS3 games and see how good you really are !

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

Please avoid phoning on a Sunday as we are often busy with family and won't be able to take your booking.

HH Village Website

The Parish Council website has been relaunched. 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.

A reminder for local groups is that you can advertise your activities free of charge on this site just let us have the details.

For all your village needs the site is:
www.highhalstow.org.uk

PROJECT 90

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

Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair	01634 250286
e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk	
Gary Thomas, Vice Chair	01634 252812
e.mail: gary.thomas@medway.gov.uk	
Martin Andrews	07984 791029
Angela Bostock	01634 254706
Ray Collins	01634 250105
Pat Hillman	01634 251064
Carl Mitchell	01634 250911
Martin Mitchell	07531 984169
Lesley Munday	01634 250276

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269

Dates for Diary

Every Tuesday	
Kings Kitchen	Memorial Hall
09:00 - 12:00	
Every Wednesday	
Painting & Drawing for Beginners	Memorial Hall
10.00	
Every Thursday	
Mother and Toddler's	Memorial Hall
09.30	
Sugar Babes	Memorial Hall
19.00	
Every Saturday	
Karmann Dancers	Memorial Hall
09.00	
1st Friday of Each Month	
Youth Night	Memorial Hall
19:30 - 10:00	
Other Dates	
Wednesday 7th	Women's Institute
19.30	Memorial Hall
Saturday 10th	Farmer's market
09.30	Village Hall
Tuesday 12th	Garden Club
20.00	Memorial Hall
Wednesday 14th	Annual Parish Council
20.00	Memorial Hall
Friday 16th	Evening of Clairvoyance
	Village Hall
Saturday 17th	Project 90
08.30	Village Hall
Tuesday 20th	Friendly Club
14.00	Memorial Hall
Friday 30th	Quizzathon
20.00	Village Hall

Friendly Club

At our March meeting members made Easter Cards, they were provided with stick-on Rabbits, Chickens, Eggs, Ribbons etc, and then they voted who's was the best one.

Margaret Syvier and Alan Kelford received the most votes, but everyone was given a consolation prize.

Our meeting next month is on Tuesday 27 April starting at 2pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

I Know The Score

League positions to 28th March

Mrs A Sitta = 2110

Comos1 = 2000

cousboss = 1690

Ben_De_Legs = 1590

eric007 = 920

Comos1 is closing in on Mrs A Sitta but has he left it too late? 3rd place is up for grabs but neither cousboss or Ben_De_Legs seem to be able to put a run together.

Evening of Clairvoyance

HH Village Hall

Friday 16th April

Janice: 01634 221083

Sandra: 01634 220212

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Havisham House, Main Road, Cooling,
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Report Crime

Always call 999 if:

- a crime is happening now
- people are injured
- people are being threatened or are in danger
- someone suspected of a crime is nearby
- an act of vandalism is taking place

To help, please record when and where the problems are happening including:

- dates and times of incidents.
- as much detail as possible.
- names and/or descriptions of those involved.
- how the incident has affected you.

Martin Mitchell
HHPC Police Liaison

Easter recycling and Rubbish Collections

Easter recycling and rubbish collections in Medway are as follows:

If your waste is normally collected on:	It will now be collected on:
Friday, 2 April	Saturday, 3 April
Monday, 5 April	Tuesday, 6 April
Tuesday, 6 April	Wednesday, 7 April
Wednesday, 7 April	Thursday, 8 April
Thursday, 8 April	Friday, 9 April
Friday, 9 April	Saturday, 10 April

Medway's household waste and recycling centres will be open at the following times during the holidays:

Friday, 2 April, 9am to 4pm
Saturday, 3 April, 8am to 4.30pm
Sunday, 4 April, 9am to 4pm
Monday, 5 April, 9am to 4pm

For more tips on how to be environmentally friendly, visit

www.medwayourplanet.net

To find your nearest recycling site or for more recycling information visit

www.medway.gov.uk/recyclenow

or phone 01634 333333.

FANCY A CUPPA AFTER DROPPING OFF THE KIDS ? OR SOMEWHERE TO GO FOR ELEVENSES ?



The Kings Kitchen opens every Tuesday morning from 9:00 till 12:00 noon in the Memorial Hall.

Serving, teas, coffee, hot chocolate, soup and a selection of cakes and biscuits. There will be a warm welcome from your host Liz Meredith and a relaxing atmosphere to get over the trauma of the school run ! So don't just stand at the school gate chatting come in and chat over a drink instead. Or pop in midmorning and meet with friends and neighbours for elevenses

The Kings Kitchen

For more info contact Rev Stephen Gwilt Stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

Quiz Nite

The March meeting will be, as usual, in the Memorial Hall, but the April Quiz is our Annual QUIZZATHON on Friday 30th April and as usual will held in the Recreation Hall, as all the profit from this goes to the restoration of the hall.

This quiz is due to start at 7.30 so we will open the doors at 7pm

To book your table please ring Pat 251064 and don't forget to bring your own drink and nibbles.

Pat Hillman



All types of domestic maintenance work.

Hanging a door, fixing a shelf, building a wardrobe, repairing a gate.

NH Carpentry & Maintenance
12 Willowbank Drive,
High Halstow, Rochester, Kent ME3 8TW
Tel: 01634 253542 Mobile: 07738 649067

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

I fear the summary of the minutes of the February meeting of the Parish Council conveyed the wrong message about the proposed Family Day. The cricket club has proposed a resurrection of the Family Days we all enjoyed in the past, which started with the Silver Jubilee in 1977. The club will do its share of organising and be make a full contribution to the day, including the ground and facilities, but such an event needs a co-coordinator who can bring together all interested parties under one umbrella. It was my intention to stimulate interest and to persuade the Council or other parties to get involved and take the lead.

Family Day is a great way to enjoy the August Bank Holiday weekend and raise much needed funds for your chosen cause at the same time. The cricket pavilion is available at any time for a meeting of interested groups and individuals, and I hope there will be many.

David Laphorn
Chairman, HHCC

Mathew Crane sings at the Royal Albert Hall

Congratulations to Matthew Crane on his recent appearance at the O2 Arena where he headlined the "Voice in a Million" concert with a choir of 5,000 children, singing 'You Raise me Up'. He is currently on tour with the Three Singing Soldiers and various other acts touring around Britain and will appear at the Royal Albert Hall on 4th April. Almost as prestigious venue is High Halstow Primary School where Matthew will be appearing on the 14th May at the school auction. More details can be found at www.matthewcrane.co.uk

Maureen Wellard



FOR SALE

Dining table for 6 but will extend to 8 plus
6 Dining Chairs (2 are carvers) £100 ono

Also

Dark Oak Dining room unit with 2 glass
doors, 3 drawers and cupboards £100 ono

To view phone 251064

Recycling Banks

The Parish Council will be considering at the May meeting as to whether we wish to have removed all the recycling banks from the Parish Council car park. With the Council collecting bottles, plastic, paper, cans etc every fortnight with the domestic waste, is there any need for these to be here now with the noise, rubbish etc that comes with them. Please let the Parish Council know what your feelings are before the decision is taken or come along to the meeting in May and join in the debate.

Play Park

The weather has caused a delay in completing the refurbishment of the play park but rest assured works hopefully will be completed over the next two weeks. This will be the first major investment into the play park facilities for many a year. The cost is being funded by Medway Council, E.ON and High Halstow Parish Council. We thank you for your patience whilst the work is being carried out.

Dolly Parton Returns

We are currently negotiating for the return of Dolly Parton. In addition she will be bringing along Kenny Rogers and Shania Twain. For those who came to her last show will remember how good she was. Please watch this space for confirmation of dates and times.

Contributions for May should be sent by 24th April to:
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or e.mail to editor@highhalstow.org.uk