



High Halstow TIMES



Home of the Heron

April 2017

Resume Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 8 March 2017

The meeting held on 8th March was attended by 8 of the 9 parish councillors, Cllr Carl Mitchell being delayed at work; Gary Thomas, the Parish Council's Webmaster and by 16 members of the public.

The traders operating the mobile food vans had written to the Parish Council asking if permission could be given for them to operate from the car park. It was reiterated that they are operating legally on street and that if permission was not given, they would continue to do so. A full discussion ensued, with opinions both in favour and against. The question of planning permission for a presence of more than 28 days in any year and also of insurance was raised. The Chairman of the Recreation Hall Committee stated that the presence of vans would be an issue for hall hirers. Other issues raised included litter and acting as a focal point for people who would linger in the car park. A proposal that the mobile food vans be allowed to use the car park was made and a vote was then taken by the Parish Council. 2 councillors were in favour and 5 against, so the food vans will not be allowed to use the car park.

In last month's resume, it was reported that Medway Council wishes to surrender the lease of the public toilets. A proposal was subsequently made by Medway Council, outlining their proposed financial arrangements. However, it was felt very strongly that Medway Council should continue to operate the toilets, which are well used and that the Parish Council should not agree to the surrender of the lease, which has 53 years to go before it expires in 2070. A letter has been sent to Medway Council to that effect.

A grant of £250 was made to the Kent Air Ambulance.

We are trying to replace the swing basket in the Recreation Ground. It has been impossible to speak to the original manufacturers and other sources have been investigated. Some of these were extremely expensive and we have been trying to keep the cost down as much as possible. The replacement basket is now on order.

Work is having to be done by UK Power Networks before the new bus shelters can be purchased and installed. It is hoped there will not be too much of a delay.

Chris Peek said that the Youth Club is still struggling to get enough volunteers to be there in time for the club to open at 7pm. If you can help in any way, please contact her.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting and will be held on Wednesday 12th April in the Memorial Hall at 8 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors

Chris(tine) Watson and Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors, will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 11th April 2017 from 10.30 – 12.00pm and every 2nd Tuesday in the month.

Come and tell us your problems or find out about projects we are undertaking.

If we can't answer your questions there and then we will get back to you.

High Halstow Parish Council.



High Halstow Primary School Spring Fair.

Saturday 20th May - 1pm to 4pm

Come along and join in the fun at the Spring Fair.

There will be traditional games, BBQ, Cakes and much more. All money raised will go towards buying new equipment for the children at the school to develop and enhance their learning.



High Halstow Gardeners

Our AGM took place at the memorial hall on Tuesday 14th February. Two new committee members were elected.

The committee is now made up of :-

Mike Hughes - Chairman

Bob Wells - Treasurer

Wendy White - Speaker secretary

Jan Hughes - Social secretary

Marj Ives - Outings secretary/Deputy chairperson

Margaret Shuter - Committee member

Alison Wells - Minutes secretary

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th April at the memorial hall. Please come along to listen to our speaker Jean Griffin who on Sunday mornings hosts a gardening programme on radio Kent. Her talk is entitled "Tales from the Potting shed" I'm sure she will be able to answer any of your gardening questions.

Non members are welcome for a small fee of £1.50 Contact the club by email hhdgc@outlook.com for more information or visit our Facebook page.

The club held its Spring show at the memorial hall on Tuesday 14th March there were 24 entrants showing over 125 exhibits ranging from spring flowers to arts & crafts and homecrafts. The exhibits were judged by last years winner Margot Sturt. The winner of section 1 was Alison Wells and Section 2 was won by Wendy White. The overall winner was Alison Wells who scored the most points in both sections. Hazel Kilburn won the members choice prize and quizzes were won by Gillian Martin & Rosemary Collins and Ingrid Dalton Brown & George Tharby.

A very successful show enjoyed by all of the members

HH Village Website

Please visit the Parish Council website for everything about our village. You can see the minutes of your Parish Council or look up local groups in the village, past copies of the High Halstow Times, and pictures of recent events. Please note that there is now an RSS feed on the Parish Website where you can get automatic updates when the site is updated. Please visit www.highhalstow.org.uk and follow the instructions on the right hand side.

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 ****

Friendly Club Holiday

Fancy a holiday to the Isle of Wight ? Coach from the village direct to Shanklin for a 6 night break staying at the Langham Court Hotel on a half board basis. Travel on Sunday 10th September returning on Saturday 16th, 3 full day excursions are included. The hotel has entertainment most evenings and also an indoor heated pool. This is being arranged by the 'Friendly Club' but you do not have to be a member to join us on this holiday. If interested and would like more info please ring me, Margaret Whitebread on 250677.

WI - Without Reserve

At our next meeting we will be joined by Janie Ramsey with her talk entitled 'Without Reserve' which are tales from behind the scenes in the antique trade. The meeting starts at 7:30 on Wednesday 5th April in the Memorial Hall. Non-members are welcome to join us, just £1:50 payable on the door. This includes tea/coffee and a cake.

Dog Walkers

Our rights of way and green spaces are for us all to enjoy. Please be aware that if you are exercising your dog it should be under control at all times, and it is your responsibility to clear up it's mess afterwards. Dog fouling is an eyesore, a serious health hazard and an environmental crime. Please clean up after your 4-legged friend.

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
- Mr S. Bailey - 27 Cooling Road
- Mrs J. Collins - 6 Marsh Crescent
- Mrs L. Munday - 22 Willowbank Drive
- Mr J. Myatt - Decoy Hill Road
- Mrs C. Peek - 2 Willowbank Drive
- Mrs N. Turner - 12 Marsh Crescent

High Halstow Hikers

In March we walked from High Halstow via Clinch St and Decoy Hill to the new bay that has been created just to the west of Egypt Bay as a compensatory measure for the loss of wetland environment by the Thames Gateway port development on the other side of the Thames. Our thoughts on the day were that the bay might be named Decoy Bay since it is immediately north of Decoy Hill and the Decoy Farm hamlet. But now looking at Google maps one can see that prior to the scraping of the marsh and the ingress of the river through the opening seawall defences it was already shown as Salt Fleet Flats Reserve. Eighteen of us did the 7.5-mile walk during a warm early Spring morning with skylarks singing and blossom beginning to emerge. The walking to the seawall is straightforward using the narrow road to Swigshole and then a wide track through the marshes. But there are several stiles and the odd gate to scale which can be challenging for stiff knees and hips. One surprise was to meet several men with shotguns and a pack of large hounds accompanied by a whipper-in and other men with cages of Jack Russells, presumably after foxes and rabbits, respectively. The tide was fully up as we reached the river and as calm as a millpond. A large flock of avocet was resting on Egypt Bay and we startled a similar size group of whistling teal as we broached the defences of the new bay. The latter is just under a mile across and about a third of a mile from the river with a break in the wall of over a quarter of a mile. As it matures it will clearly be a major additional habitat to complement the flets, marshland and mudflats already supporting large numbers of wildfowl. The walk back from the marshes involves an inevitable climb. This was eased a little by our taking the marginally shallower and much less well-used route from Decoy Farm between two hedgerows and along Bessie's Lane. As we took our rest at the top of this, the clear weather gave terrific views across the Thames Estuary and, in the foreground, over the area where we had been walking. Immediately after this one passes the few remnants of Bessie's Cottage provoking an unanswered question of who Bessie was? A very enjoyable walk if a little more strenuous than our norm.

On Sunday 9th April starting at 10.00, MikeDavies will lead a walk around the country park and nature reserve at Ranscombe Farm (ME2 1LA). This is only 15 minutes drive from High Halstow and is reached by taking a right turn off the A228 200 yards after the roundabout at the top of Sundridge Hill that leads from the M2 bridge down the hill to Cuxton. All are welcome to join the walks.

Enquiries for the April walk to Michael Davies mikeplotters@me.com. More general enquiries to mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com 01634 254428.

High Halstow Arts & Crafts Village Market

Handmade Cards & Jewellery,
Tattoos, Hand Bags,
Gifts, Make-up, Collectables,
Cakes and Treats.
Refreshments available.

The Memorial Hall
10am - 2pm

April 9th

Come and support our village event!

Cornish Holiday Cottage Let

A fabulous 300 year old cottage, recently fully refurbished with open fire place, fully fitted kitchen, modern decor and off-road parking, benefitting from two well-furnished bedrooms (1 double and 1 twin).

The cottage is in the hamlet of Trewint, only a mile away from Altarnun, one of the most beautiful villages in Cornwall. The Rising Sun Inn just outside the village is



a 16th century award-winning traditional pub, selling locally produced ales and fresh and innovative meals in a great atmosphere. The cottage is ideally placed for discovering the coastline of Cornwall.

- Electric wall heaters with open fire
- Electric oven and hob, microwave, fridge, dishwasher, TV with Freeview, DVD, WiFi, selection of books, games and DVDs
- Fuel, power and starter pack for open fire (October-March) inc. in rent
- Further fuel for fire available to purchase locally
- Bed linen and towels inc. in rent
- Off road parking for 1 car
- Lawned garden with furniture opposite cottage across road
- One well-behaved dog welcome
- Sorry, no smoking
- Shop and pub 1 mile.

The cottage is advertised with Sykes Cottages (<http://www.sykescottages.co.uk/cottage/Cornwall-Fivelanes/Laburnum-Cottage-935455.html>)

Alternatively I live in the village and will be able to offer a discounted rate if you contact me directly on: Andy 01634 936095
Mobile: 07958 604268



High Halstow Lottery



The winner of the £860 main prize for February lives in the ME3 9RA area (Stoke).

The winner of the smaller prize of £60 lives in the ME3 8SN area (High Halstow).

We had a total of 122 players and hope for more players in the coming months.

A total of £300 in this draw goes to the Charity account. Does your Group need funds? Please see our website for application form.

High Halstow Village Hall

Events 2017

To start the event cycle for 2017 we are pleased to announce the following dates

Quiz Nights

Friday 19th May

Friday 14th July

Friday 13th October

There will be further events planned for the year so please watch this space.

Vegetation

The Parish Council is asking people who have any shrubs/trees overhanging public walkways, or vegetation spilling onto the path if they would mind cutting them back in order for people to walk unhindered. Thank you for your cooperation.

Thefts from Sheds and Outhouses

Please be aware that thefts from sheds and outhouses have been reported recently on the peninsula and the Parish Council have been asked to remind people to lock up securely to make it more difficult for would be thieves.

HH Parish Council

2017 Heron Awards

Every day sees acts of kindness, generosity, sacrifice and courage in our small community. From the friend who visits sick neighbours to the single parent struggling to raise young children alone. From the sick child who always has a smile to those who work sacrificially to ensure our community is a wonderful place to live in. The High Halstow Relief in Need Charity is once again sponsoring the Heron Awards. It has been 10 years since we ran our community award scheme so there are lots of people out there who deserve to be recognised and thanked for the difference they make to all of us. So often we don't realise what a difference a person makes till they are no longer here and it dawns on us what we have lost. Let's try our best to change that and say thank you while they are still here. Maybe what they do will inspire others to do the same. There will be a special award night on 28th June so book the date now and join with us as we celebrate the efforts of our friends and neighbours.

There are two main categories: "Junior" (under 16), and "Adult" (over 16). Each main category has 3 further divisions as listed below. There will also be an overall "Community Hero" chosen by the judges from the nominees. Applications must be completed in full, put into a sealed envelope marked "Heron Awards" and deposited in the Rectory letter box (2 Cooling Road High Halstow, ME3 8SA) or handed in at the Village Shop no later than **12th May 2017**. Applications may be supported by a maximum of one A4 page of supporting information, but no photographs. The judges are nominated by The High Halstow Relief in Need Charity and the judges' decision will be final.

Rules & conditions

You may nominate anyone who lives, works or attends school in the village or makes a significant contribution to the village

A nominee may only be nominated for one category and in the event of a nominee receiving more than one nomination the judges will decide into which category he or she should be entered.

the more information you give us about the person and why they deserve an award the easier it will be for the judges to make a decision

The number of nominations will not affect the judges' decision **BUT** the quality of the supporting information will.

Illegible nominations will be discarded.

Nomination forms & supporting documents will not be returned.

The Judges may also present a special community award to anyone the feel has made a significant contribution our community.

<i>Junior</i>		
Educational effort/ courage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community involvement <input type="checkbox"/>
		Environmental care <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Adult</i>		
Caring neighbour / courage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community involvement <input type="checkbox"/>
		Environmental care <input type="checkbox"/>
Name, address & tel. no. of Nominator		
.....		
Name & address of Nominee		
.....		
Reason for Nomination		
.....		
.....		
.....		

Battle of Medway Anniversary Event

Medway will be welcoming visitors from far and wide in June, as the 350th anniversary of the Battle of Medway is commemorated through a fortnight of events, including spectacular displays, one off exhibitions and VIP visits.

The battle, in which the Dutch launched a daring assault on the English, has great national and international significance due to its momentous consequences impacting the British economy. The battle led to huge investment in new ships and dockyard facilities, laying the foundations of British supremacy at sea for the next 200 years and contributing to Britain's economic success and the growth of the empire. It also eventually led to the Dutch monarch becoming England's king after the Glorious Revolution.

Three-hundred-and-fifty years on, it's time to remember the epic events of June 1667, an often forgotten dark time in Medway's naval history, with a two-week extravaganza from 8-17 June, full of entertainment, history, and education.

Among the events will be a new Heritage Lottery funded Battle of Medway gallery at Upnor Castle, the very epicentre of the Battle, and a one off exhibition at the Historic Dockyard, Chatham which will explore the battle through contemporary accounts and items of significance borrowed from Dutch and UK national museums. The Command of the Oceans galleries, also at the Dockyard, will highlight the major investment in new ships and Dockyard facilities as a result of the battle.

The grand finale event on 17 June, called Medway in Flames, will be held at the battle site on the River Medway at Chatham overlooked by Upnor Castle and The Historic Dockyard, from which the English fired at Dutch vessels in a bid to stop the onslaught of their ships.

Visitors from far and wide are invited to enjoy the fortnight of events and what is set to be a magnificent, large scale finale event, reliving the action that dramatically brought the second Anglo-Dutch war to an end. Expect water screens, projections, characters, pyrotechnics, special effects, fireworks and much more.

The events in June will not only remember what happened, but also highlight the relationship and growing connections between the Dutch and English – from fire to friendship. The Dutch too will be celebrating the anniversary of The Battle of Medway, or Tocht naar Chatham as it's known in the Netherlands which translates as Journey to Chatham, during the week commencing 19 June.

All commemoration events in Medway have been organised by Medway Council and the Historic Dockyard, Chatham.

Richard Holdsworth, Preservation & Education Director at Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust said: "The events of June 1667 marked a significant moment in our national story and we are delighted at this opportunity to take part in the celebrations and display extraordinary objects from the period held in Dutch and British national collections.

"Visitors will also be able to enjoy our Command of the Oceans galleries telling the complete dockyard story from the period and the role it and the people of Chatham played during this and other important events in British and world history. It's going to be quite a year."

Easter Service Times

Palm Sunday 9th April

10:30am High Hastow,

11:00am Allhallows,

Good Friday 10th April

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

Easter Sunday 16th April

8:00am Easter Communion High Halstow

9:30am High Halstow, Family Communion

11:00am Allhallows, Family Communion

Dates for Diary

Every Tuesday:

King's Kitchen
10:00 Memorial Hall
Bell Ringers
19:30 St Margaret's Church

Every Thursday:

Sugar Babes
19:00 Memorial Hall

Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers
09:00 Memorial Hall
KLUK Martial Arts
09:30 Village Hall

Every Sunday:

Déjà Vu Spiritual Centre
18:30 Village Hall

Every other Monday:

Community Choir
20:00 St Margaret's Church

Every 3rd Wednesday:

Whist Club
14:00 Memorial Hall

Every 4th Wednesday:

Friendly Club
14:00 Memorial Hall

Other Dates:

Wednesday 5th: Women's Institute
19:30 Memorial Hall
Tuesday 11th: Gardening Club
20:00 Memorial Hall
Wednesday 12th: Parish Council
20:00 Memorial Hall
Sunday 15th: Family Service
09:30 St. Margaret's Church
Wednesday 19th: Whist Club
14:00 Memorial Hall
Friday 28th: Quiz Night
20:00 Memorial Hall

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

The Village Shop

Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm
Sunday 8am – 5pm
Telephone number: 01634 254561

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.

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



Based in High
Halstow
Contact Jade
07708 394979



Permanent Makeup is an advanced technique used to apply
coloured hypoallergenic pigments into the dermal layer of the
skin. The pigments are made from natural minerals making
enhancements look very natural that can last for years but will
fade over time.

Treatment areas:

Brows: Eyebrows frame the face, with the right shape & colour
brows it can make you look years younger

Eyes: It can be difficult to apply eyeliner correctly & make it
last all day. Define your eyes with eyeliner or lash
enhancement.

Lips: Define & enhance your lips with a gorgeous lip liner,
blush or full lip colour.

Book a free consultation to see how Permanent Makeup can
help you.

www.serenitypermanentmakeup.co.uk



High Halstow Pre-school

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

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

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

Open Weekdays, term time only
8.45 am - 3.30pm

Morning, lunch, afternoon and all day sessions available.

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

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

Ring 01634 255088

Learn

GUITAR

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

CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS AND DEALS AVAILABLE

HOME VISITS OR AT HOME STUDIO IN CHRISTMAS LANE

Call Matthew 07967 125091



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Christian Aid Week began 60 years ago to support the work the churches of Britain and Ireland were doing with refugees in Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War. Today, tens of millions of people across the globe are fleeing their homes because of war, conflict and disaster, making dangerous journeys in search of safety, in the biggest movement of people since that time.

The vast majority of today's refugees seek sanctuary in poor countries, but more than a million refugees have crossed into Europe. Many, like Nejebar from Afghanistan, have endured years of conflict.

The money you raise this Christian Aid Week could show a refugee like Nejebar that she's not alone, and help her feed her family



'Anything and everything in our country was a threat... the trees and the cars and the motorcycles. They were putting bombs in the trees and on the roads.'



**Volunteers will be collecting during
Christian Aid Week.**

Please support this worthy cause.

Thank You

Editor Required

The High Halstow Times is looking for a new editor. After 10 years in the role Carl has decided that it is time to hang-up his editors pen/keyboard and hand the task on.

The role requires someone with their own computer and internet connection who can spare approximately 4-6 hours per month to edit and layout the content for printing.

If you would like more information please contact Carl on 250911 or email editor@highhalstow.org.uk A full handover will be given and as much help as is needed.

HH Parish Council

High Halstow Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th April. This is the yearly meeting for all parishioners. Everybody is welcome, including representatives of village organisations, who will be able to report on their organisation's activities over the last 12 months. It would be helpful if reports could be in written format, for easier inclusion in the minutes and subsequent Annual Report included within the High Halstow Times. If your organisation will not be able to send a representative, please post or email your report in advance to the Clerk, so that your report can be read out at the meeting. We look forward to seeing you at the Memorial Hall on 12th April.

Dear HHT,

We have a wooden upright piano which is no longer used by anyone in our household and we would like to donate it to a member of the village, perhaps a beginner to get them started. All we ask is that the recipient collects, it is a very heavy item so a van or trailer would be necessary.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who is interested.

Mr and Mrs Hare
Cooling Road
01634 254486

Responsible Parking

It has been noticed that a number of vehicles around the village are either parking on the kerbs, causing obstruction to pedestrians and risking children crossing the road unseen between parked cars; or are parking on corners which is a danger to other road users. Please park with consideration to pedestrians and other road users.

Murder Mystery Evening



The Pink Heron Club

You are invited to join us in the Carribean for a 70's Hen and Stag night with a mysterious end...

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th June

High Halstow Recreation Hall

Doors open at 6:30pm

Seats by 7pm for 7:30pm Show

Tickets £10 to include 3-course meal

Licensed bar available

Tickets available from Wenda on 253169

Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair 01634 250286

e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk

Christine Watson, Vice Chair 01634 256529

Martin Andrews 07984 791029

Linda Atkinson 07825 619353

Ray Collins 01634 250105

Gary Jerreat 01634 253999

Bill Khatkar 07775 668620

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

Next edition May 2017; Contributions for April should be sent by 24th March to:

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