



# High Halstow TIMES



*Home of the Heron*

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June 2011

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## **Resume of the High Halstow Parish Council Meeting held on 11 May 2011**

The last meeting of the Parish Council was the first after the election and the first of the new Council. There are two new councillors – Christine (Chris) Watson and Josh Gordon, who were welcomed. They replace Martin Mitchell and John Callaghan, who stood down. There is still a vacancy and anyone interested in being co-opted should contact the Clerk, whose details are given elsewhere in the magazine.

George Crozer was elected Chairman for the year and Gary Thomas, Vice-chairman. After the committees and other representation was sorted out, the Council proceeded to usual business. The drainage ditch on the Recreation Ground is now finished, although we still have to have it “signed off” by the Drainage Authority. Its completion is probably responsible for the long period of dry weather we are experiencing – its effectiveness can't be tested until the next downpour.

The only planning application was a retrospective application for a road at Buckhole Farm. It was agreed to leave it to the Local Planning Authority to determine without comment from the Parish Council.

The Memorial Hall applied to the Parish Council for a grant towards the considerable costs they are facing to deal with the rotting sub floor. An initial £300 was granted. The Hall Committee are applying to other bodies for grants and they were asked to come back to the Parish Council when they are more sure of their fund raising efforts and of any shortfall.

A complaint had been made about litter near the fenced playpark. It was agreed to provide a litter bin. The area is litter picked daily from Monday to Friday by our street cleaners but they don't do it at weekends or bank holidays and we seem to have had rather a lot of 4 day weekends lately! However that is no excuse for people leaving litter behind. Please take your rubbish home with you.

Agreement was given for the Recreation Ground to be used on two occasions during the summer term by Medway Council for their Mini Youth Games (primary schools) cricket. This will be in conjunction with the Cricket Club and is the third year we have been asked to provide the facilities.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 8th June in the Memorial Hall at 8 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**DRAMARAMA: PUTTING ON THE GLITZ: Thursday 2nd - Saturday 4th June**

**FARMERS MARKET: Saturday 11th June, 9:30 - 11:00**

**GARDEN SAFARI: Sunday 12th June**

**RECTORY GARDEN PARTY: Saturday 2nd July**

## *High Halstow Walkers*

Our April walk was 6.5 miles around the way-marked Darnley Trail which takes a circuit from Shorne Country Park via the Darnley Mausoleum, an optional but very welcome stop for a pint at the Ship in Cobham and then back to Shorne around the edge of the new Jeskyns Country Park. Once more we were blessed with excellent weather.

The June walk will start at 10.00 on Sunday 12th from Shoreham to Otford taking a circular route of about 7 miles returning to Shoreham along the Darent Valley Path. Please park in the road opposite Shoreham Place in the road that leads from the A225 past Shoreham Station towards Shoreham village. This walk will be led by Linda Dobson. Please contact me if you need transport.

The following 3 walks will all be on the second Sunday in the month on:

10th July: Oare Marshes led by Alan Marshall

14th August: Kits Coty led by Michael Banner Martin

11th September: Cuckmere Valley and Seven Sisters led by Mitchell Dowsett

Full details in next Times. Your primary contact is Mitchell at [mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com](mailto:mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com) or 01634 254428

## *Farmers Market*

For June the Farmers Market in High Halstow is SATURDAY 11th JUNE

The regular stall holders with meat, bread, veg etc along with jewellery, cards, hand made pens, candles etc. The ever so popular meat raffle with a chance to win £30. If you wish to book a stall (£5.00 for a large table, £3.00 for two small tables) please ring Michelle on 254121 for a space. Doors open from 9.30. Why not come along and support the Village Hall refurbishment programme.

## *Village Hall*

Following the Annual General Meeting last month the Hall Committee can advise to the progress as follows:

There has been an issue with the Building Control regulations based on the materials that had been proposed to be used. Due to movement in the main wall we are unable to use the first choice of brick and as such a timber cladded frame will now be used. In addition with the new frame we will need to install a ventilation system. This has meant a change to the Planning Application and this will be resubmitted at the time of going to print. As with all planning applications there will be a consultation exercise but would hope this would not create any further delays. As this should resolve the issues raised by Medway Council we are also bringing together the documentation required to go out to tender for phase one of the work which is the main wall and roof refurbishment with a view if all being well that the work would commence in September. I appreciate that it is frustrating that the works have been delayed but hopefully you will see the work start shortly. If you have any queries why not come along to the Farmers market and ask the Committee who will be happy to answer.  
**G.Thomas (Hall Committee)**

## *Parish Councillor Vacancy*

There is currently a vacancy on the HH Parish Council, if you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk on the number below for further details.

### *Your Parish Councillors*

George Crozer, Chair	01634 250286
e.mail: <a href="mailto:george@highhalstow.org.uk">george@highhalstow.org.uk</a>	
Gary Thomas, Vice Chair	01634 252812
e.mail: <a href="mailto:gary.thomas@medway.gov.uk">gary.thomas@medway.gov.uk</a>	
Martin Andrews	07984 791029
Angela Bostock	07880 531641
Ray Collins	01634 250105
Josh Gordon	07779 735849
Lesley Munday	01634 250276
Christine Watson	01634 256529

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269

## *Getting Out and About*

Our May meeting is sometimes a little low on numbers as we debate the 'resolutions'. But this year we had a good number of members discussing the issues of Library Closures and Mega Farms. David Stephenson gave a fascinating talk on local history, and I suspect he may well be in next years programme. Following on from the farming debate there was an excellent day arranged by county on farming and organic foods. The NFU, veg boxes, dairy farming and farmers markets were all very good subjects bringing up a variety of issues. The walk with Rolf Williams from the RSPB was enjoyed by members, some husbands and friends. We were very impressed by Rolf's cuckoo call as was the cuckoo that responded.

Hollingbourne, what a lovely village. Our walk was led by the W.I.'s President's husband. He was very knowledgeable and his enthusiasm for the area very obvious. Nice lunch at the Sugarloaves pub and a game of darts rounded off a lovely day. We also won the darts! We intend to show them what High Halstow has to offer next year. The monthly W.I. lunch club was at Deangate which is always very enjoyable. The food and the setting is just right. Next month, on the 1st June, it's our 'birthday' meeting when we will be attempting English Country, International Folk and Line dancing. There will be nibbles and wine (which may help with the dancing). Members from other groups have been invited and it's usually an evening of fun and laughter. Interested to hear more about the W.I.? Then please ring 250677.

**Margaret Whitebread**

## *Memorial Hall Re-dedication*

What an afternoon. Sunday 22nd May saw the re-dedication of the Memorial Hall. Members of the committee had spent time baking cakes and generally making the hall look wonderful. All that was needed were people who could enjoy a cup of tea and an opportunity to meet old friends and make some new ones. I am delighted to report that every seat had a bum on it. We were all surprised, but thrilled, that so many people were willing to give up their time on a Sunday afternoon to come along and support this little hall.

In light of the amount of work needed to put right the drainage and floor problems in the hall it would be very easy for the current committee to give up and close the doors. We do not intend doing that as this hall is a vital part of village life, used by many people, young and old, from the village and beyond. We now forward to celebrating the 100th birthday of the hall in 2020.

The committee would like to thank everyone who came along and had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

## **STOP PRESS**

We've just heard that we have been awarded £5,000 from our application to Eon. This amount will go a long way towards the work we need to do to the floor. Unfortunately there will be some disruption to bookings in the hall whilst the work required is carried out but we will keep this down to an absolute minimum. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

**Memorial Hall Committee**

# THE GARDEN PARTY

**Saturday 2nd July  
12 noon onwards  
The best family day  
of the year**





## *Churchyard Project Morning*

I am sure that many of you will have noticed how long the grass has been in the churchyard. Sadly a component in the gear box of our mower broke and we have been unable to cut the grass for some weeks. The big problem has been that there is only a single world wide supplier of parts, and they are in the United States of America. The decision was made to have a cleanup day and with the help of Gary Thomas we advertised it in the village shop and on the village website. On the Saturday morning, the sun was shining and I went to the



churchyard hoping 5 or 6 people would come to help. I have never been so pleased to be wrong. At least 25 people of all ages from junior school children to senior citizens turned up bringing mowers, shears, rakes, strimmers and wheel barrows. Some made tea and refreshments while others mowed and some cleared up the grass cuttings. Everyone pulled together and did the most amazing job, transforming the churchyard in a matter of hours from a meadow into a park like



garden. There was a real community spirit with new friendships made and old acquaintances renewed, lots of fun and laughter and a sense of a job well done. To cap it all we were invited to enjoy the hospitality of the Red Dog by the landlord Lee who provided the thirsty workers with a free drink. In fact most of the people who came agreed it was such a good time we want to do it again. So if you are free on Saturday 18th June why not come and join us at 10am as we get together to trim the hedges, cut back the shrubs, and clear the brambles followed by a free BBQ lunch in the Rectory Garden afterwards. Once again a big thank you to all who were willing to come and help and contributed their time and efforts.



Rev Stephen Gwilt.

## High Halstow Cricket Club

### May 2011

The season is now well under way, with some notable successes on the field already. The U13's and U11 Herons have both reached their respective Medway District Cup finals, and the U15's have reached the semi-final of their cup competition. The finals are to be held in July. More details will follow next month. The U17's, who are mainly just over 15, also reached the semi-final of their competition before losing to Old Williamsons. Jake Barrett became the latest maiden centurion with 101 not out against Harvel in the first round. The U11 Egrets' cup run also ended in the semi-final. As I write, the colts league season is about to get under way and continues until early July.

The adult players have had rather a mixed start. The major event has been our withdrawal of the 4th XI from the Kent Regional League. This is due to the availability of players, exacerbated by the difficulty of getting a young team to venues all over the county. This is a situation we share with other clubs, which will surely lead to a rethink of the geographical structure of the league in the future. This has left the 3rd XI as the team to benefit from the vastly improved playing surface at Hoo School. Unfortunately their opponents have also enjoyed the pitches, as 3 defeats in their opening 3 matches shows. We always knew that this would be a difficult season for the team, but we remain optimistic that results will improve as more of our footballing members return for their summer exercise.

The 2nd XI are undefeated after 3 league games. Skipper Daren Brumbaugh has started the season well with 110 not out against Downham & Bellingham to add to his 100 against Minster in a pre-season friendly. Graham Franks has also been in the runs with 2 scores over 50 in 3 innings. It is pleasing to see former colts Jamie Kingsbrook and Jamie Taylor making significant early contributions with bat and ball.

The 1st XI, after a good initial win, batted poorly in their next 2 league games. This is a habit we need to get out of very soon. The players have the necessary skills but need to apply them consistently. No one has made a real mark yet, although Ashley Trigg, last year's leading scorer, has started well with both bat and ball. Captain Virendra Laxmanbhai ("Viru") has the team's top score of 67 not out, and despite his "retirement" in 2010 "young" Rupert Staple is back leading the attack. Only he and Stephen Laphorn are over 30 years of age which bodes well for the future – provided the lessons of the early season are learned.

Unfortunately, we fell at the first hurdle in this year's National Village Knockout competition. Stephen Laphorn carried his bat for 92 but Limpsfield Chart had little trouble in chasing the 201 needed to win. This was disappointing after our success in last year's competition, but there is always next year.

Finally, we are all delighted that Aaron Robertson has been selected for the Kent U15 squad and wish him well for the county season. Meanwhile Tyler and Clarke Dockwray from our U11s are making their mark at county level too.

David Laphorn  
Chairman

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## *High Halstow and District Gardening Club*

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE RE AN ERROR IN THE NEXT MEETING DATE**

Please note that the next meeting is on Tuesday 14 June NOT Tuesday 7th June as shown on the programme. Many apologies for the error on the programme. Chris Buckwell will be speaking on "Reminiscences of an Asylum Judge" which promises to be very interesting.

### **GARDEN SAFARI – SUNDAY 12 JUNE 12 noon – 4pm Do not miss this new event!**

The Garden Club are holding a GARDEN SAFARI on Sunday 12 June between 12 noon and 4pm to which members and guests are warmly invited. If you are not a member and wish to participate you may either join the Garden Club for £5 or ask a member if you may attend with them. The cost will be £2.50 per person and 12 lovely gardens in the High Halstow area will be open for you to visit in any order. Tickets may be purchased at the first garden you visit and should then be shown at subsequent gardens visited. Tea will be held at The Oast, Dux Court Farm from 3pm onwards. Garden Exhibitors will have the opportunity to see each other's gardens on Saturday 11 June at fixed times!

### **BRING and BUY SALE**

The Plant Bring and Buy Sale on Tuesday 12 May was as entertaining as ever due to our indomitable Auctioneer Mr Peter Tyler and his wonderful sense of humour. The sale made a profit of approximately £120 for club funds, so I would like to extend a big thank you to all those of you who attended and supported us so well.

### **OUTINGS**

We have enjoyed two highly successful outings this year so far, both taking place on days with lovely warm sunshine. The first was to the Columbia Road Market in London on Sunday 27 April, which was an amazing riot of colour and scent with all the trader's stalls filled with wonderful flowers and plants the whole way down both sides of the street. Members went home laden with bargain purchases including items such as olive trees, orchids and many other wonderful plants and flowers!

The second outing was to the National Trust Property of Polesden Lacey on Wednesday 27 April. We had an extensive guided tour of the gardens and were very lucky that the display of tulips down the long border was still excellent in spite of the hot weather. The formal rose gardens were beautiful. The house has a stunning interior; especially memorable was the drawing room resplendent with gold, chandeliers and fantastic furniture where the owner's entertained royalty, which had a real "wow" factor. Polesden Lacey was originally owned by the poet Sheridan and was then lived in by two further owners until purchased by Mrs Greville, a legendary Edwardian hostess, and her husband in 1906. The house was converted by Mewes and Davis, the architects of the newly built Ritz Hotel. Mrs Greville was most famous as a collector of royalties and her friendship with Edward VII (who thought her 'gift of hospitality' amounted to 'positive genius') inaugurated a lifelong devotion to the House of Windsor. She was especially fond of Queen Mary (consort of George V) and of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, part of whose honeymoon was spent at Polesden in 1923, and whom the childless Mrs Greville loved like a daughter.

The next outing is to the Royal Horticultural Society Garden of Hyde Hall in Essex on Sunday 26th June. This is followed on Sunday 17 July by a boat trip on the Thames from Gravesend to Southend and back on the Princess Pocohontas for a jolly day out at the seaside probably with lunch at a pub!

Gwen Bucknall Tel: 250456

**FARMERS MARKET  
SATURDAY 11th JUNE  
9:30AM – 11:00AM  
VILLAGE HALL**

## **High Halstow Mother & Toddler Group New Leader Needed**

Due to the Pre-School Leavers Trip taking place on Thursday 21st July, there will be no Mother & Toddler Group on this date. The final date for your calendars is therefore Thursday 14th July and this will be our Summer Picnic (weather permitting). Previously this was advertised as a face painting event, so I will ensure that face painting is included at the picnic along with plenty of other activities. This will take place on the Recreational Field between 10.00 - 12.00.

Also, it is sad to note that at this time, no one has stepped forward to volunteer their services in running the group once I leave in the summer. I have thoroughly enjoyed running the group and my children have both enjoyed attending - as I know many others have too. I would be more than happy to help the new manager with organising activities, but I simply cannot commit myself to being available every Thursday morning, as I am now. No hall bookings have been made past July and the group really will be closed down if no-one steps forward. This club has been running for many years, the children learn vital social skills and make friends, as do the parents. It's on your door step, its cheap and very worthwhile. In addition the up-keep of the Memorial Hall itself would be at a disadvantage if the weekly payments we provide were to end. This would be a terrible shame for the whole village not just the children.

Come on Mum's, the village needs you!

Marie Calvert - 253544

## **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. All requests are dealt with in complete confidence and there is no need to wait for the October form

The trustees are:

Rev. S. Gwilt	- The Rectory
Mrs L. Munday	- 22 Willowbank Drive
Mrs M. Bufford	- 34 Christmas Lane
Mrs D. West	- 14 Cooling Road
Mrs M. King	- 11 The Street
Mr J. Myatt	- Decoy Hill Road
Mr B. Prichard	- 9 Drayton Close



Count those croaks! Can you hear croaking, flapping, cheeping or snuffling in your garden? If so, we want to know about it! We're asking people to count their garden wildlife this summer. Our survey, Make Your Nature Count, takes place from 4-12 June 2011. We don't just want to hear about birds. Gardens are teeming with wildlife in June, so we want to know about other creatures such as badgers, snakes, bats and toads. You can get all the information you need at [www.rspb.org.uk/naturecount](http://www.rspb.org.uk/naturecount)



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### ***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. Items should be sent to [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk)

# Welcome

## to the Kent KeyLink Website

Kent KeyLink Ltd in partnership with Kent Police provide a vital service to help keep homes throughout the county of Kent safe.

### Exclusive summer offer for High Halstow Residents

#### Half price membership – only £10 for one year

Kent KeyLink would like to offer all Neighbourhood Watch members the opportunity to take a one year residential membership for half the standard price in our summer promotion\*.

**Peace of mind as Kent Police has 24-hour access to your keyholders' details.** Kent KeyLink provide homes in Kent with a dedicated keyholder data service in partnership with Kent Police, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

**Kent Police will have immediate and secure access to the information you have provided.** Kent KeyLink maintain the Kent Police Data Command System so that, in the unfortunate event that your premises are found to be insecure or damaged, Kent Police will contact your nominated keyholders and contact your nominated trade services should emergency repairs be needed.

We work in partnership with Kent Police. We are a not-for-profit company and any profit from subscription fees will be reinvested into crime prevention initiatives within Kent.

**Register now for just £10** (that's half the usual one year subscription) and join thousands of other Kent residents enjoying peace of mind.

Or complete a registration form below and post to us

\* Valid until 1st September 2011, for new customers only.





# Neighbourhood Watch Members Registration Form

## ½ Price Offer 1-year Residential Kent KeyLink membership

### 1. Full Postal Address:

**Property name/number**\_\_\_\_\_

**Street** \_\_\_\_\_

**Locality**\_\_\_\_\_

**Town**\_\_\_\_\_ **Postcode**\_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Contact details

**Full Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:**  
**Home** \_\_\_\_\_ **Work** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Next of Kin** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Authorised Key holders (in priority order)

Name	Daytime contact	Evening contact	Mobile
1			
2			
3			

#### 4. Additional security information

**Please include any information relevant to emergency personnel should they need to access your premises (do not include alarm codes)**

--

<b>Dates Premises unoccupied</b> (e.g.: away on holiday, business etc.)
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**Security at premises (please tick)**

<b>Intruder alarm: Yes / No</b>	<b>Guarding Company</b>
---------------------------------	-------------------------

**CCTV: (please tick)**

<b>Internal</b>	<b>External</b>	<b>Monitored</b>	<b>Recorded</b>
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#### 5. Preferred Call-out – Trade Services

Service	Company	24 hour Telephone
Glazier		
Boarding up		
Plumber		
Locksmith		
Other Please specify		

**Payment:**

**Kent KeyLink membership £10 only for Neighbourhood Watch members**

Please return completed application with a £10 cheque made payable to Kent KeyLink Ltd by 1st September 2011 to take advantage of our summer promotion.

Please return to:  
Kent KeyLink Ltd  
Kent Police Headquarters  
Sutton Road  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME15 9BZ

You can also visit our website on [www.kentkeylink.co.uk](http://www.kentkeylink.co.uk).

Please call 01622 652064 for more information or for alternative methods of payment.

**Declaration: I would like to apply for membership to the Kent KeyLink Scheme**

<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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## Medway Small Grants Programme 2011/2012

Need cash? Apply for a small grant

Voluntary and community groups operating in Medway are being invited to apply for cash for projects & initiatives that benefit people in Medway.

The Medway Small Grants Programme is open to groups whose activities benefit Medway residents.

Applications must be received by Friday 29th July 2011.

For further information please contact Tracy Stevens, on Tel: 01634 333185 or email: [tracy.stevens@medway.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.stevens@medway.gov.uk) or by post: Tracy Stevens, Voluntary Sector Co-ordinator, Social Care Commissioning and Welfare Benefits Team, Children and Adults - Learning and Caring Directorate, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR.

## THE RED DOG GOLF SOCIETY

**1st FRIDAY of EACH MONTH**



**Details available at The Red Dog**

### 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.

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](http://www.highhalstow.org.uk)



HIGH HALSTOW & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

### GARDEN SAFARI (FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS)

SUNDAY 12 JUNE 2011

TICKETS £2.50 EACH, TO BE BOUGHT AT THE 1<sup>ST</sup> GARDEN VISITED

GARDENS OPEN TO VISIT IN ANY ORDER BETWEEN 12 NOON & 4PM

TEA SERVED AT THE OAST, DUX COURT FARM FROM 3PM

#### OPEN GARDENS LISTED BELOW MAY BE VISITED IN ANY ORDER

Wendy and Michael White at 3 Halfmoon Way  
Christine and John Wilson at The Old Police House Christmas Lane  
Brian Elliott at 28 Northwood Avenue  
Margot and Philip Sturt at 32 Willowbank Drive  
Marjorie and Roy Ives at 30 Willowbank Drive  
Shirley and Trevor Jones at 26 Goodwood Close  
Rosemary Collins at 4 Cooling Road. Park at Church and walk down please.  
Marita and Jim Jones at 18 Cooling Road  
Sue and Peter Oserston at Dalham Farm, Cooling Road  
Alison and Michael Bucknall at Eastborough Bungalow, Cooling  
Vicky and John Hooper at Dux Court Farm, Dux Court Road  
Gwen and David Bucknall at The Oast, Dux Court Farm, Dux Court Road



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## Dates for Diary

Every Tuesday	
King's Kitchen	
10:00	Memorial Hall
Bell Ringers	
19:30	St Margaret's
Every Thursday	
Mother and Toddler's	
09.30	Memorial Hall
Sugar Babes	
19.00	Memorial Hall
Every Saturday	
Karmann Dancers	
09.00	Memorial Hall

## Other Dates

Wednesday 1st	Women's Institute
19.30	Memorial Hall
Thurs 2nd - Sat 4th	Dramarama
19:30	Village Hall
Friday 3rd	Youth Night
19:00	Memorial Hall
Wednesday 8th	Parish Council
20:00	Memorial Hall
Saturday 11th	Farmers Market
09:30	Village Hall
Sunday 12th	HH Walkers
See article for details	
Tuesday 14th	Gardening Club
20:00	Memorial Hall
Saturday 18th	Churchyard Project
10:00	Churchyard
Friday 24th	Quiz Night
20:00	Village Hall
Saturday 25th	HH School Fete
	Primary School
Saturday 25th	Pink Dog
17:00	Red Dog

## PROJECT 90

90 minutes spent improving  
the village

**There will be no Project 90  
in June due to the change of  
date for the Farmers Market.  
But please watch this space for  
details of the next date.**

# Learn Guitar

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For more information call Matthew on 07967125091  
or email mcrozer@me.com

## 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.**



# Sat 25th June

Event begins at 5pm

£5 per ticket if you wear pink

£10 per ticket if no pink clothing

Hog Roast

Event sponsored by the Red Dog

All takings being donated to Cancer research UK

The Band RUMBLEFISH performing from 6.30pm

Support the Girls 10km race for life 9th July

Auction starting at 8:30pm



For tickets or information contact Elise

tel: 07595870883

tel: 01634 253001

Sponsor the girls at [www.raceforlife.org/elisemankelow2805](http://www.raceforlife.org/elisemankelow2805)

# DRAMARAMA

**PROUDLY PRESENTS**

## Putting on the Glitz



Plus...  
Sketches  
Dances  
Laughs



**THURSDAY 2ND, FRIDAY 3RD, SATURDAY 4TH JUNE @ 7:30PM**

**TICKETS: £4.00 RECREATION HALL, HIGH HALSTOW**

**FRED & HAZEL (251135), NOLEEN (271026)**

**JOANNE (250911) OR WENDA (253169)**



Readers Letters continued..

**Dear HHT,**

I had the very great pleasure of attending the re-dedication of the Memorial Hall last Sunday 22 May, the service was carried out by the Rev Gwilt, (now much slimmer than when I last saw him). Meeting up with so many people I have known over the past 20+ years, including people who I helped the clubs with.

It was also nice to see one of the Medway councillors Phil Filmer and his wife Diane, but I was very disappointed that none of the current Hall trustees attended. There was a wonderful Birthday cake made by Ann Smith, who together with the help of Angela and Reena, put on a very nice spread.

The current committee have certainly done wonders in keeping the hall up to standard. I noted the Gents loo has had a make over, and the Ladies a new coat of paint, and the garden is looking the best I have seen it look for a very long time.

I understand there is now some quite major and costly work needed in the near future, and the committee are now working hard to raise the funds to achieve this, and I wish them well. Well done to all and I look forward to my next visit.

**Pat Hillman**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**HH PRIMARY SCHOOL FETE  
SATURDAY 25TH JUNE 2011,  
1PM TO 4PM.  
STALLS, GAMES, PRIZES  
AND MUCH MUCH MORE  
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON...**

**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

NB: Wednesday mornings at the Memorial Hall are now free for bookings.

**Dear HHT ,**

I have had a visit today from a representative from Medway Council who received a complaint from one of my neighbours who objects to the kite I have flying in my garden over my cherry tree. But rather than speak to me so that I am able to explain the reason for the kite (which is a purpose built kite in the shape of a large bird), and how long I intend to have the kite flying, my neighbour has reported the kite to the council. I have sympathy for the young man who came to see me who was most embarrassed to have to "view" the offending kite.

The kite is designed to deter birds without causing them any harm-which a net over the tree could do. We have nesting Collared doves and Blackbirds in our garden and they are unphased by the offending object-however it is successfully deterring most of the birds off from the cherry tree. Once the cherries reach a size when they are too large for the birds to swallow whole, the kite will come down as the pigeons and collared doves will not try to eat the fruit then. In a time of recession when our local authorities are required to make huge cut backs and staff are being made redundant, what a waste of time and precious resources for a member of the council staff to come out to look at a kite flying over my tree!

Apart from the wasted resources, I am mostly saddened that the people in question did not feel it appropriate to come to talk to me-surely this would have been the neighbourly thing to do. But really this is a rather silly thing to object to, this is a rural area, we are blessed with a rich and varied wildlife population and I am committed to promoting the welfare of this wildlife.

**Terry Aldrich  
The Street**

**FARMERS MARKET  
SATURDAY 11TH JUNE  
FRESH FRUIT & VEG,  
BREAD, MEAT, CAKES,  
GIFTS AND CRAFT  
9:30AM TO 11:00AM**

## Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

In response to Mr Goddings article last month, I was concerned about traffic speeds in the village and had a traffic survey carried out by Medway Council last November. The traffic survey should have run for a week but due to the snow, only picked up Monday to Friday of the week before the snow came. When the snow arrived no readings were recorded. A repeat request for speed monitoring was requested as I believe the speeds have increased again but have had the following response from Medway Council's spokesperson in charge of such schemes?

*"I regret that Medway Council cannot undertake another speed survey. If there is a local desire to fund works then I would be happy to provide technical advice on what measures may be possible, as we discussed when we met. Medway Council would need to agree to any such works, even if locally funded."*

*It will not be any consolation to you if I explain that your complaints are by no means unique as the same issues of speed, anti-social driving and fears of possible crashes are common-place across all of Medway. Requests like yours arrive here almost daily and, sadly, receive the same response from myself and my colleagues."*

David Allsop  
Christmas Lane

### ***Village Hall Committee***

The Village Hall Committee is looking for new members to join the committee and help decide the future of the hall. If you are interested then please contact Gary Thomas on 01634 252812

Dear HHT,

On several occasions, keen young people of primary school age have been seen using the cricket club nets, unsupervised. Some of them are members of our colts but others are not. The nets are the property of the club and are provided for the use of members only.

Injuries in cricket are few and far between, but this is largely because the use of facilities by young players is overseen by properly qualified coaches. For this reason, we cannot condone the unsupervised and unauthorised use of the nets by anyone, especially those under 15 years of age.

There are numerous opportunities each week for youngsters to practice their cricket skills under proper supervision at the club, and we ask parents to ensure that their budding Bothams make use of those opportunities. Please do not use the nets at any other time.

David Lapthorn  
Chairman HHCC

Dear HHT,

My husband Nigel suddenly passed away on 13th May. I would like to thank all my neighbours for being so supportive at such a difficult time for me. As I don't drive they have offered to take me places and have invited me round for a cuppa. Some have even offered to do my shopping for me. You don't realise how great people are, until something life changing is thrown at you.

Thanks again for all the support and comfort you have given me, it is much appreciated at this difficult time.

Angie Saunders,  
Harrison Drive

***Letters continued inside***

Next edition July 2011; Contributions for July should be sent by 20th June to:  
Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ  
or e.mail to [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk)