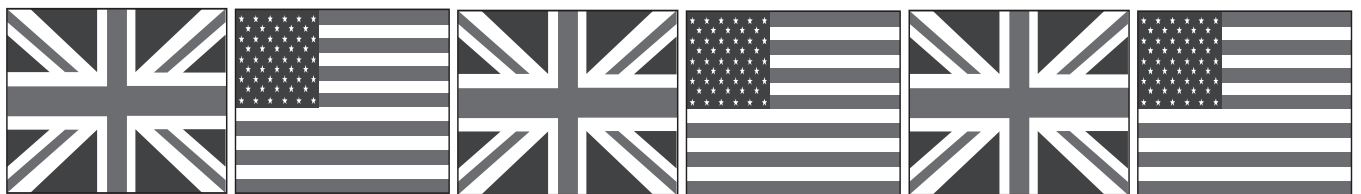


High Halstow TIMES



Home of the Heron

July 2009



The Garden Party is Coming 4th July 12:00 - 4:00pm

A special prize for the best stars and stripes costume

Bigger and better than ever before come and spend the day with us, bring your granny, your kids, your neighbour, your friend from work and don't forget to bring your money as there will be plenty to spend it on.

The Rectory, High Halstow



High Halstow W.I. Fashion Show

Thanks for a Fantastic Fashion Show

What a night, all the worries of staging a Fashion Show just melted away when 104 females, young and not so young arrived at the hall. Thanks to George and Jane Crozer for setting the stage and lighting. The Hall (in dim lights) looked great. A HUGE THANKYOU to all who supported it. Jo with her Sparkles stall and the 2 fashion ladies with an amazing amount of clothing set the scene. Seven members took the role of models, and how good they looked too. My only regret was that I forgot to take a camera. Boy, how the ladies spent money, I don't think they have heard about the recession!! Our treasurer had a smile on her face, and I couldn't stop grinning for 2 days due to the success of the evening. Our only problem is how do we follow it next year.

To other events. We ventured into Rochester twice, once for a guided walk along the new Rochester River Walk which looks really exciting followed by lunch of course. Our monthly lunch club returned enjoying the food of Simply Italian, followed by a stroll down the High Street.

Disaster at the District Quiz, we chose the wrong round to play our joker and blew it. Not to worry as it was a fun afternoon and it's always nice to meet up with other W.I.'s.

Two members attended an excellent Composting Workshop which filled them with enthusiasm to scurry home and sort the garbage.

Our 'birthday meeting' saw the return of Anne Hall a belly dancer who covered the American scene. Very colourful and very different to the Egyptian and Turkish styles that she has demonstrated before. Next meeting is on July 1st with Neil Arnold telling us all about the big cat sightings in Kent. Starts at 7:30 in the Memorial Hall, visitors welcome, just £1:50 on the door.

Margaret Whitebread

Mothers & Toddlers

We meet every Thursday (Term time only) 9am to 11am in the Memorial Hall. It is £1 for a parent and child (50p for each additional child). Under 6 months are free. Tea, coffee, squash & biscuits are provided.

We are a really friendly group, run by local Mothers. **Catherine Harvey 251380 / 07847 873 212**

Memorial Hall

PLEASE NOTE our AGM is on Tuesday 7th July, starting at 8pm. we would love to see you there, especially if you have any ideas for improvements, we would love to hear them.

During the past month we have freshened the inside of the Hall with a coat of paint, and the floor at the back has been repainted.

If you have any ideas for improvements please come to our AGM and let us know.

Pat Hillman

Tom Crozer

Tom Crozer of Deangate Ridge Golf Club shot an impressive 70 at the regional qualifying event for The Open Championship at Rochester and Cobham Park on Wednesday 24th June. He was joint top pro along side James Smith of Sundridge Park.

The next step of his journey to qualify for this years Open championship takes place on 6th and 7th July at The Gailes links course in Glasgow. There are three qualifying Glasgow courses and 96 players at each who are looking to gain one of the 4 places up for grabs at each venue.

Tom has had a good year so far having qualified as a full PGA professional and in May at his graduation ceremony he received a cheque from Sir Bobbie Charlton for coming 7th in the country in the PGA Assistant of the year awards. Head professional at Deangate Richard Fox was waiting at the 18th to congratulate Tom he said " Tom has played well and deserves to qualify. Now Tom has finished his studies he can concentrate on his game and who knows where it may lead." You can follow Tom's progress by logging on to www.opengolf.com and following the links to qualification



Off to University This Year ?

The High Halstow Relief in need charity has a limited number of small bursaries available to students going to University for the first time in the academic year 2009-2010.

The scheme is available only to students living in the parish of High Halstow at the time of application. Closing date is 30th August 2009, and applications received after that date will not be considered. In your letter of application please state your name, address, telephone number, the universities you have applied for and the length of your course. No appeal is available for unsuccessful applicants. Please apply in writing to, The Chairman, High Halstow Relief In Need Charity, The Rectory, 2 Cooling Road, High Halstow, Rochester, ME3 8SA.

Local Groups

Local group details are on the website but can I ask that secretaries check the details from time to time to ensure that these are up to date. Any changes required please let the editor know.

If your group doesn't put a report in the HHT then you are missing out on opportunities to let people know what you are doing and the chance to advertise for new members

Quiz Night

The July quiz is on Friday 31 - BUT please note there is NO Quiz nite in August, this is due to the Garden Club having their Annual Show.

Pat Hillman

MBE In Our Midst

Congratulations to Richard Holdsworth for his award of an MBE for his work at the Chatham Historic Dockyard. Richard, the Museum and Heritage Director has worked at the Dockyard for 24 years having joined from the Imperial War Museum.

Richard has been recognised for helping turn the site into one of Kent's most important heritage sites. Well done!



High Halstow Gardening Club

The club had an outing to Wisley on Saturday 20 June, and although there were some heavy clouds, it didn't rain, It was the best I have seen Wisley, a lot has been re designed and all the plants looked very good, there was a raffle on the way home, which made a good profit. We thank Dorothy for organising this trip which was well attended

Our ANNUAL SHOW is on **Saturday 29 August 2009**, this is an open show which means anyone can enter. You do not have to be a club member.

The Garden Judging will be done on Friday 17 July starting at 2pm. Please phone Wendy on 250092 to let her know if you would like your garden judged. **Pat Hillman**

Here is the chance to show just how good you really are at doing a BBQ. With some great prizes on offer, including a "ProBBQ XL20" from the USA, worth over £280, there is a real incentive to put your skills to the test. Have you got what it takes to be the best out door chef in the area ? Can you convince the top judges that yours is the best plate of BBQ food they have tasted? Are you man or woman enough for the challenge ? More details coming soon.

Due to unforeseen problems please note new date **Saturday 29nd August at the Rectory**

Over £500 worth of prizes ! Organised in conjunction with the **British BBQ Society.**

Contact Rev Stephen Gwilt for more info on 01634 250 637

Need to Hire a Hall

If you are interested in hiring either of the halls in the village for a a party, function or meeting please contact :

Memorial Hall - Pat Hillman 251064
Village Hall - Ann Smith 251914

TRAVEL PROBLEMS ?

For some, travel isn't the wonderful experience it is for others, for various reasons. Are any of the following holding you back from enjoying your holidays.

**Fear of Flying,
Jet Lag
Travellers Tummy,
Prickly Heat
Travel Sickness.**

All of these problems can be easily dealt with, with homeopathy, and many people who had given up travelling altogether, contact me each year for their holiday remedies enabling them to enjoy their travels again.

Homeopathic remedies are safe, natural and have no side effects whatsoever, in particular no drowsiness. They can be taken by young and old alike and also during pregnancy. They work swiftly (often within 10 mins) and effectively.

For more information contact:

Wanda Wright LCH MARH
5 Cooling Road, High Halstow.
Tel: 01634 252284
Email: bespokehomeopathy.co.uk

Farmers Market

Due to the Rectory Garden Party there is No Farmers market in July. The next one will be Saturday 1st August.

Entrance is free where local vegetables, bread, honey, flowers etc will be on sale.

Why not enter the raffle and win meat vouchers totalling £30. Meat raffle in June was won by Maureen Short. All proceeds go towards the refurbishment of the Village Hall

Join us for the Party
in the Garden
at

The Red Dog
Saturday 25th July

Live Music
From
GLIDE
(Gary Moxom's Band)

BBQ Picnic
Children Welcome
Tickets on Sale Now

Day trip to Bruges – Saturday 8 August 2009

£35.00 per person

Depart village hall at 6.30am for Folkestone to board Eurotunnel for France, then onto Bruges.

This is the capital of Western Flanders where canals carve their way through rows of ancient buildings, cobbled streets, ancient gates and bridges. Visit the lace and chocolate shops, or simply relax in one of the many pavement cafes. There will be time to explore this medieval city before returning to Calais to board the Eurotunnel. Arriving back at High Halstow at approx. 9.00pm.

You will need your passport.

To book please contact Margaret Church on 253709.

RSPB PRESENTS: JULY 2009

We've got something for everyone this summer. We've got birds yes, but we will also show the night sky, bring you open air music, offer you walks, picnics and so much more....

Live classical music in the orchard – Friday July 3, 7pm to 9.30pm

By popular request live music returns to RSPB's Northward Hill, played in the beautiful surrounds of our orchard. Local ensemble Darenth Diversion will be playing a number of classical and Broadway favourites. In addition to the musical entertainment, we will show you owls, moths and other nocturnal creatures!

RSPB Northward Hill (main car park), Medway; £8 non-members, £5 members and includes a glass of wine NB: *In the event of wet weather the concert will take place undercover*

Night walk: Owls and moths – Saturday July 18, 9pm onwards

Most of our visitors visit us by day. But have you ever wondered what you might see here at night? Well, we've got barn owls which are a real favourite. We've also got moths, and hundreds of them! Kent moth recorder Roger Kiddie will be bringing his moth traps and we will show you big ones, small ones, colourful ones and hairy ones! Not stopping there, our staff will help visitors hunt for other creatures that come out at night – including badgers, foxes and spiders!

RSPB Northward Hill, Medway (main car park), Medway; £4 non-members/kids

Kent Walking Festival comes to Cliffe – Saturday July 18, 10.30am – 12pm and 1pm – 2.30pm

As part of the Kent Walking Festival we are offering two guided walks around the spectacular Cliffe Pools reserve. The Pools are famous for the birdlife they support but they also hide a surprising amount of local history and legend. Come and find out more! Our walks coincide with the annual village fair so why not make it a fun day out?

Departing from St Helens Church, Cliffe, Medway; Free event

Ditch dipping for adults – Saturday 25 July, 10am – 1pm

We don't think ditch dipping should only be for kids. You may have seen this years Springwatch presenters sweeping ponds and ditches to see what lurks below the depths. Well on July 25, bring yourself and we'll provide you with all the equipment.

RSPB Northward Hill (main car park), Medway; £4 non-members, £2 members and kids

In August and September look out for: Live on the marshes music weekend (Aug 1-2), Cliffe Pools safari Day (Aug 5), Meteors and shooting stars (Aug 22), Wildlife and Countryside Fair (Sept 6)

To book a place or find out more call us on 01634 222480 or visit our website www.rspb.org.uk/northwardhillevents

Would you like to inspire people about the natural world?

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to chat to people and inspire them about wildlife, birds and nature at RSPB Cliffe Pools nature reserve. So, you would need to be comfortable and happy chatting to visitors, enjoy the outdoors, and have half a day a fortnight (weekends) to spare.

Does this sound like you?
If yes, we would love to hear from you!

RSPB Cliffe Pools, Medway, has just undergone a facelift. We need 'meet and greet' volunteers to walk the main visitor trails and chat to visitors. It is a great way to learn more about wildlife, the RSPB and enjoy the scenery. We will train you in everything you need to know before hand.

Contact Sally Jennings on 01634 222480/ sally.jennings@rspb.org.uk

Oboes in the orchard

Walking around RSPB Northward Hill you would rightly expect to hear hoots, chirps and tweets. But Bach and Broadway hits? Well on Friday July 3 RSPB is offering exactly that, a musical extravaganza in their cherry orchard.

The Darenth Division string trio will provide the music, playing classical favourites and Broadway numbers. The concert will start at 7pm and tickets cost £8 with a discount for RSPB members.

Damian Fleming who works for the RSPB says: "Last year we held a music event in the orchard and it was so successful we are doing it again this year. We are inviting visitors to come along and enjoy great music, beautiful surroundings and a glass of wine on the house".

RSPB Northward Hill have a further music event planned for the weekend of August 1 and 2, which will involve local bands and renowned opera singer Clare Graydon James. All this is part of a new programme of RSPB summer events, which will cover everything from owl spotting through to viewing asteroid displays.

Damian added: "This year we are exploring different ways of connecting people and nature. Listening to live music in the midst of trees and wildlife should provide a truly memorable experience".

For more information about any of these events and to book tickets please call 01634 22480 or visit www.rspb.org.uk/northwardhillevents

For further information and to arrange an interview, please contact:

Damian Fleming, RSPB North Kent, 01634 222480, damian.fleming@rspb.org.uk

May Smitherman

After delivering the High Halstow Times for over 40 years, May has finally decided to retire. In recognition and thanks for the many years May carried out this task, the Parish Council presented her with some flowers.

May's area covered Eden Road and we are now looking for a new person to take over the mantle for this road. If you are interested (we promise not to make you deliver for the next 40 years) please contact Ann Smith on 251914



History of the High Halstow Times

It seemed fitting with May Smitherman finally deciding to retire from delivering the HHT that information first provided by Margaret Bufford for the Parish Appraisal was put to print in respect of the beginning of the High Halstow Times

In 1966 it was thought it would be a good idea to have a village newssheet, so the High Halstow Times was born. It was very different in those days, just two sides of a single sheet of paper.

The first editor was Fred Osenton assisted by Peter Thompson, they found a Roneo Duplicator (believed it had been found in the roof space of the Village Hall). The machinery was old and printing could be a messy business. After printing it was taken to a distributor who made it up into bundles and then delivered it around the village to the many people who had volunteered to deliver it around the village (some things just never change)

Rachel Lapthorn was the next editor, and when Margaret Bufford took over from Rachel she was greatly assisted by Stephen Carey who did the printing for many years. Pat Scott then became the next editor.

When Margaret Church became editor it all changed. It increased in size and with the aid of the computer became more sophisticated. Kate Harvey was the next editor and when she moved this brought us to Lynne Duncombe. Finally we have the latest editor, Carl Mitchell, who is also responsible for printing the magazine which is now never less than four pages and has been as high as sixteen.

The High Halstow Times was originally funded by the Village hall Committee but this responsibility is now with the Parish Council.

Friendly Club

At our June meeting Margaret Church sang several 'evergreen' songs, and as the majority of the members know Margaret, (who doesn't), it was a lovely atmosphere,

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 22 July; **PLEASE NOTE** it is the 4th Wednesday not the last Wednesday of the month.

As Sheila and Judy are away, Margaret Bufford and Pat Carter very kindly came to give a hand, thank you both very much.

Pat Hillman

Queen B & The Redfords

- Don't Stop Me Now -
- Another One Bites The Dust -
- I Want To Break Free -

And many more of the other classic Queen and Freddie Mercury hits. It is with great pleasure that the Village Hall Committee can announce that the Queen Tribute Band 'Queen B' will be returning to the Village Hall on October 17th. Also appearing the same night will be The Redfords with their blend of classic greats and modern day hits. Listen to them at the theredfords.net

More details to follow shortly...

DRAMARAMA

Proudly Presents

Life is a Cabaret

Thursday 16th, Friday 17th
and Saturday 18th July

Come along and watch in amazement as Dramarama sing the songs, dance the dances and sketch the sketches!!

From Mamma Mia, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, 3 Little Fishes, BT 'ology, Robin Hood Morecambe and Wise style, Michael Jackson's Black or White and much much more

Tickets available from

Fred Beringer on 251135
Anita Russell on 271535

Village Hall

The latest with regard to the refurbishment programme is that an Asbestos Survey (Type 3) has been carried out. This is required prior to any works being carried out to the Hall. The Architect has shown two firms around to assist putting a price to the proposed improvements. We are now waiting for the results and the final plans so please watch this space. **Hall Committee**

Party in the Park

(Well in the Rectory garden anyway)

13-17 ? Bored on a Friday Night ?

Friday 10th July 7:30 - 10:00pm

This is just for you, a free BBQ, drinks, great music, some hot stuff to have a laugh with, learn some great dance moves and chill out with your mates in a safe place with no one to moan or nag you !



What more could you want ?

Tickets are £2 each and strictly ticket only and will **not** be available on the night. Bring a friend or two and let the summer begin !

Tickets are available from

High Halstow Post Office,
Hannah Gwilt or
The Rectory,

For more information contact Rev. Stephen Gwilt at 01634 250637

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

Readers Letters

Dear parents-Teenagers in the village

There is so many negative things said about young people and teenagers and how much trouble they cause that I thought it would be a nice change for a few positive words. Last month we held the first of a series of activities for young people between 13 – 16. We had 43 teenagers in the rectory Garden for a BBQ and open air party. As far as I can tell they all had a great time and are looking forward to the next one on July 10th. There wasn't a single incident where anyone had to be told off for doing something silly and all of them without exception were very polite and courteous. It was a real pleasure to host the evening and we look forward to providing more activities in the future

Rev Stephen Gwilt Rector

Dear HHT

Jogging can Be Bad For Your Health

I would like to thank the young lady, who was driving a black Ford in Christmas Lane on Sunday 14th June at about 09.30, for helping me to test my reflexes. I didn't know quite how sharp they were until she drove straight at me while I was jogging, forcing me to run comically up the grass verge to avoid being run over. I wish you the very best of luck in your driving test and suggest a bit more use of the middle pedal. **Lee Wilkinson**

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.

Dear HHT

Can I please ask people to be aware that when they are walking on farm land that they should be sticking to the recognised footpaths. Please also be aware that in some instances crop scarers are in use.

Name and Address Supplied

Village Play Park

Thanks to all that completed the questionnaire in respect of the above. The next phase is that consultants for Medway Council are now preparing plans to meet the requirements of the village.

Once the plans are drawn up it is likely that this will be on show to enable you to see them and comment prior to any changes to the Play Park. We will keep you informed as to when this will be when we know

The project is still on time with the scheme to be completed before the 31st March 2010.

High Halstow Parish Council

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

Call Kent Police on 01622 690690 to report any non-emergency crime

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

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

In this day and age I understand that individuals may hesitate to contact the Authorities for fear of reprisals: should this be the case please do not hesitate to contact me in confidence and I will act on your behalf

Martin Mitchell

HHPC Police Liaison 0753 1984169

Dates for Diary

Every Wednesday
Painting & Drawing for Beginners
10.00 Memorial Hall
Every Thursday
Mother and Toddler's
09.30 Memorial Hall
Sugar Babes
19.00 Memorial Hall
Every Saturday
Karmann Dancers Memorial Hall
09.00

Other Dates

Wednesday 1st Women's Institute
19.30 Memorial Hall
Saturday 4th Garden Party
12.00 Rectory Garden
Wednesday 8th Parish Council
20.00 Memorial Hall
Saturday 11th Project 90
08.30 Village Hall
Tuesday 14th Open House
12.15 Memorial Hall
Tuesday 14th Garden Club
20.00 Memorial Hall
Wednesday 22nd Friendly Club
14.00 Memorial Hall
Friday 31st Quiz Night
20.00 Memorial Hall

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
Ray Collins 01634 250105
Pat Hillman 01634 251064
Carl Mitchell 01634 250911
Martin Mitchell 07531 984169
Lesley Munday 01634 250276
Margaret Shuter 01634 251196

Your councillors may also be contacted
through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269

The Red Dog Forthcoming Events

Sunday 5th July Bingo
Everyone Welcome Eyes Down
7.30pm

Tuesday 7th July Cockney Night
Traditional Pie & Mash
6pm to 9.30pm

Saturday 11th July Soul Night
Fancy Dress Optional
Prizes for Best Dress

Saturday 25th July
Party in the Garden with Glide
(Gary Moxom's Band) playing live
BBQ
Ticket Only

Many Thanks to Everyone who
contributed to our Charity Day (Pink
Disco). We raised £310.00 for Breast
Cancer

PROJECT 90

**90 minutes spent improving
the village**

Saturday 11th July

8:30am Start at the Village Hall

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

HH Village Website

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

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

Contributions for August should be sent by 24th July to:
Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ
or e.mail to editor@highhalstow.org.uk