



High Halstow TIMES

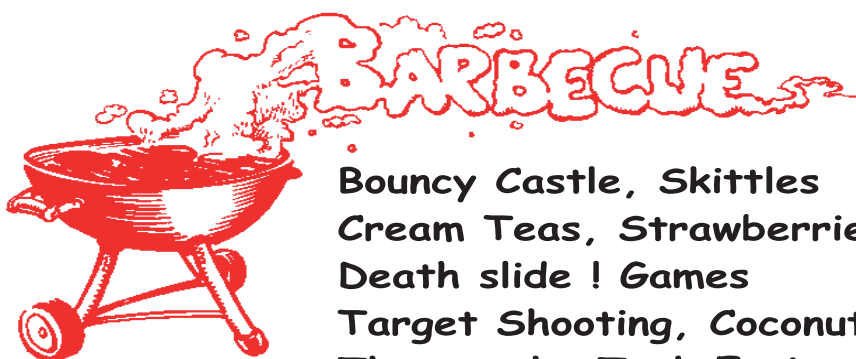
Home of the Heron



July 2012

The Garden Party 7th July 2012

From 12 noon in The Rectory Garden



Bouncy Castle, Skittles
Cream Teas, Strawberries
Death slide ! Games
Target Shooting, Coconut Shy
Thomas the Tank Engine
Books, Golf, Test your Strength
Face painting, hook a duck, live
concert, hoopla, and more and
more and more



Prizes for the best
Olympic fancy dress



The Water Slide is Back

So bring your costume

Skateboard Park

The Parish Council will be looking to make a decision at the SEPTEMBER Parish Council meeting as to what it may do in respect of the youth's request for a skateboard park.

The issues for the Parish Council will obviously be the cost and location. It is still not too late to have your say either by letting the editor have your comments

(editor@highhalstow.org.uk) or

adding to the growing comments on the website at

<http://highhalstow.org.uk/blog/skateboard-park>



HH Parish Council

All Weather Path

Recreation Ground to Ruggles Close

You may recall that in the Budget for 2012/13 a provision has been set aside for works to be carried out for an All Weather Path to try and resolve the drainage issues in particular to the entrance to the alley from the recreation ground leading to Ruggles Close.

To keep you informed of where we are with this issue, we are working with Medway Council in seeking grant funding to try and move this forward. We will keep you informed when more details are available.

HH Parish Council

Amazing Magic

Did you see our stall at the "Party in the Park" on June 4th? We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves selling cakes, telling people about our WI and handing out sweets, balloons and flags. It was a pleasure taking part in such a well-run and happy Jubilee celebration.

Amazing would be the word to describe the magician Marc Lemezma, he entertained us at our birthday party with a selection of magic tricks as well as giving us an insight into the history of magic.

A step back in time. A party of fifteen members visited the Walpole Bay Hotel, Cliftonville for a cream tea. It was like taking part in an Agatha Christie novel with Silver Service and waitresses in black and white uniforms. The Hotel is known as a Living Museum furnished with objects from bygone days. It had a certain magic and nostalgia about it. We had unexpected entertainment from a local choir from Rochester, the Jasper Singers, and characters arrived from the Dickens Festival at Broadstairs (in full Victorian dress).

Marks and Spencers will be bringing us Exotic Foods for our July meeting. Visitors are always welcome.

**Val Osenton
President**

Memorial Hall AGM

The AGM for the Memorial Hall is on Monday 2nd July at 7:30pm, anyone who uses the hall or has any questions are welcome to attend.

Memorial Hall Committee

Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair 01634 250286

e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk

Gary Thomas, Vice Chair 01634 252812

e.mail: gary@highhalstow.org.uk

Martin Andrews 07984 791029

Ray Collins 01634 250105

Stuart Bailey 01634 255537

Josh Gordon 07753 212179

Gary Jerreat 01634 253999

Lesley Munday 01634 250276

Christine Watson 01634 256529

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269



Bring your best teddy bear or cuddly toy, a blanket and picnic and bring it along to the Rectory Garden at High Halstow for a great fun filled afternoon. With free Tractor rides, bouncy castle, water slide and games galore as well as songs and puppets.

Sunday 15th July pm 1-3:00pm

For more information call Rev. Stephen Gwilt on 250637 or email stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

Village Shop

Please note that until the end of August the shop opening times will be as follows:

Monday to Saturday 7am - 8pm

Sunday 8am - 4pm

(Now open for an extra Two Hours)

Tel: 01634 254561

Thank you for your continued support

Bob



The Bakery Maid is a new Local Business that makes Cupcakes, Loaf Cakes, Cookies & Much More.

Cakes can be made for Special Occasions, weddings, Birthdays or an afternoon treat.

For more information or orders please contact the Bakery Maid:

Email - thebakery@yahoo.co.uk

Mobile - 07875021079

Follow us on Facebook - **The Bakery Maid**

The Village Store in High Halstow Currently Stock the Bakery Maid Cakes.

Improvements to Bus Service

There will be changes to some bus services in Medway starting from Sunday 17 June with some additional evening services being provided.

These include a new hourly service on Arriva Service 191 between Chatham and Hoo, and an increase in frequency on Arriva Service 145 in the evenings from every 90 minutes to every 40 minutes.

The evening Arriva 167 service to Lordswood will be renumbered 702 and combined with the existing Arriva 701 will provide a half hourly service between Chatham and Luton, Lordswood, Princes Avenue and Wayfield.

There will also be more buses serving MidKent College in Gillingham, including three Arriva 101 buses, an Arriva 136 from Gravesend, and an Arriva 191 morning service from Grain.

Extra buses on the Arriva 100 service will run during early mornings from St Mary's Island to Chatham. There will be some minor changes to the timings of Arriva services 132, 133, 140/141, 176, 181, and 796 Nu-Venture

Sunday Service 170 will no longer operate via Strood, Canal Road, Medway City Estate and Medway Tunnel and will instead be renumbered 151 and run via Strood and Rochester and provide an improved service to Medway Valley Park.

Full details are available on www.medway.gov.uk/buses or by calling Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.

Passengers can also text the codes shown on bus stop signs to 84268 to find out when their next bus is due to arrive.

Project 90

Next Project 90 will be Saturday 14th July

Are there other ideas you would like to see happen, if so please let the Parish Council know and we will see what is possible

If you can spare 90 minutes once a month please come along to the Village Hall Car Park at 8.30. When finished a cup of tea and cake available.

Resume of the High Halstow Parish Council Meeting

9th May 2012

The May meeting of the Parish Council was the annual meeting when the Chairman is elected for the year and membership of the committees and other roles are assigned. George Crozer was duly elected Chairman, with Gary Thomas as his Vice-chairman. So it's No Change for the next year.

It had been hoped that Medway's Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture (which embraces Planning) could have attended to answer questions about the proposed Lodge Hill development at Chattenden. This however wasn't possible and Brian McCutcheon, a senior planning officer, will attend the meeting on 11th July. Following this meeting, the Parish Council will have to submit its final response to the consultation about the Lodge Hill development.

As I write, we're still waiting to hear about the Sport England application for the outdoor gym. We've got our fingers crossed we'll be successful this time. The toddler (under 5s) equipment for the fenced playpark has been ordered. There were further discussions about some sort of skateboard facility, but perceptions of what this means vary and a suitable site remains to be found – if indeed it's decided to proceed further with this idea.

Taylor Wimpey, who are still owners of parts of the Wilcon estate, will be putting in hand repairs to the fence behind Topley Drive.

The monthly surgeries are proving popular and worthwhile. Councillors are in attendance at the Farmers Market and attend King's Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on the second Tuesday of the month.

The Government's consultation document on airports still hasn't been issued. Latest rumours are that it might be September and may be split into developing existing airports and a new airport. Following the expansion of Southend airport and Easyjet flights, residents have noticed more low flying aircraft. If you have an iPhone or similar, George has discovered an app that lets you find out the height of an overflying plane at the time. He measured one such, but found it was twice the minimum permissible height (750 ft) and was at 1,500 ft.

Finally, a big 'Thank You' to the organising committee and all those who helped make the Diamond Jubilee Party in the Park such a success, especially Cllr Josh Gordon, who led the event on behalf of the Parish Council. For those of us who can remember the Coronation (just!), Silver Jubilee and Golden Jubilee and who might have been a bit blasé about the whole thing, it was amazing that our youngest councillor threw himself into the task with such enthusiasm. Many thanks.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th July at 8 pm in the Memorial Hall.

High Halstow Farmers Market

There will be no market this month due to commitments at the Rectory Garden Party. The next market will be on Saturday 4th August. Watch this space for more details. Have you considered using this event to raise money for your group. For a stall please contact Michelle on 254121.



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High Halstow and District Gardening Club

The High Halstow village community united to enjoy the Diamond Jubilee Festivities on the Recreation Ground on Monday 4th June which was a brilliant event. The Garden Club ran three stalls principally to appeal to children. The creation of a vegetable monster proved to be very popular with the children and we had at least 50 entries. Marj Ives managed to obtain free boxes of out of date fruit and vegetables from her wholesaler for the children to use. The prize for the scariest monster was won by Jake Jolly, but it was extremely hard to choose as they were all so scary! The innovative Vegetable Lucky Dip with cash prizes was created by our Treasurer, Margot Sturt and sold out rapidly, paying for itself. Our enterprising Show Secretaries, Ingrid Dalton Brown and George Tharby, germinated sunflower seeds in pots and gave them away to the children. The objective is for the children to grow the plants on and bring them back to the Annual Summer Show on Sunday 26th August where the tallest sunflower will win a prize, so I hope they are being nurtured and we look forward to seeing the end result at the Show! We also hope to see some paintings of the Olympics entered by children.

A Hog Roast was held at The Oast on Sunday 17th June and amazingly it was a lovely warm, sunny day, so we had a fabulous event and everyone enjoyed sitting outside in the garden in the sun. The hog roast smelt delicious whilst it slowly cooked on the rotisserie and the meat was succulent and tasty. This was followed by a diverse range of wonderful deserts made by the hard working committee members. The weight of the hog was won by Rosemary Joyce who won a large leg joint of pork! Margaret Shuter ran a very successful raffle and the first prize of two tickets for the Hampton Court Flower Show (which were re-raffled from the AGM as the winners were unable to go) was won by Jim and Marita Jones. Many other excellent prizes were also won, including three large leg joints of pork, bottles of wine, whisky and beer.

On **Sunday 8th July** we sail on the Princess Pocahontas from Gravesend to Southend and back and will meet in the St. George's car park in Gravesend at 10am. The cost is £20 which includes the return train fare along the pier! We are able to take a large number of people on the boat and it promises to be a fun day out, so if you are interested in coming on the trip please contact Gwen Bucknall on 250456.

On **Sunday 15th July at 3pm** we are holding a cream tea in the garden of Marj Ives bungalow at 11, Goodwood Close. There will be tea, scones and jam and cream, strawberries and cream and a glass of Pimms. Please do come and support this event; the cost will be £5 which will go towards raising funds to allow the Garden Club to purchase a laptop, computer projector and screen. If members and friends would like to attend, please contact Marj Ives on 255398.

The Annual Summer Show is on **Sunday 26th August** in the Recreation Hall at High Halstow. Both members and non-members may exhibit their produce. Benching of exhibits is between 9.30am to 11.20am and the show is open to the public at 3pm. We hope to see you there!

Gwen Bucknall




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

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- ✓ Excellent Links with Primary School
- ✓ Friendly, Qualified Staff
- ✓ Affordable Childcare

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8.45 am - 3.30pm

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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

Take On Take That

The event at the end of May unfortunately made a loss, which was disappointing as the band was extremely good. They were so good that we have booked them again for 9th November as nearly all those who came said they wanted them back again and were confident of helping to sell the additional tickets to turn the next time into a profit. Again the ticket prices will be £12.50 and will be available from Gary Thomas (07809 287128) Wenda (253169) or The Village Shop.

Diamond Jubilee

What a day!! The Hall Committee would like to echo the comments of the Parish Council to all the people who made the day the success it was. There were some thirty stall holders with some being for the benefit of the Hall, which enabled the Hall to raise nearly £1500. Thank you to all of you helping and/or supporting the various activities.

Fund Raising

The Committee is still on target to achieve the funding required for Phase Two of the refurbishment programme with the total now standing at £154,475. We are looking to achieve our target by Christmas and are awaiting an outcome of a further £50,000, which is due to be announced over the next few months.

As said before the second phase will include new Doctors Surgery facilities, improved toilets (including provision for disabled facilities, new kitchen area, rewiring, new plumbing and heating.

Farmers Market

With the Garden Party being the first Saturday in July then the next Farmers Market will be on 4th August. More details in next months HHT.

Accounts

The Committee have agreed that the accounts will be published on the Village website and these can be viewed by going to www.highhalstow.org.uk/halls

Programme of Events Up To the end of December

- i. Farmers Market 4th August
- ii. Farmers Market 1st September
- iii. Nicky Moore 22nd September (full details in August HHT)
- iv. Farmers Market 6th October
- v. Farmers Market 3rd November (Incorporating Time & Tides Exhibition – more details to follow)
- vi. Take On Take That 9th November
- vii. Church Christmas Market 10th November
- viii. Farmers Market 1st December
- ix. Christmas Tree Festival 8th December (full details in August HHT)

Please help support the hall, by attending as many of the events as possible. Many Thanks

Gary Thomas
Village Hall Chairman

Take on Take That



High Halstow Village Hall
Friday 9th November
Doors open at 7:30pm
Fully Licensed Bar

Tickets £12.50
from Gary on 07809 287128
Wenda 253169 or
The Village Shop

Thanks to everyone that faced the elements on Sunday 3rd June and came along to join us for our special 'Jubilee Tea'.

One lady came all the way from Rochester all on her own, but she had a chat and a nice tea before going to get her bus back to Rochester.

We had quite a range of ages join us from 7 months to late 80's. Our special Jubilee Crown Cake was won by Luke Baker and he was pleased to share it with his mum, dad and brother.

At the end we had some beautiful cakes left and strawberries, so we drove around the village and gave them to children (with parents consent), and I have since used the strawberries to make jam for our 'MacMillan Coffee Morning' at the end of September.

I would like to give a very big 'Thank You' to all the ladies and Mike that helped me, both on the day and with all the planning before.
Rena, Angie, Sharon, Wendy, Linda and Jeanette.

Thanks again

Ann



Come and join us for a cake & a coffee while the toddlers play!

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to make new friends.**

**Babies to 4 year olds,
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**For more details,
call Natacha
on 254178**

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High Halstow Village Hall
Mon 7.00pm

Cliffe Scouts Hut
Mon 8.30pm + Thurs 7.30pm

Cliffe Memorial Hall
Wed 9.30am

Cliffe Woods Community Centre
Weds 8.30pm

Classes £5

Any further info please contact 07746 082 182

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Diamond Jubilee

Contingency plans made in the event of bad weather were fortunately not needed as the Jubilee in the Park day arrived. 220 children arrived to start the event with a tea party. Organised by Jo Mitchell and her army of helpers, all were seated fed and watered and the party well and truly began.

The entertainment from the professionals of today and amateurs today but no doubt some professionals of tomorrow kept the crowd entertained with a mixture of song and dance. What a lucky Village we are to have so many talented people in our midst.

The games went down well and Debbie Pike ensured that the Welly Throwing competition was taken seriously with the winners being announced at the end of the day following measurements down to the nearest mm.



A variety of stallholders catered for all generations and ensured this was an event that could be enjoyed by everyone within the Village whatever the age.

With the tea room in the Hall, cake stalls and the bar, the audience were never without refreshments. (Except for running out of Pimms so early in the proceedings).



It was great to see John Pink lighting the Beacon with the torch flown in specially on Concorde from the Montreal Games and the stress lines appearing on Dave Harris's face as he informed us he was normally responsible for putting fires out and not starting them.

Thank you to all the people who made this so successful, I cannot name you all as there are so many of you. Also a big thank you to all the people who loaned items; be it the tables and chairs from the School, Memorial Hall and Rectory, to the Gazebo's and the Beacon from the Fenn Bell (it will be back with you soon) .

More pictures can be viewed of the event at www.highhalstow.org.uk/blog/jubilee-pictures and following the instructions there.

What shall we do next year?



High Halstow Hikers

We were very fortunate on our June walk to pick one of the few fine days over the recent weeks. From All Saints Church in Wouldham our group of 22 walked northwards along the bank of the Medway for a mile or so, then took the footpath eastwards across the fields up to the North Downs Way which we walked as far as the Robin Hood pub. From there we dropped down to Burham with most pausing for an excellent pint at the Toastmasters before returning to the cars via Wouldham Marshes - overall around 7 miles.

On Sunday 8th July we will do a circular walk from High Halstow via St Mary's Hoo to Egypt Bay. We will start at 10.00am from the village hall car park. The walk is mainly flat other than the decent from St Mary's and return from Decoy which can be strenuous towards the end of the about 8 mile walk. Something to drink is important particularly if the day is warm as there are not a lot of pubs or coffee shops at Egypt Bay!

Other walks for the year will be as below with further details to follow in future HH Times:

12th August, Reculver

9th September, to be decided

14th October, Cliffe Fort and Lakes

11th November, Knowle Park and Greensands Way

16th December, Local pre-Christmas walk.

For further details please contact Mitchell at mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com or on 01634 254428.

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PROJECT 90

**90 minutes spent improving
the village**

**The next Project 90 will be
Saturday 14th July
8:30am - 10:00am**

Village Hall Car Park

Local History and Family Research Group

Interested in taking part in a local history research group, perhaps including family genealogical research? Although we are a small village, High Halstow has existed since Saxon times and in some way been touched by some great events and people. The Time and Tides project is going ahead and memories of our more immediate past can be even more interesting. If you would like to know more or are just casually curious about the subject, either young or old, please let me know and perhaps a village meeting could be arranged discuss it further.

Dave Stephenson.

dennydave@talktalk.net

01634 252016

Elvis Charity Tribute Night 7th July 2012

Starts at 7.30pm till
12pm at the Hoo Institute
Club, Hoo, Main Rd.
Tickets are £10 per
person, this includes
tribute and disco till late.
At a charge there will be
a Portrait Photographer,
Raffle and Seafood stall.

All proceeds are donated to Wisdom
Hospice.

For tickets contact Leanne Eastwood:
07930 684113



Church for Sale?



Most people like the idea of the typical English village scene with the ancient church and pub in the centre. Almost a quarter of the Christmas cards I got this year had a picture of a rural church covered in snow on them. However behind the romantic idyllic picture is a harsh financial reality. The church is not immune from the growing financial pressures of the world. The reality is that simply for the church building to remain standing and in good condition, as a monument to the village's past, costs approximately £150 a week, even if it is never used for services.

Now that may seem like a strange thing to say, but there needs to be a huge distinction between the church and the church building. The church is a family and the church building is the family home.

But of course it is much more than just a home. It is

also a community building, a place where the whole village community celebrates key events in the lives of the village and its individuals. Many people see the church building as almost a touchstone of their own families' past, as several generations have been baptised, married and buried here. The problem arises from the fact that realistically the church cannot continue to afford its family home. It isn't just the £150 a week maintenance. The building no longer meets the needs of a 21st Century church or community. It is cold and almost impossible to heat effectively. The requirements and expectations of modern life cannot be met in its present condition. Meeting in a cold barn-sized building with no facilities or toilets is not comfortable and for many simply impossible.

The problem has been made considerably worse by a number of thefts of lead and lightning conductors, so much so that this year the church has made an operating loss of close to £15,000. The insurance company does not pay the full cost of repairs. Despite what many people think the local parish church has only one source of income and that is from the collections and donations of church members, which means that a very small number of people pay for and provide the use of a building that many people in our village consider part of the very fabric of the community.

This cannot continue. Unless we can increase our income dramatically and soon, there may not be an open church building this time next year. A proposal is being put forward to set up a Friends of St Margaret's Church. We are looking to see if there are other people out there who would be interested in forming a Friends of St Margaret's. I have attached below a copy of what I believe the Friends of St Margaret's would be about and a draft constitution. In next month's HHT we will be publishing details of a meeting for those wishing to attend to help make this a reality but would also like to hear from people before hand with their comments.

Please pass comments to the editor as usual or you can go to www.highhalstow.org.uk/friends-of-st-margarets and add your comments there.

Rev Stephen Gwilt on 250637

About the Friends of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow

"The aim of the Friends is to support the PCC in maintaining the fabric and furnishings of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow"

The aim of the Friends of St. Margaret's Church, High Halstow, is to promote wide interest in the care and preservation of St Margaret's Church and its history, to provide a focus of support for it and to support the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in maintaining the fabric and furnishings of the building.

It is recognised that many people see the Church in the community as an integral part of their environment, even if they do not attend services on a regular basis. Some can attend services only occasionally; others

were baptised or married here; others are visitors or local residents who simply have an affection for the church which has been here for hundreds of years.

Please join us and help to ensure that future generations can continue to use and enjoy this lovely church.

Friends of St. Margaret's

Friend's Of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow

Constitution

Our Purpose

Is to promote or assist in the maintenance and upkeep of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow for the benefit of all who value this ancient church.

Our Aims

1. To promote wide interest in the care and preservation of St Margaret's Church and its history and to provide a focus of support for it.
2. To raise additional funds for the maintenance of its fabric, interior decorations and furnishings so as to assist the Parochial Church Council, when the committee considers it appropriate. (The Church Council continues to be responsible for the Church and all the works done upon and within it.)
3. To invite, promote and receive donations and contributions in pursuit of these aims.
4. To ensure fund raising is carried out in harmony with the ethos of the Church

Our Rules

1. The name of the society shall be "Friends of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow".
2. Membership of Friends of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow shall be open to anyone interested in the objects of the Friends and who has paid the annual member's subscription, (which shall be agreed at the Annual Meeting).
3. The affairs of Friends of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow shall be managed by a Committee of no more than 7 members as appointed at the Annual Meeting
4. The Committee shall comprise of
 - a) 2 representatives from the PCC
 - b) 1 Parish Council representative
 - c) 4 other members of the Friends of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow
5. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within two months of the end of the financial year of the Society. (The financial year shall end on 31st March each year) and shall:
 - a) Appoint the Committee for the forthcoming year;
 - b) Receive the audited accounts for the previous year;
 - c) Consider recommendations from the Committee regarding the use of any funds held;
 - d) Consider other matters which might further the aims of the Friends.
6. The Committee shall:
 - a) Meet at least ? times each year;
 - b) Arrange for the publication of a twice yearly Friends Newsletter;
 - c) Consult with the Church Council and advise the Annual Meeting of Friends regarding the needs of the Church;
 - d) Consider possible fund raising activities;
 - e) Consider other matters which might further the aims of the Friends.
7. The Committee at its first meeting after the Annual Meeting;
A bank account shall be opened in the name of "Friends of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow" and controlled by any two signatories, drawn from the members of the committee all of whom are authorised to act.
8. Any funds held by the Friends shall be used for the fabric of the Church in accordance with Item 2 of Our Aims above and shall be donated through the Parochial Church Council.
9. The rules may be amended by two thirds majority of the members present at the Annual General Meeting, provided that 21 days notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members.
10. In the event of the dissolution of the Friends any monies held shall be passed to the Parochial Church Council of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow.

An Introduction to Asbestos Disease Compensation Claims

Until the early 1980s asbestos was widely used in many industries because of its fire resistant properties.

Exposure to sub-microscopic asbestos fibres can lead to various conditions, especially if the more hazardous blue or brown asbestos is inhaled. Frequently these conditions do not develop until 20 years or more after the asbestos exposure. The most serious are mesothelioma and lung cancer which have fatal consequences. Then there are non-cancerous conditions of asbestosis, diffuse pleural thickening and pleural plaques. These present in different ways. In some cases they are symptomless. In others the symptoms are serious and disabling.

North Kent is regarded as an asbestos disease "hotspot" due to the historical presence of Chatham Docks, power stations, paper mills and other heavy industries. Also, asbestos products were manufactured at British Uralite in Lower Higham.

Generally, the workers most frequently exposed to asbestos included:

- Shipyard workers;
- Plumbers and gasfitters;
- Ladders and thermal insulation engineers
- Building trades, including carpenters, decorators and electricians;
- Building surveyors;
- Asbestos manufacturers;
- Those washing asbestos contaminated work clothes.

Compensation claims can be made for asbestos related diseases (not pleural plaques) caused by industrial exposure from the 1960s or even the 1950s onwards. Even if the employer is now out of business you may still be able to trace the insurers (for example, via the Employer Liability Tracing Office). Following a case involving Cape Plc in April this year, it is also possible to sue the parent company where the subsidiary company has ceased to exist. There is even a possible route to compensation from US asbestos producers where US asbestos was used, for example in certain ships or power stations.

Sadly the nature of asbestos illness means the sufferer may well die before a compensation claim is thought about. However a claim can still be made on behalf of a person who has died, by his estate. So if someone in your family has died from a fatal disease like mesothelioma there can still be a claim for compensation. It should be noted compensation is not automatic. There is a requirement of fault on the part of the employer. However it is often possible to show an employer was not taking effective precautions and knew or ought to have known about the risks from exposure.

As well as making a personal injury claim for asbestos diseases, you may be able to obtain state benefits such as Industrial Disablement Benefit or a lump sum under the Pneumoconiosis (Workers Compensation) Act 1979.

If you have been diagnosed with an asbestos related disease (asbestosis, mesothelioma, pleural thickening or asbestos lung cancer) as a result of harmful exposure to asbestos, you may be able to claim compensation. We offer free consultation, no charge for our time pursuing a claim win or lose and a guarantee that you will keep 100% of your compensation. For an informal, no obligation discussion on whether or not you may have a claim please contact Jeremy Horton (Partner and head of Personal Injury at Brachers) on 01622 680415 or email jeremyhorton@brachers.co.uk. For more details, including case studies of how Brachers has assisted clients with asbestos related disease claims, please visit www.brachers.co.uk.

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Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors

One or two of your Parish Councillors will be at
Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday
10th June 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 problem there and then
we will get back to you.

High Halstow Parish Council.



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Anim-Mates New Website

Anim-Mates has just given its website a new look and if you click www.anim-mates.org.uk you'll be there in a flash. We are very keen to get views and feedback on the new look site and would be grateful if you could spare a few moments to look at the site and reply to this email. We are not looking for praise (though that would be appreciated too, of course) but would genuinely like your thoughts on how it could be made more appealing, better, clearer, more interesting etc. Our website is aimed at: - people thinking of adopting a rescue animal - attracting donations - recruiting new Friends of Anim-Mates - bringing news of our activities to existing Friends. We hope we are meeting those aims with our new look - if not, please tell us.

Many thanks

Dennis Hon. Secretary

Saving just one animal won't change the world, but it surely will change the world for that one animal.

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 J. Gillies - 22 Leaman Close
- Mr J. Myatt - Decoy Hill Road
- Mr B. Prichard - 9 Drayton Close
- Mrs C. Peek - 2 Willowbank Drive

Christmas Tree Festival

I know it is a bit early thinking about Christmas, with the first signs of summer just arriving, but please can put a date in your diary, it is proposed there will be a Christmas Tree Festival in the Village Hall on December 8th.

Details to follow shortly so watch this space.

HANDY ANT

Property Maintenance

Interior & Exterior ~ Domestic & Commercial

I am a skilled tradesman who lives in High Halstow and has learned many skills in my 29 year career. I am a clean and conscientious worker who respects other people's property. Some of my skills are listed below.

Electrics ~ Washing machines ~ Dish washers
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Flat screen TV's ~ Plastering ~ Plumbing ~ Fencing
Bathroom re-fits ~ Kitchen re-fits ~ Landscaping

Insurance work undertaken

Please contact me if the work you require is not listed or for free friendly advice

Quotes available via phone or email for small jobs

Hourly rate basis is £35.00 first hour

Then £20 per hour thereafter

Daily rates available on request

References available

No job too small

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Sunday Lunch

Watch out for more details.

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.

Local Groups and the Website

You can advertise your activities free of charge on this site just let us have the details. If your details need updating with either dates or details of events please let us know by emailing gary@highhalstow.org.uk. This can be used to keep your members informed and possibly attract new members to your group.

Local Businesses

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that the Business Page is back on the website. Should you wish to advertise your business please visit <http://highhalstow.org.uk/business-page> where you can find all the details of how to put your business on the site.

Noise Complaints Southend Airport

Some of you may have noticed that there has been an increase in air traffic recently with additional flights going to Southend. Comments regarding noise at the airport should be made in the first instance to:

LSAenquiries@stobartair.com

If you would like to further contact London Southend Airport regarding noise please use the following contact details:

* By phone: Noise Complaints Hotline 01702 538599

* In writing: LSACL, Southend Airport, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 6YF

Their aim is to respond in writing to all noise comments within 7 working days. However, in order for any comment to be logged as much information (date, time, location etc.) about the event must be given.

Dates for Diary

Every Monday: Zumba 19:00	Village Hall
Every Tuesday: King's Kitchen 10:00	Memorial Hall
Bell Ringers 19:30	St Margaret's Church
Every Thursday: Mother and Toddler's 09:00	Memorial Hall
Sugar Babes 19:00	Memorial Hall
Every Friday: Pilates with Joy 14:15	Memorial Hall
Every Saturday Karmann Dancers 09:00	Memorial Hall

Other Dates

Sunday 1st: 09:00	Family Service St. Margaret's Church
Wednesday 4th: 19:30	Women's Institute Memorial Hall
Saturday 7th: 12:00	Rectory Garden Party Rectory Garden
Sunday 8th:	High Halstow Hikers Details in HHT
Tuesday 10th: 20:00	Gardening Club Memorial Hall
Wednesday 11th: 20:00	Parish Council Memorial Hall
Saturday 14th: 08:30	Project 90 Village Hall
Sunday 15th: 09:00	Family Service St. Margaret's Church
Sunday 15th: 13:00	Teddy Bears Picnic Rectory Garden
Friday 27th: 20:00	Quiz Night Memorial Hall

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*A Coffee and Cake Café
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a chat.*

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LONGER Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm

Sunday 8am – 4pm

New Telephone number: 01634 254561

Name and Address Supplied

**Please note that all letters published will show
the name and part address of the author.**

Let's Hear from You

Do you have a story about the history of the Village, did you go to or know anything about the old school, can you tell us a story about a picture in the Memorial Hall.? etc

In terms of recent history, were you at a recent event in the village, did you enjoy the recent film shows ? Let us know your tales so we can publish in the HHT and or the website. It would be great to hear from you!!

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, which will be published alongside the letter. 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

Zumba Night

Monday's at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Zumba is a Latin inspired dance fitness class
to improve not only fitness levels
but to burn off calories.

It is a class for all ages and abilities
and is also a great way of making new friends

The class costs £5.00

For further details please contact
Jess on 07746 082182

Zumba at High Halstow Village Hall

Monday 7.00pm



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Memorial Hall - Angela Forward 251756
Village Hall - Crystal Wakefield 251849

Please do not call on a Sunday.

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THE USER FRIENDLY THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS...

"The Dickens Connection"
Dickensian drama on Dickens's marshes.

Words and music by Clare Graydon-James.
Starring Anne Graydon as Estella and Rachael.

Saturday 14th July 2012 at 7.30pm.
The Brick Barn, RSPB Northward Hill, Bromhey Farm, Cooling, Kent. ME3 8DS.

Two multi-talented sisters, who have carved out successful careers at opposite ends of the country, join forces in a double bill of contrasting, musical, one-act plays. And what better location for Dickens inspired drama than the Kent marshes, which were such a source of inspiration to Dickens himself?

"Estella's Legacy" is a heartwarming sequel to "Great Expectations", in which the themes of love and loss, friendship and forgiveness are explored. By contrast, "Rachael's Christmas" is a madcap comedy, featuring the eccentric spinster of "Pickwick Papers" and her efforts to find a husband. Both shows are touring the UK until January 2013 and were great hits at the recent Rochester Dickens Festival.

Anne Graydon is a versatile actress, singer and workshop leader: whose numerous achievements have included leading roles in Shakespeare, Greek tragedy, musical theatre, pantomime, theatre in education and complex, improvised role play for various health authorities and universities. Based in the North East, Anne was a leading member of "Flabagast Arts" and is currently playing The Keeper in the "Lost Cellars" at Alnwick Castle

Nicknamed "The Dartford Diva", Clare Graydon-James is an award winning singer, actress, songwriter, playwright and Dickens lover. Her numerous achievements have ranged from working as a pub pianist to becoming the first blind singer to perform with the Royal Opera House's education department; from giving solo concerts in leading London venues to singing one of her own comic songs live on "Test Match Special".

Joining Anne and Clare will be Chatham based actor David Clark as the dastardly Robert Trundle in "Rachael's Christmas". Music is provided by Clare on piano and Danny Kingshill on cello.

Admission £6. To book- tel 01634 222480.
or email northkentmarshes@rspb.org.uk

Why not bring a picnic and enjoy this wonderful nature reserve on a summer evening?



More Pictures from the Jubilee Party in the Park
www.highhalstow.org.uk





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First and third Sunday of the month

9:30am at High Halstow & 11:00am at Allhallows

For more info contact Rev Stephen Gwilt on 01634 250637

The Village Cook Book

The Village Cook Book is gathering pace and we have started to receive the recipes for the Village Cook Book. The Village Cook Book will be produced in aid of the Village Hall and this is where we would like your help. Do you have a favourite recipe that you would like to share; well this is the time to let us know. Please could we have the following:

- 1 The recipe details
- 2 A picture of the finished recipe
- 3 Your name and address
- 4 A picture of yourself
(passport size would be great)

The level of responses and recipes sent in will determine how the book(s) will be produced and available. We hope you like the idea and join in. More details to following future HHT's

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

We are writing to warn pet owners in the Harrison Drive area that there is a sick twisted moron in our midst who this morning put a bullet in our dearly loved cat. Our cat is now in a specialist vet in Surrey and we hope he will make a full recovery. We believe the incident took place in the wooded area of the nature reserve that backs onto Harrison Drive between 8.15am and 8.45am (30th May). Kent Police have been informed and we are offering a reward of £200 to anyone who supplies information leading to the prosecution of this sick individual.

If you have any information please forward it to: lucilou5@msn.com or share it with us directly. This cannot happen again either to our pet or anyone else's.

Thank you in advance

Luci & Michael O'Sullivan
Harrison Drive

Dear HHT,

I felt it wise to warn the residents of High Halstow of a burglary that occurred at 21 Cooling Road on 28th May. The contents of my shed were stolen-all of my power tools and equipment. It would be wise to keep a close eye on your property in case this wasn't an isolated incident.

Mr Bill Rutherford
Cooling Road

Dear HHT,

I really couldn't have done it without the team of brilliant helpers. We sold 220 tickets to the Children's Jubilee Tea Party, and still had more children wanting to come along, but we just didn't have any more tables or chairs. I just want to say a huge 'Thank You' to all the helpers who came along on Monday morning to make the sandwiches and layout the tables and chairs, cakes and biscuits, crisps and drinks, party hats and party blowers. And then again to serve 220 kids in the excitement of the moment was a marvellous effort by everyone. Special mention to the 'Kings' who helped hard-boil, peel and mash 72 eggs for the egg mayonnaise sandwiches, the green haze above the house has just about cleared!!

Everyone worked really hard and I think we managed to pull it off. I hope the children will remember the day, I'm certain I won't forget it for a while.

Joanne Mitchell
Marsh Crescent

Dear HHT,

We just had to write and say what a wonderful job was done by all the organisers and helpers who put together the village celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee. Nothing was forgotten and on the Monday even the weather was kind.

A big 'Thank You' to all.

Marion & Bill Russell
Goodwood Close

Dear HHT,

I would like to say what a wonderful show we had in the Village on the Monday of the Jubilee. People such as Gary Thomas, Joanne Mitchell and Michelle King - together with their teams of helpers did a marvellous job. And of course, George Crozer was his usual self, an excellent compere. I would also like to thank Brenda and Ron for all the help they gave me organising the tombola for the Guide Dogs for the Blind and Help the Heroes, also a big 'Thank You' to those who contributed gifts for the stall. Everyone I have spoke to really enjoyed themselves and are hoping for a village community event each year - so how about it?

I would further add that in Forge Lane on the Tuesday, Sue and I organised a 'Street Party' in the garden of Wynford Lodge. Again we were fortunate with the weather for our BBQ.

From both occasions mentioned above the Community Spirit was very evident, lets hope it continues.

Oonagh Elliott
Forge Lane



Next edition August 2012; Contributions for August should be sent
by 20th July to:

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