



# High Halstow TIMES

## Home of the Scarecrow!



July 2016

### *Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations Saturday 11th June 2016*

The morning started at around 9am with the early arrival of the scarecrows, the stall holders being allowed onto the field and the photographer from the Kent Messenger arriving to take his pictures. The Village Hall was decorated with bunting, pictures of Her Majesty and signs telling us when and where things were. The sound system installed and tested, the beer, wine and soft drinks all lined-up facing front. The burger van started frying bacon butties and the ice cream van arrived to take it's place. The stall holders perfected their displays, straightened their signs, counted their float and stood ready in anticipation.

High Halstow was ready to party!



2pm soon arrived and a small trickle of people turned into a large crowd. Garden chairs, picnic blankets and gazebo's were laid out in the centre of the recreation ground.

Villagers had arrived to make a day of it. The stall holders were busy selling their wares, coaxing customers to 'have a go', pouring drinks and cutting cake. Donkeys carried children backwards

and forwards across the field. Crazy bikes and duelling with pugil sticks kept the more energetic entertained. Her Majesty posed for pictures whilst the music played out and everyone was having a great time. In the main hall Karmann Dancers and Glowfitt entertained a large crowd of onlookers whilst sipping a cup of tea freshly poured from the newly refurbished kitchen. Everyone was having a good time and enjoying all the effort that the organising committee had gone to. Unfortunately, however, the one thing that could not be controlled was the weather, and at about 4:30pm the heavens opened. Never has a field of people cleared so quickly! Stall holders packed their things away as fast as they could and the Village Hall was mobbed with revellers taking cover, whilst some of the hardy tried to sit it out under their gazebos. The Peninsula Fryer did it's best to carry on supplying hot fresh fish and chips. Eventually the rain started to subside and the clear up operation outside could start. The live evening entertainment, Jonny Kaplan and the UK Lazy Stars struck up



in the Hall and the bar carried on serving, soon the party was in full swing again, although with a noticeable absence of men who had returned home to 'suffer' the pleasure of watching England v Russia in the Euro's.

On behalf of all the village, I would like to thank the

Organising Committee (who I know are too modest to let me name them all here, but you know who you are), all the stall holders and helpers; and especially thanks to everyone who made a scarecrow, it certainly brightened up High Halstow, and we may see them return next year, watch this space.

Thank You.  
HHT Editor.



**SCARECROW PICTURES ON PAGES 7,8 & 9**

### ***High Halstow Toddler***

Unfortunately as of 16th June 2016 High Halstow Toddler group has now shut, as some of you may already know this group has struggled to make any money for a long while and it seems unfair to rent the hall out at a big loss every week. Thank you to everyone that has contributed to our group along the way.

Regrettably the Mother and Toddlers group has now been disbanded due to a lack of support, the group has been meeting in the hall on Thursdays during term time for many years, run by volunteer Mums, and we thank them for contributing to give a place for people with young children a place to meet.

***Memorial Hall Committee.***

### ***Friendly Club Outing***

We are off to Margate on Wednesday 27th July. If any member that did not attend our last meeting would like to go please contact me on 250677. (Sorry I lost the original list)

***Margaret Whitebread***

### ***Memorial Hall***

Our AGM is at 7 30pm on 4th July 2016 this is open to anyone to attend should you have any questions or recommendations to submit.

Angela Forward  
Secretary.

### ***Quiz Night***

The profit from the June quiz night (£221.00) was donated to a charity called Cherished Memories. This charity works with Medway Maritime Hospital to provide memory boxes for parents who have suffered the loss of a baby in pregnancy, birth or shortly afterwards. These are beautiful boxes and are provided purely from donations and hard work in fundraising from the very small band of volunteers. The charity was nominated by Quizzy Rascals (the Collins family).

The July quiz (which is Friday 29th July) charity will be nominated by the Songbirds.

Please note there is no quiz in August.

***Margaret Church***

### ***Suitcases Wanted***

Dramarama are looking for any large suitcases surplus to requirement to store stage costumes. If you are able to help please contact June Collins on 250105 to arrange collection.

### ***Mast Update***

The developers carefully considered and rejected our alternative sites, due to various different reasons/concerns and continued with their original application. This application went to Medway Council Planning Committee last night (29/6/16). It was discussed and our objections were taken into consideration.

However, unfortunately, the application was approved. An amendment to the original application is that the mast has been lowered from 15m to 12.5 m.

Medway Council Planning has advised that the developers will probably still consider alternative sites on private ground and would be prepared to act as intermediary for us.

I'm proposing to have an open session at the next HH Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 13th July at 8pm in the Memorial Hall to discuss any next move.

***George Crozer***  
***Chairperson***  
***HH Parish Council***

### ***High Halstow Hikers***

Our June walk took a dozen of us from St Mary's Hoo to a lovely strip of beach made of finely broken sea shells below the Thames seawall just to the east of St Mary's Bay. The walk of about 2.5 miles each way gives views across the North Kent marshes and along the Thames from Tilbury to Southend and beyond as soon as one enters the fields beyond St Mary's village. In my opinion these are the most impressive views for many miles around. We were very fortunate to walk in the afternoon rather than the morning, as is our norm, since this provided us with a few hours of warm sunshine rather than the downpours that blighted most of the weekend. We chose the afternoon since it coincided with a high-tide that hid the massive expanse of mud that is enjoyed by the waders but less by those like us keen on cooking food on the beach. We had a wide variety of materials on which to barbeque but next time we will try to remember a frying pan to put on the flotsam-fed fire. We arrived back at St Mary's about 3 hours later having not seen another soul.

Our July walk will be around Westerham and take in the edge of the Chartwell estate that formed Churchill's private residence for many years. The walk will be about 5 miles in length and will start at 10.00 on Sunday 17th from the Green in the middle of the village where Churchill's Statue stands. The Green is on the northern edge of the A25 close to St Mary the Virgin Church (TN16 1AS). Parking is on the road.

All are welcome on these walks. Any queries to Mitchell on [mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com](mailto:mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com) or 01634-254428.

## Village Hall Quizathon

The next quiz to be held in the Village Hall will be on Friday 15th July, starting at 7:30pm.

Please save the date, and come along and have fun with your family and friends, whilst helping raise funds for the Village Hall.

Tables can be booked with Margaret on 07702 196179 / 01903 304953 or Lesley on 250276.

### High Halstow Parish Council

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

### VACANCY FOR COUNCILLOR

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council which will be filled by co-option.

Applications should be made in writing, by letter or email, either to the Clerk to the Council or to the Chairman, accompanied by a brief CV and outlining why you are applying and what you can bring to the Council by Monday 11th July. Should there be more than one applicant, informal interviews will be held.

For further information or to discuss what is involved, please contact the Clerk or the Chairman

Roxana Brammer  
Clerk to the Council  
53 Capelands, New Ash Green  
Kent DA3 8LQ  
[roxanamebrammer@gmail.com](mailto:roxanamebrammer@gmail.com)

Cllr George Crozer  
Woodlands, Northwood Avenue  
High Halstow  
Kent ME3 8SX  
[george@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:george@highhalstow.org.uk)

## High Halstow 2016 Photo Competition



After the huge success of last year, the HH Photo Competition returns for its 7th year. Pictures can be emailed to [photos@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:photos@highhalstow.org.uk) and can be from a camera, phone or any other device. Winners will receive a prize, certificate and their photo included in the HH Calendar.

## High Halstow Arts & Crafts Village Market

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

### The Memorial Hall

10am - 2pm

Sunday 10th July  
Saturday 13th August  
Sunday 11th September  
Sunday 9th October  
Sunday 13th November\*  
\*12noon - 3pm  
Sunday 11th December

**Come and support our village event!**

## Cornish Holiday Cottage Let

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

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

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

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

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

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







### ***Thank You Thank You Thank You***

When The Friends of St Margaret's first discussed the Scarecrow Festival, none of us saw the number of entries reaching the giddy heights of 73. I personally didn't think it would reach double figures and would be an event that might take a year or two to become established. How wrong was I. You will see in this month's edition the pictures taken and as you will see and no doubt remember how great and different they were. Each day coming home from work it was joy to see the new ones arising and it clearly had people talking in the Village and afar about this event even making Jeremy Vine's programme on Radio 2.

The Friends would like to thank all those who took part either by making your own scarecrow, making a donation (£252 raised) either at the Queen's Birthday Bash or in the shop, Wenda for her constant publicity on Facebook and the Parish Council for this special colour edition of the High Halstow Times. Plans are afoot for next years Festival so please watch this space for more details in the coming months.

### ***Facebook Comments High Halstow Appreciation Page***

Too many wonderful comments on this page but just some of the comments below

Had a lovely time this afternoon at your party we even met the Queen she was just hanging around, we got back to the car just as the clouds burst, I loved the scarecrows, thank you xx **Tracey Hoobird People**

What a great turnout of scarecrows. They are wonderful. Congratulations to everyone who put so much effort into making this such a success. **Di Welch**

Well done everyone fantastic effort !! Shame they have to go was enjoying seeing a new one each day on my way home! **Michelle Webster**

I think they all look great....fun to look at.xxx...Well done everyone. **Rachel Campbell**

**The Friends of St Margaret's  
are pleased to present**

**The Cuxton Music Group**

**Wednesday July 13<sup>th</sup>  
8:00pm at St Margaret's Church**

**Tickets from the Village Shop  
Price £6.00**

**Refreshments will be available on  
the night**

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

***“The aim of the Friends is to support the PCC in maintaining the fabric, the churchyard 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, the churchyard 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.

## ***A Reminder on How to Join Friends of St Margarets***

Although in the past we had accepted requests for people to pay an annual fee in one go, it was not clear enough to all that this was the case, so just to be clear you could pay as follows:

- 1 A monthly Standing Order
- 2 A one off Annual Fee

Forms are available on <http://thefriendsofstmargarets.org.uk> or from any Committee member

### ***Latest Grant Request***

The Church have recently had their survey carried out on the building and this will help them identify a programme of works for the coming years. Although we know we are putting some monies away for the eventual work to be carried out on the roof, the Friends are also keen to see other work progress to keep in line with our aims mentioned above.

At the time of writing this article we are expecting at the next meeting a request to come in for funding for works to be carried out to the electrics expected to cost several thousand pounds. We will let you know more details next month.

### **Friends of St Margaret's**

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#### ***High Halstow Gardeners***

This month we enjoyed an excellent talk by Bob Ogley on The Spirit of Invicta. He outlined various famous people and events that had occurred in Kent plus he went through key events in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century with their connection to Kent. Some of our members visited Beth Chatto's garden this month and we are arranging a visit on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August to Bateman's.

We are looking forward to Michael Dale talking to us on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July on the Grain Foreshore. The Annual Show on 27<sup>th</sup> August is open to members and non-members with schedules available from the Show Secretaries on [hhdgc@outlook.com](mailto:hhdgc@outlook.com).

#### ***High Halstow Football Club***

We are looking for new players and sponsors as it heads into the 2016/17 season.

Running for three seasons in the Rochester and District League on a Saturday, the team reached two semi-finals and finished third in Division 4 before being moved up two divisions last year.

Unfortunately, injuries - and key players leaving due to work commitments - meant things didn't go as planned in the league, but the club is now looking to regroup in a lower division for 2016/17.

The team is a young, friendly bunch, training on Tuesdays and playing their home matches at High Halstow Rec, with a large group of the players from the village. So if you have played at a decent standard and are looking for a new team please get in touch.

If you run a company interested in sponsoring us, we would love to hear from you, you'll get your name on our shirts and we'll push for some local coverage as well. Contact Tom Pauley on 07527622765 for more details'

#### ***Playground Equipment***

It was agreed at the June meeting of the Parish Council that we would replace the multi play piece of equipment in the children's playground, along with the wet pour that it stands on.

The old equipment, whilst still usable, is ready to be retired.

The new equipment has a rustic quality which blends in well with the Council's vision for the village, which has started with a new wooden bus shelter being installed.

Hopefully the equipment will be in situ shortly and will be enjoyed by the children of the village.



#### ***Thefts from Sheds and Garages***

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

**HH Parish Council**



## *Queens Birthday Bash*

This Village clearly knows how to enjoy themselves and what a wonderful day had by all at the Queens Birthday Bash even with the rain.

There was the 'March of the Scarecrows', the variety provided by so many stall holders, the games and activities, the variety of refreshments both inside and outside of the hall, the entertainment including Karmann Dancers and Jonny Kaplan and the UK Lazy Stars, something for everyone

Many thanks to all the committee which helped put this event together, and in particular thanks to Wenda Taylor and Linda Atkinson for all of the work put into this event . Thanks to the Parish Council who funded this event and would like to think they were happy with how the money was spent. When is the next one????

Hall Committee



Queen's Birthday Event

What a brilliant day Saturday 11th June turned out to be! I would like to congratulate and thank all the people who were involved in organising it, especially the hard-working members of the Event Committee. I look forward to the Queen reaching her 100th birthday!

Chris Peek, Willowbank Drive.



A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who gave up so much of their time to make today such a success. There was a superb atmosphere but the rain came at just the moment when everything was well under way. To the team that organised everything, to those who worked behind the scenes and to those who offered their goods and services for sale WELL DONE. I, for one, am very grateful for all your hard work. Enjoy your rest now that the day is over - you deserve it! I can't wait to see what you decide to do for next year's festivities.

Diane Welch



"We had a fantastic day, such a brilliant atmosphere. I'm glad our first event in the fish and chip van was in our own village. Huge thanks to everyone involved in organising it."





## *March of the Scarecrows 2016*



Thanks to Wenda Taylor and Tony Peake for all the photographs from the Queens Birthday Celebration









## High Halstow Village Hall

At the time of writing works on Phase Four are well underway. This will see the stairs to the room upstairs which will provide another facility for the public to hire which we hope will be available shortly. It will be nice to have proper stairs to the upstairs for the first time in its history and not the makeshift stairs we have had in the past.

Once this work has been finished we will be looking at the existing floor in the main hall, which requires sanding, and then on to deciding how best to utilise the space below the stairs and old kitchen, although it is fair to say that the bulk of the building works will have been finished.

We will be holding our next Quiz on Friday 15th July (details in the HHT), a Murder Mystery evening on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September (details in the HHT) and the Annual High Halstow Golf Open (details to follow in the HHT).

Finally, we have to say a big thank you to all the people involved in helping the Village Hall during the Queens Birthday Bash.

### Cake Makers:

Jaime Tomlinson	Michelle King
Lesley Munday	

### Kitchen Helpers:

Jane Crozer	Wenda Taylor
Joanne Mitchell	

### General Helpers / Cake Sellers

Gary King	Carl Mitchell
Ray Collins	Linda Atkinson

### Entertainment

George Crozer	Matthew Crozer
Karen Woolmer	

### Alcoholic Refreshments

Gary Thomas	Margaret Church
Lesley Munday	Julia Dewar
Dawn Matthews	

HH Village Hall Committee

## 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](http://www.highhalstow.org.uk) and follow the instructions on the right hand side.

## Off to University?

The High Halstow Relief in Need charity (Reg No. 250996) has a limited number of small bursaries available to students going to University for the first time.

Students who started last year and were able to apply for a bursary may also apply.

The scheme is available only to students living in the parish of High Halstow at the time of application.

Closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and applications received after that date will not be considered. In your letter of application please state your name, address, telephone number *and email address*, the universities you have applied for and the length of your course. *A copy of your placement offer will be required* before the bursary can be given. 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. PLEASE mark 'Bursary Application' on the front of the envelope.

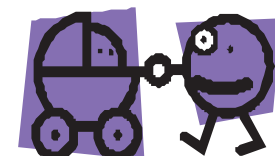


## Considerate Parking

Mums with babies and older people are finding it more and more difficult to walk around the village due to cars parked on the pavement. They are having to walk into the road because of this, which is dangerous and unnecessary.

Please think about this before you park your car/van and try to be a little more considerate.

Thank you  
High Halstow Parish Council



## Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors

Chris(tine) Watson and Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors, will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 from 10.30 – 12.00pm

and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in the month.

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

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

High Halstow Parish Council.







**St. James'**  
**Sure Start Children's Centre**  
 For families with children aged 0-5 years



**Bumps to Toddlers**  
 at High Halstow Village Hall  
**Monday**  
**9am-10.30am**

For pregnant women and children from birth to toddler stage.

This session includes sensory fun, introducing solid food, stories & rhymes, tummy time, staying safe and much more!  
 Come along and meet other parents and their babies.

Self baby weighing is also available in this session.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:  
**St. James' Sure Start Children's Centre**  
 St. James' Church of England Primary Academy High Street Isle of Grain ME3 0BS  
**01634 270341** E: [childrenscentre@stjames.medway.sch.uk](mailto:childrenscentre@stjames.medway.sch.uk)  
[www.stjamesisleofgrain.org.uk](http://www.stjamesisleofgrain.org.uk)

**Sure Start Children's Centres**  
 Medway

**Medway**  
 Serving You

## 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.



## High Halstow Pre-school

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

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

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

Open Weekdays, term time only  
 8.45 am - 3.30pm

Morning, lunch, afternoon and all day sessions  
 available.

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

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

Ring 01634 255088

## Dates for Diary

### Every Monday:

Bumps & Toddler's

09:00

Village Hall

### Every Tuesday:

King's Kitchen

10:00

Memorial Hall

Bell Ringers

19:30

St Margaret's

Church

### Every Wednesday:

Stay & Play

09:00

Village Hall

### Every Thursday:

Sugar Babes

19:00

Memorial Hall

### Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers

09:00

Memorial Hall

Karate

09:30

Village Hall

### Every Sunday:

Déjà Vu Spiritual Centre

18:30

Village Hall

### Every 4th Wednesday:

Friendly Club

14:00

Memorial Hall

### Other Dates:

Sunday 2nd:

09:30

Family Service

Tuesday 5th:

20:00

St. Margaret's Church

Wednesday 6th:

19:30

Gardening Club

Sunday 10th:

10:00

Memorial Hall

Wednesday 13th:

20:00

Women's Institute

Wednesday 13th:

20:00

Memorial Hall

Friday 15th:

19:30

Arts & Craft Fair

Sunday 17th:

Sunday 17th:

09:30

Memorial Hall

Friday 29th:

20:00

Parish Council

Memorial Hall

Cuxton Music Group

St. Margaret's Church

Village Hall Quiz

Village Hall

High Halstow Hikers

Details in HHT

Family Service

St. Margaret's Church

Quiz Night

Memorial Hall

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





## Jonathan Computers

Freephone: 0800 321 38 79

Mobile No: 07905 120 557

Email: sales@jonathancomputers.co.uk



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- ☐ Virus & Malware Removal
- ☐ Data Transfer & Recovery
- ☐ NO 'Call Out' Charge
- ☐ New Economy Pc's & Laptops



**NEW!!!!!!**  
**Windows 10™**

From 8th April 2014 All Support for ALL XP™ Versions has discontinued!!!!

If you are using a computer with Windows XP on  
**YOU ARE AT SEVERE RISK!!!!**



**I Am Based In High Halstow  
So Can Be Quick To Respond!**

**01474 879878**

(Gravesham Office Number)

## St. James' Sure Start Children's Centre

For families with children aged 0-5 years



**Stay and Play**

at High Halstow Village Hall

**Wednesday  
9am-10.30am**

**For children 0-5 years.**

A wide range of activities for children and adults to get involved with including creative activities, physical activities and exploration.  
**Fresh fruit and drinks are available.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**St. James' Sure Start Children's Centre**

St. James' Church of England Primary Academy High Street Isle of Grain ME3 0BS

**01634 270341** E: childrenscentre@stjames.medway.sch.uk

www.stjamesisleofgrain.org.uk

**Sure Start Children's Centres**  
Medway



**Medway**  
Serving You

### *Calling all Local Groups*

We can advertise your activities on the Parish Council website if you supply us with the details of your event.

If you would like more details on how to do this, please email [gary@highhasltow.org.uk](mailto:gary@highhasltow.org.uk)

The page can be viewed at:  
[highhalstow.org.uk/local-groups](http://highhalstow.org.uk/local-groups)

### *Your Parish Councillors*

George Crozer, Chair	01634 250286
e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk	
Martin Andrews	07984 791029
Ray Collins	01634 250105
Gary Jerreat	01634 253999
Bill Khatkar	07775 668620
Carl Mitchell	01634 250911
Christine Watson	01634 256529
Brian Williams	07908 006448
e.mail: bdwilliams9@hotmail.com	

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269  
[clerk@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:clerk@highhalstow.org.uk)

### **A New Fitness Class**

#### **"Seated Exercises"**

**Thursday Morning 11:30am - 12:15pm**

**£4 per session**

*This class is all about upper and lower body movement. If you have a problem with balance, are an older adult or are in rehabilitation then this is the class for you. All the exercises are completed using a chair in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Equipment such as light weights, resistance bands and foam balls are used to move to music.*

*Come and join us...No Lycra Necessary!!!*

*Phone Wendy (255366) or  
Ann (251914) for more info.*

### *High Halstow Stitches in The Memorial Hall*

*1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays in each month 12-2pm*

*A chance to learn a new skill involving Stitches  
of all types from friendly, like minded  
ladies and to pass on any skills you may have.*

*Quilting - X Stitching - Patchwork - Knitting  
Sewing in General etc.*

*Come along and join us.*



### ***Do your mealtimes feel like a juggling act?***

Mealtimes can be a busy time for families and often residents find themselves trying to juggle many other tasks while trying to cook for everyone. Whether its trying to get the kids organised or catching up with household chores, it is tempting to try to fit in other pressing jobs while waiting for food to cook. There are many of other distractions that can cause you to take your eye off of your cooking: maybe the phone ringing or a text message or even a knock at the door. Or maybe taking a few moments to catch the end of a favourite TV programme or to check your social media newsfeed or helping with homework... whatever the activity, you can be sure that it is preventing you from concentrating fully on your cooking. In a hectic home it's easy to get diverted for longer than you intended, and even forget all about your cooking. For most of the time, the worst that may happen is that you burn the dinner, causing a bit of an inconvenience. But sadly, as Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) knows only too well, unattended cooking can lead to a serious fire, that could result in severe damage to your home and may put you, and your family, at risk.

Unfortunately, over half of all the fires KFRS attends start in the kitchen and the majority are caused by unattended cooking, a build up of grease and fat on the cooker, or by kitchen mishaps, where items such as tea towels, chopping boards or washing baskets have been placed on a hot hob. By taking a few moments to work out what is coming between you and a fire safe mealtime, you can avoid a fire of this type happening in your home.

Make fire safety your main ingredient and help prevent a kitchen fire in your home by following these tips: \*

- Keep an eye on your cooking and remember to switch off your cooker if you have to leave the room

- \* Use a timer for items placed in your oven or grill to remind when your food is done and to save it from burning

- \* Plan and prepare - if you know you have a busy week ahead, try and plan in advance and prepare meals that do not require lots of cooking

- \* Avoid storing or placing household items on your cooker or stove

- \* Keep your cooker, grill and oven clean to avoid a build up of grease and fat that could start a fire \* Keep children and pets well away from you cooking area

- \* Ensure electric cookers, toasters and microwaves are turned off at the mains when you have finished using them

- \* Fit a working smoke alarm on each floor of your home and test it weekly to ensure it provides early warning in the event of a fire.

For further fire safety advice visit [www.kent.fire-uk.org](http://www.kent.fire-uk.org) or call 0800 923 7000.



**Kent Fire &  
Rescue Service**



Dear HHT,

Recently I joined 'The Friends of St. Margarets' and was very surprised to find that there are less than 30 supporters (by which I mean regular donations or one off amounts).

There are approximately 800 homes in the village and, although the attendances to the church have gone down over recent years, it is still a special feature and a lovely old church and you don't have to be a regular churchgoer (myself being one of these) to support the fund.

Monies raised do not pay the vicars wages, but go towards keeping the building 'standing' i.e. roof repairs, electrics, windows and likewise. This maintenance ensures that the church is safe to be used for weddings, christenings, funerals and of course weekly services. Every little helps to keep an important part of our village usable for years to come.

Recently we all enjoyed the Queens Birthday Celebrations, and a big feature was 'The Scarecrows' which raised money towards the 'Friends Fund'.

Please give it some thought and help to keep a big feature of our village standing.

Ann Smith  
Willowbank

### ***Strawberries and cream at the ready - tennis is taking over Medway this summer.***

More than 100 events will be staged across three sites during Medway Tennis Festival week from Sunday, 24 July to Saturday, 30 July.

Players will travel from far and wide to join local players in junior, adult, wheelchair, team and newcomer tournaments aimed at players keen to develop their competitive tennis (grade 6) and county-level players seeking to improve their rating and ranking (grade 4).

Matches will be staged at King's Rochester Sports Centre, Frindsbury Tennis Club and The Strand, with the finals day being staged at King's on Saturday, 30 July.

#### **New to tennis?**

Free, fun community activities will also be staged every day of the festival. These will include family time, mini tennis, cardio tennis, social sessions, free play and Miss-Hits, the LTA's programme encouraging girls to play tennis in a fun environment. We will also be taking tennis into iconic locations including Rochester Castle and Chatham Historic Dockyard.

The Medway Tennis Festival is being organised by the Lawn Tennis Association, Medway Council and the three partner venues. For more information and to book onto a fun session or to enter the tournaments visit the event website at [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk)

Dear HHT,

These Summer months, with their longer days and lighter evenings are so welcome, giving plenty of scope to 'do things'. However, later in the year, when the clocks go back and the dark hours return to limit our options you may start to think about what and how to spend some of your precious 'free' time. Recently, and after many years, I was able to play a little Whist and enjoyed it so much I would like to take it up again. So, I now wonder if there are others who miss playing, or would want to learn, perhaps meeting once a month for a friendly game (and here I emphasise the word friendly). Please give it some thought and I will write again later in the year to ask if anyone is interested.

**Christine Wilson**

### ***Football hero Sir Geoff Hurst comes to Medway***

Football legend Sir Geoff Hurst is set to kick off a Medway school tournament and view fresh new facilities at Strood Sports Centre next month.

Fifty years on from his famous hat-trick in the 1966 World Cup final, he'll be taking to the 3G pitches at Strood with 16 school teams on 14 July before officially opening the centre following £1.9million investment.

The schools tournament is being held to commemorate the anniversary of the World Cup as part of Medway Council's Celebrating Festival of Sport taking place throughout the summer.

The occasion is also an opportunity to launch the new Medway Sporting Legacy Strategy for 2017-2020, highlighting how the council, four years on from London 2012, will continue to deliver a sporting legacy for local people over the next four years.

Medway Council's Portfolio Holder for Community Services Cllr Howard Doe said: "We are really looking forward to welcoming Sir Geoff to Medway and showing him the major investment that's taken place at Strood Sports Centre. It's set to be a fun day with the commemorative schools tournament to celebrate 50-years since England won the World Cup."

Fans of Sir Geoff are welcome to come along for free on the day and spectate from the side of the outdoor pitches. He will be onsite between 2pm and 5pm and there may be an opportunity for a meet and greet after 3.30pm.



## Readers Letters (continued inside)

Dear HHT,

On the 5th June our son Dan Stephenson died in the Royal London Hospital as result of a road accident. He was aged 45, lived in the village and had attended local schools. We greatly appreciate all the support and expressions of sympathy and condolences that we have received at this awful time. We have been asked by many of Danny's and our friends about his funeral and this will be held at Medway Crematorium on Thursday 7th. July, at 12.45 pm. followed by refreshments at the Memorial Hall.

Denise and David Stephenson.



"Howdi Partner" you are invited to the Heronwood Falls Saloon to help us solve a murder!

Friday 23rd September 2016  
and  
Saturday 24th September 2016

Doors @ 6:30pm  
Show Starts prompt @ 7:30pm  
(Please try to be seated by 7:00pm)

Tickets = £10.00\*  
including 3 course meal with licensed bar.

at High Halstow Recreation Hall  
Tickets available from Wenda on 253169

Hosted by the HH Village Hall Committee  
in partnership with Dramarama

\* Tickets will not be available on the night.

### NEW Fitness class starts 6th June

### High Halstow Village Hall



## GLOWFITT

Easy to follow dance moves to club tunes in the dark with disco lights and glowsticks!

No need to pre-book, just turn up! Mondays at  
6.30pm at the High Halstow Village Hall

For more info like our Facebook page!

 JR Fitness 07746082182

### The Village Shop

#### Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm

Sunday 8am – 5pm

Telephone number: 01634 254561

### Need to Hire a Hall

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

Memorial Hall - Angela Forward 251756

Village Hall - Crystal Wakefield 251849

**\*\* Please do not call on a Sunday \*\***

Next edition August 2016; 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](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk)