



# High Halstow TIMES



*Home of the Heron*

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**August 2009**

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## *High Halstow Youth Club – Awards*

We are very pleased to report that the Youth Club has received an Award. You may recall that we had two young volunteers who had been trained by Kent Youth (our umbrella organisation) to do sporting activities with the children; this started in December 2008. They came to the Club for about 12 weeks and they were working towards completing a total of 30 hours of community volunteering in order to gain the Community Sports Leadership Award. Amie and Hannah integrated really well with the children and organised many different games and sporting activities, all of which were greatly enjoyed by our members.

As part of this scheme, High Halstow Youth Club has become an “Active Youth Community Club” and we were very pleased and proud to receive a certificate at a recent presentation evening.

As well as congratulating Amie and Hannah on receiving their Leadership Awards and thanking them again for all their hard work and their service to our Youth Club, we must thank all our adult helpers who so generously give up their time to supervise the young people of High Halstow; this includes the Police Community Support Officers who often visit the club and enjoy joining in the activities. Their support is greatly appreciated.

All our adult helpers need to be CRB checked. If you think you would be able to offer any help or support to the Club please get in touch and we will arrange for you to visit; also we can arrange a CRB check for you.

Lesley Munday 01634 250276

Chris Peek 01634 252604 (email [chris.peek@lineone.net](mailto:chris.peek@lineone.net))

### *Overhanging Shrubs and Trees*

Please ensure that any overhanging shrubs and trees are trimmed back from the public footways and are not causing an obstruction. These can be dangerous and cause accidents and injury.

*HH Parish Council*

#### ***Need to Hire a Hall?***

If you are interested in hiring either of the halls in the village please contact :  
Memorial Hall - Pat Hillman 251064  
Village Hall - Ann Smith 251914

### *Farmers Market Returns*

After a break last month, please come along and support the Farmers Market on Saturday August 1st, where all the regular stall holders can be found, including fresh fruit and vegetables, a selection of meat including BBQ packs, home made cakes, pastries and jams, art and crafts and gifts and cards for the whole family. Tea, Coffee, and light refreshments will be served throughout the morning and in addition there will also be a raffle. Entry is free and doors open at 9:30am.

*Hall Committee*

## *We are having a Breather*

Not much is happening over the summer months, not a bad thing as sometimes life gets too hectic. Nobody asked if we could go 'big cat hunting' after last months speaker tried to convince us that there are such beasts prowling the wilds of Kent. Neil Arnold is now recognised as the country's leading expert on these sightings. An incredible speaker, he never hesitates, loses his line of thinking, or seemingly draws breath. An interesting evening that left us with much to think about.

Our monthly lunch club ventured yet again into Rochester this time to the Coopers Arms. Just the walk up past the castle and cathedral set the mood when entering this beautiful olde worlde pub. Yet again the food was good, we had hoped to sit in the garden but this is England in July so cold stopped play. The W.I. lunch club will resume in September.

We are hosting the district sports and leisure event in the village. As many district members are not particularly 'sporty' we thought that we would go more for the leisure side, so we are having a Beetle Drive. This very old past-time game is usually for children (you can see that we are all young at heart). I have witnessed ladies playing this game where the atmosphere is more electric than a casino floor in Las Vegas. And no we do not play for money.

No meeting in August, we next meet on September 2nd when we will learn about pilates with Michela Forbes. Starts 7:30 in the Memorial Hall. only £1:50 on the door.

### ***Margaret Whitebread***

#### ***Strawberry Tea***

on Wednesday 5th August at 2:30pm.  
At 6 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow.

Come and enjoy good company, good food, raffle, quiz, and all for a good cause.

All profits are for Breast Cancer Care.

Only £2:50 (pay on the door) for a relaxing afternoon.

Need more information? Just ring June Collins on 250105.

## *Safari Fun Day*

The RSPB's Safari Fun Day on August 5 at their Cliffe Pools reserve, on the Medway, is to be visited this year by the Mayor of Medway.

The wildlife charity has been running this free event every year since 2005 and it attracts literally thousands of kids and families. A whole range of fun wildlife activities are laid on for visitors and include safari trips into the reserve, treasure hunts, kite-making, owl pellet dissection, moth traps, making feeders, pond dipping and insect sweeping.

The Safari Fun Day is a free family event and will be running all day from 11am to 5pm on Wednesday August 5 at RSPB Cliffe Pools.

The Mayor of Medway and the Leader of Medway Council will open the new car park at the RSPB's Cliffe Pools nature reserve as part of the annual Safari Day event.

More details can be found at [www.rspb.org.uk/northwardhillevents](http://www.rspb.org.uk/northwardhillevents)

### ***Take your partners please....***

..for Modern Ballroom and Latin American dancing!!

There are dance classes (for beginners) being held at Chattenden Community Centre on Monday afternoons (1 – 3pm). They are great fun and as well as learning to dance, it is a good way of keeping fit.

We all received a copy of the booklet "Courses for Adult Learners in Medway" through our letterboxes in July. The dance classes are on page 15 (see middle column at the bottom). Enrolment details are at the back of the booklet.

Hope to see some new faces there in September (classes start again on Monday 14th Sept).

***High Halstow's dancing girls  
(name and address supplied)***

## ***Resume of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 10 June 2009***

In the absence of George Crozer who was on holiday, the meeting was chaired by Gary Thomas. Apart from the other councillors, 5 members of the public were also present.

The vacancy on the Parish Council was filled at the meeting with the co-option of Martin Andrews. He lives in Gypsy Way, thereby continuing the representation of this part of the village that Andy Waters had previously provided. He has three daughters and works in the security industry. We trust he will enjoy his new role.

The matter of the absent swings was raised. Although I think it has been mentioned before, the seats had to be removed as they were dangerous. It would cost a lot of money to replace them (they are far more expensive than you would imagine) and as we are working towards installing a brand new playpark, it would be a waste of money. The only existing item that will stay is the relatively new "rock and cross", which will remain in situ. The new equipment will be planned around it and consultation with specific groups and residents is underway. The grant obtained will remain valid until 31 March 2010 – the new playpark must be installed by then. Outside funding has also been obtained or pledged from Eon and Scottish Power. The Cricket Club was thanked for their contribution following their sponsored walk. The Parish Council itself has saved £20,000 for the project.

It was agreed Project Morning jobs would include putting up signs about ball games on the Recreation Hall, cutting back the hedge at the Memorial Hall and a litter pick.

Legal advice has been sought over direct access from other properties onto parish land.

Following exploratory work on the drainage ditch and culvert across the recreation ground, it was decided to start at the culvert end, by replacing the broken pipe with one with a larger bore and reconstructing the manholes, which have incorrect falls. During the work, further investigations will be made and photographic evidence obtained, as it is suspected the system was damaged when the electricity for the new estates was laid a decade ago. If this can be proved to be the case, reparation will be sought from the electricity company. Unfortunately this would be a protracted business. We have one quotation for the works; two more will be sought. These must be obtained from contractors approved by the Drainage Authority (Medway Council).

Update: Work on the drainage ditch on the Recreation Ground is scheduled to start week commencing 3rd August.

### ***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***

## ***RSPB NORTH KENT PRESENTS: SUMMER 2009***

### ***Live on the Marshes Music Weekender –***

***Saturday Aug 1 (7.30pm – 10pm) and Sunday Aug 2 (4pm – 7pm)***

***Aug 1:*** Having performed at the Royal Opera House, Clare Graydon James will be appearing at our newly refurbished barn, delighting us with an irresistible mix of show tunes and cabaret songs; £8 non-members, £5 members including a glass of wine

***Aug 2:*** Open in the Orchard: Listen to four different local groups performing unplugged in our beautiful orchard. Bring a picnic! £5 for all visitors

RSPB Northward Hill (main car park), Medway

### ***Cliffe Pools Safari Day – Wednesday Aug 5, 11am – 5pm***

Bring your kids to our famous annual family event. This year we will be joined by the Leader of the Medway Council and the Mayor of Medway who will officially open the new car park and join in the activities. We will be serving up all the usual favourites such as mini beast hunts, table-top dipping, puppet shows, mask making, moth displays and animal drawing. New this year will be safari trips, treasure trails and kite making. RSPB Cliffe Pools, Medway; ***Free event***

### ***The Plight of the Bumblebee – Saturday Aug 8, 10.30am***

Come and bee-amazed! Kent's bee expert will show you many different species and tell you how to help this threatened species in your own back garden. Bring a packed lunch

RSPB Cliffe Pools, Medway; ***Free event***

### ***Night walk: Owls and Moths – Saturday Aug 15, 8.30pm – 11.30pm***

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! 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; £4 non-members, £2 members, £2 kids

### ***Meteors and Shooting Stars – Saturday Aug 22, 9pm – 11pm***

The big skies and open expanses at Northward Hill are perfect for star-gazing. The event coincides with the Perseid meteor shower and our staff will be on hand to help guide you through the night sky pointing out star formations, planets and shooting stars.

RSPB Northward Hill, Medway; £4 non-members, £2 members, includes tea /coffee

### ***Wildlife & Countryside Fair – Sunday Sept 6, 11am – 5pm***

A massive date on the Medway calendar and this year is set to be our biggest yet. We will be offering sheep shearing, sheep dog trials, wildlife walks, pond dipping, horse rides, insect sweeping and many other countryside activities. There will also be craft stalls, art displays, demonstrations, dancing, theatre and a range of food and drink stalls. This year we also hope to be joined by surprise special guests. RSPB Northward Hill, Medway; ***Free event***

To book a place or find out more call us on 01634 222480 or visit our website [www.rspb.org.uk/northwardhillevents](http://www.rspb.org.uk/northwardhillevents)

### ***Shop at Amazon and Earn Money for our School***

High Halstow primary School is now affiliated with Amazon.co.uk. If you shop with Amazon you can now earn the school up to 10% commission on any purchases you make at no extra cost to you! Instead of going to the Amazon website directly, simply go to [www.highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk/amazon](http://www.highhalstowprimaryschool.org.uk/amazon) instead - you will be redirected straight to the Amazon homepage but with anything you buy now earning commission for the school. Update your browser bookmarks and thank you for helping us

## *Red Dog*

### *Forthcoming events for August*

EVERY SUNDAY IN AUGUST  
4PM ONWARDS

KIDS DISCO IN THE GARDEN  
FREE KIDS DRINK & CRISPS

All children must be accompanied by an adult  
Come and have some fun!!!!

Sunday 2nd August Bingo  
Everyone Welcome Eyes Down 7.30pm  
Larger attendance Larger Prizes

Saturday 8th August  
Live Music with Karen Hall

Sunday 9th August Quiz Nite  
8 teams of 4

Saturday 29th August Family Fun Day 12 Noon  
Bouncy Castle, BBQ  
Kids Entertainer, Balloons, Kids Karaoke  
Adult Disco & Karaoke 8pm  
with the Magic Foot

Two Meals for £10.00 Monday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday  
11 to 3 & 6 to 9.30

Kids Eat Free on Sundays  
01634 250336

## 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. And also appearing on the same night will be The Redfords with their blend of classic greats and modern day hits, listen to them at [theredfords.net](http://theredfords.net).

More details to follow shortly..

### *Dates for Diary*

Every Other Tuesday:

Mobile Library

12:30/12:50

Village Hall Car Park

12:55/1:15

Northwood Ave.

Every Wednesday:

Painting & Drawing for Beginners

10.00

Memorial Hall

Every Thursday:

Mother and Toddler's

09.00 to 11:00am

Memorial Hall

Sugar Babes

19.00

Memorial Hall

Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers

09.00

Memorial Hall

#### *Other Dates*

Saturday 1st

09:30 - 11:30

Farmers Market

Village Hall

Wednesday 5th

19:30 - 22:00

Women's Institute

Memorial Hall

Tuesday 11th

12.15 - 14:00

Open House

Memorial Hall

Wednesday 26th

14.00 - 16.00

Friendly Club

Memorial Hall

Tuesday 29th

13:30 - 16:00

Gardening Club

Annual Show

Village Hall

### INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE

Treat yourself to a relaxing massage

Indian Head Massage increases circulation improving alertness, concentration, energy, hair growth and complexion. It relaxes the muscles in the shoulders and neck improving tension headaches, stiffness and trapped nerves. It relaxes and eases eye strain and helps with nasal congestion. Symptoms of stress are relieved and sleep is often improved. Individuals receiving this treatment generally experience a sense of peace and relaxation followed by increased vitality.

Treatment time – 35 mins

Cost - £25

For more information contact :-

Wanda Wright, 5 Cooling Road,  
High Halstow.

Tel: 01634 252284

Email: [wandagrech@hotmail.com](mailto:wandagrech@hotmail.com)

# Party in the Park

## 13-17 ? Bored on a Friday Night ?

### Friday 28th August 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 dace 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 finish the summer with fun !

Tickets are available from

High Halstow Post Office,  
Hannah Gwilt or  
The Rectory,

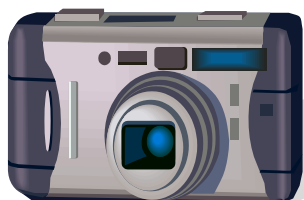


For more information contact Rev. Stephen Gwilt at 01634 250637

## *Say Cheese !*

Building on last years success we are again running a photographic competition to try and find High Halstow's best photographers for 2009. The categories are simple. Under 16's anything in the village . For the Over 16's there are 3 categories, People, Places & Fauna and Flora. All photographs must be taken in the parish boundaries, they must be clearly marked as to who took them where they were taken and when they were taken and contact details. Maximum 4 entries per person. In addition where photographs of children are submitted, parental approval of ALL the children on the picture must be included with the entry. As the winning photographs will be included in the 2009 High Halstow Calendar, photographs MUST be of sufficient size and quality to enable enlargement and reproduction. The Judges decision will be final and no correspondence can be entered into. Winners will be announced at the parish council meeting in October 2009.

All entries to be posted through the Rectory letter box by 13th September 2009. Digital entries should be on a CD or DVD where possible. For Further details Please Contact Rev Stephen Gwilt on 250637



# The Great BBQ Competition

So  
You  
Think  
YOU  
can  
do a great BBQ?



**Saturday 29th  
August at the Rectory**

**Organised in conjunction with  
The British BBQ Society.  
Contact Rev Stephen Gwilt  
for more info on 01634 250 637**

## BBQ rules

Competitors must provide their own BBQ, fuel etc

Competitors are allocated a numbered plot where all their cooking must be done

The plot number is also the competitors competition number.

Food entries must be placed on a plain white paper plate with your competition number plainly written on and no other identifying marks.

Competitors must provide a sausage, a piece of meat, beef, pork, lamb or chicken, of a suitable size to be divided into four for judging

No precooked food allowed and all food has to be cooked during the competition

Entries must be handed in to the judging station between 5 & 5:15pm

The primary criteria for the judges will be taste, although attention will also be paid to appearance

No sauces or condiments may be put on the meat after finishing cooking

Judges decisions will be final and not open to review.

Each competitor may only make one entry

Competitors are responsible for the health and safety of anyone one who enters their allocated cooking space

Application forms must be handed into the post office or to the rectory on or before 26th August 2009 along with a £5 entry fee



## Application form

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone number ..... Email .....

## Do You Know The Score??

Do you think you know your football? Or maybe you just think it is all a load of nonsense and can't see what all the fuss is about. Well prove you can predict the scores better than anyone else in the village for the bragging rights in the Red Dog or maybe the school playground. Paste the following link into your web browser and follow the instructions to log onto to this free online game. Once you have logged in, click on the Mini-Leagues link on the right of the page and then enter the code FC58D-GBM to join the High Halstow league. League table will be published each month in the HHT's.

<http://iknowthescore.premierleague.com/>



Paul McKenna:  
'I can Make you Thin'  
Books and CD's, as seen on TV.  
Unwanted Gift: £35  
Tel: 01634 251272

Waterless Cooker  
Cook complete meal on one ring of  
hob. Absolute Bargain: £30  
Tel: 01634 251272

## Sparkles Summer Sale

Farmers Market High Halstow  
Saturday 1st August

Come along and treat yourself (or a loved  
one) to a special gift at a special price.

Massive reductions on all stock.

### HH Village Website

Recently re-designed and now easier to  
use with loads of interesting information  
and links to local clubs and groups. Please  
have a look and let us know what you  
think.

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

## Baby News

Congratulations to Cllr Martin Mitchell and  
wife Alison on the birth of their twin girls  
Rosie (5lb 2oz) and then Pippa (4lb 10oz) on  
July 21st at 01:36 & 02:19hrs. All three doing  
well and will be back home in a few days.

Also congratulations to Jaimé and Chris  
Tomlinson of Longfield Avenue on the birth of  
their son Oscar (7lb 11oz) on 14th July.



### Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair	01634 250286
e.mail: <a href="mailto:george@highhalstow.org.uk">george@highhalstow.org.uk</a>	
Gary Thomas, Vice Chair	01634 252812
e.mail: <a href="mailto:gary.thomas@medway.gov.uk">gary.thomas@medway.gov.uk</a>	
Martin Andrews	
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

### Readers Letters

Please send in your letters by e.mail to  
[editor@highhalstow.org](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org) or by hand to 8  
Marsh Crescent, High Halstow. Name and  
addresses can be withheld on request.

Contributions for September should be sent by 24th August to:  
Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ  
or e.mail to [editor@highhalstow.org](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org)