



High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



September 2014

Half Pipe Equipment

We are now at the stage of deciding where the half pipe will be sited in the recreation field. We have been advised that the best place for it is along the back of the field between the youth shelter and the kick wall. Because of an objection to this site we will be holding a site meeting to look at the positioning of it. This will take place on Wednesday 10th September at 7.40pm. Our normal Parish Council meeting will take place directly afterward in the Memorial Hall AT 8.00pm.

I would urge anyone who has an interest in this project to come along to the site meeting and the meeting afterward if possible, to have their say. This project has been agreed, it is just a case of ironing out a few differences of opinion.

I hope to see as many of you as possible on the 10th.



Chris Watson
HH Parish Council

Bus Shelter – Christmas Lane

Thank you for your views on whether we should move the bus shelter from near the vets further into Christmas Lane near Half Moon Way.

Due to representation from people using the bus shelter in its current location, the decision taken was to leave the shelter where it is and to look to find additional funds to finance a new shelter near half Moon Way. Please watch this space

HH Parish Council

2014 Photographic Competition



Time is running out to get your entries in for this years photographic competition. There are some wonderful prizes on offer, as well as the fame and prestige of being included in next years High Halstow Calendar. The competition has been running now for the past 5 years and all that we ask is that the picture is taken within the boundaries of High Halstow, it doesn't even have to be taken within the past few months, a favourite picture from years ago is applicable.

The categories are remaining the same i.e. Flora & Fauna, People & Places, 18's & Under. If you are submitting pictures of children, please supply parents permission (although large public events do not require such permission).

Prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places within each category, and an overall winner is chosen. Winning pictures are used in the High Halstow Calendar and an exhibition of all the winning pictures and some of those that didn't win are shown at the October Parish Council meeting. Pictures can now be sent to photos@highhalstow.org.uk - all entries should be submitted by the 9th September 2014.

HH Parish Council



Jessica Durrant - Overall Winner 2013

High Halstow Youth Club

As you will know from the July HHT, Lesley Munday retired from the Youth Club last month. At the last Youth Club session before the summer break all the Youth Club members enjoyed their end of term barbecue. At the barbecue the children presented Mrs Munday with flowers and cards to thank her for all her help and hard work. Her dedication to the Youth Club has been very much appreciated by so many people in the village over the 21 years since she started the Club.

We are always looking for new people to become adult helpers and we hope that you might consider getting in touch to see how you can help the club. We work on a rota system where you can help as often as you like or just occasionally, perhaps once a month – it is up to you to decide how much time you would like to commit and how involved you would like to become in the running of the club. If you feel you could help the Youth Club by giving some of your time please get in touch and I will arrange for you to visit. I can also arrange a DBS(CRB) check for you, free of charge. The club is affiliated to the charity Young Kent which offers various training courses (also free of charge to you if you are interested).

May I remind you that in September the Youth Club will resume its meetings on Tuesdays (term time only) in the Recreation Hall from 7pm till 8.45pm, it is for local children aged 9 and upwards. There is a waiting list for membership so I urge you to send the names of your eight year olds and I will put them on the list. They have to have reached their 9th birthday before they can become a member; I will then contact you as soon a place becomes available.

I look forward to hearing from you, whether you would like to come and visit the club with a view to becoming a helper or add your child's name to the list for future membership (or both!).

Many thanks,
Chris Peek 01634 252604 (email:
chris.peek@lineone.net)

Village Market – Saturday 4th October

The Market is due to return from October following its Summer Break. Watch the next HHT for further details.

For new stall holders please ring Michelle to book your slot 254121.

High Halstow Hikers

Our August walk was later in the month than usual on the Sunday of the bank holiday. We were fortunate to have excellent sunny if slightly cool weather that was perfect for walking the 8 mile round trip to St Mary's Bay from High Halstow village hall. A dozen of us started in the village and made our way via Clint Street to St Mary's where 3 others joined us. As always the fields that lead down to the marshes from St Mary's gave excellent views across the estuary. We used flotsam to create a planned barbecue on the shingle beach, an experience that was familiar to some, new to others and enjoyed by all. The high tide being at midday gave an opportunity for a swim – that nobody took other than the dogs that seemed to have great fun. I've heard no tales of tummy problems from the food although our cocker spaniel Tag wasn't terribly well afterwards! As we rose to leave we had the impressive sight of 8 Thames sailing barges between us and Southend apparently performing in some sort of regatta. The old barges formed quite a contrast with the storage tanks across the river at Canvey Island and the massive cranes at the new container port. The return to the village was along the footpaths around the site of Bessie's cottage with Decoy farm below us.

The September walk on Sunday 14th will be another that we have done once before. We will start from the Ferry House Inn at the end of the Harty Ferry Rd, Sheerness, ME12 4BQ. This is a sign-posted road to the right of the B2231 about a mile before you get to the centre of Leysdown. The pub won the 2014 Kent Dining pub of the Year award so it is likely to be good for lunch but expect booking to be necessary. We should be back there by 1pm after a flat circular walk that takes in Shellness, nature reserves, an historic church and views across the Swale to Faversham and Whitstable.

As ever all are welcome. Enquiries can be made with Mitchell on 01634 254428 or mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com.

High Halstow 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.



Auction Saturday 25th October

Back by popular demand, on Saturday 25th October the committee of the Village Hall are holding an auction to raise funds for Phase 3 of the refurbishment programme.

We are looking for donated items to offer for sale and would be grateful if you could look out anything either new or in very good condition that you could donate to this event. In the past we have taken large items of furniture but sadly storage is limited and we could not take anything larger than a nest of tables or hall table. We are looking for books, cosmetics, toiletries, items of jewellery, glassware and china and new boxed electrical items etc. If you have any "celebrity" items – autographed sports memorabilia or similar these can be added to the celebrity items we already have. Please contact Margaret on 244203 to discuss collection/delivery of any items you may have.

On the night of the event the doors and licenced bar will open at 6.30. You will then have an opportunity to view all the lots being offered for auction. Entrance will be by ticket only priced £5.00, which includes a supper plateau. These are available from either the shop or Margaret. Whether you purchase your tickets from the shop or Margaret, please let Margaret know how many people will be on your table. Your table will be reserved for you and the plateau will be delivered to your table on your arrival.

Catalogues will be available on the night for £1 with news on lots being advertised in next months HHT, the Parish Council Website and High Halstow Appreciation Facebook Page.

Allotments

As you may be aware the Parish Council have a number of allotments which are rented out each year. There are currently 3 people on the waiting list and if you would like to be added to the waiting list please contact Chris Watson on 256529 or email me at chris.watson123@btinternet.com.

HH Parish Council



Canine Holidays
Home Boarding & Day Care for Dogs

Going away? If you're looking for a real "home from home" for your pampered pooch, then look no further than Canine Holidays. We run a small, caring home boarding and day care service for dogs from our cottage in the beautiful St. Mary Hoo countryside.

Your dog can join us for a holiday, a weekend break or even just a day. They will be safe and secure living with us in our home, giving you peace of mind to enjoy your break, knowing that your dog will enjoy theirs too.

If your dog loves lots of cuddles, long walks in the countryside and endless play in our secure garden, Canine Holidays is for you.

For more information please call Charlotte on **01634 271217** or email **charlotte@canineholidays.com**

Canine Holidays is fully insured

Speed Limits

Please can I remind people to observe the speed limits through the Village. We should all be mindful that High Halstow



is a nice place to live where children, older residents and walkers should feel safe. Some may not be as aware of the traffic as they might otherwise be. Please be careful.

George Crozer, HH Parish Council

Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors

Chris(tine) Watson & Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 9th September from 10.30 – 12.00pm 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 questions there and then we will get back to you.

High Halstow Gardeners Annual Show 2014

Our Annual Show held on Saturday 23 August was very successful. We had another increase in the number of exhibits and it was encouraging to see some new faces exhibiting at our show. Many thanks to all those who put entries into the show and well done to all those who were awarded first, second and third places. Robin Burfoot, Medway's Town Crier opened the show in the afternoon with a specially composed poem for the occasion which was appreciated by our the show's visitors. The raffle, tombola and plant stall were very well supported and there was a steady demand for refreshments.

The committee and helpers worked very hard to arrange the Annual Show and it is due to their efforts that it proved to be such a rewarding event.

Full results are as follows:

SECTION 1 Vegetables	Cup for most points in section	Dusty Miller
	Terry Clarke Trophy	Dusty Miller
	Les Shallot Cup	Dusty Miller
SECTION 2 Fruit	Plaque for most points in section	Dusty Miller
SECTION 3 Flowers & Pot Plants	Shield for most points in this section	Dusty Miller
	Plaque for best Pot Plant	Oonagh Elliott
	Hubbard Cup for best Dahlia	Peter Tyler
SECTION 4 Domestic	Mary Follett trophy for most points in section plus £5 voucher	Cheryle Hassell
SECTION 5 Floral Art	Vase for most points plus £5 voucher	June Barton
	Cup for best exhibit in this section	Jane Ovenell
SECTION 6 Arts & Crafts	Plaque for most points	Cheryle Hassell
SECTION 7 Novelty	Potato grown in a bucket, heaviest yield £5 voucher	Eric Shuter
MOST POINTS IN SHOW	Cup and £5 voucher	Dusty Miller
BEST EXHIBIT IN VEGETABLE, FRUIT, FLOWERS AND POT PLANTS	Jim Marsh Plate	Oonagh Elliott
BEST EXHIBIT IN DOMESTIC, FLORAL ART, ART & CRAFTS	High Halstow Gardening Club Plate	Christine Wilson
PRESIDENT'S ROSEBOWL		Rosemary Collins
BEST EFFORT BY NEW MEMBER	£5 Voucher	Jane Ovenell
BEST MEMBER'S GARDEN	IV Uden Shield plus £10 voucher	Robert and Alison Wells
BEST HANGING BASKET	Hillman Cup	Judy Denhard
BEST CONTAINER	Elizabeth Harris Shield	Gwen & Michael Bucknall
TOP TRAY 1ST	£10 seed vouchers & Certificate	Rosemary Collins
TOP TRAY 2nd	£5 see vouchers	Dennis Follett
TOP TRAY 3rd	£3 seed vouchers	Dusty Miller
TOP VASE	£10 seed vouchers & certificate	Rosemary Collins
BANKSIAN MEDAL		Neale Chapman
BEST EXHIBIT VOTED BY VISITORS	Bottle of wine	Wendy White

The weather was kind to us for our trip to Great Dixter enabling us to enjoy our visit to the house and garden followed by an afternoon in Rye.

We meet again on Tuesday 9 September at 8.00pm at the Memorial Hall, High Halstow for a talk on 'Patio and Containers' by Janet Bryant. You would be given a very warm welcome.

Fund Raising Continues

Is it really a year ago that we held an event that raised £6,300 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation? That was a tremendous effort, but has only served to fire Stephen's enthusiasm to have another go. Something a little different this time though – he is walking 500 miles between the 20 Premier League Football Grounds in 4 weeks, starting at Newcastle on 26th September. The 20+1 Premier League Ground Challenge ends at Gillingham on 24th October – not that Gillingham are in the Premier League, but one can dream and, after all, it is Kent's only professional club.

Stephen has been training hard – you may have seen him walking the streets in all weathers – and will be joined on several of the legs by friends and family. However, he is the only one walking the full 500 miles. Quite by chance, I have been dragged in to drive the Lexus support car (emblazoned with the logos of sponsors and supporters) for the full 30 days of the event. So far "Team Laphorn" (which so far includes 8 additional walkers) has received pledges of just over £3,600 in addition to the loan of the car and other contributions towards the cost of the walk. There is more room on the vehicle for additional sponsors, and anyone wishing to take part in any part of the walk will be very welcome. The only conditions are each pays their own way and raises money for JDRF (plus maintaining the pace!).

It all "kicks off" at 10.00 on 26th September from St James Park. Because of time constraints there will be 2 "drives" – from Hull to Burnley, and West Bromwich to Southampton, via Swansea. But all the grounds will be reached on foot.

There has been a friendly response from most of the football clubs, and we will be in a position to auction several items of memorabilia at the closing dinner on 24th October, of which more next month. If I can grasp the technology, you will be able to keep up with progress by visiting The 20+1 Premier League Ground Challenge blog where there will be daily news and comment. In any event, you can also follow on Facebook

(www.facebook.com/pages/The-201-Premier-League-Ground-Challenge)

The good news is that Stephen's son Christopher, who has Type 1 and is now 5, is doing well and continues to show the tenacity of which many of us can only dream. And of course the whole point of the exercise is to raise as much money as possible for JDRF. Donations can be made at www.justgiving.com/PLGC, or at 9, Marsh Crescent.

David Laphorn



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. If you, or an elderly relative would feel safer at home with a telephone 'Lifeline' the Charity could help with this. All requests are dealt with in complete confidence and there is no need to wait for the October form.

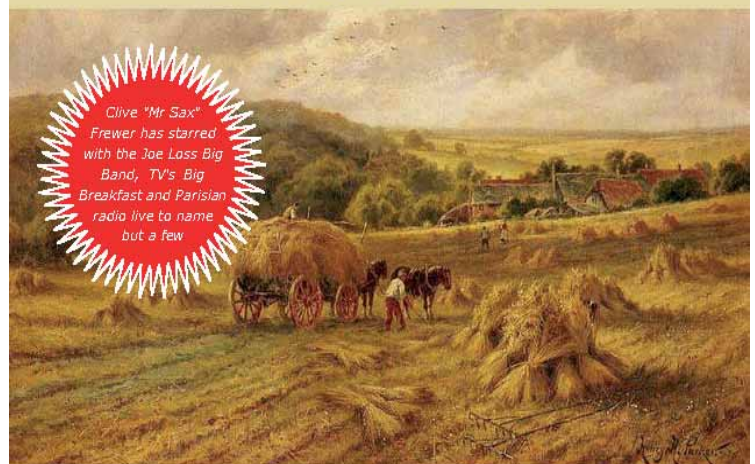
The trustees are:

Rev. S. Gwilt	- The Rectory
Mrs L. Munday	- 22 Willowbank Drive
Mr S. Bailey	- 27 Cooling Road
Mrs J. Gillies	- 22 Leaman Close
Mr J. Myatt	- Decoy Hill Road
Mrs C. Peek	- 2 Willowbank Drive
Mrs J. Collins	- 6 Marsh Crescent

Harvest Supper

With special Guest

Clive Frewer



Saturday 4 October 7.00- 9.30 pm

Allhallows Village Hall

Tickets cost £2.50

Ticket sales close on
Thursday 2nd October

Bring and share supper

"Bring your own food and drink. If you can, include a selection of food to be shared amongst other people on your table. Don't forget plates and cutlery."

Tickets available from the Following:

**All Saints Church, St. Margarets Church or
Rev Stephen Gwilt 01634250637**

Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting. Psalm 102:5

High Halstow Cricket Club



As the season comes to a close, the last game is scheduled for 14th September, we have to reflect on another disappointing season for the adult teams. As I write both 1st and 2nd XIs are fighting to stay in the Kent League, with 2 games each to go. There have been plenty of good individual performances this season, and a few decent team efforts, but in truth neither side has been consistent enough to justify a higher position in Division 5. In August each side has won just once, and picked up insufficient bonus points to defend themselves. The only really encouraging part has been the performances of the colts in adult cricket, with Harrison Hume, Clarke and Tyler Dockwray showing their seniors how to play the game. The Sunday League XI is doing rather better, having won all three of the games they played plus the points gained from a concession by Town Malling. But for a concession of their own, which hands down a 20 point penalty, the team would be challenging for promotion going in to the final game.

A departure from the norm was the sight of rounders being played on Rayners Meadow on 3 Fridays during the month, under Medway Council's Parksport initiative. Hopefully, we will be able to repeat this event next year, with more time to play throughout the summer.

As the season draws to a close, I would like to thank all those who have shown an interest in what goes on at the club, and express the hope that in 2015 we will see many more sharing the experience.

David Laphorn

Dog Owners

We all know that dogs bark - nothing we can do about that, but please, if shutting your dog out in the garden, be mindful of people that live around you and that they may either work night-shift or like to enjoy the peacefulness of their own garden. A barking dog can be a real irritation at anytime of the day, it may be worth checking with your neighbour if your dog is howling whilst you are away or if he sits patiently waiting for your return. Please be considerate to those around you.

High Halstow Parish Council

PENINSULA TEA DANCE

Come and join
us for this free
taster session from
1:00 till 4:00pm.

Can't dance? We are
offering free dance
tuition from one of the
regions top dance
teachers
Tempo Dance Studios

Seasoned professional?
Impress us as we all
take the floor at 2pm.

Limited free
transport available
from MOPP.
Contact Jenny, on
07581 197973 or
jenny@mva.org.uk



Tea and cakes
will be on sale

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entrance and
Tuition for
everyone over
55 on the Hoo
Peninsula.

FRIDAY

3 OCTOBER

**HIGH HALSTOW RECREATION HALL
THE STREET, HIGH HALSTOW**

In collaboration with Medway Older People's Partnership.
For more information contact Rev. Stephen Gwilt 01634 250 637
or email on stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk



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and yourself.

Come and have some fun,
we'll have you in stitches.



Trial Sessions only £3

Wednesday's 3rd, 10th & 17th September
12noon - 2pm

High Halstow Memorial Hall

More Information

Please feel free to call
Cheryl on 01634 255758

Village Hall Committee July Fund Raising

Following another successful Quizathon organised by Margaret, John and Lesley a further £236 has been raised towards the refurbishment now into Phase Three. This is really appreciated and a really good way of bring a large number of the community together to support this project.

A further £250 was successfully raised with the completion of the High Halstow Open. Proceeds from this will be split between the School PTA as well as the Hall.

Many thanks to Rosewood Cleaning as well as other sponsors who made this event a success. Look forward to seeing you all again next year.



Individual Winner

Len Jordan on the left receiving the winning trophy from last year's



Winning Team

Darren Watson
Len Jordan &
Peter Bartlett

Lodge Hill Special Meeting of Planning Committee 4th September @ 6:30pm

There will be a special meeting of the Medway Council Planning Committee to consider the potential development of Lodge Hill. The meeting will be at Gun Wharf, Chatham and although the public are welcome to attend only elected Councillors will be able to speak. HH Parish Council are against this development and any support in our objection would be welcome.

HH Parish Council

Quiz Night – Friday 17th October

The last quiz night of the year for the Village Hall is on Friday 17th October. All the usual rules apply - £3.00 entrance, bring your own nibbles and drink. The evening starts at 7.30, doors open at 7.00.

This is a very enjoyable evening and a good way of raising much needed funds for the hall. Please support this event if you can.

To book a table or individual places please call Margaret on Medway 244203.

Alive and Well?

"By 2032 the populations of 65-84 year olds and the over 85s are set to increase by 39% and 106% respectively ...
If people can stay healthy for longer, they will remain engaged members of society."
Ageing Population, The Kings Fund (2012).

How do we bring about a community that cares about and for itself?



**Saturday 27. September 2014,
10.00 – 4.00pm, Smarden Charter Hall**
£20 per person (to cover costs)

An event for community representatives, residents, volunteers and anyone else that has an interest.

Please put this date in your diary and register for further details at:
info@aliveandwell.org.uk
01303 813790

Action with Communities in Rural Kent

Smarden District Council Scheme



Toddler Group

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

A great way for Mums & Kids to make new friends.

Babies to 4 year olds, just £1 for two hours of play.

Every Thursday, 9am to 11am at the Memorial Hall, High Halstow.

For more details, call Natacha on 254178

Your first session is FREE!

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... Supporting your Independence



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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.

Kings Kitchen

A Coffee and Cake Café
 for the Whole Village.

Open 10.00am - 1.00pm
 every Tuesday
 in the Memorial Hall.

Why not come in and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

A warm welcome awaits you.



High Halstow Pre-school

Modular Building, Primary School, Harrison Drive,
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Proprietor/Manager Mrs Anita Russell BA (Hons), EYPS

- ✓ 'Outstanding Provider' Ofsted
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Open Weekdays, term time only
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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.

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Based in High Halstow
 Contact Jade 07708394979
www.sparklingserenity.co.uk

Keep up to date with treatments & offers



Electric Wheelchair – Relief in Need charity

The High Halstow Relief in Need charity has been given an electric wheelchair. It is a “Quickie Rumba Power Wheelchair”. It seems silly for the charity to simply store it until someone asks for one, so I am writing on behalf of the Trustees to let you know that this wheelchair is available and we would be interested to hear from anyone in High Halstow who might have a need for it.

Please contact me if you want to know more about it. Thank you.

Mrs Chris Peek 01634 252604 email: chris.peek@lineone.net



THE SWEETEST THINGS
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Bespoke Cakes Design for all occasion, we only use the finest ingredient to create the perfect cake for every occasion. So if you have a Birthday, christening or wedding on the horizon why not give me a call or email.

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Contact Jonathan directly on the Office No: 01474 879878 or

Freephone: 0800 321 38 79

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REALLY IMPORTANT!!!!

Does your **COMPUTER** run....

Does this look familiar???



(At Start Up)



(To Log In)



(Label on PC)



(Desktop)



Currently from 8th April 2014*

Microsoft™ Support

for ALL XP™ Versions will discontinue!!!!

YOUR COMPUTER WILL BE AT SEVERE RISK!!!!

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

I will deal with you personally so I can provide you with the best service. I offer a fast and friendly service and explain any problems about your computer to you in an easy to understand way.

I Can upgrade or supply new computers with...**

☐ Windows™ 7 on.... and **NOT** the new unpopular Windows 8™ on!

* As currently stated by Microsoft™ as at 1st December 2013. ** Subject to Old PC Specification.

You may become vulnerable to:

- ☐ Destructive Viruses!
- ☐ Banking Fraud!
- ☐ Total Computer Failure!
- ☐ On-Line Credit Card Theft!
- ☐ Identity Stolen!
- ☐ Being Spied On!

(All Antivirus products will cease to update at this time also)

If Running XP you will need to upgrade or replace your old PC To keep yourself Secure!!!**

Regards
Jonathan

Dates for Diary

Every Tuesday:

King's Kitchen	Memorial Hall
10:00	
Bell Ringers	St Margaret's
19:30	
Church	

Every Thursday:

Mother and Toddler's	Memorial Hall
09:00	
Sugar Babes	Memorial Hall
19:00	

Every Friday:

Pilates with Joy	Memorial Hall
14:15	

Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers	Memorial Hall
09:00	

Every 4th Wednesday:

Friendly Club	Memorial Hall
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Other Dates:

Wednesday 3rd:	Women's Institute
19:30	Memorial Hall
Sunday 7th:	Family Service
09:00	St. Margaret's Church
Tuesday 9th:	Gardening Club
20:00	Memorial Hall
Wednesday 10th:	Parish Council
20:00	Memorial Hall
Sunday 14th:	High Halstow Hikers
	Details in HHT
Sunday 21st:	Tea at the Blitz
14:30	Village Hall
Wednesday 24th:	Friendly Club
14:00 - 16:00	Memorial Hall
Friday 26th:	Quiz Night
20:00	Memorial Hall

October 2014:	
Saturday 4th:	Village Market
Friday 17th:	Village Hall Quiz
Saturday 25th:	Auction

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.

The Village Shop

Opening Hours


Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm
 Sunday 8am – 2pm
 Telephone number: 01634 254561

Learn GUITAR

Professional guitarist and guitar teacher offers 1 to 1 tuition. All ages and abilities welcome. Graduate of London Guitar Institute and playing experience includes The Who and Robbie Williams. Can inc practical, grades & theory.

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H: 01634 256631

Dear Sir,

I recently uncovered an old photo of my grandfather (Thomas S. White on the back row right side) taken in High Halstow in around 1914/1915 when he served in the Anti Aircraft/Searchlight detachment of the Royal Engineers. A low res image of it is attached. As this is the 100th anniversary of that conflict, I thought you might be interested. If you could identify the location of the hut in that picture I would be grateful. As an aside, he later went to the Somme/Mons and survived the war unscathed. He spent some time in Cologne after the war as part of the occupying force and later became a councillor and active politician in Northfleet. I believe he was deputy mayor at some point. Any information on the picture can be sent to editor@highhalstow.org.uk.

Kind Regards



**Dramarama and the Village Hall Committee
are proud to present.....**

**'Keep Smiling Through'
followed by
"Tea at the Blitz"**

A Second World War stage show followed by a full afternoon tea.

21st September 2014

**Price £5.00 per ticket including afternoon tea
from Joanne Mitchell - 250911**

**Doors from 2.30pm / Show Starts at 3:00pm
Afternoon Tea served from approx. 4:00pm**

Readers Letters

Dear High Halstow Times

7th July 2014

I read with interest every issue of the HHT that is delivered especially the readers' letters to see who is having a go at who, and who is public enemy No1

I now feel it's time to make my small contribution, so here goes

I was not particularly surprised when at midday on Monday 7th July my neighbour lit another of his horrendously smelly bonfires, bearing in mind that it was a lovely hot day, 22° C, with hardly any wind, all my windows were open, the washing was drying nicely on the line and we were in the garden

I was not surprised because, since the head of the household wrote an impassioned plea in the April 2012 edition of the HHT for residents to consider their neighbours when burning waste, the household has on numerous occasions consistently ignored his advice and burnt waste in their garden at all hours of the day causing us to bring in freshly laundered washing and close the windows.

Neither was I surprised when on calling on the household to inform them that I was "unhappy" with the situation I was told that they would let the bonfire burn down and had instead lit another fire in the house fireplace to dispose of the waste, effectively causing the same smoke to spiral from the chimney of the house.

As someone who is a Parish Councillor and adds many comments to the HHT, the "Green Fingered" author of the plea would also be aware that Medway Council supports and encourages recycling and that in March 2013 the Kent fire Brigade submitted an article in the HHT regarding bonfires and the burning of household waste with the comment, "it is also worth remembering that there are more environmentally friendly ways of getting rid of waste (Garden) without having a bonfire"

So come on Woodlands practice what you preach for once and think of your neighbours.

Simon & Linda Barnett

Northwood Avenue

Response ..

Oh course we would not want to cause a nuisance to our neighbours and apologise for any distress our bonfire or chimney may have caused.

If complaints of this nature are unresolved by negotiation they should of course be referred to Medway Councils Environmental Heath Department by calling 01634 306000.

George Crozer
Woodlands

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
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
clerk@highhalstow.org.uk

Next edition October 2014; Contributions for October should be sent by 24th September to:

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