



# High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



October 2017

## ***HIGH HALSTOW RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY***

This charity exists to assist those in need in the village, especially widows and widowers. If you would like the trustees to give consideration to a particular need, please complete the form below. You may apply for yourself or for someone known to you, but their permission must be sought.

***Payments may be made for the following:***

Special payments to relieve sudden distress, travelling expenses to hospital or convalescent home for patients or visitors to patients; fuel bills; food for special diets; medical or other aids; telephone "help line"; nursing care; alterations in the home to assist the disabled; purchase of necessary items for the home; books or tools to assist in earning a living; or assistance towards a holiday for someone who really could not afford one otherwise. Where a specific request is made, e.g. to help with heating or telephone bills, a copy of the relevant bill should be provided and a receipt needed. These are only some of the examples that will be considered by the Charity. Any other requests will also be considered.

**Please return your forms to any of the following trustees:**

<b>Reverend S. Gwilt</b>	- The Rectory
<b>Mr S. Bailey</b>	- 27 Cooling Road
<b>Mrs J. Collins</b>	- 6 Marsh Crescent
<b>Mrs L. Munday</b>	- 22 Willowbank Drive
<b>Mr J. Myatt</b>	- Decoy Hill Road
<b>Mrs C. Peek</b>	- 2 Willowbank Drive
<b>Mrs N. Turner</b>	- 12 Marsh Crescent

All requests are dealt with confidentially.

**Please return all forms by  
31st October 2017**

Name: .....

Address: .....

Help Required: .....

## Editorial

Time goes quickly and no sooner than we had rushed to get the September issue of the High Halstow Times to the Printer, we find ourselves working on the next edition.

We have had a lot of good feedback on our efforts once again, for which we are both grateful. Long hours at the last minute to finalise minor details are worth it in the end.

We've had a lot going on in High Halstow. The WI Fashion Show, the MacMillan Coffee Morning, a couple of meetings regarding land development on the peninsula as well as all our usual sporting activities and various club meetings.

Just another great day in High Halstow.

If you have a story about High Halstow that you would like to tell you can either email us at

**Editor@HighHalstow.org** or write to us via

**Linda Atkinson, 32 Goodwood Close, High Halstow.**

**Linda and Natalie**

### NEED TO HIRE A HALL?

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

**Memorial Hall** Angela Forward 01634 251756

**Recreation Hall** Martin Mitchell 07752 682437

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



*In parts of Scandinavia you would have a 23% chance of surviving an out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest. In the UK, it is around 7%. This is attributed to the fact that in those countries CardioPulmonary Resuscitation is taught in Schools, and therefore the general public are more confident and knowledgeable to carry out CPR if needed!*

**Let us all try and buck that trend**

And learn to

## RESTART A HEART

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 come along to the High Halstow Recreation Hall Starting at 12 noon and running until 8pm, and receive tuition on when and how to carry out quality CPR.

**This is not just a 'Life Skill' it's a 'Life Saving Skill'**

The sessions are relaxed, very informal and FREE. Just drop in, have a chat and have a go. **Open to all ages**

**Hoo Peninsula  
Community First Responders  
South East Coast Ambulance Service**



## Letters

Kevin, Ann and Clare would like to thank everyone for their sympathy following the death of Kevin's mum, Doreen, in June. The family wish to thank those who attended Doreen's funeral and also kindly donated towards the two nominated charities. A total of £90 was raised for the Salvation Army and £110 for Blind Veterans UK.

With thanks too, to Rev. Stephen Gwilt for his support and for conducting the funeral service.

A popular neighbour and keen knitter, Doreen is sadly missed but fondly remembered by her family and many friends in the village.

**Kevin, Ann and Clare Stanbury**

Our cat, who is 19 and blind, was found in Christmas lane and was handed in to the vets. We are really grateful for that kind deed and it would be great if we could thank personally the kind villager that did this for us. (Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk)

As a humours note we had always thought Tiger was male and it turns out she is a Tigress!

**Mr and Mrs John Mason, Harrison Drive**

### St. Margaret's Church Sunday Services

**8:00am – High Halstow**  
Holy Communion Book of  
Common Prayer

**9:30am – High Halstow**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays – All age worship  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays – Morning Prayer  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Family Communion

**6:30pm – High Halstow**  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Holy Communion  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Informal Worship

*Caring for the needs of the community for over 1000 years*

**Baptisms by  
arrangement  
1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
of each month  
at 9.30am**

For further  
information.  
Rev Stephen Gwilt  
**01634 250637**  
OR email: Stepheng-  
wilt2@hotmail.co.uk

### Kings Kitchen

**A Coffee and Cake Café  
for the whole village**

**Open 10am-1pm**

**Every Tuesday**  
in the Memorial Hall,  
High Halstow

Why not come in and enjoy  
a cuppa and a chat.  
A warm welcome awaits you.

## Southend Airport is Changing Fight Paths Over the Peninsula

Southend Airport is putting in place a beacon system to be able to guide aircraft into land without the use of their existing radar (vectoring) system. Initially it will be used as a back up safety feature as not all aircraft using the airport are equipped with the technology.

The beacon route will guide aircraft in over Hoo and between Cliffe and Cliffe Woods.

The traffic we are seeing today is about 50% of the total allowable flights so it is possible that we will see an increase in existing traffic with appropriately 10% of that traffic using the new beacon route.

The allowable height for aircraft flying over the peninsula is not changing.

**The consultation for High Halstow Parish Council closed 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017. If you want to express your views about this please respond via [George@HighHalstow.org.uk](mailto:George@HighHalstow.org.uk) or [Clerk@HighHalstow.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@HighHalstow.org.uk)**



## Hoo Meeting 30 August 2017 – organised by Ron Sands of Hands off Hoo Peninsula

**Present:** Approximately 200 members of the public who asked many questions

**Alan Jarrett** **Leader, Medway Council**

Spoke at length on the number of homes to be delivered, which he explained had been sent down to Medway from Government. Believes larger developments benefit the local community because the bigger developments bring larger sums of Section 106 funding.

**Phil Filmer** **Ward Conservative Councillor and Cabinet member and Portfolio holder for Highways**

In constant back to back meetings for Medway on Highways and the Medway Plan. Is in agreement with locals that the figure of 7,000 new dwellings for the peninsula is too high.

**Roy Freshwater** **UKIP Ward Councillor**

We have been asking for updated infrastructure for over 10 years. Will carry on fighting land development on the peninsula.

**Kelly Tolhurst** **Conservative MP for Rochester and Strood**

Confirmed that the figure of 29,500 came from a Housing Assessment Report on Medway. Spoke at length and admitted that in her opinion the proposed figure of 29,500 homes is totally undeliverable.

**Vince Maple** **Leader, Labour Group of Councillors in Medway**

Spoke at length on housing issues in Medway and is in favour of delivering as many homes as possible throughout Medway.

**Theresa Murray** **Deputy Leader, Labour Group of Councillors in Medway and Shadow Portfolio holder for Health**

Spoke at length to clarify Labour's position on the delivery of house and agreed with infrastructure issues. Gave information on The Listening Project for residents to attend.

**John Tildesley** **Chairman, Hoo Parish Councillor**

Gave a short speech on his disagreement with all the potential new developments on the peninsula.

**For further information on High Halstow please visit our village website.  
[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)**



## Parish Council News

### Resume of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Because of the presentation made by Redrow before the official start of the parish council meeting, the agenda was curtailed and only essential items discussed. A report about Redrow's aspirations is outlined on page 5.

After the presentation, ten members of the public stayed behind to listen to the meeting. Of the councillors, both Brian Williams and Mick O'Hanlon were missing, due to holidays.

There were two planning applications. One was for an extension to replace the conservatory at a property in Topley Drive and there were no objections. The other was for the demolition of the garage to a property in Harrison Drive, with the erection of a part two, part single storey side extension and single storey extension to front and rear. The parish council has objected to this on the grounds of loss of light and amenity to the neighbour.

The annual audit for the year 2016/17 has been successfully concluded. The completed audit return will eventually go on the websites.

Neither of our representatives went to the last meeting of the Police Liaison Committee, but Martin Andrews reported that there is a new PCSO, Sean Alderton. The PCSO also covers the Strood Rural ward of Medway, ie, Wainscott, Cliffe, Cliffe Woods and Chattenden. With the Peninsula ward, he has quite an area to cover.

There is another consultation about Southend Airport, with a proposal to introduce performance based

navigation (PBN) approach procedures at London Southend Airport. Details can be found using this link: <http://southendairport.com/corporate-and-community/proposed-arrival-routes>. Further details are on page 3.

A resident complained about some of the footpaths in the village across farmland and asked the parish council to put pressure on Medway Council to clear them. She also mentioned the ditch along Britannia Road that is apparently full of rubbish.

There was also a report of a near miss with an Easyjet aircraft and a drone that was being flown from Ropers Green Lane. Please be aware of the dangers of flying drones, especially as we are in the flight paths for Southend and City Airports and aircraft will be on their descents.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October in the Memorial Hall at 8pm. We look forward to seeing you there.**



### Come and meet your Parish Councillors

Christine Watson and Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors, will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October** from 10.30am–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.**

#### Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, <i>Chair</i>	01634 250 286
Christine Watson, <i>Vice Chair</i>	01634 256 529
Martin Andrews	07984 791 029
Linda Atkinson	07825 619 353
Ray Collins	01634 250 105
Gary Jerreat	01634 253 999
Bill Khatkar	07775 668 620
Brian Williams	07908 006 448
Mick O'Hanlon	07752 873 379



Your Councillors can also be contacted through the Parish Clerk Mrs Roxana Brammer.  
Email: [clerk@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:clerk@highhalstow.org.uk), Tel: 01474 871 269

**For further information on how your Parish Council works for you please visit our village website.**  
**[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)**

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## High Halstow Land Development

Public interest in the proposed predatory expansion of the village by Redrow Homes at Walnut tree Farm was such that the Parish Council meeting had to move on mass from its usual memorial Hall venue to the much larger Village Hall.

Representatives from Redrow Homes were invited to address the Parish Council ahead of their application for Planning Permission to build on land at Walnut Tree Farm, off Britannia Road to the east of the Willowbank drive and Longfield Avenue with an access created along Britannia Road.

The proposal is for around 70 dwellings made up of 2 to 4 bedrooomed, two storey houses and 3 storey flats. A 30% allocation of affordable housing would be required.

The representative from Redrow Homes explained that the siting of this development is included in one of the options outlined in Medway's draft plan. They believe that it would cause a relatively low impact on the area. They have undertaken their own ecological assessment and are in the process of reviewing other essential surveys.

As well as the normal consultation associated with a planning application of this size they intend to consult with residents and stakeholders individually. They offered to summarise all feedback before they go forward with a local exhibition.

The Parish Council and our Local Ward councillor Phil Filmer pointed out that the new Local Plan, due to be adopted in 2019, would very likely include an allocation of housing for High Halstow and that this proposal was "predatory" and may not be part of that new "Local Plan".

Residents, abundantly aware of the lack of facilities and infrastructure within the village, raised many issues that would need to be addressed before any large scale development could be considered sustainable or in any way desirable. Questions raised included:-

- Lack of adequate sewage facilities, siting many examples of existing system overloads;
- Lack of places of education, siting many examples of residents of having to send children elsewhere with the disruption caused to everyday life;
- Lack of and quality of public transport, siting the alternative and unacceptable expensive journeys to and from school and places of work. Many in the village travel to London to work and regularly spend more than 12 hours away from home each day;
- Lack of and poor quality of our roads in and out of the village and on and off of the peninsula, sitting the



dangerous A228 and the regular congestion at the only access to the peninsula at Four Elms Hill and Junction 1 of the M2

- Lack of good air quality siting the recent reports of the air quality at four elms Hill; and the
- Lack of access to GPs.

The Parish Council would like to hear your views about the Proposed Expansion of High Halstow so that it can properly formulate its response to the application when it is brought forward.

A further meeting will be called later in the year to give another opportunity for you to have your say.

Please keep in touch and up to date with your views at our Meetings every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8.00pm in the Memorial Hall. You could also speak to two of your Councillors at our monthly surgery at the Kings kitchen on the 2nd Tuesday morning of the month, again in the Memorial Hall. Equally, you could email [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk).

**For further information on High Halstow please visit our village website.  
[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)**



## Save the Date

### FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S Christmas Tree Festival 2017

This year we are planning to hold the Festival in St Margaret's Church.

This will enable the trees to be displayed for several days between Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December and including some afternoons during that week. Refreshments will be available with entertainment on Saturdays

We can display a maximum of 23 trees so if you would like to be involved please contact June Collins on [junemari49@gmail.com](mailto:junemari49@gmail.com) or 01634 250105.



Tree applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis for a £5 fee. The closing date for applications is 25 November.

### High Halstow Womens Institute presents A Family Spooky Afternoon Tea



on Saturday 28th October  
at 2pm until 4pm  
in the Village Hall

Entrance £3 including tea and games  
Tickets will be on sale soon from Crystal on 251849  
Everyone welcome – come and have some fun



**Come along for a fun packed night!**

- ★ Friday 6th October, 7.30pm ★ High Halstow Primary School ★
- ★ £4 per person, teams of up to 8 ★ Bring nibbles & drinks ★

Please complete & return this slip with your payment to the School Office  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve me \_\_\_\_\_ places @ £4 each I have enclosed £ \_\_\_\_\_

If sending a cheque, please make payable to 'HHPs PTA'



### DEANGATE RIDGE GOLF CLUB



**FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 7:00 FOR 7:30**

- £5 per head (to include nibbles)
- Proceeds to go towards wheelchair for former Medway Council colleague Ian Andrews.
- All welcome.

**To book a table or enter a team  
call Maureen Bromley 01634 333966.**

For further information on High Halstow please visit our village website.  
[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)

# Calendar

OCTOBER	6 <sup>th</sup> Friday	19:00 for 19:30	<b>Deangate Ridge Golf Club Quiz Night</b>	Deangate Ridge Golf Club £5 per head – to include nibbles
	6 <sup>th</sup> Friday	19:30	<b>PTA Quiz Night</b> Fun packed night. Bring your own nibbles & drinks.	Primary School, High Halstow <i>Enquiries to school office</i>
	7 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	09:00	<b>Bowls</b> (see Sports page)	Deangate Bowls Club
	10 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	12:00-20:00	<b>Restart a Heart – OPEN TO ALL</b>	Recreation Hall, High Halstow
	28 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	14:00-16:00	<b>WI Halloween Children's Tea</b> Crystal 01634 251849	Recreation Hall, High Halstow <i>Entrance £3 including tea &amp; games</i>
	29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	<b>CLOSING DATE</b>	<b>Photographic Competition 2017</b>	High Halstow
NOVEMBER	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	14:00-16:00	<b>Poppy Knit and Natter</b>	St Margaret's Church, High Halstow
	8 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	14:00-16:00	<b>Poppy Knit and Natter</b>	St Margaret's Church, High Halstow
	18 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	14:00-15:00	<b>A Taste of Christmas</b> Crafts & Gifts, Cakes & Festive Food	St Margaret's Church, High Halstow
	29 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	20:00	<b>Christmas Concert</b> – Cuxton Music Group & High Halstow Community Choir	St Margaret's Church, High Halstow <i>Entrance £6 – includes refreshments</i>
DECEMBER	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	Time TBC	<b>High Halstow Primary School Christmas Fete</b>	Primary School, High Halstow
	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	17:00	<b>HHCL Christmas draw</b>	Primary School Fete, High Halstow
	9 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Time TBC	<b>Christmas Tree Festival</b> with Karman Dancers	St Margaret's Church, High Halstow <i>refreshments available</i>
	16 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Time TBC	<b>Christmas Tree Festival</b> with Matthew Crane	St Margaret's Church, High Halstow <i>refreshments available</i>

If you have an event coming up in High Halstow please email: [Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk](mailto:Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk) for inclusion

REGULAR DATES			
MONDAYS	Line Dancing	10:30-12:30	Memorial Hall
Alternate Mondays	Community Choir	20:00-21:00	St Margaret's Church
TUESDAYS	Kings Kitchen	10:00	Memorial Hall
	Circuit Training	18:15-19:15	Memorial Hall
	Youth Club	19:00-20:45	Recreation Hall
	Bell Ringers	19:30-21:00	St Margaret's Church
WEDNESDAYS	Tai Chi	10:30-11:30	Memorial Hall
THURSDAYS	Seated Exercise	11:00-11:45	Memorial Hall
	Sugar Babes	19:00	Memorial Hall
FRIDAYS	Pilates	14:15-15:45	Memorial Hall
SATURDAYS	Karmann Dancers	09:00	Memorial Hall
	KLUK Martial Arts	09:30	Memorial Hall
SUNDAYS	Holy Communion BCP	08:00	St Margaret's Church
	Deja Vu Spiritual Centre	18:30	Village Hall

Every 1 <sup>st</sup> WED	Women's Institute	19:30	Memorial Hall
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> WED	Parish Council Meeting	20:00	Memorial Hall
Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> TUES	Gardening Club	20:00	Memorial Hall
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> WED	Whist Club	14:00	Memorial Hall
Every 4 <sup>th</sup> WED	Friendly Club	14:00	Memorial Hall
Last FRI	Quiz Nights	20:00	Memorial Hall
1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> SUN	All Age Worship	09:30	St Margaret's Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> SUN	Morning Prayer	09:30	St Margaret's Church
4 <sup>th</sup> SUN	Family Communion	09:30	St Margaret's Church
1 <sup>st</sup> SUN	Holy Communion	18:30	St Margaret's Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> SUN	Informal Worship	18:30	St Margaret's Church
1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> SUN	Baptisms by arrangement	09:30	St Margaret's Church

## Quiz Nights

We are squeezing in another Quiz for the Village Hall this year.

**The date for this will be October 13<sup>th</sup>**

To book a table, please ring Margaret on 01903 340953 or 07702 196179  
Entry £3.00 per person. Door from 7.30.

The Quiz Nights have played a significant part in the Fund Raising for the refurbishment for which the Hall Committee are extremely grateful so if you want a fun evening, chance to win some prizes and help keep the hall in tip top condition why not come along and support this event.



## The Medway Street Angels

The Medway Street Angels are a not-for-profit organisation.

Neil Charlick, Amber Gilbert and Samantha Hewish started the Medway Street Angels in 2016 after seeing more and more homeless coming to our towns. The three originators started feeding the homeless one day a week. This has quickly developed into 6 days per week, throughout the year.

Using our 47 Volunteers we provide all essentials from camping equipment, food, drinks and everyday essentials.

We support all rough sleepers, homeless, sheltered accommodation users and those closest to being homeless. We are a non-political, non-religious organisation, which ensures our clients trust us to share their worries and fears. We rely on fundraising through public groups and donations either of materials or monetary.

There are a multitude of reasons why people become homeless and this is not always a direct result to an addiction. We regularly deal with Mental Health Issues, PTSD, bereavement with no will, marriage break ups, and run-aways. Currently the age range of homeless is from 19 to 72, that we support, but unfortunately we have had younger.

Addiction to alcohol and drugs is a desperate measure in an attempt to make them forget where they are and what is happening around them. We give support without religious or political preferences, meaning they can trust us with anything.

Without an address or care of address they receive no benefits to support them, shortage of houses or lack of vulnerabilities means they are at bottom of the housing



priority list.

Since The Medway Street Angels begun we have successfully managed to reintegrate four people back into the world of working and supporting themselves. We will continue this care with them until they decide they no longer need us. Contact us on 07564 829189 should you have any concerns regarding yourself or anyone else.

Please visit our Facebook fundraising page at The Medway Street Angels. We also have a Just Giving page where you

can donate directly to us. All donations are used directly for the homeless.

When we first met Russell he was always heavily intoxicated. He frequently lost consciousness on a bench or on the floor and having to be dragged to his tent to be kept safe there.

For months we watched this happen to him, helping where we could. We gradually grew closer to Russell and gained his trust and encouraging him to seek medical help and addiction counselling. We attended all appointments with him and he had a few serious health scares but with our continued support he is now in control of his addiction

Russell is a success story.

Being put into sheltered accommodation and frequently coming to work with one of the founders of MSA he has managed to keep on the same path. Russell was told he had 3 weeks to live but he's still here 3 months on and always volunteers with us. Russell says: "People are quick to notice when I was drunk and judge me for being homeless but now I'm sober nobody notices me so I don't get judged anymore."







A true Street Angel. Rose and Russell were asleep in their double tent in February earlier this year. At approximately 01:00-02:00am Russell awakened Rose and screamed at her that “he didn’t want to be burnt alive.” He was on fire and Rose was trying to put him out with her hands. “It was awful. We thought we were going to die. There was molten plastic all over me.”

Rose managed to get Russell out of the tent and within seconds it was fully alight. Rose and Russell had lost all their possessions but not their lives.

Russell said “The bushes were alight, the tent was up. It was all on fire. I could never sleep in a tent again.”

They were taken to Medway hospital and Rose was later transferred to the specialist burns unit in East Grinstead for treatment to her legs, hips and face.

They both recovered in a shelter in Gillingham and received help from Medway Street Angel team leader, Neil Charlick.

**Tim Redsell, Medway Street Angels**

## From High Halstow to Malawi with love!

We just wanted to share with you the good news that our Cooling Road Home Group blankets, after many weeks in transit, have arrived safely in Malawi and appear to be greatly appreciated.

We do recognise some of our blankets, which is quite thrilling. For example the blanket held by the lovely little boy, photographed on his own, appears to have been the one crocheted by Maureen Wellard.

Thank you so much for your kind donations of wool and we would ask you to keep up the good work. This wouldn’t happen without you! Another 20 blankets have also recently gone off to Gillingham Lions for their Orphanage in Belarus.

Thank you all.  
**Hazel Beringer**



For further information on High Halstow please visit our village website.  
[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)

## High Halstow WI Fashion Show

High Halstow WI have been in full funding mode to raise enough money for a new 60th year commemorative village sign. After the success of our Strawberry Tea afternoon, the next event would have been hard to beat but beat it we did. The Fashion Show was a roaring success.

Our Committee sold many tickets beforehand but interested ladies were still queuing up at the door to get in and pay for a chance to take part in our second fund raiser.

The WI hosted the event while Travelling Trends provided the garments etc. They set up their clothing around the hall and their sound system and laid out the Catwalk in traditional style.

Members were press-ganged, a few months before, into volunteering to model some of the clothing, alongside two professional models that work with Travelling Trends.



The main speaker did a tremendous job of talking the audience through the outfits being modelled on the Catwalk. Each model had 4 outfits to wear, some of which had jackets to match and the models had to remove jackets as professional as they could and show, when asked how the fabric felt to touch. It was all very nerve racking for the volunteers but they did a great job.

Once the Fashion Show was over, there were refreshments available and everyone was requested to look on the many rails of High Street garments at bargain prices.

Everyone looked happy with their many purchases. This was evident as there was a long line for the Changing Room and consequently at the till to pay.

During the evening the High Halstow Community Lottery presented a cheque to us for £1,000 for which we are grateful. If we include the ticket money from the Fashion Show and the commission on the sales for the evening, together with other donations we have now almost reached our target.

Don't forget our last fund raising event for the year, which will be for the children this time. It's our Halloween Party on 28 October in the Recreation Hall.

A big thank you to everyone who supported us.

**Crystal Wakefield,**  
*President High Halstow Women's Institute*



For further information on High Halstow please visit our village website.  
[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)



## Classified

YOU COULD ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE FROM ONLY £10 email: Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk



**GUITAR LESSONS**

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### Looking For Stall Holders!!

Upcoming Craft and Well-being Events:

**HIGH HALSTOW VILLAGE HALL**  
The Street, High Halstow, ME3 8SQ

- 29 July 2017
- 30 September 2017
- 28 October 2017
- 25 November 2017

**CHATTENDON COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
Swinton Ave, Chattenden, Rochester ME3 8PH

- 7 October 2017
- 4 November 2017
- 2 December 2017

For more information and to book a stall contact:

craftastic.events@gmail.co.uk

Bookings made on a first come first served basis to avoid doubles where possible.



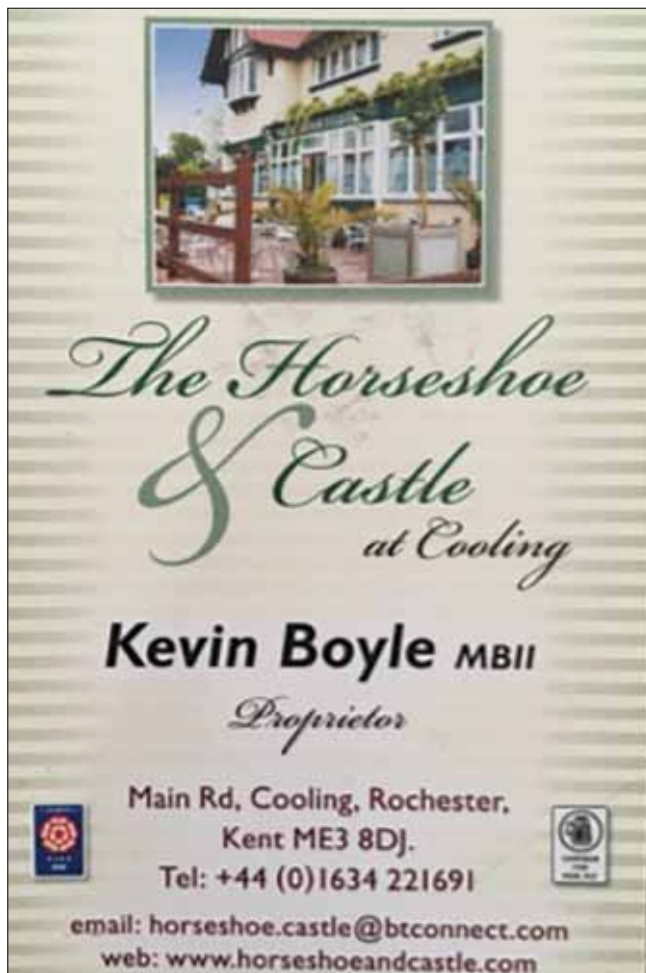
**EVENTS**

Taking bookings for:

- Craft stalls
- Therapists
- Beauty products
- Well-being advisors
- Mediums
- Healers
- Jewellery

Block and Single Bookings welcome

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons



*The Horseshoe & Castle*  
at Cooling

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## High Halstow & District Garden Club

Another busy month for the club. Sally Berkeley came to the club on the 12th September and gave us a presentation entitled "The Madness of Gardeners". This talk focused on the rivalry and huge amounts of money spent by the nobility in an effort to out class each other using their gardens. Today we are lucky enough to be able to explore these magnificent gardens including Versailles, Hampton court, Hever castle and Blenheim palace to mention only a few.

The visit to Kew Gardens on 13<sup>th</sup> September was well attended. It was a beautiful day and the gardens were enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be held at the memorial hall at 20.00

hrs on the 10th October. Our speaker will be Jim Buttress. His subject will be "The World Garden Lullingstone Castle". Jim was head gardener of the Royal Parks including Buckingham palace and since his retirement has had books published and appeared on many TV and radio programmes. I would encourage you to come along to listen to Jim. His talks are interesting and sometimes very humorous.

**Entrance to the event is £1.50**

**or a full club membership for the year is only £5.00**

**Refreshments and a raffle will follow the talk.**

**For any other information please contact us by email [hhdgc@outlook.com](mailto:hhdgc@outlook.com)**

### Down to earth gardening tips

#### OCTOBER Plant Profile:

#### **Sedum 'Joyce Henderson' [Stonecrop]**

**Description:** Upright hardy perennial with fleshy succulent leaves. The leaves are blue-green in summer and flushed with purple in autumn. It has very attractive flowers to bees which are pink starting in late summer and all through autumn. Height and spread about 24 inches (60 cm).



**Likes:** It prefers a fairly light well-drained neutral soil in full sun.

**Care:** You can keep the seed heads on through winter or cut down after flowering to keep the plant in shape. Easy to take softwood cuttings or divide to make another plant. Drought tolerant when established.

#### **Some other things to do this month:**

- Divide and replant herbaceous perennials – a good example is the sedum.
- Collect ripe seeds and store in a dry cold place overwinter.
- Prune floribunda and hybrid tea type roses back by a third to protect from strong winds.
- Mulch borders with garden compost or well-rotted farmyard manure. The ideal depth to mulch is 7cm (3 inches).
- Plant out spring cabbage.
- Apply grease bands to apple and pear trees to prevent winter moths crawling into the trees to lay their eggs.
- Make a leaf pile for hibernating insects.
- Allow some ivy to mature and flower as it's a great late source of nectar and berries for insects.

### Fund Raising

The September draw for the August game took place at the Nag's Head in Lower Stoke. The two winning balls were taken from the box by the Barmaid who had her eyes firmly shut.

A big thanks to the Landlord for his hospitality. If you would like to play please contact Linda on 07825 619 353 for details.

**Linda Atkinson and Mick O'Hanlon – High Halstow Community Lottery Committee**

**DISCLAIMER: The High Halstow Community Lottery is administered by a Committee formed by villagers of High Halstow and is not connected in any way with High Halstow Parish Council.**

Game	Venue drawn	Postcode	Area	Amount	Total won to date
August game (Sept draw)	Nag's Head Stoke	ME3 8SU ME3 7DU	Goodwood Close, High Halstow Rye Street, Cliffe	£1,000 £200	£11,010
July game (August draw)	Horseshoe & Castle	ME3 9PW ME3 8RN	St Davids Road Allhallows, Radcliffe Highway, St Mary Hoo	£1,000 £100	£9,810

**For further information on High Halstow please visit our village website.  
[www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk](http://www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk)**



## High Halstow Hikers

Our early September walk started from the centre of Lamberhurst, an attractive village close to the Kent Sussex border and took us to Hook Green to the west. Sat-nav problems for one couple meant that our group of 11 would have otherwise been 13 – it seems that Hastings Beach provided an alternative stroll!

The others of us enjoyed a varied walk through vineyards, orchards and woodland as well as through meadows and cultivated fields. The route from the Ordnance Survey book of "Kent Walks" was generally well sign-posted and much of the time took us between relatively isolated farms and associated buildings, many of which had been beautifully restored or rebuilt.

We crossed the Kent-Sussex border a number of times although you would not have known it save for indications in the guidebook. There was one



stretch of about 20 yards that was so deep in soft mud that it would have been better suited to bog-snorkelling but otherwise the paths were in good condition.

Given a few small "detours" the walk was a bit over 7 miles and very enjoyable. Remarkably the weather forecast had been for rain to reach Lamberhurst at 1.00pm and it was just 5 minutes early as we reached the end of our walk and adjourned to the pub.

Our last two walks have needed a car ride but on Sunday 8th October we will do a local walk of about 2.5 hours starting from High Halstow Village Hall at 10.00am. We will endeavour to take some paths that we have not before but this will depend on conditions nearer the time.

**As ever all are welcome and enquiries can be made to Mitchell on 01634-254428 or [mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com](mailto:mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com).**

### 2017 HIGH HALSTOW PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



Villagers are invited to submit their pictures taken in the village for the 2017 Photographic Competition. This is our 9th year and we have had some amazing pictures submitted over the years.

Please send your entries to  
**[photos@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:photos@highhalstow.org.uk)**

The categories are:

- Under 16's
- Flora and Fauna
- People and places
- Overall winner

Winners will receive a prize, a certificate and their photo included in the **High Halstow 2018 Calendar**.

The closing date for entries is **29 October 2017**

*The Parish of High Halstow and Allhallows with St Mary Hoo are delighted to present*

# **A TASTE OF CHRISTMAS**

**SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER**  
**2.00 ~ 3.00 p.m. at the**  
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## Sport in High Halstow

### High Halstow Cricket Club

At the time of writing the last article, the cricket club were in a position where our three adult teams were still in with a shout of three promotions.

The first of the teams that could achieve this were the Saturday 2nd XI on 26th September, the penultimate league game of the season. Shooters Hill were the visitors to Rayner's Meadow, with the home side knowing a win would seal the points required to ensure Division 4 cricket next season. Having elected to bat first, Shooters Hill were restricted to a score of 168, mainly due to Paul Belsey's nagging line and length earning him 7 wickets. With High Halstow's pitch rated as the best in the league and one of the best in the whole of Kent, the team were confident that this under par score could be chased down and subsequently promotion secured. However, with perhaps a little bit of over-confidence, poor batting and good bowling, our batting line up failed to deliver and were skittled out for a very disappointing 55, meaning there was only one final chance to get promotion.

Meanwhile, away at Dartfordians CC, our 1st XI had to win in order to keep promotion within our own hands and take it to the final week. Thanks to fine bowling spells from James Marrable and Clarke Dockwray (4 wickets apiece), the opposition only managed to muster 129, which proved nowhere near enough as the 1st XI easily reached the target with 7 wickets to spare, led by Tyler Dockwray (61 not out).

So on to the final weekend of the season (2nd/3rd September), the biggest weekend in High Halstow's recent history, win 3 games and the club would be celebrating 3 promotions in one season. On the Saturday, the 1st XI were at home against Chislehurst & West Kent CC, the 2nd XI travelled to Offham CC and the Sunday XI had a home game against Town Malling CC.

On paper, HHCC were favourites in all 3 matches, but runs still had to be scored and wickets taken in order to secure the points needed. With the constant flow of text messages being transferred between the teams during the course of the afternoon, tension was high at both grounds. However, after the first innings nerves had been settled a little. At Rayner's Meadow the 1st XI Captain, Christopher Maurice, produced a splendid innings to add another century to his previous two earlier in the season, allowing a very challenging total of 271 to be set.

Over at Offham CC, the pitch was rather different, as it had not been covered during the heavy rain days before, and although a score of 157 seemed low, the players were confident it would be enough. At approximately 5:30pm this proved to be the case as the 2nd XI had bowled out our opponents for 49, securing promotion to Kent League



Division 4 next season. With the news filtering through to Rayner's Meadow of one promotion in the bag, this seemed to give the 1st XI a lift, and not long after Rayner's Meadow erupted with celebration as the final wicket was taken to ensure both Saturday League sides had earned promotion. Cue the celebrations.....

The Sunday game brought the opportunity to complete the hat-trick of promotions, which I am delighted to report was fulfilled with ease, albeit with a little less celebration (mainly due to sore heads from the night before!!).

All in all a very successful summer of cricket at High Halstow, which sadly has now drawn to a close, but focus has immediately turned to the organisation of social fundraising events and participation in a darts league, and it seems that the winning mentality has continued with a victory in the first fixture of the season.

It won't be long before preparations begin for the 2018 cricket season, with indoor cricket nets starting in January. These are open to all ages and new members are more than welcome. More details of this will follow in due course.

Throughout the season it was a delight to see local residents (regulars and some new faces) watching the cricket on a Saturday afternoon supporting our teams. The cricket club would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have come to watch and supported our teams. We really appreciate it.

So all that is left to say is congratulations to your cricket club for the tremendous achievements this season, it has been a truly memorable season and one that all the village should be proud of.

### High Halstow Football Club



#### Manager – Graham Beale

At the time of going to press High Halstow were at the top Division Four of the Rochester and District Football League.

Playing in the Ted Snelling Cup, Saturday 9 September

**Woodcoombe Social 4 High Halstow 7**

Courtesy of <https://www.leaguewebsite.co.uk/randd>

LEAGUE TABLE				
Table	Fixtures	Results		
ADULT	1	DIVISION FOUR	2	Go
Teams	P	GD	Pts	
HIGH HALSTOW	2	5	4	
NEWTOWN SOCIAL	1	5	3	
ATHLETIC				
BORSTAL WANDERERS	1	1	3	
PARK RESERVE	1	1	3	
PAVILION ATHLETIC	1	1	3	
GRAVE	1	0	1	
MEDWAY ATHLETIC	1	0	1	
MEDWAY BOROUGH	1	0	1	
RESERVES				
KIDAN	0	0	0	
GOLDEN KNIGHTS	1	-1	0	
UNITED				
UK PAVILION	1	-1	0	
MACKLAND ARMS 18	1			

## Eden Road and Harrison Drive rebuild



of High Halstow Cornish home owners opted for the John Laing method with a few going for Michael Dyson Associates.

After numerous arguments/ meetings with the local authority, much heartache and sleepless nights, work finally started in 1985 with Laing's setting up their construction site in White Road. All the houses had to be rebuilt to a specification that rendered them completely mortgage-able with a 10 year NHBC guarantee.

I remember it well!

Back in the early 1980's, an acquaintance of mine knocked on my door and introduced me to a Mr Roy Puddie and his friend from Trevale Road in Rochester. What became of this meeting was to change the face of High Halstow forever. They informed me of what had been learnt by the government from a house fire in the Midlands, and because of that my house had now become blighted and unmortgage-able (basically it was almost unsaleable). The mortgage lenders had apparently pulled the rug out from under us!

It transpired that Cornish style houses in the village could have been suffering from "concrete cancer", technically called "spalling". This was not just peculiar to High Halstow, but also Rochester, Hoo, Grain, Higham and thousands of more properties the length and breadth of the country, all of different styles and construction. In fact, it later appeared that only one house in High Halstow had spalling, but every house was affected by the revelation.

A meeting of the home owners of Eden Road and Harrison Drive was hurriedly convened in the village school where the "bomb shell" was dropped. A "Cornish Residents Association" was formed with a committee made up of several well known home owners with myself as chairman (for my sins). The government then introduced the 1984 Housing Defect Act, and as they were held accountable, gave a grant for repairs with the owners making up the short fall, providing they met the qualifying criteria. These repairs had to be carried out under licence from reputable building firms, so the committee explored every avenue on behalf of the residents, and reported back via meetings and a newsletter called "The Cornish Prison".

Word quickly spread around Medway and a meeting took place of over 800 local residents, councillors and Peggy Fenner MP, at the Central Hall, Chatham to see one of the many demonstrations by a national builder. The majority

I remember that winter of 1985

so well, it was a particularly harsh one with knee deep snow and strong winds, and was a very traumatic time for everybody who had homes under repair (mine included). Householders had to stay in residence whilst the roof was jacked up and the walls removed / replaced from the foundations up; only sheets of thin insulation between them and the elements. It was often referred to as a "living hell"!

It's now over 30 years since that chance meeting in my house, and it's great to see the Laing Architect's prophesy has come true regarding the finished product. Eden Road and Harrison Drive are a fitting testament to his foresight and imagination coupled with the fortitude of every resident at the time.

"Just another chapter in the history of the village".

**Malcolm Coomber**

### High Halstow Bowls Club

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### NEXT EDITION – November 2017

Contributions for November should be sent by 21<sup>st</sup> October to:

Linda Atkinson via email: [editor@highhalstow.org.uk](mailto:editor@highhalstow.org.uk) or telephone: **07825 619 353**

Editor – **Linda Atkinson** / Designer – **Natalie Kyne-Dinsdale**

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