



High Halstow TIMES



Home of the Heron

November 2010

Memorial Hall 90 Years Young

The Memorial Hall has a very unique history. The majority of war memorials of whatever shape, size or design are dedicated to the men who did not return from war, but the Memorial Hall in the village was actually dedicated to the men who returned from the First World War.

The minute book records the Hall as being in use from 1920 and looking very different to how it looks today.

On 10 December 2000 the then newly formed committee decided to re-dedicate the Hall after some major refurbishment work had been carried out. At that time a lot of the relatives whose loved ones are named on the memorial board got together to reminisce and have a chat over a cup of tea. A lovely afternoon was enjoyed by all those who came along.

It is now 10 years on and we would like to get together again with the families of those named on the board. We are proposing to hold an open afternoon and dedication on Sunday 5 December between 2:00 and 4:00pm and would like to invite anyone who would be interested to come along. The Trustees and committee would like to show you the improvements that have been made since we last got together.

As an aside in 10 years time we will be celebrating 100 years of the Memorial Hall and that is probably worthy of an even bigger celebration.

If you would like any further details or you know of someone who is in some way connected to the 'board' in the hall, please give me a ring. Come along and see how the hall is looking after 90 years.

Margaret Church

On behalf of the Memorial Hall Committee
Medway 244203

High Halstow Village Store...

Great news your local village store is currently undergoing a new refurbishment. We will be building a larger and more spacious shop, supplying all your daily needs, including an off license, lottery and also the current post office and newspaper services.

We are going to be a family run business and welcome your thoughts and ideas that will help us to help you. Look forward to meeting you all soon.

Brainch Family

Recreation Ground Ditch

The ditch contractor has said he will start work on the ditch which runs alongside the Recreation Ground / Playpark on 9th November.

There will be some disruption on the recreation ground and some use of the car park by industrial vehicles / diggers. Parents should be extra vigilant, especially at school times and when children are playing on the recreation ground.

HH Parish Council

**MacMillan Coffee Morning Update
Friday 24th September 2010**

I, on behalf of MacMillan Cancer Support Fund, would like to thank the people of High Halstow who come along on Friday, both in the morning and to Quiz Night in the evening. A fantastic total of £608 was raised - some donations outside of the events which was added to make up such a good amount. Over the last 7 years High Halstow has donated £2525.70 which for a small village is a great effort - lets hope we can do as well next year.

A special 'Thank You' to my friends that help me every year without your help it would not be possible.

See you all next September.

Ann

A Curious Evening

What fun we all had making sugar snowmen. Everyone went home with a decoration for a Christmas cake. Loud laughter from some tables led us to see that they were trying to fix his orange nose and find a suitable resting place for his walking stick !! We had a few new faces at our meeting which is always a delight and hope they may become members.

Lunch club at Deangate was as usual up to the normal standard with a lot of W.I. ladies attending. Two ladies went to Oxfordshire to the W.I. College for a wonderful 4 days, albeit on two different courses. One covered 'Shakespeares County' the other was an 'Autumn Getaway' with walks, exercise, dance and relaxation.

We had the first round of the County Darts competition, playing Nashenden W.I. It was pretty close but we just managed to squeak a win, so we are into the next round.

This months meeting is on Wednesday 3rd November in the Memorial Hall starting at 7:30. We have Stuart Robinson talking on 'Curiosities Of The City Of London'. Visitors pay just £1:50 on the door.

Margaret Whitebread

***High Halstow 2010 Photo Competition
Prize Giving
Wednesday 10th 8:00pm Memorial Hall***

We had a good number of entry's to this years competition with a wide and varied range of pictures from all age groups. The winners have been selected and will be notified soon, a large number of the entries will be on display at the Prize Giving which will be immediately after the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 10th. The winners will be included in the High Halstow Calendar which will be on sale at the Christmas Market and the December Farmers Markets.

Village Hall Committee

The Village Hall Committee is in need of new members. The committee meets once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month between 7pm and 8pm and is responsible for the running and maintenance of the Village Hall, we are a completely separate committee to the Parish Council although we do work closely with them on a number of issues. We are currently in a very exciting time for the Hall with the plans for the refurbishment having been passed by Medway Planning and decisions on the next stages to be made soon. Fund raising events are an ever-present task as well as the Farmers Market and other activities.

If you would like to know more please contact Gary Thomas on 252812

Village Hall Committee



Local pony charity needs some help....

I know the subject is a little odd, but hopefully all will become clear.

Let me tell you about who we are, and then I'll get onto the help that we need.

We are Littl'uns Equine Rescue Trust (LERT), and we have recently moved onto land near High Halstow. We have been around since 2004, and in 2005 were granted charitable status (registered charity 1111359).

We only have ponies, and at present have 14 located at High Halstow, and 5 at Eynsford. Our mission has been to undertake the "Three R's" – Rescue, Rehabilitate and Rehome. Today, there are over 40 ponies across Kent that we have rehomed.

Now, today we have a problem, and that's where i'm hoping that the parishioners of High Halstow might be able to help.

We have to keep the land clear of manure, and our preferred method of control is to collect it up and remove it from the land. We moved to High Halstow from Hartley, where we had built up an excellent relationship with local gardeners and allotments. The reason being is that the manure we collect up is, if you'll pardon the pun, pure. We do not stable our ponies, so there is no hay or straw mixed in with it, which is the usual hurdle to gardeners wanting to take it, as you would have to wait for the manure to rot down and the "extra components" to decompose. From what I am told, being just grass based fibre, our ponies product is ready to mix in almost immediately.

We don't mind delivering to the local area, the only limitation being that we produce about a trailer load a week, and our trailer is about 5'x3'x3' so its not a vast quantity – but it needs to be removed, as we don't like having muck heaps.

So, to the ask for help. Could you point us in the direction of the local allotments and gardening groups to whom we could supply manure?

Also just to promote our existence in the local area would be quite useful too – we're somewhat small and "untrendy" in donating terms, and every possible bit of help would be most appreciated. Our website is www.lert.org.uk, and my phone number is 01634 683775.

I look forward to hearing from you soon

Regards

Simon Kellow

Treasurer

Littl'uns Equine Rescue Trust

The Red Dog

I wouldn't normally explain the goings on behind the scenes of the business, but due to the good will we have received from the village and the interest in when we will be fully open, I feel it only fair to keep you informed as to why the opening date for the restaurant keeps going back. Although the pub successfully re-opened on Friday.

Due to some heavy debts left at the pub by several people and businesses, spanning many years, I am struggling to get the correct utility companies and suppliers to deal with us without clearing debts running into tens of thousands of pounds. This is being dealt with and as soon as we can get things like gas connected for instance, we will be able to open the restaurant. As soon as these issues can be cleared up, we will open immediately but I am still unsure on when exactly this will be. In the meantime the pub is open for trading.

On a more positive note the menus are now complete, as are plans for Christmas and New Year. We will be open from 12pm – 3pm Christmas Day and Boxing Day and 12pm – 3pm and 7pm – 1am New Years Eve with live music. Tickets for New Years Eve are now on sale for non-diners at £5 each (including your 1st drink). All other opening times remain unchanged.

The website was due to go live at time of writing this so should be published by the time this goes to press. The web address is www.thereddog-highhalstow.co.uk. This site has details of how to book with us along with any developments and information regarding the pub. Alternatively an answer machine service has been set up on 07952136111 allowing for bookings to be made. As soon as I have any more information I will release it via every possible media. Thanks you again for your continued support and patience and in the meantime come and enjoy a drink in the pub.

Lee Atkinson.

HH Village Website

The Parish Council website has been relaunched. Did you know you can see the minutes of your Parish Council on our website! If that is not your cup of tea, you can also look-up local groups in the village, past copies of the High Halstow Times, and pictures of recent events.

A reminder for local groups is that you can advertise your activities free of charge on this site just let us have the details

For all your village needs the site is
www.highhalstow.org.uk

Resume of the meeting held on 13 October 2010

The vacancy on the parish council was filled at last by the co-option of John Callaghan. John worked for many years in the construction industry and moved to the village nine years ago, following his two sons who settled here. In the past he has run scout groups and has also served as Vice Commodore with a local Yacht Club. In his working life he also had experience of Health & Safety issues. The Parish Councillors welcome him to the Council and look forward to the contribution he will make to local affairs. Quotations are being sought for the clearance of the end part of the allotment area, which would provide an additional allotment, although it will be an unconventional shape, and for cutting down brambles on Forge Common. The ditch on the Recreation Ground is shortly to be reconstructed. The spoil will be used to strengthen the bund on the boundary, to give extra protection from water flowing into Goodwood Close gardens during periods of heavy rain – although it is hoped that the reconstruction of the ditch will mean this will be a thing of the past.

Following the successful visit of a football cage earlier in the year, the Parish Council is investigating the cost of providing one for the Recreation Ground. An incident involving youths playing with a football in the car park was reported. Parents are reminded that ball games in the car park are prohibited, whether or not a sign to this effect is in place. In fact one of the signs has vanished and will have to be replaced. The City of Rochester Society has written, putting forward the case that in Medway Council's bid for city status, they should promote the name as "City of Rochester-upon-Medway", rather than "Medway City". The full name of Rochester reflects not only the cathedral city, but as it also contains the name of the river Medway, it flows on from "Medway Council". The Parish Council voted to support this.

The Parish Council also agreed to give a donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal as usual and the wreath will be laid on Remembrance Sunday, 14th November.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th November at 8 pm in the Memorial Hall. The Photographic Competition winners will be announced at this meeting and refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

New Local Website



NOTES FROM MEDWAY'S HOO PENINSULA
www.hoo-peninsula.co.uk

Memorial Hall

As you may have noticed the Memorial Hall and Garden have had a lot of work done on them over the last 2 or 3 months. Committee and 'Friends of the Hall' have worked very hard to paint, plant and generally improve the appearance of our lovely old hall. Inside the dodgy floor has been repaired, it was not as bad as we thought, so its now safe to dance on again.

We are hoping to rejuvenate the Gents toilet in the next month or so. Then we will have a break and set about making a list of jobs to do for next year.

For bookings ring Angela 251756 Mon-Sat.

Ann



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
EVENING

14TH NOVEMBER, 2010

at

6.30 p.m. in St. Margaret's Church,

High Halstow

A MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING SERVICE

and an opportunity to REMEMBER

those whom we have known and loved who have
died, whether recently or long ago.

Refreshments afterwards and a chance to
share experiences.

Further details from:-

Rev. Stephen Gwilt (Rector) 01634 250637

Di Welch (Lay Reader) 01634 251495

Sheila Marchant (Pastoral Assistant and Evangelist) 01634 250503



A place to just hang out.
Friday 5th November and
the first Friday each month.
Youth Night at the Memorial Hall.
7:30-10:00pm entrance free.

YOUTH
NIGHT
CRAFTS
AND
SCALEXTRIC!

For more info find us on facebook
"High Halstow Youth Night"

Or Contact Rev. Stephen Gwilt on 01634250637

Carol Singing

Carol singing has been a tradition in this village as long as I have lived here (35 years) and, not only has the number of singers declined over the years (only half a dozen last year) but also the proceeds collected. I know that a lot of people are fearful of opening their doors on a dark winter evening but I was hoping that if we can increase the number of singers substantially, then the increased volume will leave people in no doubt as to who it is at their door.

This is a lovely way to start the Christmas celebrations so please come and join us. A choir boy voice is completely unnecessary – all that is needed is enthusiasm and the ability to hold a tune. If you are not able to sing with us then please open your doors and welcome in the Christmas cheer. Singers will meet this year at 7pm in the church porch (date to be confirmed) and the proceeds will go to a good cause (also to be confirmed).

Wanda Wright

Car Thefts'

There has been a spate of thefts from cars in the village recently. A number of cars have been broken into and had valuables and personnel items removed. Please ensure your car is locked and where possible alarmed at night. The criminals are looking for easily removed items like Sat Navs', Car Stereos, iPods etc. If you have been a victim please report it to the Police and get a crime number.

Happy Days Child Care

OFSTED / NCMA registered childminder
has limited vacancies in High Halstow
(maximum of six children)

Transport to and from school provided.
Before, during and after school care.

Playroom, large variety of toys,
excellent learning environment.

Fee's: £3.50 per hour, per child.
No retainer charged.

All enquiries phone Melinda

01634 256790 or 07816 321644

Investors Club

Recently, Members and spouses met up at St Stephen's Tavern, Westminster, for an early dinner before crossing over the road to Westminster Hall where we were met by our local MP Mark Reckless. He then took us for a comprehensive tour of both Houses of Parliament, Commons and Lords. I will not answer for others but for me, who had not visited before, it was totally magical to be immersed in all that history and the building was just beautiful. (We did catch a glimpse of Boris but he skeedaddled before we could exchange views on his airport site plans for Cliffe Marshes !).

John Wilson, Hon Sec

Note from the Editor

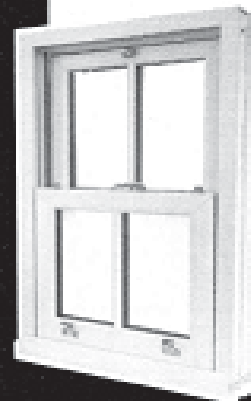
The High Halstow Times is a friendly point of contact and all views expressed are those of the individual. No letter will be published without the name and address of the writer being supplied to the editor, although this information may be withheld from appearing in the HHT upon request. If you have a matter for complaint, it should be brought to the attention of the Parish Council, which meets on the second Wednesday of every month, at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. Members of the public are always welcome.

Advertising rates are £15 per quarter page per edition; £30 per half page per edition.

PAUL HUGHES

Double Glazing Repairs

NO CALL OUT CHARGE FREE ESTIMATES



- Misted Units Replaced •**
- Cracked Units Replaced •**
- Broken Hinges •**
- Cat Flaps Fitted •**
- Locks Repaired •**
- Damaged Handles •**
- Doors Re-Adjusted •**
- Windows Fitted •**

M: 07815 948637

H: 01634 256631

High Halstow Cricket Club

The annual general meeting of the cricket club will be held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 on 20th November 2010. The meeting will be followed by the presentation of annual awards. The meeting is open to all members, including colts and their parents and anyone wishing to join the club for 2011.

The 2010 season finished on a high with the 3rd XI gaining promotion to Division 1A (Central) of the Kent Regional League. The 1st XI had already been relegated but the 2nd XI secured another season in Division III (2nd XIs) of the Kent League. As reported earlier, the colts had an excellent season with the U17s and U15s winning their leagues. There was further success at the Colts League presentation when Ashley Trigg, Sam Kember, Harry Jeal, Liam Seymour and Reece Miller all won individual awards.

In conjunction with The Hundred of Hoo School, the club has secured a grant of £5,000 from the EON Community Investment Fund. The money is being put towards much-needed improvements to the club-maintained square at the school, including playing equipment and a scoreboard. The standard of cricket to be played on the school ground will be higher following the promotion of the 3rd XI, and the remedial work carried out this winter will enable the school to make better use of its own facilities.

The parents play a very significant part in the running of the Colts Section and I would like to thank them all for their efforts. May I take this opportunity of thanking all our sponsors, friends and volunteers for their continuing support of the club, without whom much of what we do would not be possible.

David Laphorn
Chairman HHCC

FARMERS MARKET
SATURDAY 6TH
NOVEMBER
FRESH FRUIT & VEG,
BREAD, MEAT, CAKES
AND GIFTS AND CRAFT
9:00AM TO 11:00AM

Learn Guitar

Electric and Acoustic Guitar Lessons

Professional guitarist and guitar teacher offers one to one tuition. All ages and abilities welcome. Graduate of London Guitar Institute. Playing experience includes Elton John and Robbie Williams.

Learn Rock, Blues, Pop, Country, Scales, Modes, Chords, Reading Music, Writing music and songs and more. Grades through Rockschool (UCAS accredited) or ABRSM

Home visits or at Home Studio in Rochester

For more information call Matthew on 07967125091
or email mcrozer@me.com

LOWER STOKE CHINESE TAKE AWAY



Address

Lower Stoke Chinese Take Away,
High Street, Lower Stoke,
Rochester,
Kent,
ME3 9RA

01634 272363

Business Hours

Mon - Thurs..... 5pm - 10:00pm

Fri - Sat 5pm - 10:30pm

Sun CLOSED

OPEN ON BANK HOLIDAYS

Dramarama's Beauty and the Beast



Thursday 13th, Friday 14th, Saturday 15th January @ 7:30pm
& also Saturday 15th @ 2:00pm
Tickets: £4.00 each from Fred & Hazel (251135), Noleen (271026)
Joanne (250911) or Wenda (253169)

Domestic, Commercial & Insurance Work Undertaken, Fully Insured

EXTENSIONS • KITCHENS • BATHROOMS
GARAGE CONVERSIONS • BRICKWORK • FENCING
WINDOWS & DOORS • CONSERVATORIES • TILING
CARPENTRY • ROOFING • GLAZING • PLASTERING
PAINTING • ELECTRICS • DRIVEWAYS • BLOCK PAVING
RE-POINTING • PLUMBING • PVCu SOFFITS, FASCIAS & GUTTERING
PORCHES • ALARMS • DRAINAGE WORKS • FELT FLAT ROOFS

For High Quality Work At Competitive Rates

Medway Maidstone Gravesend Sittingbourne London

HARVEYS BUILDERS LTD
www.harveysbuilders.co.uk
01634 222202
info@harveysbuilders.co.uk

HB

aaaaaa

FMB

Harveys Builders Ltd
Havisham House,
Main Road, Cooling,
Rochester, Kent
ME3 8DH

Medway
Fair Trader
scheme
Medway Council's
Trading Standards Accredited

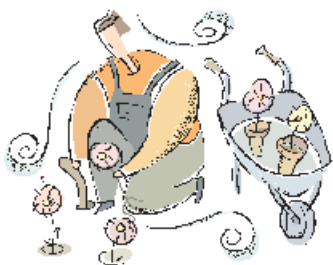
Dates for Diary

Every Wednesday	
Painting & Drawing for Beginners	
10.00	Memorial Hall
Every Thursday	
Mother and Toddler's	
09.30	Memorial Hall
Sugar Babes	
19.00	Memorial Hall
Every Saturday	
Karmann Dancers	
09.00	Memorial Hall

Other Dates

Saturday 6th	Farmer's market
09.30	Village Hall
Wednesday 3rd	Women's Institute
19.30	Memorial Hall
Tuesday 9th	Open House
12.15	Memorial Hall
Tuesday 9th	Garden Club
20.00	Memorial Hall
Wednesday 10th	Parish Council
20.00	Memorial Hall
Saturday 13th	Project 90
08.30	Village Hall
Saturday 13th	Christmas Market
12:00	Village Hall
Friday 26th	Quiz Night
20.00	Memorial Hall

HIGH HALSTOW & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB



ONLY GARDENING CLUB ON THE PENINSULA

COME AND JOIN US, PLENTY OF ACTIVITIES

SPRING SHOW (Members only)

ANNUAL SHOW (Open to all)

OUTINGS

MONTHLY MEETINGS with SPEAKERS

at MEMORIAL HALL (2nd Tuesday of month)

BRING & BUY SALE

For more information contact -
GWEN BUCKNALL (01634 250456)



HelenBaker
Solicitor

Helpful, straightforward legal advice.

- Powers of Attorney
- Company Formation
- Civil Litigation
- Equine Loan & Livery Agreements & Grazing Licences
- Wills & Probate
- Registration of Land
- Debt Recovery
- Residential & Commercial Landlord & Tenant

Fixed fees, weekend and evening appointments and home visits available.

Telephone: **01634 255265** E-mail: helenbaker@helenbakersolicitor.co.uk

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

PROJECT 90

90 minutes spent improving
the village

Saturday 13th November

8:30am Start at the Village Hall

**Free Tea, Coffee, Cakes and Buns
afterwards for all the helpers**

Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair	01634 250286
e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk	
Gary Thomas, Vice Chair	01634 252812
e.mail: gary.thomas@medway.gov.uk	
Martin Andrews	07984 791029
Angela Bostock	07880 531641
Ray Collins	01634 250105
Martin Mitchell	07531 984169
Lesley Munday	01634 250276

Your councillors may also be contacted
through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269

St. James'

A Sure Start Children's Centre

St James' Children's Centre provides information, support and services for families with young children and is a great place to meet new people.



Sessions and services available are:

- Breastfeeding peer support group
- Health visitor clinics
- Stay & play sessions
- Creative play sessions
- Midwifery appointments
- And many more!



You can also find information and advice on:

- Parenting
- Training
- Finding a job
- And much more!

Sessions and services are available all over the peninsula at the following venues:

- St James' C of E Primary School, High Street, Grain, ME3 0BS
- Allhallows Primary School, Avery Way, ME3 9HR
- Chattenden Community Centre, Swinton Avenue, ME3 8PH
- High Halstow Memorial Hall, The Street, High Halstow, ME3 8SF
- Also other venues across Stoke, Hoo and other areas of the Peninsula



For further information please
contact St James' Children's
Centre on 01634 270341



**Sure Start
Children's Centres**
Medway

Jonathan Computers

Contact Jonathan on:

Freephone: 0800 321 38 79

Email: sales@jonathancomputers.co.uk

(I live in High Halstow so can offer a great local service!)



Computer problems solved quickly and cheaply...with a friendly face

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Speed up Slow computers (to very quick) | <input type="radio"/> Virus removal, Data Transfer & Recovery |
| <input type="radio"/> Fix Broadband connection issues | <input type="radio"/> Set Up Network Printing On Computers |
| <input type="radio"/> Optimise & Speed Up Your Broadband | <input type="radio"/> On Site Install of Computer Equipment |

Want to get into this whole Computer thing!

I can supply a new or reconditioned computer for you with a 17" Flat screen monitor, install it in your home, organise a broadband connection, set up an email address for you and even give you an hours training on how to use it all!

All Inclusive Cost from - £ 350.00 *

Do you want some training on using a computer?

I can help with one-to-one training, either beginner lessons or more advanced if required. Need help with writing letters (Word), Spreadsheets (Excel), emails (Outlook), or may be just using the Internet (Microsoft Explorer/Firefox), even programs like Facebook, MSN messenger, Google, Amazon and Skype etc

(* Terms & Conditions Apply, Please enquire for details)



FULLY QUALIFIED ADI GRADE 5

INSTRUCTOR WITH HIGH PASS
RATE, FRIENDLY, PATIENT



School of motoring

MOBILE: 07989556395 LANDLINE: 01634255898



SPECIAL OFFER 1

BUY YOUR FIRST 10
HOURS FOR £170

SPECIAL OFFER 2

BUY YOUR FIRST 3
HOURS FOR £45

NORMAL LESSON RATE £21 PER HOUR

10 HOURS PRE PAID £200

20 HOURS PRE PAID £380

PASS PLUS SCHEME ASK FOR PRICE

I CAN HELP WITH THEORY AND AM ALSO
ABLE TO BOOK ANY TESTS THAT NEED
BOOKING.

YOUR LOCAL DRIVING INSTRUCTOR



SPECIAL OFFER 3

BUY YOUR FIRST 5
HOURS FOR £75

YOU CAN RING ME, TEXT ME, OR LEAVE A MESSAGE AND I WILL GET STRAIGHT
BACK TO YOU. 07989556395

ONLY ONE SPECIAL OFFER PER NEW PUPIL PAYABLE ON THEIR FIRST LESSON

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

For those of us who drive, I'm sure we have all encountered at some time commercial vehicles using Dux Court Road usually coming from the other direction all always at the railway bridge.

The signage at both ends of Dux Court indicate a MGW (Maximum Gross Weight of 6 Tons) owing to the weak bridge, but the signs in my opinion are poorly positioned, obscured by trees & undergrowth and don't give sufficient advanced warning of this weight restriction to allow HGV drivers time to stop & take an alternative route.

For us locals who use this route we know of this restriction so use Christmas Lane or Britannia Drive, but drivers not aware of this especially delivery drivers using "Satnav" use this route without question or even bother to notice the weight restriction, purely because the satnav is indication it's the shortest route to our village it must be correct.

As an operator of commercial vehicle, it annoys me to see this short cut being abused & I have on several occasions confronted drivers, taken down their operator licence number and reported them... but by this time it's too late for them to turn around.

Yes, it is the driver's responsibility to know the weight of his vehicle & prepare his route accordingly. But it is likewise the responsibility of Medway Council / H. H. Parish Council to install, site and maintain road signs at both ends of Dux Court, this must also includes the pruning of overhanging trees and bushes. With this in mind, would it therefore be possible to have this matter on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

MGW; The weight of a vehicle, fully equipped and serviced for operation, including the weight of the fuel, lubricants, coolant, vehicle tools and spares, crew, personal equipment, and load.

Name and Address Supplied

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

The Laphorn family would like to thank everyone for their expressions of sympathy on the sad loss of our father, Tony, on 5th October. Many kind tributes have been paid and we were particularly touched to see so many people from the village at the Service of Thanksgiving. Unfortunately he did not survive to meet his latest great-grandchild, born on 11th October. Whilst he was an independent individual who looked after himself, we would also like to thank all those who helped him in his final year.

David, Andrew and John Laphorn, Pam Alexander and Ann Gammie

Dear HHT,

I am dog walker who often walks their dog off the lead in the woods by Forge Common and across Forge Common, and I admit to allowing him off the lead on the recreation ground when I think it appropriate and the playpark is quiet. My dog is relatively well trained and obedient, and in the whole a good natured animal. What I do object to, and don't understand is owners of dogs which are aggressive, bad natured and out of control not being kept on a lead. A particularly large black labrador is often walked through the woods off the lead and is always threatening and aggressive to the point of attack when our paths cross. If you know your dog is aggressive, please keep it on the lead for the sake of everyone in the village and the other dogs.

Name and Address Supplied

Dear HHT,

Hallowe'en

Whatever you think of that American import of 'Trick or Treat', it was nice to see little groups of our children happily rushing around the village seeking out those brave enough to put a welcoming lighted pumpkin outside their houses as an invitation to call. However, as I later walked the streets it was disappointing to see so many discarded sweet bags and wrappers littering the ground. Perhaps the parents could have a little word next year ?

Name and Address Supplied

Dear HHT,

Sadly this is my last week at the shop. Whilst some of the blame for my failure can be apportioned to the banking system and the HSBC in particular, it is my own fears, weaknesses and lack of courage that eventually brought me to this point.

Mr Dale Brainch, his wife and son will be the new owners of the shop and post office and they start on 1st November.

Mr Brainch is a decent man with strong family values and work ethic. I am sure that he will provide an excellent shop for the village.

I would like to thank you all for the support and kindness that you have shown over the last 4 years. I have no regrets. I would like you all to join me in wishing Dale and his family every success in their new venture.

Derek Baker

Dolly Parton Tribute Act Returns February 2011

We are pleased to announce the return of Dolly Parton Tribute night at the Village Hall. In February 2001 she will be returning along with Kenny Rogers and Shania Twain. This show was a great success last time and everyone agreed how much fun it was. Even if you are not a fan of Dolly's music you will still have a great evening out, right on your own doorstep. Ticket info to follow soon.



Contributions for December should be sent by 26th November to:
Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ
or e.mail to editor@highhalstow.org.uk