



High Halstow TIMES



Home of the Heron

December 2016

Santa's Visit

For the fourteenth year in a row Santa has decided to pay another visit to High Halstow. He has once again agreed and planned his route and therefore will be stopping by to deliver his gifts on Christmas Eve in the Village of High Halstow.



The charge as last year will be **£2.00 per present being delivered**

The usual rules will apply as follows:

1. You buy your gift and wrap it clearly with the name of the recipient and the address it is to be delivered to (High Halstow only please). If your child is attending the Church Service and would like the present at the Service please just put the address as The Church and Santa will call.
2. Pop the present along to Bob in the shop by no later than **MONDAY 19th December**. This is to provide Santa's helpers sufficient time to organise his deliveries.
3. Please note for insurance purposes the value of the present should not exceed £10.00.
4. **Please, please** do not make the presents too large (preferably no bigger than shoebox size).

Again like last year Santa plans to start at around 4.00 pm. Sorry we cannot guarantee a time for any delivery, as the time taken is around 5 hours. If you have presents for young children don't forget there is a guaranteed delivery time at the Church at 6.00pm if this helps.

This year the money raised will again be going to The Friends of St Margaret's Church. ***The aim of the Friends is to support the Parochial Church Council in maintaining the fabric, the churchyard and furnishings of St Margaret's Church, High Halstow.***

Musical Requests

Following a wonderful montage of pictures put on Facebook by Wenda, Justine Turner wrote a lovely comment about listening to Santa and the gang playing Gangnam Style, so we thought it might be nice to find out what Christmas songs you would like us to play. I cannot promise we will be able to meet all the requests but if you don't ask you may never know. So please post your requests on the High Halstow Appreciation Page and we will see what we can do

Come on High Halstow let's make this the biggest one yet!!

Don't forget that Santa's helpers always appreciate the odd drop of something warming, the occasional mince pie or sausage roll.

After all they have a very busy evening and we don't want them slacking!!

Thank You

To the volunteers from the National Grid (Electrical Dept) who came on Monday 14 November to repair the cricket fence, clear vegetation from the church yard perimeter walls and build a new sleigh for Santa's visit. Unfortunately due to the inclement weather a number of external painting jobs could not be done.

Ray Collins
HH Parish Council

HH Hikers

In November, the numbers for our walk around the Marden area were reduced by predicted heavy rain as well as by some sickness and holidays.

Nonetheless a hardy core group followed a circuit of close to 6 miles that had been recommended by the Marden walking group. Marden is a pleasant large village with an unusual church and sits in a very flat low lying area 8 miles due south of Maidstone. Our route took us through orchards and around fields past many attractive large ponds. We followed mainly well kept paths but a few of the marked public footpaths were disappointingly not in good condition or had been encroached upon by ploughing. Although the weather improved markedly as we reached our halfway point we were unanimous in feeling that this would have been a much nicer walk when the sun was on our faces and the trees were in bloom. We were also unanimous in concluding that a pint and a hearty lunch was well-deserved in the excellent Cock Inn in Boughton Monchelsea on the way home.

The walk in December will be a local one starting from High Halstow Village Hall at 10.00 on Sunday 18th. The actual route will be chosen according to the conditions on the day. As ever all are welcome and queries can be made to Mitchell on mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com 01634-254428



Parish Council Surgery

As there is no Parish Council meeting in December there will be no surgery at Kings Kitchen.

Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year to everyone and we will see you on January 12th 2016.
Christine Watson & Gary Jerreat

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 ****

Resume Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 9 November 2016

All parish councillors were present at the meeting held on 9th November. It was also attended by 4 members of the public.

There were two motions to consider. Cllr Khatkar proposed that the Parish Council discontinues its policy of giving a grant in kind to the Parochial Church Council of mowing the churchyard. This motion was defeated by 7 votes to 2. Cllr Williams proposed that the Parish Council continues its policy of replacing its bus shelters in the village, to match the new shelter in Christmas Lane. This was carried unanimously. The shelters in question are the one in The Street by the hall and in Eden Road. The budget for the year 2017/18 was discussed and adopted. It included increasing the annual precept (the income raised through council tax) from £42,000 to £42,840, which is an average of £1 per year extra per house.

2 quotations had been obtained for marking out the Recreation Hall car park, to include a bay for the disabled. As the proposals were different in their approach, more investigation will be done before any decision is taken. While talking about the area of the Recreation Ground, Cllr Chris Watson has asked Cllr Linda Atkinson to take over the allotments portfolio from her, which Linda has agreed. You will probably have noticed that the public footpath across the field from Ruggles Close has been given a tarmac surface. This has been arranged and paid for by Medway Council. Residents will now be able to cross without getting their feet wet or without prams and wheelchairs getting stuck in the former surface. The cricket pitch fence has been vandalised again. The constant repairs are costing you money. Please impress on your children that it's an anti-social thing to do and also has a cost implication.

Cllr Ray Collins has suggested the planting of trees to mark the end of the First World War in 2018. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting. Also on the agenda will be consideration of a training policy and a proposal that the Parish Council holds meetings in August and December each year, which currently it does not. This would mean 12 meetings each year instead of 10.

This is the last résumé of 2016 and the Parish Council wishes you a very happy Christmas and successful New Year.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th January 2017 in the Memorial Hall at 8 pm. You are all welcome to attend. If you are coming for a specific item on the agenda, it is important that you introduce yourself to the Chairman and Clerk before the start of the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you in 2017.



Christmas Tree Festival 2016 - 10th December

On December 10th the Village Hall doors will be open to the fifth Christmas Tree Festival in High Halstow. This is now proving to be a must event in the High Halstow Calendar.

It is not too late to let us know if your group, family, business etc would like to put a tree in. All we are asking for is a donation of £5.00 per tree submitted. Trees can be any size or shape, fresh or artificial; as far as decoration is concerned, the only limit is your imagination and afterwards your tree goes home with you for Christmas.

Trees can be decorated at the Hall or brought ready-decorated. Power is available for lights. Trees should be brought to the Hall on:

Friday 9th December from 19.00 to 21.00 or Saturday 10th December from 9.00 to 12.00

Trees must be collected on:

Saturday 10th December from 17.00 to 18.00

Please invite all your friends to come and see your entry and enjoy this event. With your help - and with the help of others – we can make this Christmas Tree Festival a big success.

The public are invited to view the trees from 13.00 to 16.30 with entry being just 50p. Refreshments will be available on the day.

Programme for the Event

13:00 Doors Open for Viewing
14:00 Karmann Dancers
14:20 Christmas Tree Festival Choir
14:50 Dramarama
15:10 Karmann Dancers



Money Raised will go to The Friends of St Margaret's.

The Parochial Parish Council (PCC) responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of St Margaret's have met and discussed a number of issues and reported back to the Friends that they would like support for the following:

- *Gully works – The PCC are to seek prices for the gully at the back of the door as it is blocked. The previous estimated cost was £3,000*
- *Pointing Repairs– This would be annual ongoing maintenance and it was agreed the Friends would set aside £1,000 per year from 2017/18 for this*
- *Stone Mason Repairs - This would be annual ongoing maintenance and it was agreed the Friends would set aside £1,000 per year from 2017/18 for this*
- *The PCC would seek prices for the following:*
 - o *Spire Survey*
 - o *Asbestos Survey*
 - o *Guide price for the replacement of windows*

Once these prices are in a request will be made to the Friends for their support

Future Events

Please not these dates in your diary with details to be published in the HHT in the coming months

- *Cake Festival 12h March 2017*
- *Scarecrow Festival to be part of the Rectory Garden Party July 2017*

A Reminder of How To Join can be found <http://thefriendsofstmargarets.org.uk>

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
- Mr S. Bailey - 27 Cooling Road
- Mrs J. Collins - 6 Marsh Crescent
- Mrs L. Munday - 22 Willowbank Drive
- Mr J. Myatt - Decoy Hill Road
- Mrs C. Peek - 2 Willowbank Drive
- Mrs N. Turner - 12 Marsh Crescent

High Halstow Village Hall

Refurbishment Programme Phase Five

This was by far the quickest part of the refurbishment. Last month we said we were undertaking the work to the floor and now the Hall Committee is pleased to say the main floor has been sanded, repaired, varnished, resealed and new badminton lines painted.



Events 2017

To start the event cycle for 2017 we are pleased to announce the following dates

Quiz Nights

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

- Friday 13th January
- Friday 19th May
- Friday 14th July
- Friday 13th October

Boot/Table-top Fair - Saturday 14th January

Again to book a table please ring Margaret on 01903 340953 or 07702 196179
Event from 09.00 to 11.00 / Fee £5.00 per table

There will be further events planned for the year so please watch this space.

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank you all for your support and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Whist Club

The revived Whist Club met again in November, the third time on it's usual third Wednesday in the month from 2pm - 4pm. Play was suspended for a while from laughing so much. Some members are so keen they are even talking about meeting in the run up to Christmas on the 21st December. If you want to play cards again why not join us. We just ask you to enjoy this thoughtful game but not too seriously. Coffee / tea and biscuits at half time and all for £2 per session.

Christine wilson

The Friends of St Margaret's
are pleased to present

The Cuxton Music Group
Christmas Concert

Wednesday 14th December 2016
8:00pm at St Margaret's Church
High Halstow
Tickets £6.00
Refreshments will be available on the night
Tickets available from the Village Shop

High Halstow Community Lottery Winner £650



Post Code area
ME3 7UD

The estimated prize was £500 but with a few late payments in the account from new players the final prize fund grew.

We have an estimated PRIZE fund of £700 for the next draw HELP US TO GROW THE PRIZE FUND TO £20,000 per month. Which would mean £2,500 per month to local causes.

If you want to join in the fun and help raise money for LOCAL causes all you need to do is set up a Standing Order or payment to our Lottery bank account for £10 per ticket quoting your post code and door number as your reference. Multiple tickets possible (2 tickets £20, 3 tickets £30).

Cut off date 1st of month
Payee: High Halstow Community Lottery
Account No: 21507826
Sort Code: 40 43 44
Reference: Your post code and door number/name (THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT) [e.g. ME39QZ-12]
Payments must be received by 1st of each month to be drawn by 7th.

No payment received – no ticket.

**Odds – National Lottery 4 million-1
High Halstow Community Lottery 70-1 (expected)**

High Halstow 2016 Photographic Competition Winners

Overall Winner
Hugh Russell

Flora & Fauna
1st - Tony Peake, 2nd - Peter Collins
3rd - Claire Sparshott

People & Places
1st - Wenda Taylor, 2nd - Gary King
3rd - Hugh Russell

Under 16's
1st - Jonathan Harrison, 2nd - Lauren Hayward
3rd - Florence Milner (November)

HH Calendars featuring the winning pictures will be available from the Village Shop in December. The pictures can also be viewed online at the village website www.highhalstow.org.uk

High Halstow Arts & Crafts Village Market

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

The Memorial Hall
10am - 2pm

**Sunday 11th December
&
Sunday 18th December**

Come and support our village event!

Cornish Holiday Cottage Let

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

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

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

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

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

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



Dates for Diary

Every Monday:

Glowfit
18:30 Village Hall

Every Tuesday:

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

Every Thursday:

Sugar Babes
19:00 Memorial Hall

Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers
09:00 Memorial Hall
Karate
09:30 Village Hall

Every Sunday:

Déjà Vu Spiritual Centre
18:30 Village Hall

Every 3rd Wednesday:

Whist Club
14:00 Memorial Hall

Every 4th Wednesday:

Friendly Club
14:00 Memorial Hall

Other Dates:

Sunday 4th: Family Service
09:30 St. Margaret's Church
Wednesday 7th: Women's Institute
19:30 Memorial Hall
Saturday 10th: Christmas Tree
13:30 Village Hall Festival
Sunday 11th & 18th: Arts & Craft Fair
10:00 Memorial Hall
Tuesday 13th: Gardening Club
20:00 Memorial Hall
Wednesday 14th:
Cuxton Music Group Christmas Concert
20:00 St. Margaret's Church
Sunday 18th: High Halstow Hikers
Details in HHT
Sunday 18th: Family Service
09:30 St. Margaret's Church
Wednesday 21st: Whist Club
14:00 Memorial Hall
Saturday 24th: Santa's Visit
16:00 onwards The Village

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.



Hi everyone my name is Jaime and I'm a local Forever Living Business Owner.

With products ranging from Nutritional Supplements to Beauty, Personal Care and our famous Aloe Vera Drinking Gel, there's something for everyone, even your animals!

Try before you buy! Why not try one of my product baskets?
Or request a brochure!

Quote HH1 to receive a free gift when you place an order.

You may even be interested in starting your own business?
Would you like an extra income?
Do you like to travel?
This is all possible and I can help you achieve this.

Contact me for details
forevertalking@flp.com
07740395783

or find me on fb Jaime Tomlinson or Forever Talking by Jaime
www.forevertalking.flp.com



Based in High
Halstow
Contact Jade
07708 394979



Permanent Makeup is an advanced technique used to apply coloured hypoallergenic pigments into the dermal layer of the skin. The pigments are made from natural minerals making enhancements look very natural that can last for years but will fade over time.

Treatment areas:

Brows: Eyebrows frame the face, with the right shape & colour brows it can make you look years younger

Eyes: It can be difficult to apply eyeliner correctly & make it last all day. Define your eyes with eyeliner or lash enhancement.

Lips: Define & enhance your lips with a gorgeous lip liner, blush or full lip colour.

Book a free consultation to see how Permanent Makeup can help you.

www.serenitypermanentmakeup.co.uk

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

I'd like to share this lovely picture of my parents, Margaret and Derek Bull, of Harrison Drive, celebrating their Diamond Wedding anniversary on 10th November. They have lived in the village since 1959 and have seen many changes in that time. Receiving a message from the Queen really made their day!



Mum and Dad were married in Chatham, they have two children (Sharon and Melinda) who both attended the village school, two grandchildren (Jody and Joshua) and one great grandson (Miles). They both worked at Kingsnorth power station for many years and used to be very active on the gardening scene, winning quite a few of the village gardening competitions.

Melinda Braidwood
Ruggles Close

Dramarama 2017 Pantomime

Dramarama will be performing Pied Piper in January on Thursday 26th, Friday 27th and a matinee and evening performance on Saturday 28th - Tickets available from Wenda on 253169.



Dear HHT,

At the Christmas Market (Taste of Christmas), a person purchased a jar of Christmas Chutney. They put it down on the cakes table while paying for a cake and left it behind. I have the jar of chutney and if they would like to collect it I will hand it over. My telephone number is 253059
Gillian Ellen

Dear HHT,

On Saturday 19th November my wife and beloved mother of five, Irene Stone, passed away at home surrounded by her family after a short, yet brave battle with cancer at the age of 48.

We have been residents of High Halstow village for 16 years and it was strangely after my wife accidentally came across our current house, when lost on her way to pick our daughter up from the nursery in the village, she discovered a house for sale.

For those who knew Irene would never forget her infectious laugh and love for life, an aura that made her such a loving, caring and compassionate women who would always find a reason to talk to anyone in the hope to make their day a little bit better. Even though this element of our life has unfortunately gone, we can still immerse in the memories of Irene's life and be so grateful for knowing such an amazing woman.

During our time in the village my wife made numerous lifelong friends which I must thank for their support in this difficult time, which Irene would be so appreciative of.

Irene will be laid to rest on the 8th December at St Margaret's Church in High Halstow.

Phil Stone
Longfield Avenue

Christmas service times 2016

11th December Allhallows

6:30pm Carols by candlelight Service

18th December High Halstow

6:30pm Carols by candlelight Service

24th December High Halstow

5.00pm Childrens service

(visit from santa at 6:00pm)

11:30pm Midnight Communion service

25th December High Halstow

8:00am Holy Communion service

9:00 Christmas Family Service

25th December Allhallows

10:30am Christmas Family Service

Next edition February 2017; Contributions for February should be sent by 24th January to:

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or e.mail to editor@highhalstow.org.uk