



High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



December 2013



Santa's Visit 2013

Back by popular demand, Santa has once again agreed and planned his route and therefore will be stopping by to deliver his gifts on Christmas Eve. The charge as last year will be **£2.00 per present**.

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 **SATURDAY 21st December**.
3. Please note for insurance purposes the value of the present should not exceed £10.00.
4. Please do not make the presents too large as Santa is busy at this time of year and would prefer smaller parcels.

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.

If you wish to have any pictures of this event added to the website please send to gary@highhalstow.org.uk. Please provide your name and address and, if possible, please identify the people in the picture.

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.***

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

High Halstow Gardening Club

The history and secrets of Sissinghurst were revealed by Steven Harmer at our November meeting in an interesting and entertaining talk. We are again holding a Christmas social evening for members on 10th December where will be entertained by a singer who also plays the saxophone with seasonal quiz, wine and nibbles. We will be preparing decorations for our Christmas tree to be included in the display on 14 December.

There will not be a meeting in January but will be commencing 2014 with our Annual General Meeting on 11 February. Our annual dinner is to be held on 21st February at the old BP club. Details will be available at the Christmas social evening but if you require further information, please contact Margaret Shuter at 45 Christmas Lane, 01634 251196.

We wish our members and readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Telephone Contact Numbers

Next a year it is planned to put a list of key telephone numbers in including contact details for the local groups. We will be putting together these numbers over the next few weeks with a resume of each group and will be in touch to confirm details are correct. Any suggestions/details can be emailed to editor@highhalstow.org.uk

HH Parish Council

The Friendly Club

Sheila Marchant and Judy Southwell have now left the village for pastures new. Forming the club in 2000, they are going to be a hard act to follow.

Three brave souls have taken over the reins, albeit nervously as we couldn't bear the thought of the club closing. Have you ever thought of coming along just one Wednesday afternoon a month for a friendly chat and a cup of tea? The programme is now complete for next year and it's a mixture of social times with quizzes and table games, lunch out, a speaker and 3 minibus outings. If we can get enough people, a weeks holiday to Torquay in September has already been booked. This means a door to door service with 3 trips out on the coach. Why not give us a try. We meet on the 4th Wednesday in the Memorial Hall from 2-4pm, but not in January as we will be lunching out. Need more information, then please contact me on 250677.

Margaret Whitebread

High Halstow Hikers

We unfortunately had to change our November walk from the area around Ightham Mote to the RSPB lakes at Cliffe marshes because of the wet underfoot conditions. This is a walk we have done before and is always enjoyable mixing the wildfowl and waders on and over the lakes with the views across the River Thames. We were once again affected by rain which started just about halfway through the walk but everybody was well kitted out and the dogs in particular seemed to mind not a jot. Just before the end we made the short climb up the "Pinnacle" allowing us to view where we had spent the last 2 hours. There are great views up the river to Gravesend and across the network of multiple lakes – impressive even on a wet day.

On Sunday 8th December we will do our now traditional Christmas walk from starting from High Halstow village hall car park at 10.00. We will decide the actual route nearer the day depending on conditions.

I'll describe the January walk since there is generally no January HH Times. The walk will start at 10.00am on Sunday 12th and will be a departure from our usual countryside routes: we will wander around historic Greenwich and Blackheath for a couple of hours. It will include a walk to the Cutty Sark via Greenwich Park taking in the views from the Observatory down to the National Maritime Museum and beyond to the modern contrast of Canary Wharf towers. We will begin the walk from just inside Greenwich Park at Blackheath Gate. This is reached by following the A2 onto Blackheath and turning right at the roundabout and then left at the traffic lights going along the southside of the park on Charlton Way. I believe that free parking is available along that road before the gate is reached. Inside the park there is plenty of parking but this is pay and display.

As always if you have any queries please contact Mitchell either on mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com or 01634254428

Bus Shelter Goodwood Close

The Parish Council have requested that Medway Council paint on the road a box marking the Bus Shelter, as the bus is having difficulties in parking in its allotted space. As a result consultation will take place with the residents along Heronsbank to determine how far back the starting point of the box will be

HH Parish Council

Now We Know

Miss Aviolet was very knowledgeable, and very amusing as she went through every members name and informed us of all the plants that we share our names with. She also brought along some plants for sale and some which she gave out as gifts.

Things are getting busy as Christmas approaches and diaries are getting filled with evenings out for celebrations and carol services. Our WI will be visiting Greenwich again for lunch and Christmas shopping, travelling by minibus makes the day so much more enjoyable. Our next meeting is on December 4th when we will be making tree decorations for our entry in the Christmas Tree Festival. With food and a drink or two and glue we could be in for a sticky evening.

All the ladies would like to wish all readers a very healthy and happy Christmas. Maybe some of you would like to try something new next year, why not make it your local WI. 1st Wednesday of each month in the Memorial Hall.

Margaret Whitebread

Come and Meet Your Parish Councillors

Chris Watson and Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 10th December from 10.30 – 12.00pm and every 2nd Tuesday in the month.



Come and tell us your problems or find out about projects we are undertaking. If we can't answer your questions there and then we will get back to you.

Thank You to all the Distributors

Have you ever wondered about who delivers your High Halstow Times each month? Well, there is a whole army of volunteers, young and not so young, headed up by Nigel Smith. Through rain and shine, wind and snow these brave and very able delivery men and women give up their own time to make sure your copy of the HHT is delivered each month (except in January when they are allowed a month off!). The Parish Council, and the HHT Editor, would like to thank them all for their hard work throughout the year, and wish them a very Happy Christmas.

HHT Editor



Christmas Tree Festival 2013

On December 14th the Village Hall doors will be open to the second Christmas Tree Festival in High Halstow

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 £3.50 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 13th December from 19.00 to 21.00 or Saturday 14th December from 9.00 to 12.00

Trees must be collected on either Saturday 14th December from 17.00 to 18.00 or Sunday 15th December from 9.30 to 11.00

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

The public are invited to view the trees from 13.00 to 16.00 with entry being just 50p. Refreshments will be available on the day

Friends of St Margaret's Church

High Halstow Village Market

Saturday 7th December

From 9:30am - 11:00am



Stalls Include

*Fresh Vegetables, Fresh Bread, Cakes, Cards, Jewellery
Books, Sweets, Candles, Knitting and much much more*

Children's Games

*New to the Market is a special area of children's
games to keep the little ones amused whilst you browse.*

The Cafe

Why not come along to the cafe for a drink and a snack.

Meet up with friends for a chat.

Speak to a local Councillor about any issues you may have.

The High Halstow 2014 Calendar

*Come and view some of the entries of this years photographic
competition and maybe buy next years calendar.*

Free NHS Health Check

*This month the NHS will be offering a free health
check at the market.*

Why not come along for a few moments and spend a £1

To Book a Stall Please Contact Michelle on 254121

**"The people
walking in
darkness
have seen a
great light"**

Isaiah 9:2

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

**A new series about
the meaning of Advent**

**"I am the
light of the
world"
says Jesus**

**Every Sunday of Advent
8:00am, 9:30 am & 6:30pm
(except 15th Dec at 6:30pm)**

**St. Margarets church
High Halstow**

Christmas Service Times

15th December

8:00am Holy Communion (High Halstow)
9:30am All Age Worship (High Halstow)
11:00am DIY Nativity service (Allhallows)
6:30pm: Carol Service (Allhallows)

22nd December

8:00am Holy Communion (High Halstow)
9:30am Morning Prayer (High Halstow)
11:00am Family Communion (Allhallows)
6:30pm: Carol Service (*High Halstow*)

24th December

5:00-6:00pm Messy Christmas for children
followed by a visit from Santa (High Halstow)
11:30 Midnight Communion (Allhallows)

25th December

8:00am Holy Communion (High Halstow)
9:00am Christmas family service (High Halstow)
10:30am Christmas family service (Allhallows)

29th December

9:30am Morning Prayer (High Halstow)
11:00am Morning Prayer (Allhallows)



The Hoo Peninsular Model Railway Group.

Firstly I must apologise for some irregularities in my last article. My phone number was incorrect. The correct number is 07527 596630. Secondly, the two spelling mistakes. I put this down to rushing to ensure that I met the production date for the HHT.

I am pleased to say that we had three enquires for new members which is very encouraging. It restores my faith in that I'm not the only Railway anorak who lives on the peninsular.

We are steadily moving along with the club layout, some of our members are busy making hills and fields out of polystyrene and mod rock. New skills for some of them. We have managed to correct some of those "hard to find" electrical faults, and have built the storage racks in the shed to enable us to store the layout boards, flat with all the scenic detail fixed on.

We have also found some locomotives in the storage cupboard and these are being fitted with DCC Decoders so we can run even more train on club nights.

So if you would like to join us on a Thursday night please give me a call on the above number, or just ring the door bell on the Scout hut, Stoke Road Hoo, on a Thursday night anytime after about 7-30pm, for a chat, a cup of tea, and a look at what we are trying to archive, all for £1. Per night.



Part of the layout showing the Camp Site

Dramarama

This years pantomime is Little Red Riding Hood, and rehearsals are well underway. We will be performing 4 shows in late January (dates and times are advertised on page 11). If you would like to advertise in our programme or become an honourable member please email your interest to editor@highhalstow.org.uk. and the Chairman will get in touch with you about the details.

Free NHS Health Check

With Christmas coming Santa was a surprise visitor to the free NHS Health Check. After hearing about the success of the first visit when they came to the Village Market, Santa took the opportunity to get himself checked out when it came back for the Church Market.

Results for him were promising with the NHS saying he had a heart of gold but he should cut back on the mince pies this Christmas as he has put on some weight a bit early this year.

Nearly 30 people have had their health checked with a number referred back to their GP, it's not too late for you to have your free Health Check as the van returns again on December 7th at the Village Market, doors open at 9:30am.



HIGH HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL P.T.A. CHRISTMAS FAIR

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER
3:30 – 5:00PM, IN THE SCHOOL
HALL

Stalls, Raffle, Lucky Dip, Children's Competitions, Cake Sale, Bumper Christmas Lottery Draw and much more! Come along and help us raise money, and get yourself some Christmas gifts at the same time. All profits raised by the Parent Teacher Association help to purchase items for the school and fund fun activities for the pupils.

Everyone Welcome !



DIY NATIVITY SERVICE

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH ALLHALLOWS
15TH DECEMBER AT 11:00AM**

Come along and join us as we recreate the Christmas story with glad tidings and great JOY! Bring the children and grandchildren, bring parents, friends and neighbours and experience the wonder of an authentic Christmas.



Although it isn't obligatory, everyone, old and young can come dressed up as an Angel, Shepherd, Wise man, King, Donkey, Sheep, Mary or Joseph..... Or just come as you are.

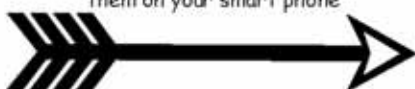


Mince pies and tea galore after the service.

Come and join us, it will be one of the best things you will do this Christmas!



Practice some of the great modern Christmas classics that we will be singing by downloading them on your smart phone



For more info contact Rev Stephen Gwilt 01634 250637

Enjoy a good movie ?

Fed up with buying DVD's and watching them just once ?

Have a growing DVD mountain ?



Bring as many DVD's as you want and exchange them for ones you haven't seen for just 50p each.

Lots to choose from
for all the family.

**Every month at
the farmers market**

The Village Shop

Opening Hours

Monday – Saturday 7am – 8pm

Sunday 8am – 2pm

Telephone number: 01634 254561



Kings Kitchen

A Coffee and Cake Café
for the Whole Village.

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

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

A warm welcome awaits you.



Charity Open Air Carols

There will be open air carols
on Tuesday 17th December at
6:30pm outside the
recreational Hall
High Halstow in aid of
**Demelza House
Childrens Hospice**

Come and join us as we sing or
just come and watch and
donate to this
very worthwhile charity



For more information please contact Rev. Stephen Gwilt on 01634 250637



**Would you be willing to
give food to your
neighbour if they were
hungry and unable to feed
their children or family ?**

There is a saying ,” most people are only one pay cheque from being hungry” There is a growing problem on the Peninsula and in surrounding problems. People are hungry and finding things very difficult to make ends meet. It is largely a hidden problem due to a feeling of shame and embarrassment. People find it difficult to deal with and talk about. As a church we have been collecting food for the food bank for some time and I know there are plenty of others that support the work food bank is doing as well. To make it easier to give support and help you can now take suitable food to the Kings Kitchen or to the Rectory or the Church and it will be taken regularly either to those families on the Peninsula who are finding it difficult to feed their families or to the food bank itself in Strood where it will be used to support literally hundreds of families that are finding it hard cope through no fault of their own. Imagine what it would be like to tell your children there was nothing for them to eat today ? If you are finding it hard to cope yourself, please feel contact Rev Stephen Gwilt for a chat in total confidence to see if we can help you. 01634 250637 or by email. Stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

In the September edition of the High Halstow Times there was a letter from Bethany George thanking people who donated money so that she could climb Mount Kilimanjaro in aid of Meningitis Research. She promised an article on her experiences and below is a summary of the article provided by Beth.

For the full article and more pictures please visit

<http://highhalstow.org.uk/blog/bethany-george-and-mount-kilimanjaro>.

It's a great story!

Bethany George and Mount Kilimanjaro

I still can't quite believe that I reached the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest point, the world's tallest freestanding mountain at a height of 5895 metres which stands taller than the base camp of Mount Everest.

During my time in Africa I wrote a journal so that every detail I could manage was documented for my memories. I'm so pleased I did this because by the time I had been to the Orphanage, Kilimanjaro felt like months ago. I've been lucky enough to go abroad quite a lot in my life so far, but I've never made it across to Africa before. Stepping off the plane into Nairobi airport after coming through Heathrow was like stepping back in time, it is quite literally a completely different world. The terrain of the mountain changed about every half an hour and We walked through 7 different eco-systems , it was quite surreal.



There were several African phrases that became commonplace on the mountain, my favourite being 'Hakuna Matata' (yes, people actually say this!) Pole pole (po-ley) meaning 'slowly, slowly' was the one used the most, because Kilimanjaro has to be climbed over 6 days in order to help your body adjust to the climate change, and the change in altitude. The food was absolutely amazing. One of the symptoms of altitude sickness is a lack of appetite but walking for at least 10 hours a day it is absolutely vital that you eat.

Looking back at summit night is like reliving a nightmare and I wish I was exaggerating. It was the hardest 24 hours I've ever endured, and I can't imagine anything ever comparing! In the morning I seemed to hit my 'wall'

I came over really faint and couldn't walk, but with the help from my friends and porters I was feeling better within the hour. Eventually we made it to camp and then had three hours sleep. I assure you, three hours is nowhere near enough to climb a mountain on. As we started the trek people were literally dropping like flies, some from suspected hypothermia, others altitude sickness My chest was tight and I had a constant dull head ache throughout. Around 5am I hit my low. Being forced to walk on, helpless to my friends that lay crumpled on the ground was so difficult. Walking alone and having only my own thoughts definitely took its toll. I'm one of three that carried my daysack the whole way up, others had a porter that helped pull them up. I'm both happy and sad that I didn't need the extra support, although at times it really felt like I did.

I finally cried. It took the whole week of putting on a brave face and grin and bearing it all. When we took 5 minutes to rest and drink our water (that had turned to ice from the -25 degrees!) I remember sitting down on the side of this glorious mountain, looking out above the clouds to the horizon just starting to break through. Looking across the skyline, it was something that completely overwhelmed me. It was a moment of realisation, a sudden appreciation for where I was and that I would never have that moment again. All I could do was cry!

Getting to Stella Point (the top of the mountain) I seemed to lose the inspiration, I just needed it to be over. We started walking at 1am and we reached Stella at 10am. The last half an hour I was ready to give up. It would have been so easy to just sit down and never get back up, but somehow I crawled my way up. From Stella we then had another hour of (so-called) flat walking to Uhuru Peak, the highest point in Africa. Only a few of us went the extra hour, it felt like another 10 hours. At this height it was bitter -25 degrees with furious winds, surrounded by snow and with such little oxygen. I recall walking two paces and having to stop to gasp for air. I was falling asleep standing up in between paces. I've never felt such intense exhaustion in my life. It doesn't feel like I was there and I wish I hadn't been so miserable, I couldn't



fully enjoy it but after a lonely, gruelling walk on practically no sleep, you can understand! I regret not taking more pictures at the top but I just wasn't functioning.

Only 3 out of 22 didn't make it to the top. Believe it or not, getting down was so much worse! Using a completely new set of muscles, and the pressure on my knees has given me grief for weeks afterwards. I realise I've made it sound like hell on Earth, and at times, it really felt like that, but, we had such fun every day I laughed until I cried.

Nothing will ever compare to this completely unique experience I've had. It was such an adventure and I smile every time I think of it. We got back to the hotel at 6pm and had to leave for a ten hour journey to the Orphanage at 4am.

As we drove through Mombasa to Utange, the change was pretty drastic. As you got closer to the smaller villages the 'real' Africa as opposed to the touristy one, really started to settle in. Cement buildings turned into mud huts and shacks. Wherever we drove because we're white people were just amazed to see us and would shout 'Muzungu' meaning white person.



The Orphanage that we visited has saved 24 AIDS orphans and they live in a place called Casuarina House. There are 13 boys and 11 girls. The Foundation started in 2006 when a lady called Debbie turned her whole life upside down in order to rescue these children. Not only has she fed clothed and given these 24 children a home, she does as much as she can for the rest of the village as well. Every Saturday there is a feeding programme where 500 orphans come to receive a cupful of food so that they have at least one hot meal a week. You see children that are only 3 years old coming and saving half of their tiny portion just so they have food the next day. Hearing about all of this was pretty hard

especially when we were as tired as we were and I found that I had to keep reminding myself that actually this is a really positive place and at least there is something here even if it is only helping 24 out of the 500 that come every week. The orphanage is connected to Utange Baptist Primary School and where we were staying. We took a tour around the school and every single class stood and sang for us. Their head teacher would ask them if they're happy and I remember one little boy answering as she asked him why he was happy and he said 'because he had learnt well' and it was such a genuine and sincere reply it proves just how much these children cherish their education. If these children weren't sponsored to go to this private school they wouldn't be able to go to school, They would have to work, even at 5 years old. In some cases boys as young as five years old that can't afford education are expected to take on the fatherly role and work to put food on the table. That alone really puts my everyday first world problems into perspective.

I am incredibly grateful to everyone that has supported me in my adventure. As you can see, I had the time of my life and as awful as moments were, they were absolutely worth it. I'd like to reiterate that every single penny of the £2,900 donated went to Meningitis Research Foundation an absolutely fantastic cause.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!



DRAMARAMA

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Little Red Riding Hood



JANUARY 23RD / 24TH / 25TH @ 7:30PM

MATINEE PERFORMANCE SATURDAY 25TH @ 2:00PM

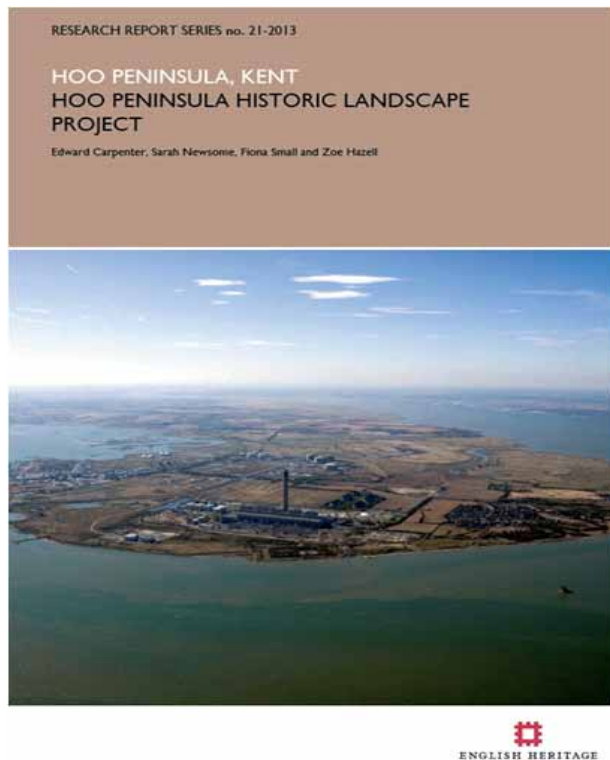
TICKETS: £5.00 VILLAGE HALL, HIGH HALSTOW

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT HIGH HALSTOW VILLAGE SHOP

OR FROM FRED & HAZEL (251135)

JOANNE (250911), WENDA (253169)

OR ANITA AT THE HIGH HALSTOW PRESCHOOL



English Heritage have undertaken a project due to the proposed changes on Hoo Peninsula combined with a threat from rising sea levels. These highlighted the need to increase the knowledge and promote awareness of how the peninsula's historical development contributed to its character

The report is far too large to be printed here but if you wish to read the report please follow the links on <http://highhalstow.org.uk>



High Halstow Pre-school

Modular Building, Primary School, Harrison Drive,
High Halstow, Rochester, Kent. ME3 8TF
01634 255088

Proprietor/Manager Mrs Anita Russell BA (Hons), EYPS

- ✓ 'Outstanding Provider' Ofsted
- ✓ 2009-10 Extensive Outdoor Facilities
- ✓ Excellent Links with Primary School
- ✓ Friendly, Qualified Staff
- ✓ Affordable Childcare

Open Weekdays, term time only
8.45 am - 3.30pm

Morning, lunch, afternoon and all day sessions available.

Children are funded for 5 free sessions the term following their third birthday.

Don't take Ofsted's word that we are an outstanding provider, come and see for yourself.

Ring 01634 255088

Poppy Appeal

Susan Osenton of Dalham Farm would like to thank all those who collected and contributed towards this worthy cause. We raised the grand amount of £1,125.

Many Thanks

Susan Osenton

Tiger Lily Care




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PAUL HUGHES

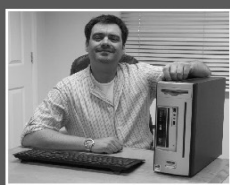
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So Can Be Quick
To Respond**

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

Regards
Jonathan

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HH Village Website

Please visit the Parish Council website for everything about our village. You can see the minutes of your Parish Council or look up local groups in the village, past copies of the High Halstow Times, and pictures of recent events. Please note that there is now an RSS feed on the Parish Website where you can get automatic updates when the site is updated. Please visit www.highhalstow.org.uk and follow the instructions on the right hand side.

Local Groups and the Website

You can advertise your activities free of charge on this site just let us have the details. If your details need updating with either dates or details of events please let us know by emailing gary@highhalstow.org.uk. This can be used to keep your members informed and possibly attract new members to your group.

Local Businesses

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that the Business Page is back on the website. Should you wish to advertise your business please visit <http://highhalstow.org.uk/business-page> where you can find all the details of how to put your business on the site.

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, which will be published alongside the letter. 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.

Disclaimer Please note High Halstow Parish Council: 1. makes no endorsement of any of the businesses listed in the High Halstow Times 2. is not responsible for the content of external websites. 3. the information is offered 'as is' with the wish to be helpful.

Advertising rates are £15 per quarter page per edition; £30 per half page per edition. Items should be sent to editor@highhalstow.org.uk

Allotments

As you may be aware the Parish Council have a number of allotments which are rented out each year. Although there are currently no vacant allotments, there is also no one on the waiting list. Should you wish to be put on the waiting list please can you contact me (Chris Watson) on 256529 or email me at chris.watson123@btinternet.com.

High Halstow Relief in Need Charity

This charity exists to assist those in the Village who are in need, especially widows and widowers. The trustees wish to remind the people of the parish that they will give consideration to any request for a particular need, at any time during the year. If you, or an elderly relative would feel safer at home with a telephone 'Lifeline' the Charity could help with this. All requests are dealt with in complete confidence and there is no need to wait for the October form.

The trustees are:

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

The Gift Room

Sunday 8 December 2013,

1.30pm - 4pm

Memorial Hall, The Street, High
Halstow

Loads to choose from:

Angels, Dragons, Candles, Scarves,
Lucky Dip, Beautiful Handmade Cards,
Fantastic Plants, Gift Hampers, Sweets,
Avon Items, Various Handmade Cakes
and Refreshments in the kitchen, and
much more

What a super way for the whole family
to pass a relaxing Sunday afternoon
and get all those last minute presents!

Entry 20p per adult

Raffle

Raising money for Macmillan Nurses

Responsible Parking

Complaints have been received by the Parish Council on the number of cars parked on the kerb, or irresponsibly parked opposite turnings, side roads or on corners. Please make sure that your parked car is not causing an obstruction to other drivers or obstructing pedestrians on pathways. Medway Council is aware of the issue on the peninsula as a whole and are considering random patrols of the smart car to issue tickets. We would prefer no penalties are issued so the Parish Council is asking people to park properly in order to avoid the issues.

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.

Dates for Diary

Every Tuesday:

King's Kitchen

10:00

Memorial Hall

Bell Ringers

19:30

St Margaret's Church

Every Wednesday:

Tai Chi

10:30

Memorial Hall

Yoga

17:30

Memorial Hall

Every Thursday:

Mother and Toddler's

09.00

Memorial Hall

Sugar Babes

19.00

Memorial Hall

Every Friday:

Pilates with Joy

14:15

Memorial Hall

Every Saturday:

Karmann Dancers

09.00

Memorial Hall

Other Dates:

Sunday 1st:

09:00

Family Service

St. Margaret's Church

Wednesday 4th:

19:30

Women's Institute

Memorial Hall

Saturday 7th:

09:30

Village Market

Village Hall

Saturday 7th:

09:30

NHS Health Check

Village Hall

Tuesday 10th:

20:00

Gardening Club

Memorial Hall

Sunday 8th:

High Halstow Hikers

Details in HHT

Wednesday 11th:

20:00

Parish Council -

Finance Meeting

Village Hall

Saturday 14th:

13:00 - 16:00

Christmas Tree Festival

Village Hall

Sunday 15th:

09:00

Family Service

St. Margaret's Church

Tuesday 24th:

from 16:00

Santa's Visit

High Halstow


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.

Learn GUITAR

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

CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS AND DEALS AVAILABLE
HOME VISITS OR AT HOME STUDIO IN CHRISTMAS LANE

Call Matthew 07967 125091



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Divine Party Cakes

Cupcakes, large cakes & cupcake decorating parties

www.divinepartycakes.com

Find Divine Party Cakes on Facebook!

e-mail: info@divinepartycakes.com

Sadie 01233 501832
Sophie 01634 254175



Your Parish Councillors

George Crozer, Chair	01634 250286
e.mail: george@highhalstow.org.uk	
Gary Thomas, Vice Chair	01634 252812
e.mail: gary@highhalstow.org.uk	
Martin Andrews	07984 791029
Ray Collins	01634 250105
Stuart Bailey	01634 255537
Josh Gordon	07753 212179
Gary Jerreat	01634 253999
Lesley Munday	01634 250276
Christine Watson	01634 256529

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Mrs Roxana Brammer 01474 871269
clerk@highhalstow.org.uk

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

I live near to the Church in High Halstow and am delighted to see such a dramatic improvement in the Condition of the burial ground! For a number of years the area surrounding our Church has looked as if we are happy to bury our dead, take the money and then let the memory grow over with long grass and weeds! This year I have seen a valiant band doing there very best to get it under control, a great job and vast improvement WELL DONE!!!

Vic Godding. Christmas Lane

Photographic Competition Winners 2013

The winners for this years competition were as follows:

Flora & Fauna

- 1st David Dinsdale
- 2nd June Collins
- 3rd Jan Krefta



People & Places

- 1st Jenny Thomas
- 2nd Lucy O'Sullivan
- 3rd George Crozer



Under 18's

- 1st Lilly O'Sullivan
- 2nd Maddy Harris



Congratulations to all who won and entered this years competition. Entries for the 2014 competition will open soon, so keeping snapping and you could be a winner too.



High Halstow Official Calendar

The winners of this years photographic competition were announced at the Parish Council meeting in October. The winning pictures, and some of the best runner ups, are all included in the Official 2014 High Halstow calendar which will be on sale at the Village Market on Saturday 7th December for a bargain price of £5.50, with profits from the sale of the calendar going towards stage 3 of the renovation of the Village Hall. We are grateful to the Village Shop who will also be selling the calendars again this year.



Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year from High Halstow Parish Council.



Next edition February 2014; Contributions for February should be sent by 24th January to:

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