



High Halstow TIMES



Home of the Heron

May 2011

High Halstow Mother & Toddler Group New Leader Needed

Due to the Pre-School Leavers Trip taking place on Thursday 21st July, there will be no Mother & Toddler Group on this date. The final date for your calendars is therefore Thursday 14th July and this will be our Summer Picnic (weather permitting). Previously this was advertised as a face painting event, so I will ensure that face painting is included at the picnic along with plenty of other activities. This will take place on the Recreational Field between 10.00 - 12.00.

Also, it is sad to note that at this time, no one has stepped forward to volunteer their services in running the group once I leave in the summer. I have thoroughly enjoyed running the group and my children have both enjoyed attending - as I know many others have too. I would be more than happy to help the new manager with organising activities, but I simply cannot commit myself to being available every Thursday morning, as I am now. No hall bookings have been made past July and the group really will be closed down if no-one steps forward. This club has been running for many years, the children learn vital social skills and make friends, as do the parents. It's on your door step, its cheap and very worthwhile. In addition the up-keep of the Memorial Hall itself would be at a disadvantage if the weekly payments we provide were to end. This would be a terrible shame for the whole village not just the children.

Come on Mum's, the village needs you!

Marie Calvert - 253544

Memorial Hall

The Memorial Hall has recently become in need of more than the usual T.L.C. it receives, and this means we have to find rather a lot of money to get the work underway.

With this in mind the committee organised an Easter Market on 16th April. With the help of several generous donations from local businesses we were able to offer a wonderful raffle and there were lots of stalls – something for everyone. Watching children decorating cup cakes with as many sweets as they could pile on was great fun and it was wonderful to see villagers and other friends sitting in the hall, having a cup of tea and enjoying the atmosphere of this lovely little hall. The sun shone and we were very lucky with the number of people who turned out to support us. We were amazed that we raised the princely sum of £350.00 which was a really good start to our campaign.

Thank you to everyone who made the afternoon such a success.

Memorial Hall Re-dedication

You may recall that we were going to re-dedicate the Memorial Hall on 5 December but had to postpone due to the bad weather. Well we are going to try again on Sunday 22 May (hopefully no snow this time). Please come along and help us celebrate the 90th birthday of this hall from 2-4pm. If you know anyone who has family members on our memorial board then please encourage them to come along and have a cup of tea and a piece of birthday cake with us.

An Easy Month Ahead

Checking the diary we seem to be having an easy few weeks ahead. Not a bad thing as many of the ladies probably had a hectic Easter. It was all about birds last month with a volunteer of 33 years taking us through his amazing collection of slides on the birds of north Kent. This is being followed up by a walk on Friday 13th (W.I. ladies fear nothing) through the reserve with a guy from Bromhey. In the same week there is a 'Farming and Organic Food Day' at Aylesford which a couple of members will be attending. Oh and also on the Saturday we have been invited to Hollingbourne, where we will have a guided walk around the village, a pub lunch and a game of darts. Hollingbourne W.I. ladies are great fun and we got to know them two years ago when we knocked them out of the county darts tournament. Did I say it was to be an easy month?

Next meeting is Wednesday 4th May when we debate our resolutions. This year it's library closures and 'mega' farms. We will also have David Stephenson telling us of a little local history.

Margaret Whitebread

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. 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
- Mrs M. Bufford - 34 Christmas Lane
- Mrs D. West - 14 Cooling Road
- Mrs M. King - 11 The Street
- Mr J. Myatt - Decoy Hill Road
- Mr B. Prichard - 9 Drayton Close

High Halstow Walkers

Our March walk was 8 miles around the southeast corner of Sheerness starting and finishing at the Ferry House Inn (previously Harty Ferry Inn) which overlooks the Swale. The walk along the seawall to the private cluster of houses at Shellness gave great views across the saltings to Oare, Faversham and Whistable. Inland we had many wonderful sightings of Marsh Harriers. Other sightings included the naturists on the small, designated beach making the best of the warm sunshine. We turned back inland at Muswell Manor surprisingly famous for being the "birthplace and cradle of British aviation". The nearby snack shop made a welcome resting spot with some of the cheapest coffee around. The highly enjoyable walk was rounded off nicely by real ale back at the inn.

The May walk will start at 10.00 on Sunday 8th May from the car park at Shorne country park. Please meet close to the visitor centre. We will follow the Darnley Trail (about 6.5 miles) which we postponed because of poor underfoot conditions in January. Should be a lovely spring walk this time mainly through woodland along well-established tracks.

The following 3 walks will all be on the second Sunday in the month on:

- 12th June
- 10th July
- 14th August

Full details in next Times.

Your contacts remain Mitchell Dowsett on mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com and Derek Baker on 07710-806757

Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Please note the AGM will be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th May at 6.30pm - all are welcome. Details of the finances will be presented to the Committee (pre audit). Please note that the various groups who regularly use the Hall should send a representative.

Chairman's Report 2011

Firstly I would like to thank all my councillors for the hard work and dedication they have put in the last twelve months. Including those who have moved on to pastures new. May I welcome the new members to the team who have seamlessly integrated and taken up responsibilities with great enthusiasm. May I also thank; our Clerk, who has the arduous task of interpreting and deciphering our proposals and seeing many of them into fruition. Jack and John for bringing a smile to work and keeping the streets clean and tidy. Margaret Church for her work with the payroll. Turfsoil and team. Thank you all.

Many small villages like ours have lost Post Offices, shops and indeed pubs, I'm pleased to see that the shop and the Red Dog are now, and will continue to be the heart of our village. Last but by no means least, I must thank the life and soul of the village; The small army of volunteers who turn out on project day to help with the up keep of our community. Carl Mitchell The Editor of the HHT, Ann and the many volunteers that help deliver the HHT. The many stall holders at farmers market, as well as the regular attendees at farmers market, the cricketers, and all of the members of all of the clubs and societies that meet in the two halls. Stephen Gwilt and the Church family, the Teachers and pupils at our School. Lee and his team at the Red-dog, the staff at the village shop and Post office, and all the people who use the Red Dog and village shop. And all the others who in some way help to make high Halstow a community.

I am a little disappointed that once again we will see no elections for parish Councillors' this year. I would like to think its because we do such a fantastic job the there is no need to contest the posts but sadly I fear it's a little complacency that is to blame. I would dearly loved to write in Alan Watkins Blog that high Halstow is an elected assembly.

It is quite usual for me to at this juncture to reminisce about the achievements of the past year but I feel to do this would take away the importance of the threat that awaits us in the near future. 10 years ago our whole way of life and indeed very existence was under serious threat when the government tabled a proposal to build an Airport at Cliffe (well actual it was an airport at High Halstow St Mary Hoo and Allhallows) It was coined the airport at Cliffe because Cliffe was to be the only village left to name it after.!!! That long fight was finally won in 2004 with the help of Medway Council RSPB and 150,000 individuals from around the world who could see like us that the idea of an airport here was preposterous. The proposals for some sort of Airport near by are still very much talked about but at least its not the government doing the talking ... When its them doing the proposing we should take notice.

I believe another threat, perhaps not as great, that has been around for some time is the Lodge Hill development and it is going to affect High Halstow and the peninsula in a very significant way. We will not be able to stop it because the only weapon we have is that old chestnut Don't build it here because we don't want it or Not In My Back Yard. NIMBYism is no defence at all .

The only thing we can do is to get involved with the mechanics of the development and try to achieve the best result for High Halstow. In essence The Lodge Hill development is promising some 5,000 new homes for perhaps around 12,000 people, Schools, Hotels, industrial units. But only two entrances one half way along Duxs Court. Its less than a mile away, partly in our Parish and will be seen from this village.

I hope that alongside our neighbours in Hoo we are not too late to have any influence. We Have invited The Developers to give a presentation to this village on in June. More details will follow as soon as we have them.

George Crozer
High Halstow Parish Council

HIGH HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2010**

	2009/10	2008/9
RECEIPTS		
Precept	43,410.00	43,410.00
Bank interest	755.58	3,068.83
Rural Liaison Grant	5,600.00	1,311.00
E-on grant	0.00	1,500.00
Magazine income	135.00	15.00
Street cleaning	14,990.67	14,990.67
Grounds maintenance contract	16,625.00	13,125.66
Allotments	91.00	47.50
Other income	433.10	97.95
VAT repaid	2,870.17	3,708.62
TOTAL	84,910.52	81,275.23

PAYMENTS

Clerk's salary	6,146.71	6,098.85
Clerk's reimbursable expenses	705.00	479.25
Street cleaners	12,831.67	12,412.03
Handyman	182.05	81.96
Payroll Clerk	160.00	150.00
Tax & NI	2,396.44	2,269.59
Street Cleaning expenses	173.26	882.75
Handyman expenses	0.00	0.00
Training	190.00	0.00
Section 137	931.00	342.70
Grants other powers	50.00	350.00
Rural Liaison Grant	5,600.00	0.00
Magazine expenses	3,703.45	3,268.00
Administration		
Clerks admin expenses	340.10	357.23
general	896.09	264.00
insurance	1,549.00	1,510.79
audit	400.00	400.00
telephone	281.21	260.42
subscriptions	502.37	480.88
publications	26.00	26.00
Chairmans allowance	57.39	94.79
hall hire	187.00	80.00
legal	897.00	0.00
Grounds maintenance contract	17,004.00	13,956.47
Recreation Ground/Forge Common/noticeboards	21,532.30	805.46
Project day	319.80	148.16
Other expenses	135.00	660.00
Garage/shed rent	780.00	750.00
VAT paid	4,018.05	2,830.28
TOTAL	81,994.89	48,959.61

Excess income over expenditure 2,915.63 32,315.62

BANK BALANCES

Barclays Current Account	3,393.69	4,122.66
Barclays Base Rate Tracker Reserve Account	52,614.03	33,581.68
Medway Council Deposit	53,000.00	48,000.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	109,007.72	85,704.34

FIXED ASSETS

FIXED ASSETS	nil	nil
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Approved by the Council on 12 May 2010

George Crozer
Chairman

Roxana Brammer
Responsible Financial Officer

Village Hall Annual Report 2011

Another year has passed and what of the refurbishment programme to the Village Hall I hear you say. Medway Council has granted Planning Permission and the Architects have been instructed to take this to the next stage in order that Phase 1 could start in June 2011. Phase 1 is the new roof and replacement back wall facing the Recreation Ground. However we have come across a problem with Medway Council with the materials being proposed and we are looking to resolve this as soon as possible. The plan now is for all the hurdles to be completed first before we set a date for the works in order to minimise the disruption for the hirers of the hall. We will inform you as to when the works will start when we are in a position to do so. As part of Phase 1 we have asked the Architects to plan accordingly with a view of keeping the Doctors Surgery open as we recognise the importance of this facility

At the time of going to press the accounts will show that the day to day account made a surplus of £306.53 compared to £1904.44 the previous year. The reason why the change is the letting income was down slightly, in the main due to the number of cancellations over the bad weather and electricity costs being higher due to higher prices.

The Hall has seen though two new groups take up regular bookings towards the end of the year, Holliedale Dog and Puppy Training and a model flying club.

The surplus on the HUGH Fund was £1,868.52 compared to a deficit the previous year of £7,307.55. The main reason for this was the cost of the consultants this year being substantially smaller than the last.

Events run by the HUGH Fund were less than previous years with Dolly Parton and Friends being the main event put on, which unfortunately made a small loss, being the first band night we have promoted resulting in a loss

Bad weather prevented the HUGH Fund running the Christmas bar for the Gardening Club, with the Club deciding on a warmer venue for next. The Hall Committee, though would like to say thank you to the Gardening Club for having its dinner at the Hall over the past few years.

Thanks to Michelle King who has taken over the organising of the stallholders this year for the Farmers Market. This year has seen a change in the supply of vegetables with this being carried out by Joe and Jane (Fresh 2 Door), and bread with this being supplied by Beaney's. For the coming year we have changed the hiring charge for a table, (£5 big table, £3 two small tables) Hopefully this will encourage some of the other groups in the village to have a table to raise monies for their respective groups. To all of our regular stallholders a big thank you along with all of you who come along and support this event each month. Please continue to support in the coming year.

The Committee said goodbye to Carl Mitchell from the day-to-day Committee and I would like to say a thank you for all his efforts over the past few years. The Committee have welcomed Josh Gordon who has joined us representing the Queens Badminton Club and are very pleased to see a representative from one of our regular Hall hirers. If other regular Hirers wish to put forward a representative we would be glad for their help on the Committee.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the Committee members in keeping the Hall going. In particular thanks to Booking Secretary, Crystal Wakefield, who in her first full year has done a terrific job, in particular putting up with me not returning her diary quick enough and not getting the invoices out quick enough

The Hall obviously could not survive without the regular Hirers of the Hall and thanks to you all for your continued support.

Gary Thomas

High Halstow Youth Club

High Halstow Youth Club is now 18 years old. It is a very popular and friendly meeting place for our local young people aged 9 and over. Between 30 and 40 youngsters regularly attend.

The activities on offer each week vary, depending mainly on the availability of adult helpers. The most popular activities that have been offered over this past year include arts and crafts, indoor football, table tennis, electronics/soldering sessions, skipping and the occasional game of Dodgeball (which can be very rowdy but is greatly enjoyed by all participants!). Some of the youngsters like to simply sit and chat, or listen to music.

Every week there is a Tuck Shop which offers a good selection of drinks, sweets, crisps and popcorn. If the weather is good in the summer months we go out onto the Recreation ground for outdoor games and some fresh air; it's good to make use of the apparatus and enjoy the extra space outside.

We are extremely pleased to report this year that we now have several of our older "young people" who have decided to come back to the club as young helpers. They help with such things as tuck shop, table tennis, football and arts and crafts activities. One of the young ladies is working towards her Duke of Edinburgh Award. We hope that there are more examples in the future of the ex-members becoming young helpers; we do ask them to take a short break away from the club so that there is a clear division between being a Youth Club member and a Youth Club helper. It has been a long held dream that one day some of the youngsters would want to contribute to the ownership of the club and we are delighted that it has worked so well.

Youth Club meets on Tuesday evenings (term time only) in the Recreation Hall. Because the club is full, we operate a Waiting List system for offering new membership (it is a very popular club!). If you (or someone you know) would like to consider joining in the future, please contact one of us (contact details below) and your name will be added to the waiting list. You can add your name to the waiting list when you are 7 or 8 but you will have to wait until you are at least 9 years old before you can actually join the club.

We are constantly looking for suitable people to become adult helpers at the Youth Club. All adult helpers need to be CRB checked; this is something we can arrange for you. If you think you would be able to offer any help or support to the Club please get in touch and we will arrange for you to visit.

Lesley Munday 01634 250276

Chris Peek 01634 252604 (email chris.peek@lineone.net)

High Halstow W.I.

Details of meetings remain the same, and reports can be seen in the monthly 'Times'. Although we had a few members leave at the beginning of the year for various reasons, we have also had new ladies join us and our membership has now reached 30.

Wednesday Night Badminton

The club is still going strong and is now at full membership, with good numbers of members attending on a regular basis, we also have members from other local clubs join us, and have now become regular members.

Ladies Badminton

We still meet on a Tuesday at 2pm in the Recreation Hall. We are a small group who are all getting older so new younger members would be very welcome. Its a friendly club of all standards and you only pay when you attend. We have a meal out once a year usually around Christmas.

High Halstow Cricket Club

It would be easy to write off 2010 as a poor season for the cricket club, because that would be based solely on the outcome of the 1st XI's first outing in Division II, and only our fourth season in the Kent League. The loss of several key players through work commitments and injury probably made all the difference, and also contributed to a lack-lustre season for the 2nd XI. The 1st XI were relegated after 4 consecutive promotions, but the 2's retained their Division III (2nd XI) status with some ease in the end.

Elsewhere, however, the garden was much rosier. The 3rd XI won promotion and will play in the Kent Regional Cricket League 1A (Central) in 2011. The 4th XI were more competitive in their Regional League, but suffered at the hands of player shortages in the other XI's.

The Colts Section enjoyed their most successful season to date, with league championships at U17 and U15 together with much improved cup and league runs in the U13 and U11 age groups. There was continued representation at District level, whilst Tyler Dockwray played for the County at U10. Aaron Robertson has been training with the Kent U15 squad during the winter.

One of the benefits of Division II (1st XI) status, is the provision of umpires from the Kent League Umpires Panel. Part of their remit is to assess the pitches used for each game. It was very rewarding to learn that Rayner's Meadow was top of the Division II pitches in 2010, equal with Hayes and ahead of the former Premier League grounds at Broadstairs, Dartford and Holmsdale.

The 3rd and 4th XI's played their home games at The Hundred of Hoo School, where we, together with the School, began a long process of renovation of their cricket facilities. 2010 was a struggle against very dry conditions and severe cracking of the square. However, with the aid of a grant from the Eon Community Fund significant autumn renovation has been done and appropriate turf-care equipment bought, which should ensure better surfaces for the Club and the School for the coming seasons.

The award of Clubmark status in May 2010 is the culmination of much hard work behind the scenes, and is evidence of a safe and secure framework within which the colts can learn the game.

It is appropriate to thank all those who have made a contribution to the running of the club – the vice-presidents, sponsors, umpires, scorers, tea-makers, parents and all other helpers. Their efforts, often passing unnoticed by the many, are very much appreciated by the few.

The Club has wintered well, with the several new players added to our number, both adults and colts. We tend not to set targets for the season to come, but are quietly optimistic that the standards set in 2010 will be maintained across the board, with continued improvement from the colts as they grow in experience.

D.A. Laphorn
Chairman – 22 March 2011

High Halstow Relief in Need Charity

This has been an eventful year for the Charity. The Red Dog was closed from January till October 2010, during which time essential structural repairs were made to the fabric of the building. The cost of this has considerably stretched the resources of the Charity. Nevertheless we are still here to help where need be for the residents of High Halstow. All that is required for help is a written letter to one of the trustees listed below:

Mrs L Munday, Mrs D West, Mrs M King, Mrs M Bufford, Mr R Pritchard, Mr J Myatt, Rev S Gwilt

The Trustees welcome the new clerk, Mr R Bishop.

All good wishes go to Mr Lee Atkinson our new tenant of the Red Dog and his staff for their future success, from all the Trustees.

**High Halstow and District Gardening Club
Annual Report 2010/11**

The High Halstow and District Gardening Club is flourishing and is now the only gardening club left on the Peninsula, with just over 100 members. Our annual subscription was raised at the February 2011 AGM to £5 per person per year, which is fantastic value.

Monthly meetings are held at 8pm in the Memorial Hall at High Halstow on the second Tuesday evening of each month. We had an excellent lecture programme for 2010, of which my personal highlights were George Puddefoot's ebullient presentation on winter tubs and containers and the wonderful slide shows for Phantasmagoria presented by Jeff Wagner.

In spite of a very cold start to Spring 2010, members managed to produce many entries for the Spring Show in March, but there were more snowdrops than daffodils amongst the flower exhibits! The cooking, art and craft entries were well supported.

In May 2010, we held an excellent and entertaining Plant Bring and Buy Sale, where many plants and garden equipment were auctioned, which helped to raise money for club funds.

A Garden Party was held on Saturday 12th June 2010 at The Oast, Ducks Court Farm, High Halstow, which was a lovely warm day and was enjoyed by more than 60 people. We offered refreshments in the form of cream teas and cakes and also sold items on plant, cake and bric-a-brac stalls, which also raised money for club funds.

One outing took place in June 2010 which was to see the Tower Bridge Exhibition in London, where we walked across the high walkway with fantastic views of London. The weather was very hot and sunny, so we had a lovely cruise down the Thames to the Thames Flood Barrier where we were given a very interesting lecture about how the barrier was constructed and operated. This outing was enjoyed greatly by those who attended.

There are 4 outings in 2011; one to the fantastic Columbia Road Flower Market in London; a visit to Polesden Lacey (NT) Tulip Festival; a trip to Hyde Hall in Essex, an excellent RHS garden and a relaxing, fun boat trip from Gravesend to Southend on the Princess Pocohontas. A Garden Safari with tea at The Oast will be held on Sunday 12th June 2011.

The larger Annual Summer Show was held in the Recreation Hall in High Halstow on Bank Holiday Saturday in August 2010 and was open to all. It was exceedingly well supported and there were a large number of quality entries of vegetables, fruits, flowers, domestic, arts and crafts exhibited, which ensured that it was a great success. Refreshments were provided.

Club Members were able to buy half price seeds from Thompson and Morgan in December.

The Annual Christmas Dinner in December was postponed due to the snow and ice but was held in February 2011. This was a most enjoyable and successful social event attended by 71 people, so at the AGM, members decided that in future they would prefer the Annual Dinner to be held in February.

My thanks to a hard working committee, who ensured the above programme ran smoothly.

Gwen Bucknall (Chair) 01634 250456

Ryanair boss calls Thames estuary airport plan 'nuts'

Ryanair's boss has called for new runways at Heathrow, Stansted and Gatwick, branding any plans for a new South East airport "absolutely nuts". Michael O'Leary said a new hub in the Thames estuary would not make economic sense and agreements limiting expansion at existing sites should be scrapped.

London Mayor Boris Johnson has looked at plans to build an airport between the Essex and Kent coasts. The government recently ruled out new runways at London's three key airports.

Mr O'Leary, who is chief executive of the budget airline, said: "I think it's absolutely nuts, there's no requirement for any new hub airport. London has five airports - you've got Luton, Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and London City - what you do need and we need urgently in the South East is more runways at those airports." He said "We have long since campaigned for a second runway at Stansted, a second runway at Gatwick and a third runway at Heathrow because you have the infrastructure there."

He added: "I would tear up the agreement at Gatwick and at Heathrow and I would build a second runway at Gatwick and a third runway at Heathrow - this is the only way forward. Britain is losing out to Madrid, to Paris and to Frankfurt who are pushing forward more runways at their existing hub airports."

"Please, please don't waste billions and billions of pounds building another white elephant in the Romney Marshes or wherever it is."

In January Mr Johnson backed a report, overseen by Transport for London, which called for a new hub airport.

It said passenger demand for London's airports was forecast to increase from 140 million passengers a year in 2010 to 400 million passengers a year by 2050. The report concluded that London's only hub airport was losing out to other European airports which, if sustained, could have long-term damaging effects on both the London and UK economies.

In May plans for a third runway and sixth terminal at Heathrow were scrapped when the coalition government took office. The Department for Transport said it did not support the construction of additional runways at Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted and was working to develop more sustainable aviation.

(www.bbc.co.uk 03/05/11)

High Halstow Mother & Toddler Group Activities for Spring/Summer 2011

We meet on Thursday's, 9.00 – 11.00 at the Memorial Hall.

All children between ages 0-4 welcome.

Drinks & biscuits are provided.

There's a large selection of toys to play with every week plus special events, guests & parties.

£1.00 for first child and

50p for any additional children.

APRIL

7th April

Easter Egg Hunt

28th April

Royal Wedding Celebration – crown making

MAY

5th May

Face Painting & Dressing Up (own costumes required)

12th May

Musical Play & Nursery Rhymes

19th May

Modelling Dough

26th May

Bring & Buy Sale (bring along anything you want to sell)

JUNE

9th June

Craft Activities (aprons or old clothes required)

16th June

Ball Pool

23rd June

Puzzles

30th June

Modelling Dough

JULY

7th July

Biscuit Decorating

14th July

Summer Picnic (weather permitting)

Any queries please call Marie Calvert on 01634 – 253544

At the end of July I will be leaving the Mother & Toddler Group as my youngest child will be starting school. My role is therefore up for grabs. Managing the group requires you to be keyholder, collect the money, some book-keeping and banking. There is an insurance to renew each year and other than a little advertising, you simply have to be available to run the club once a week.

It's simple!!! If you are interested please let me know.

Medway Boat Race

The Medway Boat race is now a firm fixture in Medway's sporting calendar. Student rowers from the three universities which share the campus at Chatham Maritime – Kent, Canterbury Christ Church and Greenwich – battle it out for the right to call themselves rulers of the River Medway.

There are races for both women and men, with rowers once more tackling a course of approximately 2.6 kilometres, between Cuxton and the Esplanade in Rochester.

This year's event takes place from 10am to 1pm on Saturday, 14 May with the women's race up first up at 11am followed by the men's race at noon.

Refreshments and entertainment will be available on the green near Hathaway Court (the finishing line.)

Bank Holiday Collections

From now on, starting on Good Friday, your refuse and recycling collections will not be a day later during bank holiday weeks (except the Christmas and New Year weeks). This is part of the continual improvements to make services easier for residents to use. In a week that has one or two bank holidays, such as April, collections have previously been delayed by one day. As we will now be working on bank holidays, it means there will no longer be a day's delay before your refuse or recycling is collected.

This means that if your collection is due on a Monday or a Friday, it will be on the Monday or Friday, whether it is a bank holiday or not. Similarly, if your collection is a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, it will be collected just like any non-bank holiday week. This year's recycling calendars that were delivered to every household just before Christmas, will not show these changes. However, the rest of the calendar is still valid. Just remember that Monday to Friday collections will now carry on regardless whether it's a bank holidays week, except for during Christmas/New Year fortnight.

Medway Council

THE RED DOG GOLF SOCIETY

1st FRIDAY of EACH MONTH



Details available at The Red Dog

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.

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

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

Second Time Around Clothes Sale and Fashion Show

High Halstow Memorial Hall
Friday 20th May, 7.00pm -10.00pm

Fashion show starts 7.30pm



Good quality, nearly new clothes and accessories
for men and women from only 50p!

£1.00 entry - includes free prize draw

For your ticket telephone: 01634 270132

Refreshments available

All proceeds to

**The National
Brain Appeal**
Funding advances
in neurology and
neurosurgery

NEURO
MUSCULAR
HEAD INJURY
STROKE
EPILEPSY
BRAIN TUMOUR
DEMENTIA
PRION
PARKINSONS
MIGRAINE
MULTIPLE
SCLEROSIS

Charity reg. no. 290173

Dates for Diary

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

Wednesday 4th 19:30	Women's Institute Memorial Hall
Friday 6th 19:00	Youth Night Memorial Hall
Saturday 7th 09:30	Farmers Market Village Hall
Sunday 8th See article for details	HH Walkers
Tuesday 10th 20:00	Gardening Club Memorial Hall
Wednesday 11th 20:00	Parish Council Memorial Hall
Saturday 14th 08:30	Project 90 Village Hall Car Park
Friday 27th 20:00	Quiz Night Village Hall

FARMERS MARKET
SATURDAY 7TH MAY
FRESH FRUIT & VEG,
BREAD, MEAT, CAKES,
GIFTS AND CRAFT
9:30AM 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

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.



The Rudes' Summer Outdoor Show

The very popular Rude Mechanical Theatre Co will be coming to Northwood Hill RSPB reserve, Cooling this summer on Wednesday 13th July at 7.30pm with their new play, 'Gentle Harry's Farm'. It's another brand new story and clutch of songs performed by this brilliant troupe of actor/musicians. Tucked under the Downs in the breathless July of 1957 it will buzz with hilarity, sigh with tenderness and chirrup with gentle satire! Here's a brief introduction to the story.

Agnes Church and her very special friend and neighbour, Minnie Heartfelt, just love their boarding school, The Gables School for Jolly Nice Girls! But domestic science college calls - and husbands after that, steady sorts with prospects (like the Hon Ernest Dartford), and children (one of each, of course), then after that the WI (to be useful). But first under the blissful summer blue of Gentle Harry's Farm, amongst the cows and sheep and the sweet hay with magpies chattering their rhymes above - One for sorrow! Two for joy! - they were going to have such a twiffic summer!

Then of all things they find some bounders have burst into the bank in Eastbury and nicked the cash! And the place is swarming with coppers! Bliss! Bliss in abundance! What a cackle! It would be such a summer! Meanwhile the brown eyed cows and the other animals chew - and listen. And the magpies chatter.

The director and writer, Pete Talbot, says, "The 1950's were a lovely period. Not just because it was the period of my early childhood! People were breathing the fresh air of a much simpler, more rural, more innocent England. There was hardship, but the war was over and people were looking forwards in hope. But things were changing. The balance of power between the social classes was changing. There would even be a grammar school boy in No 10! There was new music and new clothes. The age of youth hadn't yet begun, but the '60's were just round the corner! Like our earlier 'Five Get Famous' our new play, another 'jolly nerve-wracking adventure', both enjoys and gently satirises the period."

Tickets are already on sale on the company's website – www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk or telephone 01323-501260

Sparkling Serenity

Beauty & Holistic Therapy

by Jade McIlwraith

Treatments Available:

Spray Tanning

Swedish Body Massage

Indian Head Massage

Individual Eyelash Extensions

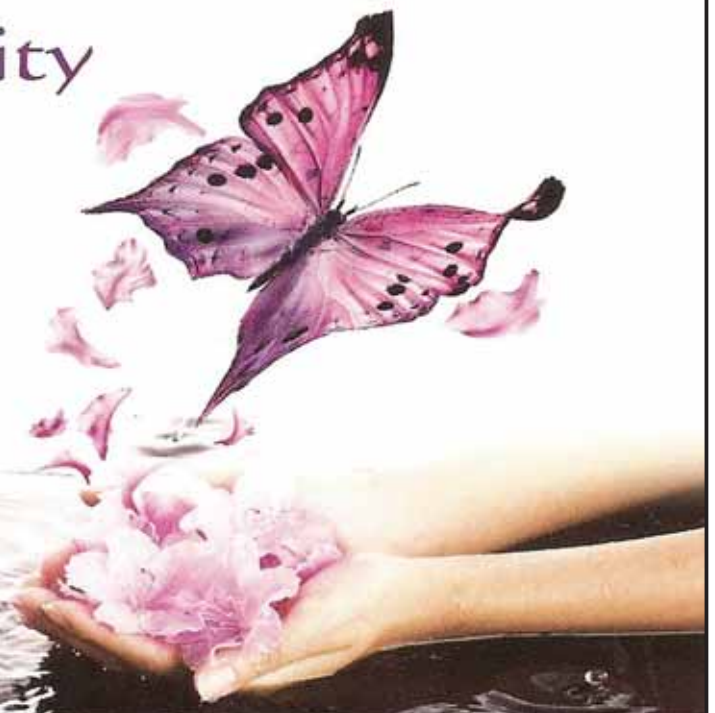
Acrylic Nail Enhancements

Minx Nails

More treatments coming soon...

www.sparklingserenity.co.uk

Mobile: 07708 394979





Launch Evening

Wednesday 18th May
at High Halstow
Memorial Hall
7pm - 10pm

Come and join us for a glass of wine
and browse our quality range of
preloved newborn to teens clothing
(All clothing will be available to purchase on the night)

Also featuring Lil' Munchkins handmade hair
accessories, Sparkles Jewellery, Phoenix Cards
& cupcakes from Checa-loo-laa Bakes

For more info please find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/dorisanddot

or call DORIS (aka Helen) 07501 062777
or DOT (aka Jo) 07917 313236

DRAMARAMA

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Putting on the Glitz



Plus...
Sketches
Dances
Laughs



THURSDAY 2ND, FRIDAY 3RD, SATURDAY 4TH JUNE @ 7:30PM

TICKETS: £4.00 RECREATION HALL, HIGH HALSTOW

FRED & HAZEL (251135), NOLEEN (271026)

JOANNE (250911) OR WENDA (253169)

Readers Letters

Dear HHT,

I recently heard that local councils have the power to recommend a speed limit. High Halstow has a problem with speeding vehicles in particular on Christmas Lane and the Street, it is time something was done to not only reduce the speed limit to 20 MPH but to introduce some form of traffic calming programme. If you look at Cobham you will see a lot of similarities to High Halstow, yet unlike High Halstow it has taken steps to slow traffic down!

Is it not time we looked at this as a village project?

Vic Godding
Christmas Lane

PROJECT 90
90 minutes spent improving
the village

Saturday 14th May
8:30am start
in Village Hall
Car Park

Refreshments served afterwards

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.

FARMERS MARKET
1ST SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH
9:30AM - 11:00AM
VILLAGE HALL

Village Hall Committee

The Village Hall Committee is looking for new members to join the committee and help decide the future of the hall. If you are interested then please contact Gary Thomas on 01634 252812

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

SAVE THE DATE

HH PRIMARY SCHOOL FETE
SATURDAY 25TH JUNE 2011,
1PM TO 4PM.
STALLS, GAMES, PRIZES
AND MUCH MUCH MORE
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON...

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
John Callaghan 01634 252962
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

Next edition June 2011; Contributions for June should be sent by 24th May to:
Carl Mitchell, 8 Marsh Crescent, High Halstow ME3 8TJ
or e.mail to editor@highhalstow.org.uk