



High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



August 2018

MacMillan Coffee morning

The High Halstow Macmillan Coffee Morning 2018 will take place in the Memorial Hall on Friday 28th September. Please add a note to your diary and calendar and come along to support this annual event. Ann Smith and team have done a fantastic job over the last 10 years raising a fantastic amount of money for a very worthwhile cause, so please help us again this year to continue Ann's good work and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake at the same time as raising money for Macmillan.

Thank you - we hope to see you there.

Jeanette Dowsett



High Halstow WI celebrates a NEW VILLAGE SIGN



High Halstow Women's Institute were delighted to unveil the New Village Sign which was commissioned as a celebration of sixty years of High Halstow WI. They had various discussions on how to celebrate their Anniversary and it was decided a new village sign would be appropriate.

The WI then set about raising funds by holding various events which proved profitable and enjoyable. At the same time High Halstow Parish Council, The High Halstow Community Lottery and Phil Filmer our City Councillor were approached to help and all those applications were successful.

The President Crystal Wakefield and their Founder Member May Smitherman were to unveil the sign but unfortunately the first attempt failed as the cover got stuck and the cord came undone. It was left to two Parish Councillors George Crozer and Ray Collins to fix the cord back up to the cover. A step ladder was used and after one more attempt off came the cover. There was a huge cheer and applause from everyone and the fantastic sign was there for all to see. A shining example of what can be achieved with hard work and passion for our village. Refreshments were then served in the church by members of the WI.

Crystal Wakefield, President HHWI

Editorial

What a scorcher in High Halstow for July! I'm not sure how everyone else coped but I found the heat unbearable and hard to work in. Nevertheless its turning out to be a fabulous summer for us so far so let us be thankful.

The Scarecrow Festival was fantastic as usual and ended at the Garden Party at the Church. It surely was a sight to see. Congratulations to all.

Schools out! for this summer and everyone is seeking out High Halstow Rocks! What a great village we have....

Letters

If you would like to write to the Editor for publication please send an email to Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk or write to Linda Atkinson at 32 Goodwood Close, High Halstow, ME3 8SU

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Thank you WI . A huge thank you to you all. Our fantastic village sign is wonderful.

You have done an amazing task for our village. Thank you.

Jill Howard

St Margaret's Church Sunday Services

Rev. Stephen Gwilt 01634 250 637 or email
StephenGwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

08:00 Holy Communion book of Common Prayer

09:30 1st & 3rd Sundays—all age worship
2nd & 5th Sundays—Morning Prayer
4th Sunday—Family Communion

6:30 1st Sunday—Holy Communion
3rd Sunday—Informal Workshop

Baptisms by arrangement
1st or 3rd Sunday of each month at 09:30

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE



101

**IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999**

Need to hire a hall?

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

Memorial Hall—Angela Forward 01634 251 756

Recreation Hall—Martin Mitchell 07752 682 437

Please do not call on a Sunday

Kings Kitchen

**Every Tuesday
In the Memorial Hall
High Halstow**



Open from 10:00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m.

VACANCY- Committee Member

At the Memorial Hall AGM held on Monday 16 July, a new committee was appointed.

Due to the ill health, and resignation, of long standing Trustee Stuart Fitter, Mike Meredith has been appointed to take his place and as a result a vacancy has arisen for a new committee member. We would like to send our thanks for all Stuarts hard work and commitment over the many years he has served as Trustee of the Memorial Hall.

If you are interested in joining the committee and would like more details then please contact either myself on 01634 254428 (Secretary) email: jeanette.dowsett@gmail.com or Angela Forward on 01634 251756 (Chairman).

**Jeanette Dowsett
Secretary
Memorial Hall Committee**

Relief in Need

The charity has existed in High Halstow for many years and is an amalgamation of smaller charities/private trusts, the oldest of which dates from 1716 and exists to help the residents of the Parish of High Halstow who are going through a time of need or hardship. This could include not only widows and widowers but also to help people of all ages and from all walks of life. Requests can also be made by organisations or groups in the Parish.

Requests for financial assistance can be made at any time of year, in writing, email or in person to any one of the Trustees. A resident can apply on behalf of someone else in the village—but their permission must be obtained first of all. All requests are dealt with in the strictest confidence. If you are not sure about a request and think it may be rejected, do not be afraid to speak to any of the Trustees listed below about it. These funds are there for villagers who need help.

Rev. Stephen Gwilt	The Rectory	01634 250 637
Stuart Bailey	27 Cooling Road	07976 760 844
June Collins	6 Marsh Crescent	01634 250 105
John Myatt	Decoy Hill Road	01634 256 185
Chris Peek	2 Willowbank Drive	01634 250 276
Natasha Turner	12 Marsh Crescent	
Office email	Office.hhrin@gmail.com	



Church Garden Party

The Annual Garden Party was held on 7 July which was a very hot and sunny day. Those cooking and serving at the BBQ area were almost cooked to perfection themselves in the heat!



The Scarecrows were on show for all to see and they looked spectacular.



There was a ukulele band in good spirits and provided a great atmosphere for those eating and drinking in that area.

Activities included a bouncy castle, a skittle alley, a death slide (!), water slide, Coconut shy and a rifle shooting area. There were Cream Teas available and plentiful fruit from our High Halstow fruit growers.



The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group also had their Consultation on offer.

Concert in St Margaret's Church

High Halstow Community Choir

A good audience heard the sound of music, at our Summer concert on 11 July, at St Margaret's Church, despite another major international attraction on the night.

A lovely range of songs were presented, from a varied programme of popular show and musical tunes. These included: "Let's go fly a Kite", "Supercalifragilistic" and "Feed the Birds", from Mary Poppins and "Memory" from Cats. "The Impossible Dream", "Over the Rainbow" and the theme tune to the Vicar of Dibley, "The Lord is my Shepherd", were also enjoyed.

The Cuxton Music Group also sang a number of more traditional songs. The combined choirs finished the show with "As Long as I Have music."

Refreshments were provided by the Friends of St Margaret's Church.

Bernard Dawe



Resume of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 11 July 2018 held in the Memorial Hall, The Street, High Halstow

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Crozer. There were three members of the public in attendance.

The council took the decision to only conduct essential business at this meeting due to the England Football match – this business included approving the last months minutes, planning applications and approving accounts for payment. All other items have been deferred until the August meeting.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 15th August at the Memorial Hall at 7:30pm.

All are welcome to attend and bring forward any issues that they may have during the public session.

Cat Bloomfield

Clerk to High Halstow Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group would like to thank those that took the time to attend the four Consultations that took place in the village. It was disappointing that only a low percentage of High Halstow residents came forward with their suggestions but it's not too late for comments if they are sent to clerk2@highhalstow.org.uk

We are grateful for the input. We will be collating the ideas put forward, working with Medway Council and applying for government funding to be able to compile and publish a draft plan.

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group



Chris(tine) Watson and Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors, will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 14 August from 10.30 – 12.00pm (1 week later as PC Meeting has been changed) 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.

High Halstow Parish Council



George Crozer, Chairman 01634 250 286

Christine Watson, Vice Chair 01634 256 529

Martin Andrews 07984 791 029

Linda Atkinson 07825 619 353

Ray Colins 01634 250 105

Gary Jerreat 01634 253 999

Bill Khatkar 07775 668 620

Brian Williams 07908006 448

Mick O'Hanlon 07752 873 379

Your Councillors can also be contacted on **07702 036 836** or emailing the Parish Clerk Miss Cat Bloomfield clerk2@highhalstow.org.uk

Please remember: All Councillors are volunteers and give much of their time to keep the village the great place that it is to live.



Parish Councillors Code of Conduct.

Each local council must adopt and publicise a code of conduct that is in line with the Nolan principles. The code should deal with councillors' obligations about their conduct including the registration and disclosure of their interests. Complaints about councillors' conduct are dealt with by the principal authority.

McMillan Coffee Morning 2004 – 2017 - £11,316.50 raised

I started holding McMillan Coffee Mornings back in 2004 in memory of a close friend that I knew from my teenage years, but who sadly passed away after her battle with cancer.

Friends and villagers have always been there to help with cake making, serving endless cups of tea and coffee, ploughman's lunches and an array of homemade goodies. We've always had a very good raffle sponsored by local businesses and a rather unique Tombola known as "Angie's Pick a Duck".

However, I am stepping back from some of my village commitments as age and health is slowing me down a bit these days but I have lots of very fond memories of enjoyable Fridays in September when the McMillan Coffee Mornings are held, and the planning and organising in the months leading up to them.

Sadly, I will not be holding a McMillan Coffee Morning in the village this year, but I would like to thank everyone that has supported me and helped to raise so much money for McMillan over the past 14 years and wish anyone the best who wishes to pick up the baton and continue the village's donation to such a worthy cause.

Thanks again.

Ann Smith

St Margaret's Church

A big thank you to all those who have supported our village Church at the heart of our community in fund raising events this month. Key projects at present are for urgent repair to a Church window and also we are raising funds to enable a (much needed!) toilet facility.

We received good news from the Co-op: -

"Co-op members have chosen to support Parish of High Halstow and Allhallows with St. Mary Hoo with their 1% as part of the Local Community Fund. You'll receive your second payment of £469.05 by 31 July".

If you haven't already registered your Co-op membership card you can still do so by phoning 0800 023 4708 or visiting coop.co.uk/membership. There are still four months to go."

Also many thanks for all the help, hard work and support for the Church Garden Party (which was very hot!) - a great annual village event which raised a magnificent £1,909.61.

The Cuxton Music Group and High Halstow Community Choir Concert was a most successful and enjoyable evening and raised £294 for the Friends of St Margaret's. Many thanks to all in the choir, those who helped and our appreciative audience.

Also many thanks to Jane Cook for organising the collections in our village for Christian Aid Week this year which was well supported. A cheque for £1,549.53 has now been sent to Christian Aid. Thank you to all who collected and donated.

We are lucky to live in a village which has such an ancient history and caring community.

Maggie Ryan

High Halstow Memorial Hall

I have recently stepped down as Chairperson of the Memorial Hall after many years of being involved in the running of the hall. Originally helping Pat Hillman and when she moved away to be nearer her daughter, I took over from her. It was a daunting time but with a lot of help from some very supportive villagers and friends I think we made it work.

The hall is in very good condition considering its age and is used on a daily basis.

I will miss not being so involved, but I have a lot of memories, some good, some not so good and leave it in the hands of new Committee Members.

I will now have time for some new interests and to catch up with other village activities. I may see you around the village, probably walking my dog.

Thanks again for all the village support over the years.

Ann Smith

High Halstow Community Lottery

It is now almost two years since the idea of our very own lottery became a reality. During this time we have helped several groups in High Halstow with funding.

It is a pleasure to see the new W.I. Village Sign standing proud that commemorates 60 years of High Halstow W.I. We were more than happy to help with £1,000 towards the total cost.

Our Committee didn't hesitate in approving an application for funding towards a Photobooth for the end of year Prom High Halstow Primary year 6. Having proved popular in weddings for the past few years, we felt that this idea would be fantastic for the children to have fun during the evening and to be able to save the photos. They were making memories. We were delighted to help with funding £250 for this activity.

You may also have noticed a new footbridge along Heronsbank. We provide £500 towards the cost of the new build and were happy to help.



We do not take hard cash. All transactions are through either a standing order from your bank account or one off online payments to pay whenever you can. Each ticket costs £10 per month and you can buy as many tickets as you want in any month. You just need to provide your post code AND house number as reference. If you do have a house name then use that with your post code. Some players have given High Halstow Community Lottery as a reference which then gives us no idea where to pay the cheque!



Our aim for our third year is to reach a regular monthly prize of £2,000—it would be great to do this by Christmas 2018. Our Lottery works on 75% prize and 25% charity portion. On a prize of £2,000 this would mean £660 monthly into our charity account.

We do have high ambitions. As a Small Lottery we can only provide a prize of up to £20,000 monthly. That would be astounding for a prize but that would also give us a monthly amount of almost £7,000 building in the charity account. Just think of what we could do in High Halstow with that income! That would be a dream come true.

Linda Atkinson—HHCL Committee

High Halstow Community Lottery

June game winners

£1,250 ME3 9GF Hoo AND £200 ME3 8TG HH

Over £20,000 won by players so far!

If you would like to play, please set up a monthly standing order to

Account No 21507826 Sort Code 40 43 44

IMPORTANT! Please quote your post code and house number (or name) in the reference field

07825 619 353 if you need help or more information

Disclaimer: HHCL is administered by a Committee and is not in any way connected with High Halstow Parish Council

High Haltow Rocks

Did you wonder why you keep seeing painted rocks when out walking in High Halstow? Have you seen different painted pebbles and wondered what was going on? Well its all down to a new and popular craze with children and adults alike. The idea is that they paint pebbles and leave them in the village somewhere for others to find and then hide again.

A High Halstow Rocks Facebook page has been created. Villagers are taking photos of the rocks they have found and putting the photos on the Facebook page. This then shows the creator of the painted pebble that it has been found and

rehidden. Children are out and about in the village, hiding their painted rocks and looking for others. It has been fantastic for the children and has created that special atmosphere again for the summer. On the back of the Scarecrow Festival this is another hit for our village.

Even the dogs of the village have been getting in on the act! The dog shown below sought these out and took them home as his bounty (according to the Facebook page). Good fun for all. How many can you find? Let us know by replying to Editor@HighHalstow.org.uk.



HIGH HALSTOW ROCKS



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Alison Hamilton, S.A.C Dip FHPT FHPP

GARDENDING CLUB

On the 5th July some of our members Paid a visit to Lullingstone castle and the World Garden. We enjoyed a tour of the church and house followed by a trip around the world garden escorted by the owner Tom Hart-Dyke an explorer and plant collector.

On the 10 July Malcolm Withnall came to our Tuesday meeting and gave tips on the art of gardening without exerting too much effort.

On the 17 July members revisited the Mount gardens at Haven street, Frindsbury. Much about the garden had changed the planting had matured and the gardens were well stocked. Tea coffee and cakes rounded off a lovely afternoon

There is no meeting in August as we will hold our annual show at the main hall on Saturday 25 August. For those of you who are not members and would like to enter, schedules and entry forms are available at the shop, ringing 01634 251107 or by Email at hhdgc@outlook.com. Members have already been sent all of the details.

The show opens to the public at 3.00pm. This year there will be an entry fee of 50p for adults. There will be refreshments, a plant stall and a raffle. Please come along for an enjoyable afternoon.

Happy gardening.

Mike Hughes

High Halstow & District Gardening Club

ANNUAL SHOW

SATURDAY 25th AUGUST

Village Hall, High Halstow

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We are sorry that this event was cancelled but this was due to lack of number. Following a request from a number of people though we are going to ask the Parish Council if we could hold a Boot Fair on the Recreation Ground so please watch this space form further details

Saturday 10 November**Five Star Swing****‘Hits from the Blitz’****With a donation being made to the
Royal British Legion****Four Piece Swing Band****Licensed Bar****Food to be provided****Ticket Price £15****Tickets available shortly****Village Hall Quiz Nights**

These evenings are always so popular.

Dates for next evenings are

14th September 2018**14th December 2018**

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High Halstow Hikers

In early July we took a walk that had been postponed from March because of badly iced over paths around the coast from Margate to Broadstairs. Conditions could not have been much more different given that it was on one of the warm, sunny, dry days that have been common so far this summer. The walking was made more comfortable by a cooling wind coming off the sea. We travelled by train from Chatham and joined many families making a visit to the seaside but we soon left most of these after walking past the Turner Gallery towards Cliftonville. Following the Thanet Coastal pathway we passed several attractive bays at sea level before moving to the cliff tops close to Foreness Point. Shortly after that the path reaches the attractive Botany Bay (see photo) that is well known for its chalk rock pools and apparently is also one of the best body surfing bays around. After that the walk went past the very popular Joss Bay and the North Foreland lighthouse before reaching Broadstairs. The walk was largely flat but about 7 miles long meaning we were all ready for the very pleasant lunch overlooking the main bay in Broadstairs at The Charles Dickens. After this we finished with a short walk to the station and the train back to Chatham.

Our August walk will be on Sunday 5th, the first Sunday in the month. We will start from Cliffe Woods car park (ME3 8HX) to do another walk that was postponed from the winter, in that case because of very wet ground (seems a long time ago). The walk takes in paths to the west of the village, is flat and is about 5 miles long. As is usual we will start at 10.00 and as ever all are welcome and queries can be made to Mitchell at mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com or 01634-254428.

Mitchell Dowset

Some of the walkers at the top of the cliff overlooking Botany Bay.



whoo Cares

Thank you for all of your support! All of us at wHoo Cares would like to thank the residents, groups and clubs of High Halstow for the donations you've given us over the last year. It really is very much appreciated and goes a long way in helping us help others in High Halstow and the rest of the peninsula.

We've had a busy summer attending Summer Fetes across the peninsula and we had a great time at the Rectory Garden Party this year (even if it was a bit!!). We like to get out and about as much as possible and let people about the work of wHoo Cares.

For those who aren't familiar with us, wHoo Cares is a not-for-profit community based organisation set up 2 years ago to reduce social isolation and improve the health and well-being of people living on the Hoo Peninsula. We work with our Partners (clients) to identify activities that will make a difference in their lives and promote independence. This could be something like having one of our volunteers pop in for a coffee and a chat once a week, help to do a fortnightly shop or accompany them to a medical appointment. Or, it might be something as simple as introducing someone to the local coffee morning or bowls group to meet like-minded friends and neighbours.

If you'd like to find out more about how we might be able to help you or a loved one, please contact the office on 01634 272138 or email enquiries@whoocares.org.uk. You can also visit our website www.whoocares.org.uk or Facebook page www.facebook.com/whoocarescic.

If you're interested in helping others in High Halstow or on the peninsula and want to talk to someone about volunteering, please contact Michelle, our Volunteer Coordinator, on 01634 272138 or volunteer@whoocares.org.uk.

Christine Chetwood -Manager, wHoo Cares



MONDAYS	Line Dancing	11:00 — 12:30	Memorial Hall
Alternate Mondays	Community Choir	20:00 — 21:00	St. Margaret's Church
TUESDAYS	Kings Kitchen	10:00 — 13:00	Memorial Hall
	Pilates	18:15 — 19:15 19:30 — 20:30	Memorial Hall Memorial Hall
	Youth Club	19:00 — 20:45	Recreation Hall
	Bell Ringers	19:30 — 21:00	St. Margaret's Church
WEDNESDAYS	Tai Chi	10:30 — 11:30	Memorial Hall
THURSDAYS	Seated Exercise	11:00 — 11:45	Memorial Hall
	Pilates	14:00 — 15:00	Memorial Hall
	Sugar Babes	19:00	Memorial Hall
FRIDAYS	Pilates	14:30 — 13:30	Memorial Hall
SATURDAYS	Karmann Dancers	09:00	Memorial Hall
	KLUK Martial Arts	09:30	Recreation Hall
SUNDAYS	déjà vu Spiritual Centre	18:30	Recreation Hall
Every 1st Wednesday	Knit and Natter	13:30	St. Margaret's Church
	Women's Institute	19:30	Memorial Hall
Every 2nd Tuesday	Gardening Club	20:00	Memorial Hall
Every 2nd Wednesday	Parish Council Meeting	19:30	Memorial Hall
Every 3rd Wednesday	Whist Club	14:00	Memorial Hall
Every 4th Wednesday	Friendly Club	14:00	Memorial Hall
Last Friday	Quiz Nights	20:00	Memorial Hall

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