



High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron



April 2019

Your Parish Council

George Crozer + Chairman
01634 250 286

Chris Watson + Vice Chair
01634 256 529

Martin Andrews + Councillor
07984 791 029

Linda Atkinson + Councillor
07825 619 353

Ray Collins + Councillor
01634 250 105

Gary Jerreat + Councillor
01634 253 999

Bill Khatkar + Councillor
07775 668 620

Brian Williams + Councillor
07908 006 448

Mick O'Hanlon + Councillor
07752 873 379

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

LET THE
PEOPLE
SPEAK



High Halstow Mums set up a new baby and toddler group

On Thursday 28th February 2019 High Halstow Stay and Play opened its doors for the first time, welcoming local children and their families to play at the village hall.

As mums in High Halstow with new babies, we were disappointed to find there were no groups running here for us to attend... so early on in the new year we decided to take it upon ourselves to change that!

Being on maternity leave, we didn't have the funds to set up ourselves so we applied to the High Halstow Community Lottery for a start up grant. We were very excited when we received the email to say our application had been approved and we set about organising straight away!

We put a Facebook appeal out to local residents for donations of toys, and soon we had bags and boxes of toys being dropped off and collected all around the village!

As we write this, we have so far had 3 sessions. It has been so lovely for us to see so many children coming to enjoy themselves with their grown ups, and we have received some lovely feedback.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported us with this venture, and particularly to the High Halstow Community Lottery who enabled us to get up and running!

We are really hoping the group will continue to be well attended and will be a great resource for local families for years to come.



Thursdays
9.00am-10.30am
(term time only)

**For Parents & Carers
with Children 0-5 years**
£1 per adult / 50p per child

High Halstow Village Hall
The Street, High Halstow, Rochester, Kent ME3 8SX

Refreshments Available
Come along, have fun and meet other Mums, Dads and Carers at our lovely group, while the children play!

Contact: Facebook: High Halstow Stay and Play
Email: highhalstowsp@gmail.com
Organisers: Hannah & Melissa

If you haven't already brought your small people along please do! We run every Thursday through term time 9am-10.30am (0-5yrs) and we would love to see you!

Hannah and Melissa
High Halstow Stay and Play

(Halstow Stay and Play is a 'not for profit' organisation. The money taken at sessions is used to cover costs of hall hire, to buy necessary equipment and to ensure we have the correct insurances in place for the group to run.)

**Please join us at our next
Parish meeting on
Wednesday 10 April**



Editorial

April already! Where did the first three months of this year go! But at least we start to see the back end of winter and look forward to a welcome Spring.

It has been sad to see so much mud on the roads coming from the new development in Britannia road but the Parish Council are hoping that residents will still be mindful of their own gardens and ensure we keep our pavements clear from overhanging branches etc. for pedestrians and those with push chairs or wheelchairs.

By the next edition we will either have the same Parish Councillors in place or new faces about to be elected. If we do go to an election, please support your village and vote for your choice of candidates (9)

St Margaret's Church Sunday Services

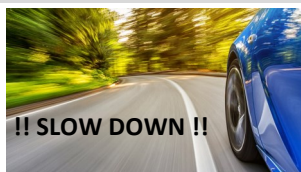
Rev. Stephen Gwilt 01634 250 637 or email
StephenGwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

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**



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 252 604
Tamsin Stowers		
Natasha Turner	12 Marsh Crescent	
Office email	Office.hhrin@gmail.com	

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 8S

ShornARA 50+ club for Men & Women.

We meet on the last Tuesday of every month in the afternoon. Our web site is www.shornara.org.uk where you will find all our news and what's on every month.

We do Short Mat Bowls every Wednesday afternoon between 4pm – 5.30pm. Also we do Ten Pin Bowling at Rochester every other week at Rochester. We organise holidays, outings, trips and theatre trips. Everybody is welcome to join us.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact **Maureen Horsham** on 07917 877900



Had a new Baby ?

**Small Grants available
From Relief in Need**

From the 1st March 2019 the High Halstow Relief in Need charity has a number of small grants available to anyone living in the village who has a new baby after that date. You don't have to apply right away you can wait until the baby is up to 6 months old. All you need to do to qualify is live in the village and have a new born baby.

Requests can be made to any one of the Trustees
or by email to office.hhrin@gmail.com

STAMP COLLECTIONS WANTED!!

Good prices offered for collections

Loose, First Day Covers, Postcards ephemera
etc

Detailed Valuations at reasonable prices.

Call Robin 07894 123 118

Kings Kitchen

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

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



High Halstow Gardening Club

The club held its spring show at the memorial hall on Tuesday 12 March.

The exhibits were judged by last year's winner Rosemary Collins. During the judging the members retired to the adjoining room and held a series of quizzes. The winners were:

Gill Martin, The Child's team and finally Sue and Brian Nash.

On completion of the judging the members returned to the main hall and the winners were announced and trophies presented

The winner of Section 1 which comprised of all spring flowers and plants with the most points was Pam Walsh. Section 2, home and handicrafts was won by Alison Wells. The overall winner of the 2019 Spring Show with the most points in both sections was Alison Wells. Alison will now judge next year's competition.

The show was rounded off with refreshments and raffle. Well done and thank you to all members who took part.



On Tuesday 9 April our guest will be Christine Bartlett who will speak about Orchids, care and cultivation with beginners in mind. Please come along to the memorial hall ME3 8SH at 7.30 pm for 8.00pm start if you are interested. Non members are welcome for a small fee of £2 which includes refreshments.

We have a few spare seats for our trip to RHS Wisley on Wednesday 8th May the cost will be £13 pp. Please contact Pam Walsh, our recently elected outings secretary or a committee member if you are interested.

For further information please e mail hhdgc@outlook.com.



Reminder for members the yearly membership fee is now due.

Mike Hughes



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— Rita Clark 01634 253 384

**Recreation Hall— Wenda Taylor
01634 253169 or 07807 983 248**

Please do not call on a Sunday

Friends of St Margarets

May I express my grateful thanks to our members whose subscriptions are our financial backbone and to our Friends in the Village and the wider community who have supported our varied activities. In the last year we have raised, over £3500 from Subscriptions, £3500 from events and we have received Grants of £1000 from the High Halstow Lottery and £20000 from the Friends of Kent Churches.

This enables us to make significant progress on our list of major works including the repair of the Windows and Roof.

We are currently planning similar activities for this summer and autumn including: -

- * A Summer Concert.
- * Talks on Local History
- * An Art Fair and Exhibition
- * The Scarecrow Festival in your front gardens from June 22nd, culminating in the display at the Rectory Garden Party on 6th July, 2019.
- * The Spectacular Sunflowers Competition
- * The Christmas Tree Festival
- * The sale of Christmas Trees

More information will be found on our Facebook Page, Website and the Village Notice Boards.

Why not join the friends of St. Margaret's Church and help preserve the Village's oldest building for future generations. Leaflets are available from the Church or m.meredith@zen.co.uk.

Mike Meredith, Chairman.

High Halstow Community Lottery

February game (March draw)

£1,400 ME3 8EQ £200 ME18 5BU (£10 per ticket)

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 or visit www.HighHalstowCL.uk

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

The Parish Council met on the 13th March 2019 – The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Crozer. There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

At this meeting the council discussed the impact that the new development at Walnut tree close traffic was having on the village – the clerk has written to Medway council planning enforcement officer to ensure that Redrow are not breaking the terms of their permissions.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be the Parish Annual Meeting – this is an opportunity for all of the groups to come together in the village and celebrate and report on how their year has been and what their plans are moving forward. This will be held on the 10th April 2019 at the Memorial Hall at 7:30pm.

The parish council would encourage you to attend, you are very welcome.

The Parish Council met on the 13th February 2019 – The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Crozer. There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

At this meeting the council discussed the traffic that has been generated in the village by the Walnut Tree development – it was agreed that the clerk will write to the planning enforcement office at Medway Council to ask that they implement the conditions of the build.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 13th March 2019 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

High Halstow Parish Council Surgery



Chris(tine) Watson and Gary Jerreat, two of your Parish Councillors, will be at Kings Kitchen in the Memorial Hall on: Tuesday 9th April 2019 from 10.30 – 12.00pm

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.

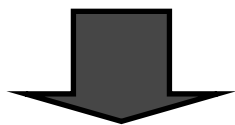
Local and Parish Elections—May 2019

On 2 May 2019, elections are being held for all 55 Medway Council seats in all of the 22 wards in Medway and the 11 parish councils.

A total of 163 seats will be available for election



Please park sensibly



At a time of year when trees, hedges and brambles tend to hang over on to pavements, can we ask villagers to ensure that these will not cause any danger to pedestrians.

STARFISH MALAWI

The Cooling Road Home Group continues in its mission to provide blankets to those who need them. We are currently supporting Starfish Malawi who pass the blankets on to orphans who often have to sleep outside due to lack of space. It can get very cold at night. Thanks to the continued dedication of our many knitters we have recently been able to make a considerable donation.

Maggie Mitchell from Starfish Malawi came to give a talk at the February WI meeting. Members of the Home Group,

(Men and Women) attended to hear what she had to say and also to give her the 26 blankets we have recently had given to us by the knitters - and some sewers too! In addition, we were also able to give her a cheque for £101.61, collected from our tea and coffee donations at our meetings.

In December we were able to hand over 23 Blankets to Maggie for the orphans, a total of 49. In a couple of months!!

The group wish to pass on our thanks to all those who knit, and those who continue to supply us with wool.

We go through a lot of wool so more wool is always needed please. Donations of wool may be left at the Church, brought to King's Kitchen or ring Hazel Beringer on 251135 and she will arrange for collection.

The Cooling Road Home group, attached to St. Margaret's Church, meet regularly to study the bible and believe that belief should translate into action.

To find out more about Starfish Malawi visit www.starfishmalawi.com.

Hilda Woolmington

HALSTOW VILLAGE HALL

Thank you Margaret, Marty and John for yet another superb Quiz Night. After overcoming a mishap in the booking at the beginning of the evening, another £130 was raised for the Village Hall. Roll on the next one...

Please see details of the events planned for 2019/20 so far

Quiz Dates are as follows:

- **14 June**
- **13 September**
- **13 December**

To book your table please ring Margaret Church on

01903 41300 or 07702 196179

The cost per table is £3.00 per person

4 May 2019 Essex Blue Brothers – 6 Piece Band



Tickets available from

Price £15.00

Available from

Wenda on

01634 253169 or

07807 983 248

High Halstow Hikers

The weather at the beginning of March including on the day for our walk was exceptionally windy. So it was with some nervousness that we approached the woods of Trosley Country Park perched as it is on the top of the North Downs for our start – I cannot remember our group walking on a stormier day. But while it could hardly be called calm the trees helped to shelter us and the wind was blowing along the park rather than up the downs. The underfoot conditions were a greater challenge with some of the paths on our route being puddle-filled and slippery. So while we had aimed to include a loop around Harvel the 15 of us cut back on the length of the walk and spent most of our time on either the North Downs Way and the Wealdway. The clear views to the South through the viewing gaps along the main path through the park were as lovely as ever. The coffee in the visitor centre at the end of the 2 hours was very welcome for the slightly weather-beaten hikers.



In April the walk will be on Sunday 14th and will be around the tops of the Downs above Wye (near Ashford). The walk of between 6 and 7 miles will start at 10.00 from the Wye Downs Car Park off Coldharbour Lane. The nearest post code is for a nearby farm, TN25 5HX. This Car Park serves the nearby Devil's Kneading Trough, a spectacular bowl-like cleft in the Downs.

As ever all are welcome to join our walks. Any queries to Mitchell on 01634-254428 or mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com.

We will not be doing a monthly walk in May as several of us will be spending a few days on a walking trip in the Peak District.

Mitchell Dowsett

Auction of Promises
in memory of
Elizabeth Meredith

7:30pm 27th April, 2019.

High Halstow Memorial Hall

Light supper provided but please
bring something to drink.

No obligation to bid

• •

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KARATE

A team from Karate Leadership UK Peninsula competed against 15 other teams on Sunday 17 March 2019 bringing home 21 Trophies/medals from 19 sections.

We fielded a team of 10 students and instructors all of whom train at High Halstow on Saturday morning & Hoo on Tuesday after school - we are celebrating our 4th Year in the village this year.

Events include points sparring, Board breaking, High Kick and Kata for all ages from 6 upwards (the oldest lady who competed is 70yrs old!).

If you would like to get involved just go to www.hookarate.co.uk and register to try out KARATE.

RESULTS:

Junior Traditional Kata: Coloured Belts - 2nd place

Black Belts - 3rd Place

Junior Team kata: Coloured Belts - 1st place 2nd place

Black Belts - 3rd Place

Junior Creative kata - 2nd place

Junior Creative Weapons kata - 1st place & 2nd place

Junior Sparring U12 - 2nd place

U8 - 3rd place

Junior High Kick: u16 1st Place

U12 3rd place

Adult Traditional Kata: Coloured Belts - 1st place

Adult Team kata - 3rd place

Ladies Sparring - 2nd place

Adult Board Breaking - 2nd place

Martin Mitchell

Master Instructor

Leadership UK

07752 682437

Christian Aid was set up in the aftermath of World War 2 to address the huge refugee problem that existed in Europe. Today Christian Aid works with local partners to end poverty worldwide and tackle the injustices that keep people poor. Christian Aid helps some of the world's poorest people regardless of faith, gender or race. During Christian Aid Week volunteers will be inviting you to support this very worthy cause.

Please give generously.

Thank you.



Craftastic Events

Craft & Well-being Event

Sunday 28 April 2019

High Halstow Village Hall
The Street, High Halstow
Kent, ME3 8SQ

12-4pm

FREE ENTRY



Karen Watson

Personal Trainer and Pilates Instructor

Mobile 07581 375 080

Email watsonkaren68@gmail.com

Facebook: Karen Watson Personal Trainer

Pilates with Karen Watson

Train at your home or in my private gym

Qualifications:

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- Advanced Diploma and City and Guilds in Exercise Health and Fitness Instructing
- Level 3 Diploma in Pilates
- Advanced Diplomas in Nutrition covering:
- Weight Management
- Sports and exercise
- Pre and Post Natal
- Childhood Nutrition and Obesity Prevention
- Behaviour Change Coaching

Master Classes:

- Motivational Communication
- Diabetes
- Food Allergies and Intolerances
- Eat to Gain

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	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	Stay and Play	09:00 – 10:30	Recreation Hall
	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 — 15:30	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 4th Wednesday	Friendly Club	14:00	Memorial Hall
Last Friday	Quiz Nights	20:00	Memorial Hall

NOTICE OF ELECTION**MEDWAY COUNCIL – ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Parish/Ward	No. of Councillors to be elected
High Halstow	9

- Nomination papers are to be delivered to the Deputy Returning Officer, Jane Ringham, in the Electoral Services team, level 3, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR between 9am and 6pm on any day after the date of this notice, (excluding bank holidays and weekends) but not later than **4pm on Wednesday 3 April 2019**.
- Nomination papers may be obtained from the Electoral Services team, level 3, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham (01634 332864) or from the Council's website (www.medway.gov.uk). The Returning Officer, or his staff will, at the request of any elector, prepare a nomination paper for signature.
- If the election is contested, the poll will take place on **Thursday 2 May 2019**.
- Please note the following provisions in respect of registration and absent voting applications, all of which must be addressed to the Electoral Registration Officer at Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR:

Application	Statutory deadline for receipt
New applications to register to vote	Friday 12 April 2019
New applications for a postal vote and to amend or cancel existing postal or proxy vote arrangements	5pm on Monday 15 April 2019
New applications to vote by proxy	5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2019
New applications to vote by emergency proxy on the grounds of physical incapacity or for work/service reasons, which must have occurred after 5pm on 24 April 2019	5pm on Thursday 2 May 2019

NEIL DAVIES
Returning Officer
26 March 2019

Printed and published by the Returning Officer, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR

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