



High Halstow TIMES

Home of the Heron
The Newsletter for High Halstow



November 2019

100 Years of High Halstow Memorial Hall



In April 1920 our Memorial Hall was officially opened by the then Hall Committee. Residents of High Halstow enjoyed a dance with refreshments and raffle. In April 2020 the current Memorial Hall Committee are to hold an afternoon of memories. This will involve photos, memorabilia and stories and anecdotes related to the Memorial Hall. If you, your parents or indeed grand parents have memories of using the Hall and have photos or stories of their time there then we would love to include them on that day. Did you or they go to Brownies, Cubs or Scouts, Saturday Club with Mrs. Winder or Youth Club? Do you have photos that we could scan and use? Have you a story of a family member involved in the building of the hall? If so we would love to share them. Please send any relevant information to me at:

jeanette.dowsett@gmail.com

Further details of the Open Day will be included in future issues of HHT and on the Village Facebook page.

Thank you

Jeanette - Secretary - Memorial Hall Committee

Friendly Club

We are a monthly club, meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month, except December, in the Memorial Hall at 2pm.

We have about 30 members who enjoy a couple of hours in good company. There are always lots of tea and coffee with yummy cakes.

Sometimes play a game of bingo or beetle, quizzes are good fun and just chat about anything. We also plan trips out to various places.

Last month we had a really good day at the Broadstairs Food Festival, which has become a regular fixture with bus from door to door. Also a brilliant afternoon to the Criterion Theatre in Bluetown on the Isle of Sheppey to enjoy an old time music hall with afternoon tea.

The next meeting is on 27th of November which is our Christmas "party". We would love to see some new faces, so if you are interested and would like to know more, please ring me on 250677 or just turn up.

Margaret Whitebread

We Shall Remember Them

**Services of Remembrance
Sunday 10th November**

**High Halstow
10:15 to 11:15**

**Allhallows
10:45 - 11:45**

High Halstow Neighbourhood Plan Residents Survey Included

High Halstow Macmillan Coffee Morning.

I am pleased to let you know that this year the village raised a total of £1044.45. This is an amazing amount, the weather wasn't particularly kind and I thank all who came and supported this worthwhile event. My thanks go to all who attended and helped raise this amount. I would also like to thank the amazing washer uppers, bakers, money takers, tea makers and all who helped on the day. It really is a team effort so thank you all.

Jeanette Dowsett

High Halstow Councillors Presentation

In October there was a presentation given to Parish Councillors showing them the history of the HUGH Fund, the refurbishment programme that was carried out as well as the governance of the hall committee. To me it was a celebration of what the community as a whole achieved to turn the Village Hall into the best community facility on the peninsula. If you wish to see the presentation please follow this link <http://highhalstow.org.uk/village-hall-history/>

Gary Thomas

Village Hall Chairman

Monthly Surgery

At our monthly surgery, we received complaints from the public on two issues.

Firstly, vehicles parking on pavements and grass verges, so that pedestrians have to walk in the road around the vehicles, this is especially difficult for mothers with a child in a pushchair and people in wheel chairs.

We would ask all drivers to please be more considerate and not to park on pavements and grass verges.

Secondly hedges, trees etc on residents properties which are growing over the pavements making it difficult to pass.

Please keep all hedges etc cut back to keep paths clear.

Cllrs Chris Watson & Gary Jerreat
High Halstow Parish Council

Come & Meet Chris Watson And Gary Jerreat, Two Of Your Parish Councillors

***Every 2nd Tuesday Of The Month At Kings
Kitchen – 10.30am – 12.00pm***



12th November / 10th December

Bring us your questions or find out about projects we have planned. If we don't know the answers, we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

HH Village Websites

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. www.highhalstow.org.uk or www.highhalstow-pc.gov.uk

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 - Wenda Taylor 253169

**** Please do not call on a Sunday ****

Quality Christmas Trees For Sale



£6 per tree will go directly to The Friends of St Margarets, which supports the maintenance of this beautiful historic building.

All the trees are super fresh! Guaranteed not cut more than 24 hrs before delivery!
Collection: 7/12 from 10-2
5ft 6ft 7ft 8ft
Nordmann (well known non-drop)
£28 £38 £50 £54
At 67 the street high halstow.

Genuinely VAT free as grower is a registered flat rate farmer and only has to charge VAT to VAT registered businesses.

To order please email: tamsinemeredit@hotmai.com or call 07976 113961.

Other Sizes and Tree Varieties also Available

For any requests outside of the listed sizes (he can do up to 15ft and will deliver large trees for displays earlier than the delivery date) please call the above number.

Messy Harvest

It was lovely to see a dozen busy children plus accompanying adults, in the Church, making the Harvest Banner and painting the Harvest Tree. Beautiful butterflies, birds and psychedelic squirrels added to the Harvest Decorations. The Church looked stunning and a good time was had by all.

A date for your diaries.....**Messy Christmas, Sunday 8th December 2-4pm in the Church. All children and accompanying adults welcome.**



High Halstow & District Gardening Club

On Tuesday 8th October Darren Everest came to the club to talk about his lifelong experiences of growing and showing Dahlias. Over the years Darren had won many awards for his plants and has appeared on gardeners world. Lots of hints and tips for our Dahlia growers.

Our next meeting will be held at the memorial hall at 8 pm on 12th November. Our speaker will be Nigel Gibson who will talk about Late flowering perennials and grasses . Members £1.00 .Non members are most welcome £2.00. The evening will conclude with free refreshments followed by a raffle.

Annual membership is £7.50 . New members are always welcome at the club

Happy gardening.

Mike Hughes

High Halstow Community Lottery October draw (September game)

£1300 ME3 8AN High Halstow

£200 ME3 8AG Wainscott

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

Account No: 21507826 Sort Code 40 43 44

That's all you need to do. No form necessary.

Just set up the Standing Order with your bank

Quiz Friday 13th December

To book your table please ring Margaret Church on 01903 41300 or 07702 196179.

The cost per table is £3.00 per person. The Quiz's superbly run by Margaret Church have raised just under **£11,000** for the hall since they started. This is a fantastic achievement (even if I don't win) and has been one of the many events, which has helped the hall look so good so please come along and support.



Making sure it all goes to plan

We recommend funeral plans from Golden Charter, the UK's largest provider of plans to independent funeral directors like us. With a Golden Charter Funeral Plan you'll benefit from:

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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 and email the charity at

office.hhrin@gmail.com

High Halstow Community Lottery Mega Draw

To celebrate 3 years of the Lottery we are announcing a jackpot draw to be paid out in the first week of December in time for Christmas.

£3,000

There will be no second prize

If you are not already in the lottery it's not too late to join. The cost to play is £10 per ticket per month. However, more than one ticket can be bought by requesting the bank to set up the standing order for £20 for two tickets or £30 for three tickets etc. You can buy a one off ticket or set up a monthly standing order payment as follows;

High Halstow Community Lottery
Account Number: 21507826
Sort Code: 40 43 44

YOUR post code and house number as your reference i.e. ME9 9ZZ-99 or if you have a house name ME9 9ZZ-Lucky. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT, YOUR REFERENCE WILL BE YOUR TICKET NUMBER.** Payment must be made by the last working day of the month. Players usually pay on or before 27th of each month.

To be eligible for this mega draw your payment will need to be showing in our bank account by the last banking day in November.

In 3 years the lottery has given out over £50,000 in prize money.

It has also funded over £9,000 towards High Halstow Community Projects. These projects include 3 different payments to the Primary School, the Cricket Club, WI, Memorial Hall, Poppies on Lamp posts, new Toddlers group, St Margaret's Church window restoration etc.

High Halstow Hikers

The weather at the beginning of October was very wet to the extent that we nearly cancelled the walk but eventually a small group of us did a slightly sticky but otherwise dry and enjoyable circular 2-hour, 5 mile walk from Teston Bridge Country Park. The River Medway runs alongside the park and at this point there is an attractive lock and weir. It was no surprise that on our visit the river was in spate and racing over the weir to create a cover of white foam. Our route took us along the riverbank to Watringbury passing a herd of shaggy Hebridean cattle that have been introduced to maintain the wet meadow environment. A long string of moored boats stretched over several hundred yards on the bank of the river closest to us with occasional owners tending to them or simply relaxing and having a Sunday morning cuppa watching the wildfowl coasting with the flow.

After crossing the bridge at Watringbury the footpath to the south of the river moves slowly away from the bank and to give great views to the north towards the impressive Barham Court as we gently climbed to Tutsham Hall Farm. This is one of the tidiest farms imaginable having been converted and upgraded to many lovely dwellings and serviced by a helicopter while still remaining a working farm. From the farm we walked through nearby fields carefully selecting a few large field mushrooms to take home to eat before tracking through the small attractive village of West Farleigh. The footpath from there runs alongside the road to Maidstone and in places the traffic made walking a little uncomfortable before we turned off to pass through the cricket field with its lovely thatched pavilion at Court Lodge. The way back to the cars took us over the 14/15th century bridge with its multiple small passing places to give walkers sanctuary from the single-file traffic over the river before we shared refreshments at the small hut in the car park. It would have been nice to have better conditions but this varied walk was very enjoyable nonetheless.

Our next walk will start at 10.00 on SATURDAY 9th November (to avoid Remembrance Sunday) from the Prince of Wales Pond on the south side of Blackheath (SE3 0RY). Parking is available on South Row which runs along the edge of the pond. The walk has been chosen partly because we can guarantee good underfoot conditions despite it being November but mainly because the walk across the Heath, through Greenwich Park and along the river is through some of the most iconic maritime sites in the world. The walk will be about 4-5 miles long and as ever all are welcome with any queries to Mitchell on 01634 254428 or mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com.



Dramarama goes to Oz

Friday 7th and Saturday 8th February

We have all been working hard on learning our lines and the words to the songs whilst George has been directing us all in to position. The stage has been set out on the Village Hall floor to ensure we know our stage positions on the night and costumes are well underway.

Tickets will be £5.50 each and available from Wenda. We will be doing 3 performances (including a Saturday matinee). So please save the date and get ready to follow the yellow brick road all the way to the village hall for a magical show.

Christmas Concert

Saturday 14th December 7.00pm
in St Margaret's Church
High Halstow

with the High Halstow Community Choir
Musical Director Ken Reynolds
Accompanist Elizabeth Ryan

Tickets £6 (voluntary contribution for children)
Including mulled wine & mince pie

Available from High Halstow village shop,
Kings Kitchen or phone June on 250105

Supporting The Friends of St Margaret's
Church, High Halstow

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***The Redford's – More Than Just A Band
Friday 20th December
High Halstow Village Hall***



Tickets £10 from Wenda (253169)



Inconsiderate Parking

Please be aware of where and how you are parking around the village. It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that people are parking on or across pavements, which is forcing pedestrians and children to walk in the road. Also some parking is creating pinch-points which limits access for emergency vehicles or can cause collisions with oncoming vehicles.

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e.mail: george.crozer@highhalstow-pc.gov.uk	
Christine Watson, Vice Chair	01634 256529
Linda Atkinson	07825 619353
Adrian Catchpole	07788 721226
Ray Collins	01634 250105
Gary Jerreat	07880 697657
Tim Munday	07730 477017
Marilyn Stone	07944 490903
Brian Williams	07908 006448

Your councillors may also be contacted through the Parish Clerk:

Jenny Allen 01634 710086

Santa's Visit 2019

Yet again Santa has agreed to visit High Halstow on Christmas Eve to say hello to all the people of the village before he goes off to do his nights work. Full details will be in the December HHT of how you can have a special visit from Santa.

Christmas Tree Festival

The Friends of St Margaret's would like to invite you to join in our Christmas Tree Festival.

The Festival will take place from 7th to 21st December and we would like individuals or organisations to decorate a tree – maximum height 6ft to be displayed in St Margaret's Church.

Trees can have a theme connected to your organisation and as interesting as possible to encourage visitors to view them. Lights can be used but battery ones are helpful as we are short of power points in the church.

The Festival is to help raise funds towards the upkeep of the church building. We are in the process of having windows restored at great cost.

For each tree displayed we would appreciate a small donation of £5.

Help us make this year's festival bigger and better.

For further details and times for setting up please contact June on 01634 250105 or junemari49@gmail.com



Readers Emails & Letters

(No emails or letters will be published without the name and address)

Dear HHT,

There will be poppies placed on lamp posts in High Halstow early November to mark Remembrance Sunday.

Please support the British Legion by donating to our High Halstow campaign. There will be a donations box in the village shop. All monies raised will be handed to the Hoo British Legion representative. Thank you.

Linda Atkinson

Dear HHT,

I am writing to ask motorists to take care and observe the 30 mile limit in Christmas Lane. A week ago I saw a young boy, about nine years old, who came out of the Shop and got on his bicycle turning to exchange remarks with his friends, he pushed off the kerb and between the parked cars. He then attempted to do a 'wheelie'. Fortunately the motorist who approached from the 'pinch' was obeying the speed limit and was able to stop and prevent a nasty accident. The boy was not wearing a helmet. Many of the vehicles who use the road are going very fast and do not take care when passing parked cars. Those trying to get out of their drives, pedestrians and young children have great difficulty in going about their business safely.

Please be careful of others and keep to the limit for everyone's sake.

Gillian Ellen
Christmas Lane

Dog Owners

Please check with your neighbours if your 'best friend' is howling for you whilst you are out or causing others concern at their barking late at night - a barking dog can be very distressing to others who are trying to enjoy the peace and quiet of village life.

Also, as always, please, please, please clear up after your dog - it is an offence not to clear up after your dog.

HH Parish Council

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Saturday 16th November 2019
Doors open @ 7pm
£15 a Ticket (includes light food)
Licensed Bar (No food or drink to be brought into the venue)

The Christmas Market

SATURDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2019
12.00 - 3.00 p.m. HIGH HALSTOW RECREATION HALL

Locally made preserves, crafts, cakes and festive food

Books, beautiful hand-crafted Christmas decorations, gifts and Christmas goodies and a whole lot more

Come and join us for lunch. There will be a selection of hot and cold food available and get ready for the best Christmas ever

For more information please contact
Rev Stephen Gwilt on 01634 250637 or email on
stephengwilt2@hotmail.co.uk

Next edition December 2019; Contributions for December should be sent by 26th November to:

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