

HALLING VIEW

Photo courtesy of Paul Bullivant,



Well its March already, I hope I find you all well. We have enjoyed some lovely spring weather and everything is now in bud. We are very lucky to be surrounded by beautiful countryside. Our street cleaners continue to do a fantastic job and I know some of you collect litter on your walks. If we all work together to combat litter and take pride in our village we and local wildlife can benefit. We as a Parish Council have been working on getting some more things done around the village. We have had the trees cut back at the top of Marsh Road so that lorries etc can get up to the top which they could not do before. The work on the upper rec is going well. Maria is doing a great job. Terry Dolby has done some fantastic work on the footpaths. We now have up to date maps on the website for the footpaths. We now have an assistant to the parish clerk which will help Jenny a great deal. The assistant is Marcia and she will be working on a Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon once trained which means the office will be open part of each day except Thursday. For your information some of the money from the sale of the fire station will be spent on the upper rec. Some more of the money will be going on the Marsh Area to make it more accessible to everyone. This work will start in March 2019. As I said earlier, we are getting the upper rec renewed and sadly we have noticed some vandalism, white paint has been used on some of the equipment and trees. Can I please ask that this stops? Also sadly 'drug paraphernalia' has been found strewn in the upper rec, for everyone's safety please report any incidences to the Police or Parish Council office. I do hope that you enjoy what we are doing around the village and please if you see a problem or you have a suggestion please let us know through the Parish office. As you may know there are the elections in May and we as a Parish Council hope to continue to serve you in the future. We still have vacancies on the Parish Council so if you would like to join us please e-mail your interest to Halling Parish Council. I wish you well and I will have updates in the next Halling View.

Paul Crispe, Chairman

RIVERSIDE MEDICAL PRACTICE

Report of the Riverside Patient Participation Group Meeting held 18th February 2019

Dr Malladi reported that the loft conversion works at the surgery in Halling were progressing well. This new area will be used for storing the old paper notes of patients that currently take up space on the ground floor. This will free up a room that will be used as a new clinical room.

The waiting room is known to be too small, but there was not enough funding to extend this.

A new receptionist has started, Joanne Lester, based mainly at Cuxton.

A significant number of patients from Halling and Cuxton have registered since one of the doctors at Snodland has retired. There may be more who register because of this. However, the net gain in patients from Snodland, including Holborough, was limited to 30 over the past 6 months since the boundary change.

The PPG decided to publish a report of all meetings to Halling View in order to circulate news from the surgery around Halling.

Dr Malladi informed us that some out of hours appointments (evenings and Saturdays) can be made at Rochester (Delce) by calling the surgery and asking for this. Dr Malladi does not work there but the doctor you would see will have full access to your medical record.



The meeting was informed that three of the intended six Medway Primary Care Hubs are now live. These are at Lordswood, Rainham, and Rochester (Delce). Those due to open soon are Strood, Hoo St Marys, Peninsula. It is thought that the NHS' intention is to site all GP surgeries within the main populated areas within these six hubs...although this plan is likely to take many years to finalise.

The meeting was also informed that there were 62,500 missed appointments within Medway NHS in the last year. Patients who use the app to book appointments may cancel easily.

The meeting was also informed that the Kent and Medway joint committee of CCGs had made the decision to create three Hyper Acute Stroke Units (HASU) throughout Kent and Medway. These will be located at Ashford, Maidstone and Dartford. This will mean the closure of the current stroke units at Margate, Tunbridge Wells, and Medway. These units will take all emergency patients from Kent and Medway who suffer a stroke. Medway council are concerned about this decision fearing that it may lead to the eventual down-grading of Medway Maritime hospital and possible closure of other facilities. They are investigating the possibility of taking legal action against the NHS CCGs' decision.

There was also discussion about digital GP services that are currently being trialled by the NHS in some areas. This service allows you to “see” a doctor using Skype or similar. That doctor can then prescribe, enabling you to pick up medicines from a chosen pharmacist. Please note that if you register for this service that you will need to de-register with your current surgery.

We ask anyone who is interested in joining our group, or has an issue that they would like raised, to contact us via email at hallingriversideppg@gmail.com. We aim to meet every three months.

Mathew Dale (PPG Organiser)

Dr Krishna Malladi

Rights of Way Improvement Plan Update

As covered in the December 2018 Halling View Medway Council are producing a new Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) to replace the existing plan which is now over ten years old. This has not been published at this time but we are already seeing the benefits of this program.

The ROWIP Consultant supplied A1 copies of an Ordnance Survey map for Cuxton and Halling which had been overprinted with all the footpaths and walks in the area. This has been used to generate a quality map of Halling Marsh and Common and further maps are planned.

The first map produced was provided with a Crown Copyright Statement and a Medway Council license number as this was required for the ROWIP work which was a Medway Council project.

The Medway Council Geographic Information System (GIS) Manager advised that Halling Parish Council (HPC) were eligible to join the Public Sector Mapping Agreement (PMSA) which would allow their use of Ordnance Survey Map data. The Clerk in her role as the Proper Officer was required to apply and this was approved and we now have our own license number and can produce our own maps using the OS map data.

The first map has now been updated to use the HPC license number and the 4 dogs path has been added. This map is shown at the end of this report.

As part of the preparation for the ROWIP workshop last year the formerly co-opted by HPC for Footpaths resident Mr Barry Barnes produced a detailed report on Halling Marsh and Common footpaths with photographs of all the areas, fences, steps, stiles and gates that were all in need of repair and this was submitted as part of the ROWIP process. This report now has a map overprinted with P markers showing the location of each photograph and this will be used in the planning and implementation of future work.

The good news is that these maps can be produced in PDF format for downloading and printing for residents own use. More work is needed to produce the new maps but it is hoped that these maps will be made available through the HPC Website in the future.

Mr T K Dolby

Improvements to Halling Common Footpaths Access

Halling Parish Council (HPC) has set up a working party to investigate and then plan and implement improvements to Halling Common footpaths to improve the access for all.

This working party is made up of the most experienced Parish Councillors, Cllr George Wenham and Cllr Chris Herbert plus the formerly co-opted by HPC for Footpaths resident Mr Barry Barnes.

Using the footpaths report produced by Barry Barnes for the ROWIP workshop to identify the problem areas the working party has looked at various solutions from different suppliers and has recommended an action plan for Phase 1 of this program which has been put before Halling Parish Council and this received a unanimous vote of approval.

The working party is already working on Phase 2 of the improvements.

This work will be funded from the proceeds of the sale of the Fire Station which has long been the stated intention of HPC.

A local Halling fencing company was chosen to carry out the work and this will start within a short time. This company have also included other essential repairs in their quotation.

The plan is to replace many of the stiles with a total of 6 metal kissing gates to make access much easier and the replacements will be at the following locations on the map:-

P2 – Double Kissing Gate at Marsh Road

P3 – Single Kissing Gate at start of RS320

P13 – Single Kissing Gate on the river bank at the boundary of Halling Common with the Wildfowlers land.

P14 – Single Kissing Gate at the river end of Marsh Road

P17 – Double Kissing Gate on the RS319 Public Footpath by Maximilian Close

P18 – Single Kissing Gate on the 4 Dogs Path at junction with Marsh Road

Cllr G Wenham (Marsh Portfolio Holder)



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Halling Marsh & Halling Common Footpaths with P Markers

Whatever Happened to Trust?

When I was a small boy, people used to go out and leave their doors unlocked. Churches were generally open all the time. When my grandmother stopped leaving her front door actually open when she went to the village shop, it was not because she was afraid of thieves. She got fed up with finding her neighbour's cat asleep on her bed. There wasn't a lot of point in locking up anyway. A curious child, I discovered by experiment that there were only two kinds of lock in a row of ten houses. So you could open four of your neighbours' doors with your own key. Anyway, most window catches could be slipped from outside using a knife blade, useful if you did lock yourself out as my other grandmother did once when she took three year old me out in the snow to be photographed. Nearly twenty years later, when I opened a bank account, all they needed was my word and a specimen signature. There was no proof of ID required in those days. Mind you, back in the 'seventies, you could trust your bank not to attempt to pull fast ones like payment protection insurance and big companies didn't exploit their loyal and naive customers by charging them more than they charge the more savvy for the same product or service.

Now, trust seems to have flown out of the window. Treasurers of tiny village charities handling a couple of hundred pounds have to produce detailed accounts and follow strict rules as if everyone who offered to help out on a voluntary basis were a potential fraudster. The UK has the highest number of CCTV cameras per head of population in the whole world. Are we British the least trustworthy people on earth or the most paranoid? Why don't we trust one another any more? One possible reason is that we no longer live in close knit communities. It is psychologically harder to rob someone you know than a stranger. If you did, in a small village everybody would know. There would be shame as well as punishment for some ne'er do well who pinched an old lady's pension. We also had regular beat police officers, who often lived in the communities they served. Their very presence was a deterrent and they knew people well enough to know whom to keep an eye on. Some people think that the decline in religion has something to do with it. We were taught that, even if you didn't get caught, God would know if you did (or said or thought) something bad. Another view is that people in the past had less that was worth stealing and perhaps didn't mind so much if a needy neighbour helped herself to a few vegetables or a cup of sugar when they weren't looking. If we look at reports of gang violence among urban youngsters, both drugs and the decline of the stable family play a big part.

Maybe we worry more. We used not to hear much about crime outside our own communities. Now we're bombarded by reports of robberies and murders. There is a thought too that fiction like *Midsomer Murders* and *Morse's Oxford* lead people to feel that the murder rate is a great deal higher than it actually is. In the past, most ordinary people did not have contents insurance. Now that we have, we have to report crime where we might not once have bothered because what has been stolen was of low value or because we didn't think there was much chance that we'd get it back or that the criminals would get caught. Some thieves even say that it is OK to steal someone's TV or computer because the insurance will buy them another one.

Crime rates certainly have gone up in my life time. Not only is there more street crime, but also people whom we would once have trusted implicitly, people in professional roles, even clergy, have been found to be guilty of the most horrible wrong-doing. But, personally, I do believe that we exaggerate the risk of being a victim of crime and I also think it is better occasionally to be let down than to treat everybody you know and everybody you do business with as a potential villain. In a slightly different context, St Paul says, *Suffer yourselves rather to be defrauded.*

Ironically, when I was growing up, most people were at least notionally Christians and Christianity teaches the

doctrine of original sin – that all human beings are inherently sinful. Nowadays, most people seem to believe that everybody is born good. Yet fifty years ago we trusted one another and now we don't. Why is that? Surveillance, regulation, law, punishment, they can only do so much to prevent wrong-doing. People will always break the rules and some of them will get away with it. The law is for bad people. Good people don't need to be threatened with penal sanctions if they misbehave. It is their nature to be good. What our aim must be is not frighten people into abstaining from evil but convert them into being good. That is the transformation we experience through faith in Jesus Christ Who died to sin on the Cross in order to set us free to live eternally in love for God and for other people.

Easter at St John's Halling: Maundy Thursday (18th April) Holy Communion 9.30 am; Good Friday Three Hour Devotion 12.00 noon; Easter Day Holy Communion Jubilee Hall 8.00 am, St John's 11.00 am.

Easter at St Michael's Cuxton: Maundy Thursday Passover 7. 00 pm; Good Friday Family Service 10.00 am; Easter Day Holy Communion 9.30 am.

Roger Knight Rector of Cuxton & Halling.



**Kent
Police**

Please find below the dates of the 2019 Monthly Police Drop-In Surgeries for the 1st Tuesday of each month from 5pm – 7pm in the canteen at Gun Wharf.

Tuesday 5th February 2019

Tuesday 5th March 2019

Tuesday 4th June 2019

Tuesday 2nd July 2019

Tuesday 6th August 2019

Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Tuesday 1st October 2019

Tuesday 5th November 2019

Tuesday 3rd December 2019

There will be no surgery in April or May due to the Local Elections.

[What to do if you find drug litter?](#)

Drug litter is dangerous. If you come across any drug litter, do not attempt to remove it yourself. Drug litter needs to be disposed of by people who have the proper equipment and who know how to dispose of it safely. Call your Local Authority to report what you have found and where. If the drug litter is in a public place, the Local Authority will dispose of it safely. If the drug litter is on private property, the Local Authority will be able to advise on how the property owner can dispose of it safely. **Medway Council – 01634 333333**

The Old Fire Station

After years of planning, unexpected delays and months of building conversion, *Halling Baptist Church* finally has a new home—and we are excited about the future!

We give thanks to God for his provision and the fantastic support from the people of Halling. As many will remember from our Open Day in 2016—yes, quite a while ago!—we are keen to engage with our community with various initiatives for the good of those around us.

The delays in buying and adapting the building haven't stopped us from pressing on with our desire to help in the needs of our village. We have since organised a few Community Suppers to raise funds to contribute towards local needs like the Lower Rec Playground, the Jubilee Hall Windows Fund and a reading area for the children at *Halling Primary School*. We are now planning another fundraising event to start a food-bank in the summer (another of our Open-Day pledges). A Walk-in Café is still in the radar, and we would like to do a trial later in the year.

Besides our introductory courses to the Christian faith like *Christianity Explored*, *Life Explored* and *The Word One-to-One*, we are planning a debt counselling service, a grieving recovery support course and another village youth club to give teens an alternative space to hang out with friends other than the streets.

Why not plan to visit us? We know how intimidating it can be to visit a place for the first time. At *Halling Baptist Church* you will find a friendly and welcoming atmosphere to any of our meetings. If you are new to Christianity or would like to learn more, we recommend you to start with one of the courses mentioned above. These meetings are run either in a group or one-to-one, and they are designed to give you time and space to consider the big questions of life and to explore the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith – Jesus Christ.

- You don't need to know anything about the Bible.
- You won't be asked to read aloud, pray or sing.
- You can ask any question you want, or just listen.

What to expect on a Sunday Service? Every Sunday we get together with other believers to praise God. These meetings are simple; we sing a selection of hymns or songs, we read from the Bible and pray. Children are also welcome! At every service we have a Children's Talk where young ones (and the not so young!) can participate. A crèche is available at the rear of the building where small tots can play while you can still see and listen to the service. Our leaders are committed to teaching from the Bible in a way that connects to our day to day life. You will notice that we collect an offering as part of our worship; however, it is not compulsory, so please do not worry. On the first Sunday of the month, we share Communion (this is only for those baptised as believers who belong to an Evangelical Church, but we are more than happy for observers to be present.)

After every meeting, we always stay around talking over a cuppa tea or coffee and take the opportunity to get to know each other better. There is no dress code at all, and everyone is welcome. As a friend of ours says, there is only one rule 'no perfect people allowed'! Isn't that a relief!

Call or text me on 07868 182423 for more information.

Every blessing,
Pastor Kevin Félix Hollington
Halling Baptist Church





HALLING GARDENING SOCIETY
PRESENT

**THE 39th AUTUMN FLOWER
AND VEGETABLE SHOW**

to be held on

SUNDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2019

3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

at

HALLING JUBILEE HALL

Browndens Road, Upper Halling, ME2 1JE

Exhibits to be staged on the day between the hours of :

10.00 am - 12.00 am

Judging to start at 12.30 p.m.

Auction - 4.30 p.m.

Raffle - 4.45 p.m.

Each Exhibit - 20p to enter

Senior Citizens - 10p each

Children - Free

Admission to Show - 50p per Adult (Members FREE)

A.G.M Monday 11th NOVEMBER 2019 7.30 PM

Membership renewal due at AGM - Currently £3 per year



All Cups and Prize Money presented at the AGM.

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**For enquiries and bookings:
Contact the Booking Secretary on 07879641356
For more information visit www.hallingcentre.btck.co.uk**



Adult and Toddler Group

Halling Community Centre



Every Tuesday (during term time)
Term 3 commences 8th January 2019

9.30am to 11am



Small fee of £1.50 per Adult; 50p per Child



Refreshments included

This group is for all ages; birth to 5 years of age for children;
16 years to 100 years! for Adults.

A wide variety of activities are available including –
Baby corner, Role-play, Construction, Small world, Books, Craft,
Mark making, Messy play, Musical instruments, Bikes etc.
Each session ends with singing/action songs.



Everyone is welcome.
No need to pre-book, just come along.



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Please include a brief outline of your issues.

The initial 1 hour consultation is free

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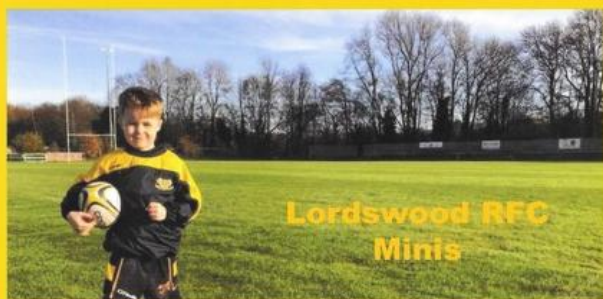
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hallingwi@yahoo.com

Halling Sapphires W.I

New Members and Visitors Welcome!

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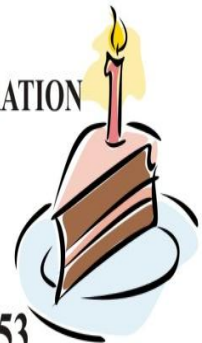


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[Register here: www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)



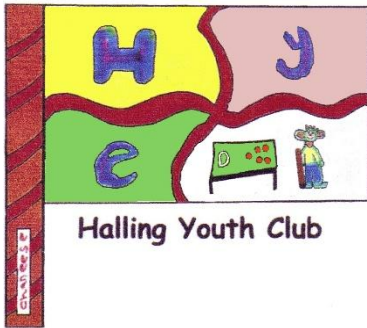
[Strood Wardens New Facebook Page](#)

Suzanne Deleket – Community Warden for Strood, Cuxton and Halling asks that you follow her on :

https://www.facebook.com/Strood-Cuxton-and-Halling-Community-Warden-2046679345452691/?modal=followers¬if_id=1548838540760776¬if_t=page_follow&ref=notif

Photographs courtesy of Frank Smith





1st Session (6.00 pm – 7.30 pm) for 8-11 year olds

2nd Session (7.45pm – 9.15 pm) for 11-15 year olds

Halling Youth Club is a fun, safe place which is open for all children in Halling. We always have lots going on including: Football, Table Tennis, Air Hockey, Competitions, and Arts & Crafts.



Above are some of the recent creations by some of our members.

We are busy organising our annual pool competition, as well as some outings.

If you have a child who wishes to join us (or you would like to volunteer occasionally), feel free to pop in on a Friday evening at Halling Community Centre. Alternatively call Paula on 07969342953.

Please note, that this Club is run on a purely voluntary basis, and any donations of equipment is always welcome.

Jubilee Hall

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Contact: 01634 244289 - Claire Stotesbury

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And of course there's many more,
Tai Chi, Lunch Club, Bring & Buy, Raffles for sure.
To really enjoy ourselves is our main aim
Retired or semi-retired - it's all the same,
Our Members are Fifty or Over? – after all, age is just a number,
So don't sit at home and vegetate like a cucumber.
For fun and laughter you're welcome to join us,
To start the next part of life's adventure – so don't miss the bus.
HALARA is here waiting to greet you anon
At the door ready to meet you is our lovely Yvonne.

For more information Contact: Carole on 01634 716 049
She's waiting for you call

**Halling Sapphires in partnership with HPC Invite you to the
Halling Village Easter Extravaganza!**

Saturday 20 April 2019

at the Community Centre 12.00 - 3.30pm

Something for all the family:

Easter trail around the village

Cream teas & refreshments

Afternoon tea with the Easter Bunny (booking required)

Face painting

Entertainer

Local craft stalls selling hand made items

Craft activities for the children

Stalls & games

Come and join us for an afternoon of fun

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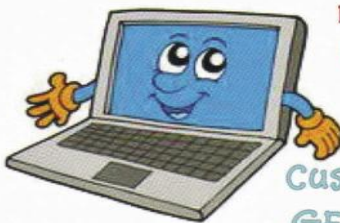
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Sacha Dodd, 22 Low Meadow, Halling, Rochester



Halling Parish Council Meetings

Tuesday	12	March	2019	19.30	Community Centre
Monday	1	April	2019	19.30	Jubilee Hall
Tuesday	7	May	2019	19.30	Community Centre
Saturday	18	May	2019	11.00-1.00	Annual Parish Meeting Community Centre All welcome
Monday	3	June	2019	19.30	Jubilee Hall
Tuesday	2	July	2019	19.30	Community Centre
Tuesday	3	September	2019	19.30	Community Centre
Monday	7	October	2019	19.30	Jubilee Hall
Tuesday	5	November	2019	19.30	Community Centre
Monday	2	December	2019	19.30	Jubilee Hall

**ANYONE WISHING TO ADVERTISE IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE HALLING VIEW PLEASE
SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE / ADVERT BY:**

Payments can be made either via cash, BACS or cheque (made payable to Halling Parish Council).

All adverts must be paid in advance or sadly they cannot be included. Pricing and advertising as per follows:

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QUARTER page £80 / EIGHTH page £50**

Prices per issue based on an A5 page: **FULL page £70 / HALF page £45 /
QUARTER page £25 / EIGHTH page £15**

(Charity Adverts & Village Articles are free!!)



Marsh photograph courtesy of Tina Lee

HALLNG PARISH COUNCIL

Lower Ward: Chairman Paul Crispe
Vice-Chair Richard Thorne
Councillor Chris Herbert
Councillor George Wenham

VACANCY
VACANCY

Upper Ward: Councillor Matt Fearn
Councillor James Loveday

VACANCY

North Ward: Councillor Anita Butterfield

VACANCY

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

Address: Halling Parish Council
Halling Community Centre
93 High Street
Halling, Kent,
ME2 1BS.

Tel: 01634 241551

Email: [hallingclerk@bt](mailto:hallingclerk@bt.com)

Website: [http://www.ha](http://www.hallingparishcouncil.org.uk)

**NEW! A4 Copies of
the Halling View
are available at
your local
amenities & the
Community Centre**

There are 9 notice boards around the village which are updated regularly with village information and also you can read what's going on, on our website

Your Parish Councillors live in Halling and act for you voluntarily in the interest of the village as a whole. Any matters brought to the attention of the office are given to Councillors to discuss and or act upon if necessary.

If you would like to raise any questions in advance of the next meeting, please contact the Parish Clerk via the contact details listed above or alternatively please return the form below to the Parish office. Thank you.

Halling Parish Council, Clerk:

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