

HALLING VIEW

The community spirit was in full force again this quarter with the Commemoration of those we lost during World War 1. The Day began with the service in the Church followed by the procession to the monument for the laying of the wreaths and Robin Godwin played The Last Post which was heard across the river in Wouldham! The Community Centre had an excellent display provided by the children of Halling Primary School and the WI provided teas and coffee and a fabulous selection of homemade cakes. The children from the school sang a selection of songs from their WW1 play, which were brilliant. At 6.30pm we proceeded to The Mound for Ruth's burgers and cheesy chips, hot drinks and more cake provided by Sam Thomas - Five Bells and Jo Cakes. Then Robin played again as the village beacon was lit in memory of our fallen heroes followed by a loud firework display funded by Halling Association to end the day's event. Thanks to Martin Court and Keith Place for letting me light their beacon torches All in all a brilliant day again!!! My thanks go to Trudi Smith, Trayc Randall, Sam Thomas & Viv Grimwood for being such a great team and to our special guest from the village George Whatley who will be 100 next year! Thanks also to all those who helped setting up and cleaning the hall, to Terry Cook for providing the Cherry Picker for the boys to play in!! For Martyn Court - Total Property for going to the extra mile as usual making sure the fireworks and Beacon went up with a bang and of course to all you villagers who came to support our Remembrance Day service and parade.

I have included a picture of the Bench built by Total Property with funds provided by Halling Association for Colin Martin to park his bottom!! The original bench was accidentally knocked out by a Landrover checking the land some time ago and Colin asked HPC to approach the owners of the land to replace the bench, which although it took some time has now been done!



Halling Marsh has had further works on the fencing at the request of Tony Pickard as he constructively informed HPC that some areas could be improved to avoid impaling small dogs and children. Therefore stock fencing has been added to some areas in addition to the barbed wire. To date I am pleased to report we have not found any small children or dogs impaled on the barbed wire, should you find any then please contact the Parish Office on 01634 241551.

We sadly had to fell an old Horse Chestnut Tree in the Lower Recreation Ground as it was deemed unsafe due to a large split in the trunk, although I am pleased to inform you that Kevyn Wightman's GreenSpace Team will be replanting two new oak trees to replace the old one at their GreenSpace Day in November.

We are now in the process of finalising the Contracts to purchase the Fire Station building and hope to have this as stated previously completed by the end of 2014.

I am very sad to inform you that our Assistant Clerk Trudi Smith is leaving us on the 31st December 2014. Trudi has over the last few years given a lot to the Village and been the paramount in making some major events a huge success despite the barriers she has faced! The last of these events being our Christmas Event on the 7th December 2014. I hope you will all join us on the day and congratulate Trudi on her successes and wish her well for the future and make this an event to remember for her to take with her in her memories of the good times of being part of Halling Village!!

I wish you all
a very Merry Christmas
and Prosperous
New Year!!

*Sally Brady
Chair
Halling Parish Council*

**Christmas is coming to
Halling
Sat 6th & Sun 7th
December**

HALLING PARISH COUNCIL

Lower Ward:

Councillor Les Hitchcock
Councillor Chris Herbert
Councillor Sally Brady
Councillor Jim Sutherland
vacancy
vacancy

Upper Ward

Councillor Mark Joy
Councillor Bob Morton
Councillor Alan Herbert

North Ward

Councillor Matt Fearn
Councillor George Wenham

www.halling-pc.co.uk



The indoor Christmas market will take place in the Community Center from 12pm – 5pm. Like last year we have got some fabulous stalls to tantalise your taste buds and really get you into the festive spirit. Entry is FREE however, there will be a donation bucket for any spare change you might have. This will be going to the charity stall ‘Friends of the Wisdom Hospice’, Rochester.

There will be a selection of local traders who will be in full spirits with all their fabulous goodies on sale selling top quality products with local prices. Something for every one! Also we have the alcoholic beverage stall, selling Hot Ciders and Hot Pimms from the hatch; not forgetting some scrummy food stalls. You can order your Christmas turkey from Court Farm, who will be exhibiting this year with Joe’s fabulous cakes.

In addition to the market, there will be a children’s room, where you can get your face painted, make sparkly Christmas cards and have a free bounce on the ‘Frozen Themed’ Bouncy Castle.

Santa has promised to come this year and you’ll be able to find him in his grotto, in the main hall where he has left his post box so you can post your letters for him to take back to the North Pole. Don’t forget if you want a reply from Santa, mums and dads need to clearly write their child’s name and address on the back of your Christmas list. After you have posted your letter you can pop in and see him, and collect a free special little gift.

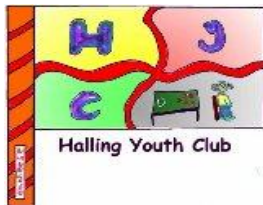
This year we have a raffle and the top prize is an Ipad Mini donated by Redrow Homes, with lots of other prizes donated by the stall holders too. The raffle will be drawn at 4.30pm.

And just when you thought it couldn’t get any better, we will be having an Ice Skating Rink, catering for ALL levels, ages and disabilities, this will be situated in the Five Bells car park. You will need to collect a raffle ticket from the Community Center for a time slot to go on, it will be £2.00 for a 20 minute slot. The ice rink will be available from 11am until 7pm, so there is plenty of skating time. And whilst you are there, you can buy yourself a scrumptious hog roast too.

Then at 5.30pm the Deputy Mayor will be turning on the Christmas tree lights. Children from Bo-Peeps Pre-School will be singing some carol songs followed by any villagers who wish to join in the festive singing.

Back to the pub at 7pm the band Bravado will be performing live, so you can dance away the night in the festive spirit of Halling, its going to be a corker of an event; one not to be missed. Everything has been carefully thought out with you in mind, so come along, and get into the festive spirit and start the Christmas period in Halling off with a bang – Any Bah Humbugs will be sprinkled with magic fairy dust. Merry Christmas to you all,

love Mrs Christmas xx



HALLING YOUTH CLUB SAYS A BIG THANK YOU

We at Halling Youth Club wish to say a very big THANK YOU to all who took part in helping us raise a massive £752.62!!! for Children In Need. It was a very busy and well attended event. We thank Newtown Social Club, The Bell Inn, Homeward Bound, Halling Post Office and Halling Newsagent and everyone who were generous to donate raffle prizes. Also thanks go to everyone who gave us their time, free, to help during the evening. Special thanks go to Petaholics, Ruth, Trudi, Claire, Charlotte, Jenny and all my wonderful volunteers.

Also thanks go to Mrs. Donnelly and Mrs. Boyd who officially opened the event.



As you can see from the pictures everyone had a good time. Thank you to all who participated



and we look forward to seeing you all again next year!!



THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, HALLING - FRIDAY NIGHTS

1st session
8 to 11 year olds
6pm – 7.30pm

2nd session
11 to 15 year olds
7.45pm – 9.15pm

Contacting us is easy.... pop in personally on a Friday night or phone
Les Hitchcock 07518931508
Paula Wilkins-Smith 07969342953

HALLING WEATHER STATION

An amateur weather station situated in the village of Halling, in the Medway Valley.

OK I'm a weather geek, obsessed with weather, and why not, it can affect all of our day to day lives.

So I decided to purchase a Davis Vantage Pro 2 and set up Halling Weather.

I've always had an interest in the weather, it must have been in some genes passed down from my father as he spent his RAF days a Meteorologist and had an interest in the weather right up until he passed away. Though it's fair to say, he wasn't as obsessed as I am, nor did he share my real love, which is WINTER! Give me snow and frost any day over hot and sunny weather....bizarre I know!

The original site was very basic, and as I have had no web design or computer training it turned out to be a steep learning curve. Luckily I came across some great software called "Weather Display" and a group of guys on a forum that had helped eek every ounce of the Davis Weather Station's potential. Including some complex weather website templates that were designed by an American who runs www.carterlake.org.

Collecting weather statistics started early with my father, as we took up an appeal from TV Weatherman Francis Wilson, who at the time worked for ITV on London Tonight. He sent out "Max/Min Thermometers" and every day we would ring in our stats from our house in Beckenham. I also carried on writing these temperatures down after Francis had left ITV for the BBC, but this mainly happened in the Winter, when the weather was much more interesting!!

These then have further been developed and much of the site is a mix of templates and scripts from these various sources:

CarterLake.org, Saratoga-Weather.org, Kevin Reed at TNET Weather, Mike Challis of Long Beach WA and Ken True of Saratoga-Weather.org

Fast forward to 2005, technology had moved on and semi professional weather stations were becoming easily purchased, websites easier to buy and run.

The software is capable of real-time/live weather updates, as well as gathering statistics and collating them in various and hopefully interesting forms.

Monthly Station Records and Averages

Records based on: October, 2005 to Current Date/Time

Updated: 18/11/2014 14:50												
Records:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
High Temp (°C):	14.3	19.3	21.7	27.7	29.8	33.0	34.8	33.3	31.4	29.3	18.4	26.8
Low Temp (°C):	-49.3	-8.7	-6.0	-4.4	-0.8	4.3	7.7	6.3	4.0	-32.0	-5.3	-49.3
Avg Temp (°C):	5.1	5.0	6.7	10.3	12.7	15.7	18.9	17.4	14.9	12.3	8.3	5.0
Avg Rain (mm):	80.7	56.3	43.3	50.6	42.4	36.1	42.0	58.2	37.4	77.9	68.8	65.0

So we now have weather statistics for the village going back nearly ten years and the site complies to a high standard for accuracy, though the wind anemometer tends to under exaggerate wind gusts due to its placement. Also from time to time, the PC that gathers the software occasionally crashes or is down for maintenance!

The weather station and software records;

- **Temperatures; Actual, Hi's & Lo's and Windchill effects**
- **Wind; Average Speed, Gust Speed, Direction and Current Speed**
- **Rainfall; Totals for Month, Day, Hour including hourly rainfall rate**
- **Barometer; Current reading and trends**

And coming soon, thanks to Halling Association, a Solar Sensor to record solar radiation which hopefully the software can use this data to record sunshine hours here in the village.

Just as an example of some of the stats, the village temperature records since the station began are:

High: 34.8°C 22nd July 2013

Low: -8.8°C 20th December 2010

Though if anyone wishes to make a donation to help with the site running fees, then do feel free to get in touch, details are on the website.

If you've not found the site before, pop along and take a look, there's more to it than just the weather!

www.halling-weather.co.uk

The weather station and website, including the domain and hosting fees are all solely funded by myself.

Follow us on Twitter!! @HallingWeather
FOLLOW HALLING WEATHER ON TWITTER HERE

Updated: @ 18/11/2014 14:53:29 - updated 1 sec ago

Summary / Temperature	Wind	Rain																	
Moderate drizzle 11.8°C Unknown Feels like: 12°C 24-hr difference: 1.5°C	Calm Gust: None 0 Bft - <i>Calm</i> Today: 12.0 mph @ 03:39 Max Mth: 34.5 mph Nov 2 Max Year: 52.0 mph Feb 14	Rain Today: 0.4 mm Rain (/hr): 1.08 mm Rain Yesterday: 2.2 mm Storm Rain*: 5.8 mm This Month: 86.0 mm This Year: 780.2 mm 17 rain days in Nov.																	
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Compare</th> <th>Today</th> <th>Yesterday</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>High:</td> <td>13.7°C 13:10</td> <td>10.9°C 11:38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Low:</td> <td>7.7°C 00:00</td> <td>7.2°C 21:12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sun Hrs:</td> <td>02:30</td> <td>00:50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Compare	Today	Yesterday	High:	13.7°C 13:10	10.9°C 11:38	Low:	7.7°C 00:00	7.2°C 21:12	Sun Hrs:	02:30	00:50	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Humidity & Barometer</th> <th>Almanac</th> <th>Moon</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Humidity: 91% Dew Point: 10.4°C Barometer: 1009.8 mb Baro Trend: Steady</td> <td>Sunrise: 07:20 Sunset: 16:05 Moonrise: 02:40 Moonset: 14:16</td> <td>Waning Crescent 16% Illuminated</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Humidity & Barometer	Almanac	Moon	Humidity: 91% Dew Point: 10.4°C Barometer: 1009.8 mb Baro Trend: Steady	Sunrise: 07:20 Sunset: 16:05 Moonrise: 02:40 Moonset: 14:16	Waning Crescent 16% Illuminated
Compare	Today	Yesterday																	
High:	13.7°C 13:10	10.9°C 11:38																	
Low:	7.7°C 00:00	7.2°C 21:12																	
Sun Hrs:	02:30	00:50																	
Humidity & Barometer	Almanac	Moon																	
Humidity: 91% Dew Point: 10.4°C Barometer: 1009.8 mb Baro Trend: Steady	Sunrise: 07:20 Sunset: 16:05 Moonrise: 02:40 Moonset: 14:16	Waning Crescent 16% Illuminated																	
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Station Records</th> <th>Windchill Minimums1</th> <th>Snowfall2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>HIGHS: 34.8°C (22/07/2013) LOWS: -8.8°C (20/12/2010)</td> <td>Today: 6.2°C @ 00:50 This Month: -0.6°C Nov 6 This Year: -3.8°C Jan 12</td> <td>Today: 0.00 cm This Month: 0 cm Season Total: 0 cm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Station Records	Windchill Minimums1	Snowfall2	HIGHS: 34.8°C (22/07/2013) LOWS: -8.8°C (20/12/2010)	Today: 6.2°C @ 00:50 This Month: -0.6°C Nov 6 This Year: -3.8°C Jan 12	Today: 0.00 cm This Month: 0 cm Season Total: 0 cm	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>UV Index Forecast</th> <th>Solar Radiation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>18 Nov 2014 0.7 Low</td> <td>44 W/m² (33%) High: 373 @ 12:47 Hours of Sun Today: 02:30 Hours of Sun Month: 19:54 Hours of Sun Year: 106:37</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	UV Index Forecast	Solar Radiation	18 Nov 2014 0.7 Low	44 W/m ² (33%) High: 373 @ 12:47 Hours of Sun Today: 02:30 Hours of Sun Month: 19:54 Hours of Sun Year: 106:37								
Station Records	Windchill Minimums1	Snowfall2																	
HIGHS: 34.8°C (22/07/2013) LOWS: -8.8°C (20/12/2010)	Today: 6.2°C @ 00:50 This Month: -0.6°C Nov 6 This Year: -3.8°C Jan 12	Today: 0.00 cm This Month: 0 cm Season Total: 0 cm																	
UV Index Forecast	Solar Radiation																		
18 Nov 2014 0.7 Low	44 W/m ² (33%) High: 373 @ 12:47 Hours of Sun Today: 02:30 Hours of Sun Month: 19:54 Hours of Sun Year: 106:37																		

CLOUD HEIGHT: 11000, 10000, 9000, 8000, 7000

NOTES:



**WW1
Remembrance
Sunday**
Laying of the
poppy wreaths as
the Last Post was
played.



Not all is joy at Christmas

Presents, lights, puddings, carols and more! "It's Christmas, it's Christmas!" the children exclaim! Bright colours, shining lights and overflowing stockings. It's a joyful time for many. A time to exchange cards, to show love and put up decorations.

But not everyone is smiling at Christmas. For many, Christmas is a time for tears. Some will be mourning the loss of a dear loved one. Others will not have enough to buy a loaf of bread. Many will spend the long minutes, hours and days in hospital, in excruciating pain and distress. Others may be contemplating suicide in the depths of loneliness and despair. Not all is joy at Christmas in this broken world.

Is there any hope for the hurting? It is true that this season can be a great opportunity to help others in need, to help bring a smile to the disadvantaged. After all, it is in the midst of darkness that the beauty of the stars can be admired best. We have all admired the great stories that have surfaced as a result of the human desire to help, but we have also wept at unthinkable acts of pure evil that have scarred our own history.

Consider the Christmas story itself. Unnumbered babies were put to death at the hands of Herod when he learned that Jesus had been born. Did the innkeeper have any young children of his own? We don't know, but what must have been the price paid for his hospitable and kind spirit, after accommodating the sought-after babe? How many mothers were left childless because of the "threat" this baby Messiah was posing to the then king?

It is a fact that, despite great acts of kindness, mercy and remarkable love, this world as we know it is surrounded by evil, pain and death. The Bible explains why this is the case, but it also says that this will one day change. There will be no more tears, no more pain, no more death for those who have trusted in Jesus.

So, is there any hope for us today? Absolutely! This is the reason Jesus came – to bring hope to those who have

no hope. Some may say, "If Jesus came to bring hope to the world, why is it still in such a mess? After all, did he not come over two thousand years ago? Things seem to be getting worse!" Though it is true that one day the world as we know it will be made new, the hope Jesus came to bring was to save His people from their sins. Jesus said: "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners". The joy he brought to the world was that he made it possible for us to be rescued! Rescued? From what? From the righteous God himself!

One day we will all stand before the Almighty God and we will all give an account of everything we have done. However, God has shown his love towards us, that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. God emptied himself, by becoming a man, to take away the penalty for our sin. This joy is a gift that is given to all those to whom He determines to give it. So consider the following with a humble heart and open mind this Christmas:

*"Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!*

For I am God, and there is no other."(Isaiah 45:22)

We would like to invite you to bring a smile to someone in need this Christmas. At Halling Baptist Church we are gathering some hampers to give away to those in the village who may benefit from them. If you would like to join in this effort, send us some produce which can be stored (tins, grains, pasta, etc.) Also, if you know of anyone who would benefit from a hamper, or if you have any questions, or want to know other ways to contribute to this cause; drop us a message to: info@hallingbaptist.org.uk .

Our services this Christmas:

- Friday 19th Dec, 3pm. Christmas Afternoon Tea
- Sunday 21st Dec, 11am. Christmas Family Service, followed by Lunch
- Sunday 21st Dec, 6:30pm. Christmas Carol Service
- Thursday 25th Dec, 10am. Christmas Day Service

Everyone is welcome!

Pastor Kevin Félix Hollington
hallingbaptist.org.uk
 M:0786 818 2423
 5 Vicarage Rd., ME2 1BE

Clerk's Office Opening Hours:

Mon / Tue / Thur / Fri
 9.30am – 12pm
 Halling Community Centre
 01634 241551
hallingclerk@btconnect.com
Bill Swan, Clerk

Parish Council Meetings

Everyone welcome to attend

10 Dec 14 Community Centre – 7.30pm
 13 Jan 15 Jubilee Hall – 7.30pm
 11 Feb 15 – Community Centre – 7.30pm

Whoever Heard of Advent?

I'm not sure when I first heard of Advent. It wasn't a big deal when I was a child. I believe that we had an advent calendar in first year junior school with little doors to open every day until Christmas, each of which had a religious picture behind it. I can't remember an advent wreath in church until the early sixties. I think they were fairly new to England then. There was a lot of evergreen foliage around a ring with four large red candles, one of which was lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. I have an idea that it was hung from the ceiling and you had to stand on steps to light it, but I might be wrong. It was a long time ago and I was only a child. At some point (Sunday School? Confirmation Class?) I must have learnt that Advent Sunday is the first day of the Church's year. Advent Sunday is the nearest Sunday to St Andrew's Day, which is the 30th November and easy for me to remember as it is my birthday. This year I shall be 60 on Advent Sunday and all my friends reading this may take it as an invitation to join me to celebrate at Evensong at 6.30 pm at St Michael's, Cuxton, followed by a party in the church hall. (By party I mean pleasant conversation around a buffet and a few drinks, possibly with a little background music, not going on too late.) No presents please.

When I was a little older, as a teenager, I remember taking Sunday School myself and explaining that the name *Advent* comes from the Latin word for coming and, in Advent, we think about Jesus coming again at the end of the world to judge the living and the dead as well as preparing for the annual celebration of His first coming, born in the manger at Bethlehem.

I think far more people know that Advent is the period leading up to Christmas nowadays than used to take notice of Advent years ago. This is because Advent has been seized on as a commercial opportunity. The chocolate Advent calendar is one more product to sell in the orgy of commerce and consumption which is Christmas. In fact Advent is swallowed up (literally?) in the Christmas season with Christmas decorations, Christmas carol services

and Christmas dinners filling all the first four weeks of December and sometimes stretching back into November and even October. It does seem to have been forgotten that Advent is supposed to be a time of reflection, even of fasting and abstinence, to prepare for the Coming of the Lord. In church you will find that theme in the readings appointed for Advent and in the fact that the liturgical colour is purple and in the choice of hymns and prayers. Outside church, it might seem like it is Christmas already from the beginning of December onwards and that eating your children's way through their advent calendars is just part of the Christmas festivities.

So why not? Does Advent have a point in its own right? Is it worth keeping as a preparation for the Lord's Coming, rather than simply being gobbled up by the season of Christmas? The theme of the Coming of the Lord is judgment. It is sheep and goats time. Jesus tells us (Matthew 25) that humanity will be divided into two. The sheep will be those who have treated other people well. The goats will be those who have shown no concern for others. On the Day of Judgment, it will turn out that the way we have treated other people is the way we have treated Jesus. What we shall receive on that day is what we would expect to receive if we have, on the one hand, honoured the Son of God, or if, on the other hand, we have abused Him by our ill-treatment of our fellow human beings, all of whom Jesus counts as His brothers and sisters. The Coming of the Lord is therefore something to anticipate with joy if we have faith and can look forward to entering into the joy of our Lord, but a cause for trepidation if we do not have that confidence. It is a time for reflection and repentance, for getting ready to receive the Lord with faith and hope and love. If not, what is the point of Christmas? How is Christmas good news if ultimately there is no justice? What does redemption mean if there is no such thing as God's mercy? Justice and mercy are two sides of the same coin and that coin is love and God is love. Advent and Christmas are not one, but two facets of the same indivisible and eternal truth. Roger Knight, Rector of Cuxton & Halling.

Christmas Services at St John the Baptist Halling

Sunday 21st (Advent 4): 3.00 pm Carol Service, Crib Service and Christingle.
Christmas Day: 8.00 am Holy Communion.

Christmas Services at St Michael & All Angels Cuxton

Sunday 21st (Advent 4): 6.30 pm Nine Lessons & Carols.
Christmas Eve: 5.00 pm Crib Service & Christingle, 11.00 pm Midnight Mass.
Christmas Day: 9.30 am Family Communion.

Roger Knight
Rector of Cuxton & Halling
The Rectory, 6, Rochester Road
Cuxton, Rochester
Kent, ME2 1AF
01634 717134
roger@cuxtonandhalling.org.uk
<http://www.cuxtonandhalling.org.uk>



Halling Primary School
Howlsmere Close
Halling, Kent, ME2 1ER
Tel:01634 240258
:01634 241552

Email:office@halling.meday.sch.uk

www.halling.medway.dbprimary.com

HALLING SCHOOL REMEMBERS

At the end of the summer term, some of our Year 6 children visited the War Memorial in the village and took a note of all of the names listed on it. They also looked for war graves in the cemetery before returning to school. Back in the classroom, they were able to hunt through the original school registers for the late 19th and early 20th century to find entries for those ex-pupils who lost their lives during the First World War. Our children were able to see where these people lived, the names of their parents and siblings, and the date that they started attending Halling School. This research, coupled with the end of year production in July (*A Letter From the Trenches*), enabled our current pupils to begin to have a real connection with those listed on the memorial; they could associate a list of names with real people who were once children like them, living in their village.

Throughout this term, learning about this important part of their history has continued. Our children have produced art work, poetry and other writing that reflects a dawning understanding of the past and its reflections on the present. Pride of place goes to our beautiful wall-hanging: *Halling School Remembers*. This piece of textile artwork features a poppy for every child (made by that child) and every member of staff at the school. Miss Cordingley designed and organised the project and a dedicated group of mums also completed some of the stitching. *Halling School Remembers* is currently on display in the church but will return to the school before Christmas.

Many of you will have listened to our children singing at the community centre on Remembrance Sunday – some upbeat songs associated with WW1 along with a poignant rendition of “We Will Remember Them”, sung with real feeling. This event also featured a display of children’s work.

Halling School takes pride in its involvement in the local community and we all enjoyed the excellent event organised by the Parish Council on Remembrance Sunday.

We made poppies and I bought a poppy and I could remember those boys. Some boys pretended to be sixteen and they went off to war and they died. Lily Lock (age 6)

Dear mum, dad and Dave,

It feels like I haven’t seen you in years. How long has it been actually? Well, I’ve been in the trenches long enough to know that conditions are terrible. The food is poor here, we have bully beef, jam and bone-hard biscuits. Those biscuits are so hard I have to smash them with a bayonet! (Tate Beacroft age 9)

I can’t sleep. Dead bodies, bombing, blood and guns have haunted me and my thoughts. The whistling wind is howling on my back and I can hear the barbed wire swaying. I want to go home to mum and dad and snuggle up in my cosy bed. This is no game. I hate war. (Corvin King age 9)

All was silent and calm. Not a noise to be heard on the frozen no-man’s land. Could that be a bomb in the distance, exploding into a mass of rubble or a simple flare? The dead branches of the injured trees looked over the boys that would not see the light again. (Evie Pullinger age 9)

HALLING’S MARSHES AND FOOTPATHS

If the impression was given in the September *Halling View* that cattle would be off our marshes – Halling Common – for longer than 2014, I am sorry. The damage caused to our footpaths simply had to be rectified this year, after an exceptionally wet end to 2013. We may expect to welcome back cattle on Halling Common next year.

Even with new fences and gates in place to keep cattle off the first part of footpath RS319 at the Maximillian Drive end, and the first part of RS320 to the left of the gate in Marsh Road, there is still plenty of mud. This is solely the result of human ‘foot fall’ – but it is an excellent indicator that more people have been able to walk the footpaths now that repaired stiles with lifting top bars are easier to climb over. Would that we didn’t need stiles at all, but grazing cattle are necessary to crop the grass, and they need to be contained. Big thanks are due to Martyn Court of *Total Property* for the erection of fences, repair of stiles, and installation of gates, and for his ready willingness to meet particular needs of walkers and their dogs. The balance had to be struck of getting dogs of all sizes past the stiles, and not letting cattle and their calves escape.

It’s easy to say “don’t be frightened of the cattle” – though, admittedly, some can be ‘frisky’. Just shout and wave your arms! But cattle with calves should be given a wide, wide berth, with even the best tempered and most obedient dog kept under control. Naturally, cattle with calves will be fiercely protective. Cattle can also be inquisitive – they mean no harm – even though they are

naturally placid creatures. I recall the wonderful sight of my younger son studying for his 11+ examinations with his back leaning against the huge bulk of a cow equally contentedly at rest in the sun on the marsh river bank.

Alas, progress is slow in getting permission from Lafarge for a ‘permissive’ path on the west side of the by-pass to link Whittings Farm and the Plough Path (formerly it was a ‘permissive’ path, with no need to cross and re-cross an increasingly dangerous by-pass), and a path across Cemex property to link the marsh footpaths with Formby Road. As I wrote before, villagers could once cross the railway line to link the marsh footpaths with Stake Lane and Formby Road.

Clearance of fallen trees, bushes and protruding brambles (still growing in a warm October) has been done on the Plough, Cam, and Ticker Paths. Why the name ‘Ticker’? I am told that ‘tick’ ‘tick’ ‘tick’ was the sound the pipes made when water was pumped to cottages long ago demolished.

My thanks to some brave souls who have volunteered to help - when their work permits – to cut back foliage once Spring starts to overwhelm our paths again. Are there more volunteers I might call on when needed? bar.bar@btinternet.com

Next time, I’ll talk about the footpaths that lead away from Halling and on to Snodland*, Cuxton*, Lower Bush, Great Buckland, Holly Hill, Vigo Village*, Cobham*, Harvel*, Luddesdown* and Trottscliffe*. Those place names marked * have pubs..... but you’ll need to be able to walk back.

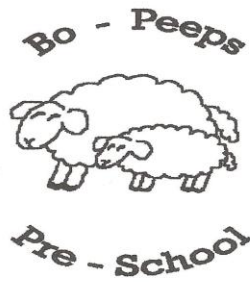
Barry Barnes



DIARY DATE:
Jubilee Hall
Christmas Fayre
Saturday 6th December from 2pm
 Raffle to be drawn at 3.30pm
GAMES RAFFLE STALLS
REFRESHMENTS
Please come along and support your local hall

Please be vigilant around this time of year – there have been a spell of break-ins/ thefts in the village. Keep doors, garages, sheds & cars locked.

Report anything suspicious to the Police – ring 101 or 999 in an emergency.



REQUIRE:

PRE-SCHOOL ASSISTANT

to work in a warm friendly sessional pre-school
based in Halling Community Centre
up to 4 mornings per week
8.45am – 12.45pm

Level 3 qualified practitioner essential (with childcare experience).

Rate of pay from £6.75 per hour

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY 5th December 2014

Interviews will take place week commencing Monday 8th December 2014

For Information Pack contact:-
Mrs Jane Adams or Mrs Jackie Tickner
(Pre-school Managers)
Tel: 01634 243696

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
We are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.
This pre-school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children.
The successful applicant will be required to undergo an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

WW1 Remembrance Sunday

The WI served tea and cake as the children from Halling Primary School sang war songs to the villagers



**COURT FARM
BUTCHERY &
COUNTRY LARDER**

Welfare friendly, GMO free, homeopathic livestock treatment, additive free husbandry

From our fields to
your table...naturally



**MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS A
COURT FARM COUNTRY LARDER CHRISTMAS**

Now taking Christmas orders for:

Kent Free Range Bronze Turkeys, Chickens & Geese. Local Pheasant, Partridge, Wild Duck & other game.
Court Farm Beef, Lamb & Venison. Gammons, Home Cooked Hams,
Locally Made Christmas Puddings & other Seasonal Fayre.

For more information or to place your order
Phone 01634 240547, Email orders@courtfarm.org or visit www.courtfarm.org

For our opening hours please visit our website.
Support your local economy. Buy direct from your local farmer.



W: www.courtfarm.org
E: orders@courtfarm.org
Tel: 01634 240547
Upper Halling, Rochester,
Kent ME2 1HR



FITNESS CLASSES IN HALLING

PILATES CLASSES

TUESDAY EVENINGS - JUBILEE HALL, BROWNDENS ROAD, UPPER HALLING,
ME2 1JH

£36 FOR A 6 WEEK COURSE

LIMITED PLACES, PLEASE CALL FOR DATES OF THE NEXT COURSE AND TO MAKE A BOOKING LIZZIE 07709
351713

LEGS BUMS & TUMS / BODY CONDITIONING

THURSDAY 8 – 9PM - HALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE, HIGH ST, HALLING, ME2 1BS

£16 FOR 4 CLASSES OR £4.50 DROP IN

HULA AEROBICS CLASS

THURSDAY 7PM – 7.45PM - HALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE

£18 FOR 4 CLASSES OR £5 DROP IN

HOOPS PROVIDED. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BUY A HOOP - £15 PER HOOP

CONTACT LIZZIE FOR FURTHER INFO: 07709 351713
FULLY QUALIFIED & INSURED REPs (REGISTER OF EXERCISE PROFESSIONALS) REGISTERED FITNESS INSTRUCTOR

Contacting Kent Police

You can report non-emergency incidents to us by calling **101*** in an emergency (when crime is in progress, life is in danger) or if you see something suspicious call **999**

If you are hard of hearing or speech impaired, text 'Police' and your message to **60066**

*Calling 101 from landlines and mobile phones costs 15 pence per call, no matter what time you call or how long you are on the phone.

Keep up-to-date with policing

Visit www.kent.police.uk/enews today to sign up for your local newsletter and we'll send it straight to your inbox every few weeks.

It gives you information on recent crime, current operations, community initiatives, sentences for crimes committed in your district as well as dates for upcoming public meetings and opportunities to meet your local officer face-to-face.



www.kent.police.uk/burglary

Register your property

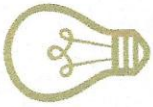
Register your belongings, such as mobile phones, jewellery and games consoles at www.immobilise.com

The UK National Property Register



IMMOBILISE
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER

Light it



- ✓ Light dark or hidden entrances with low wattage security lighting
- ✓ Use timer switches to turn on lights/radio – invest in a 24-hour segment timer for under £5. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb

Lock it



- ✓ Keep your front and back windows and doors locked (double lock uPVC)
- ✓ Keep side gates locked – burglars often break into homes from the garden where they have less chance of being seen
- ✓ If bins are emptied before you leave for work return them to your garden – they can be used as climbing aids if left on display
- ✓ Instead use bins as obstructions in side entrances
- ✓ Trim high hedging/plant growth – they could provide cover for a burglar
- ✓ Secure your garage and shed – items inside can be just as tempting and can even be used to break in
- ✓ If you get the train ensure your car is locked, windows are closed and keys are not left on display through windows
- ✓ Don't keep large amounts of money or jewellery at home. If you have to, use a safe that is stored out of sight and fixed to a solid floor

List it



- All valuable items should be registered for free on www.immobilise.com – logging details helps us to return them to you if we find or seize them. These include:
- ✓ Expensive jewellery and antiques
 - ✓ Bicycles
 - ✓ Laptops, desktop computers and tablets
 - ✓ Mobile phones and MP3 players
 - ✓ Home entertainment systems including TVs and games consoles



The last year has been a particularly busy one for the Halling Association with several new projects being supported, along with a number of successful annual events being repeated for another year.

In early 2013 funding was approved to assist in fixing a leak and clearing the pond at Halling Primary School. After initial works to repair the pond were unsuccessful, additional works were undertaken and through the autumn the pond was finally made watertight. The final landscaping works around the pond were completed earlier in the spring this year.

Around about the same time the pond works were approved, the first of 2 Halling Youth Club 'Skate Days' with Team Rubicon were supported. The first event in 2013 was so successful it made it to the local newspapers! A second event has now been agreed, with Team Rubicon making a return for the summer of 2014.

Another event supported by the Halling Association that has been a great success is the annual Fun Week. This year's event in June took a new guise as 'Halling Fayre'; with a helter-skelter, dodgems and a flip-flop flinging competition among the many activities available.

The Halling Association also helped fund the annual Christmas tree for 2013 and the purchase of a new set of lights!

Other projects supported throughout the year have included providing a new hot water boiler at the Jubilee Hall, funding towards some tree works around the Community Centre, a new set of display tables for the Halling Gardening Society and a solar radiation sensor for the ever popular Halling Weather website: www.halling-weather.co.uk.

Another project supported that is well worth mentioning is the local PCSO, Kim Kitterhing. Kim's role is to help protect the 'Medway Gap' and the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, maintaining a safe and tranquil natural environment for everybody to enjoy.

More recently, the Halling Association have started to support Halling Football Club, and also provided funding for the fireworks at the First World War commemorative event in November.

A rather exciting project to look out for will be the ice rink in December!

The work doesn't stop there, the Halling Association is always open to new ideas and projects to undertake that enhance the village and benefit the Halling community. If you have any suggestions for any projects you think are worth consideration, please get in touch!

The Halling Association can be contacted by email at planning.policy@medway.gov.uk, by telephone on 01634 331629, or by speaking to a representative from Halling Parish Council.

DIARY DATE:

**XMAS MARKET in HALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE
SUN 7th DECEMBER 14
from 12pm**

**WonderIce - Ice rink in Five Bells car park + hog roast
Look out for Santa's Elf & Safety Officers in the Saxon Hall**

LOWER HALLING POST OFFICE

95-97 High Street, Lower Halling
NEWSAGENTS, CONVENIENCE STORE
AND OFF LICENCE

Tel: 01634 240230

Everything for your daily needs

Free cash back

Cakes, milk groceries, National Lottery

Plus: **DRY CLEANING SERVICE**

Going Abroad? We now have a **BUREAU DE CHANGE**

Banking Service also available for CO-OP & more

For all your currency and travellers cheques

Your regular custom is greatly appreciate and helps us maintain a service vital to the village.

Now stocking batteries for watches, remote car alarms and cameras

DIARY DATE:

Visit Santa's Grotto at the Community Centre where you can post your
letters to Santa in his Elf Post Box
SUN 7th DECEMBER 14

Child Health Clinics



NEW days/times from September 2014

Mondays

Elaine Primary Academy, Elaine Avenue, Strood

Drop-in Clinic 1pm-3pm

2ND AND 4TH MONDAYS

Thursdays

Cuxton Library Drop-in Clinic

1st Thursday of the month 9.30am-11am

Halling Community Centre

3rd Thursday of the month 9.30am-11am

For more details please call:

Rochester Healthy Living Centre 01634 334200

Bligh Children's Centre 01634 336213

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

20TH FEBRUARY 2015

Please send articles & adverts to:
Bill & Trudi

hallingclerk@btconnect.com

01634 243337

Parish Office

Halling Community Centre

All adverts must be paid in advance or
they will not be included.

Business advertising: (A4 format)
Prices for x4 issues JUNE/SEPT/DEC/MAR

Half Page £ 150 / Quarter £80 / Small Ad £50
(Charity Ads & Village Articles are free)

Payments for single issue Ads welcome
£37.50 / £20 / £12.50

BOOKINGS SECRETARY
needed for
HALLING
COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Community Centre is run
by villagers for the village.

Voluntary Position
(expenses paid)

Applicant must have a good telephone manner and organisational skills.

The Bookings Secretary is required to take all booking enquiries for hire facilities, to collect deposits and manage diary and paperwork. They will need to promote the centre, bringing in new business, to liaise with the Halling Centre Committee and attend a monthly meeting.

To Apply:

Mr Mark Tickner or Les Hitchcock
Halling Community Centre
High Street
Halling, ME2 1BS

or office answer machine 01634 243696
leaving your name and contact no.

HALLING JUBILEE HALL

**FOR PARTIES, DANCES,
JUMBLE SALES, WEDDINGS**



Whatever your event contact:

The Letting Secretary – Joy Oliver

01634 242933

joy.oliver@sky.com

*A £30.00 deposit must be made at time of booking.
This will be repaid if there are no damages or breakages*

A BIG THANK YOU

**To everyone who attended, donated and sponsored our recent
Charity Race Night in aid of Motor Neurone Disease
You will all be pleased to know that all your efforts have raised a
grand total of £1112.66 for this wonderful charity.**

Thank you all again

**Len Sharp
HALARA**

**HALLING PARISH COUNCIL
XMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON AND CAROL SINGING**

**SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 14
5.30pm - Halling Community Centre**

Bo-Peeps children singing carols around the tree
Lights being switched on this year by Councillor Ray Maisey, Deputy Mayor

HALLING FOOTBALL CLUB

Email: hallingfc@yahoo.co.uk
 Facebook: Halling FC



Halling Football club is back and currently flying in the league with 6 undefeated games in a row and sitting 3rd in the league, also in the Quarter Final of the league cup. Not bad for a team that decided to form after a night at the pub!

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Six Bells	7	6	1	0	39	13	26	19
2	Rainham B4 Reserves	7	5	0	2	27	13	14	15
3	Halling	6	4	2	0	22	6	16	14
4	Medway Rovers	7	4	0	3	17	16	-1	12
5	Parkwood C.A.	5	3	1	1	24	10	14	10
6	Peninsula Athletic	4	3	0	1	14	4	10	9
7	Cliffe Woods Rangers	6	3	0	3	20	15	5	9
8	Pentagon Reserves	7	2	0	5	11	21	-10	6
9	Thamesview	7	2	0	5	16	27	-11	6
10	InterGills A	8	1	0	7	10	36	-26	3
11	Rochester FC	6	0	0	6	5	42	-37	0

As promised our Facebook page is set up, so if you're interested in any updates or just fancy coming to watch, please ask to be our friend at Halling FC

Halling Football Club would like to send a massive thank you to all the people that have helped us set up this team; from the money they have donated for kits and equipment to their knowledge and time to make the club a success and what looks like to be a bright future.

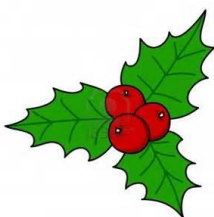
A Special Thank You goes to:

-  T & A Brickwork
-  M & D Plasterers
-  British Gas
-  Homeward Bound
-  Halling Association
-  Still Brickwork
-  Halling Parish Council



We look forward to an exciting and successful rest of the season.

Matt, Gary, Karen and Matt



DIARY DATE:
Jubilee Hall
Christmas Fayre
Saturday 6th December from 2pm
 Raffle to be drawn at 3.30pm

GAMES RAFFLE STALLS REFRESHMENTS
Please come along and support your local hall

Du4Accounts



Need help with your on-line Tax Return?

Don't know where to start with your Self Assessment?

Object to paying hefty Accountants fees?

Let me help you!

Book-keeping & Accountancy services provided

Over 15 years of book-keeping experience!

Call Carol now!

01634 244807 or 0776 535 1064

Email: Du4accounts@btinternet.com



SNODLAND



**BEANEYS MEDWAY BAKERY
AND TEA ROOM**

**FRESH BREAD - CAKES - PASTRIES
HOT SAUSAGE ROLLS - PIES - PASTIES**



**DELIGHTFUL CELEBRATION
CAKES**



MEDWAY 240253



Perfect Solutions

**We are a small family run business with over 25 years
experience to cater for all your flooring needs.**

No job is too big or too small.

**All carpets and vinyls supplied and fitted including gripper and
underlay. We can also do a 'fit only' service if you've already got your
flooring.**

Please call for a free, non-obligatory quotation.

137 High Street, Halling

07868 703954

Steve Tilbury



**Count Campbell
Accounts**

...Self Assessment need to fly off soon?

...Boxes/ bags of receipts to be transformed into
accounts?

...Need to get your teeth stuck into VAT returns?

**Count on us.....
we won't bleed you dry.**



150 High Street, Halling,
Rochester, ME2 1BZ

Tel: 01634 246 013
www.ccaccounts.co.uk


Member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants




SASHDODDCOM



Computer and Laptop Repair Services



Non-Working Keyboards, Flickering Displays, Cracked Screens, Broken Power Input Sockets All Fixed




Custom Built Computers, Using GENUINE Microsoft Software

Trouble Shooting, Upgrades, Virus and Spyware Removal, Broadband and Wireless Setups, Home Networks, and More...

Reasonable rates, No call out fees, Times to suit you, including Evenings and Weekends

Call Sacha on 01634 249454, Or email sacha@sashdodd.com,
Or visit my web site at www.sashdodd.com



Sacha Dodd, 22 Low Meadow, Halling, Rochester



Total Property

Maintenance providers to Halling and Cuxton Parish Councils

Specialists in Property Maintenance, & Facilities Management

Property Maintenance
Emergency Repairs
Landscaping
Fencing
Security & CCTV
Brickwork

Home Improvements
Decorating
Electrical
Plumbing
Carpentry
Structural Work

As our name implies, Total Property have a team of experienced tradesmen covering many different trades and can complete all property maintenance projects to the highest of standards. For free advice or a free quotation please contact us.

01634 296613
 07704 317920
contact@TProperty.co.uk
www.TProperty.co.uk



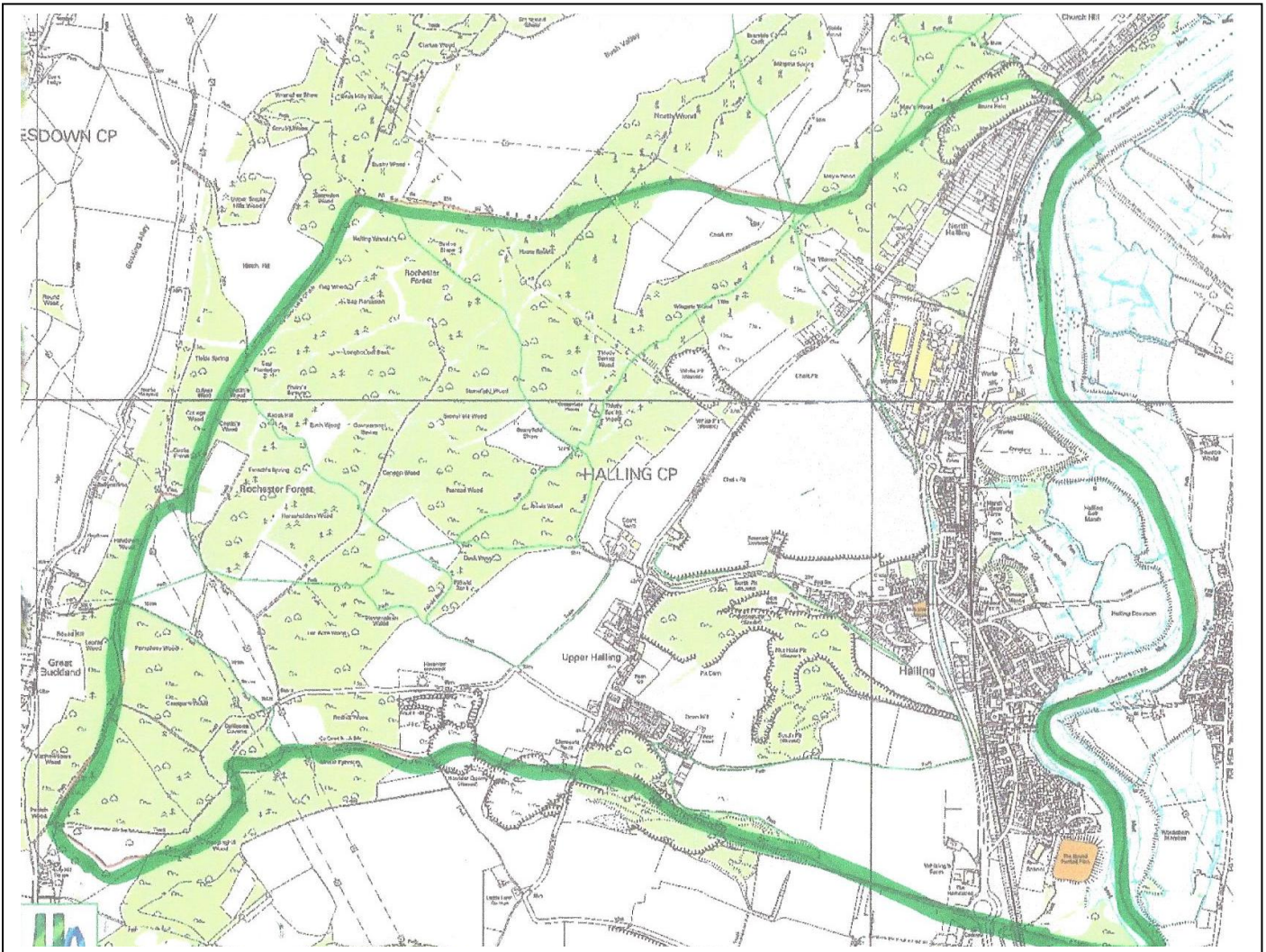
Halling Christmas Festival

Sunday 7th December 2014

Indoor Market - Community Centre 12pm - 5pm
Outdoor Ice Rink 11am-7pm Hog Roast From 11am
Switching on the Christmas Lights 5.30pm
Kids Area Father Christmas 12 pm - 4pm
FROZEN Bouncy Castle
Face Painting Sand Art Entertainment
Live band in The 5 Bells Pub from 7.30pm



Computer Stall Forever Living
Handmade Crafts, Make Up Stall Doggie Treats Arts & Murals Stall Hand made Plaques
Charity Stall Homemade Pie & Quiches Chilli & Jam Stall Turkey Orders & Cakes Clothes Stall
Raffle & Tombola Hot Alcoholic Beverages Shabby Chic Stall Holly Wreath Jewelry Stall
Handmade Christmas Card Soap, Candles & Bath Bombs Gourmet Cookies Retro Sweets & much more





SANTA VISITS HALLING 2014



Santa and his elves will be making their annual trip to Halling on Friday 19th December from Lower Halling through to Upper Halling starting at approximately 4.00pm. Please note: As we can no longer take the sleigh into closes and cul-de-sacs of less than 20 houses, you will have to meet the sleigh at the end of your close. If you live in Upper Halling it is likely that we will get to you after 8.00pm. Please note if you are not at home when the sleigh arrives we will be unable to return at a later time.

For all children at Halling School that don't live in the village (Halborough, Snodland, St Andrews Park) we would like to do a Santa stop at the Community Centre between 5.00-5.30pm (we will be leaving promptly at 5.30pm!). If you are interested please fill in the slip below and write clearly on the present **COMMUNITY CENTRE STOP** and return to the school on the dates specified.

If you would like Santa to deliver a present to your child, please provide the following:-

- a wrapped present clearly marked with the child's name and delivery address
- the completed form provided below (please **DO NOT** attach it to the present)
- the amount of £3.00 for 1 child, £5.00 for 2 children, £7.00 for 3 children, £1 each for any extra children.

Please hand **ALL OF THE ABOVE** to a member of the PTA who will be in the entrance hall at Halling Primary School from 2.30pm until 3.30pm from Tuesday 2nd December until Friday 5th December. **PLEASE NOTE:** Presents can only be accepted during these times - please **DO NOT** ask school office staff as they will be unable to assist.

Presents must be at the school **NO LATER** than Friday 5th December 2014 as they then need to be sorted and boxed ready for the sleigh run. Presents must be small, not fragile, heavy or bulky etc.

The sleigh run is organised **ENTIRELY** by the members of the Halling School PTA who give up their time to organise and run it for the residents of Halling and a special thanks goes to Martyn Court of Total Property who gives up his time every year to pull the sleigh.

Thank you for your continued support in making the sleigh run so successful and don't forget to put your loose change into our collection buckets as we make our way through Halling!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
From Santa, the Elves and the Halling School PTA

DO NOT ATTACH THIS FORM TO PRESENTS - PRESENTS MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY LABELLED WITH THE CHILDS NAME AND DELIVERY ADDRESS

Name of Child/Children _____

Delivery Address (this does NOT have to be your home address but **MUST** be the address where your child will be on the night).

Amount Enclosed £ _____
(£3.00 - 1 child, £5.00 - 2 children, £7.00 - 3 children, £1 each for any extra children)

FOR PTA USE ONLY		
Amount: £ _____	Number of Presents: _____	Box No: _____
Signed: _____		