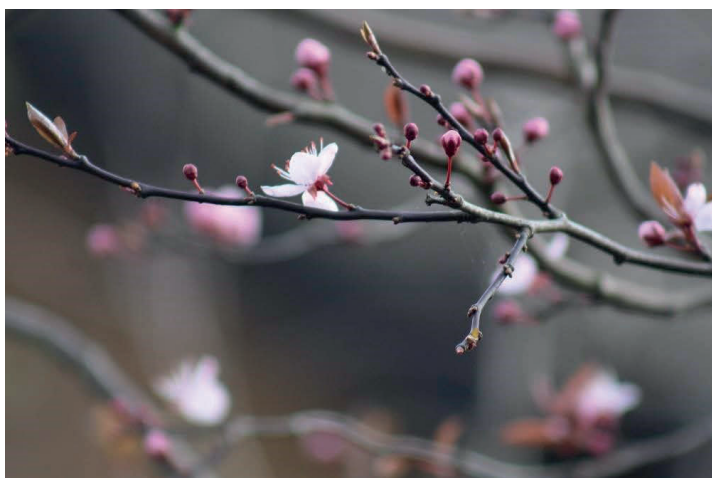
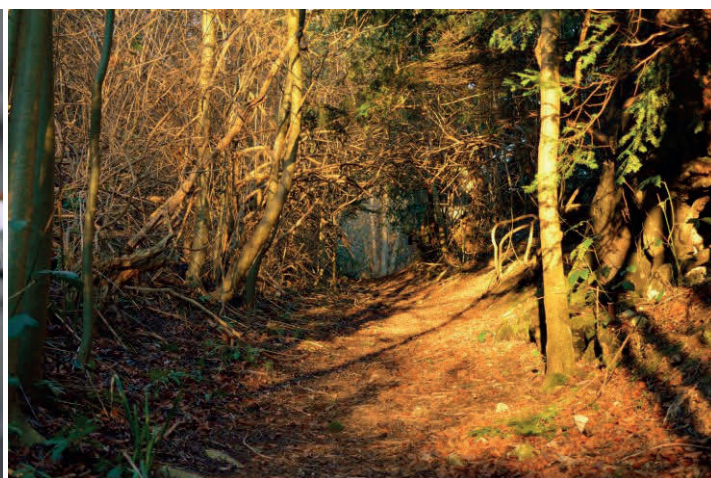


HALLING VIEW



Picture: Courtesy of Elaine Beal



Picture: Courtesy of Paul Bullivant

It has been a very turbulent year so far, not only concerning the possible sale of the fire station but also the lack of support and respect shown to me by certain Councillors which has caused divisions on the Parish Council. I have always been under the impression that when having been elected my duty was towards the people of Halling and not for one's individual ambitions or point scoring.

As many of you know that have been present at recent meetings, the main topic has been the future of the Fire Station. A decision has yet to be made as to whether to sell that building and use the proceeds towards various projects around the village or otherwise to keep it.

On another subject, some of the Parish Council visited the Marsh in January and found it to be in a very poor condition after the bad weather and a large number of cattle being grazed there last year. The Parish Council will have to decide on the future use of the Marsh and again I ask if residents could make their views known to us on the Parish Council on this matter. There has been vandalism on the Marsh to the fences and stiles which has cost the Council considerable expenditure.

On a lighter note, the Halling Fun Day will hopefully be held this year on 16th July.

There is still a vacancy to be filled on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested please speak to the Parish Clerk.

George Wenham, Chairman, Halling Parish Council

Parish Council Meetings

Everyone welcome to attend

Wed 9th Mar '16 – 7.30pm Community Centre

Tue 12th Apr '16 – 7.30pm Jubilee Hall

Sat 23rd Apr – Community Centre Annual Parish Meeting (open to village groups & other agencies)

Wed 11th May – Annual Parish Council Meeting

Clerk's Office Opening Hours:

Mon & Fri 9.30am – 12pm
Wed 9.30am – 4pm

Halling Community Centre
01634 241551
hallingclerk@btconnect.com
Bill Swan, Clerk

HALLING PARISH COUNCIL

Lower Ward:

Councillor Les Hitchcock
Councillor Chris Herbert
Councillor Andy Simpson
Councillor Richard Thorne
Councillor Kelly Talbot
Vacancy

Upper Ward

Councillor Matt Fearn
Councillor George Wenham
Councillor Trevor Reynolds

North Ward

Councillor Mark Joy
Councillor Michael Chattington

Find out events in Halling:

<http://www.halling-pc.co.uk/News/Diary.html>

Keep up to date with news on Halling Parish Council's website

www.halling-pc.co.uk

Story of the month

Every month we celebrate the great work of Medway's green space groups

January 2016

Welcome to the January 2016 edition of Story of the Month which features a task day held by the Halling Greenspace Volunteers.

With thanks to Kevyn Wightman for providing the text and pictures.

Think Global, Act Local. A motto that never goes out of fashion!

Coinciding with the first day of the UK's National Tree Planting week and the start of the Climate Change Conference in Paris, The Trust for Conservation Volunteers (TCV) teamed up with Medway Council's Urban Parks and Green Spaces Forum (MUPGSF) and the Halling Greenspace Volunteers to plant two trees in the lower recreational ground of Halling Parish. Eight people helped on the cold Sunday morning of November 29th, 2015 and the event finished with a Christmas lunch in the village pub. This was the 10th volunteer task day in the village since the Halling Green Space Volunteers was founded in September 2013. A total of 320 hours have been contributed by the group planting trees, litter picking and general caring for newly planted trees.



Group picture around the newly planted field maple. From left to right starting in the back row: Jadie Baker (TCV), John Jones, Stephen Richards. Front row: Kevyn Wightman, Halling Greenspace and Halling Parish Councillor Bob Morton hold the plaque that dedicates the tree to Halling Parishioners.

Not only will these trees serve the local community with their shade and environmental benefits, the trees had special significance because they are designated "Future Heritage Trees." They will grow and be a part of Halling's heritage, a village with over a thousand years of history already. For the past five years The Conservation Volunteers has led a large project to record and celebrate Kent's heritage trees.



John Jones, Chairman of MUPGSF, and Stephen Richards, a Halling Green Space Volunteer, plant a holm oak that will provide great shade for centuries.

Planting new trees ensures that future generations will also have heritage trees to enjoy. Heritage trees are defined by the Forestry Commission as old trees, wide trees, rare trees and trees with historical and cultural significance. Trees with heritage status can be found all around us in woodlands, parks, gardens and even next to highways.

If your group has a story that you would like to include in future editions of Story of the month please email me at robert.reid@medway.gov.uk with the information and pictures.

Most people make sure their homes are locked



Do you:

- lock up before you go out or go to bed?
- close windows properly?
- keep cash and keys out of sight?

Kent against burglary

#wedo

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Do not report crime via email, use the numbers below:

Telephone : **101** (non-emergencies)
999 (in emergencies)

Our Neighbourhood Officer is:
PCSO Alistair Hardy

Email: 58815@kent.pnn.police.uk

HALLING ASSOCIATION SMALL PROJECTS FUND

Grants Criteria

This grant scheme is run by the Halling Association. This is a local partnership of private, public and voluntary organisations that supports projects for the benefit of the parish of Halling.

Who can apply?

- Only groups and organisations based in Halling, or other groups who want to carry out a project in the parish, or to benefit local residents.

How much funding is available?

- Grants of up to a maximum of £250 are available.
- There is a total budget of £1500 available for small projects in one year.

How long do we have to wait to hear the outcome of our application?

- Providing we have all the information we need, you should hear within 6 weeks of submitting the form.

What sort of projects are eligible?

- The Halling Association will be open to helping a wide range of projects, such as events or activities being organised by a group, improvements to a community building, or environmental projects.

How can we apply for a grant?

<http://www.medway.gov.uk/thecouncilanddemocracy/parishcouncils/hallingassociationproject.aspx>

Medway Council officers:

Ross Crayford : 01634 331629

Email: ross.crayford@medway.gov.uk

Address: Planning Policy, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR



RAINBOWS, BROWNIES AND GUIDES NEED YOU!

Rainbow, Brownie and Guide groups in Halling are in desperate need of leaders to help run units. There are many ways female volunteers are able to help, either as a leader in charge of a unit, or an assistant leader, helper, or occasional helper. You might also be able to offer help with finances or administration.

We are looking for help with Rainbows (girls aged 5-7 years), Brownies (aged 7-10 years) and Guides (aged 10 to 14 years). We meet on Thursdays during term time, at Jubilee Hall, Upper Halling. We start with Rainbows at 4pm to 5.15pm, followed by Brownies from 5.15pm to 6.45pm and then Guides and Senior Section from 6.45pm to 8.30pm. Volunteers must be aged from 18 plus, have some spare time, like children, and have a good sense of fun! All adults in Girlguiding are required to have a Disclosure and Barring Service check completed.

If you would like to find out more, please have a look at the Girlguiding website at www.girlguiding.org.uk – see Get Involved. Or have a chat with Trudy via email at trudybarnowl@orangehome.co.uk. Thank you.

BEV ROUSSEAU THERAPIES

As many of you know, I have offered a free coaching service for a while now. However, as from 1st April 2016, I will be making a charge per session for new clients. For the time being, existing clients will continue to receive their sessions free.

I am qualified in Life Coaching, NLP, Clinical Hypnotherapy and EFT (a therapy which uses the body’s acupuncture points to tap on and is sometimes referred to as “acupuncture without needles”). I use a mixture of these techniques to help people resolve all kinds of issues; emotional and physical. Issues such as phobias, motivation, weight, anxiety, stress, pain, confidence, relationships, to name but a few.....

Intrigued?

Then to find out more and to book an initial appointment, contact me **Beverley on 01634 240190** or at beverlevann.wdd012@gmail.com

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS CLEARLY SO THAT I AM ABLE TO RETURN YOUR CALL

Please include a brief outline of your issues.

The initial 1 hr consultation is free and there is no obligation to continue.

Future sessions will be 1 to 1 ½ hrs depending on individual needs and are tailored to suit you personally.

I am fully insured and CRB checked.

Care Navigator Service

Guidance
Information
Support

Email: MCCG.Carenav-Medway@nhs.net
or telephone: 0300 011 1965

**DROP IN CLINIC:
FIRST FRIDAY
OF EVERY
MONTH FROM
09:00 – 12:00.**

The Care Navigator Service is unable to directly support patients with transport, cleaning, caring, or carry out tasks in homes, but they can find local services that can help.

**Care Navigator Service-
Medway**

Working with GP's and Local Care Teams across Medway.
Free impartial information, advice and guidance for patients.
The Care Navigator Service can provide support for:
Benefit Advice, Domestic Support, Gardening, Transport, Shopping Support, Social Activities and many more support services.

**DROP IN CLINIC:
A MEMBER FROM THE CARE NAVIGATOR TEAM WILL VISIT THE HALLING SURGERY FOR A DROP IN CLINIC ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 09:00-12:00 TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS AND TO GIVE ADVICE ON SUBJECTS SUCH AS BENEFITS AND DOMESTIC SUPPORT.**



Do you need a Helping Hand?

If you are looking for an **alternative to residential care** or extra support for those everyday tasks that are becoming difficult for you or a loved one – then we're here to help - **from 30 minutes per week to full-time Live-in Care.**

Our **Maidstone care team** has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989 and can help with: personal care, housekeeping, help getting around or even to provide a break to an existing family member or care-giver.

To find out how we can help you,
call: **01622 528 397** or
visit: **www.helpinghands.co.uk**

HALLING'S MARSH AND FOOTPATHS

HALLING'S MARSH AND FOOTPATHS

On this occasion, I have been asked to include the Chairman's **MARSH** report with my footpaths' report. "I had a site meeting on Saturday, 23rd January, with Cllrs Herbert and Hitchcock, and the co-opted Footpaths Officer, Barry Barnes. We were there to inspect the 'no man's land' state of the south/Maximillian side of the marsh which forms Halling Common and belongs to Halling Parish Council (HPC). Ever since its purchase by HPC, the marsh was intended for easy public access, and a village open space. Now it is evident that public access can only be made by determined effort. We needed to negotiate a barbed wire fence the length of Marsh Road to the river, a wired-up gate, man-made 'duck-scrapes' (ponds), slime round a cattle trough, and churned up trenches of mud. The new 'Four Dogs' footpath has been trampled by cattle in the short time they were on the south side of Halling Common. The meeting helped make clear on which part of Halling Common the Council might permit cattle to graze from April. If the south/Maximillian side is to be improved, cattle grazing might need to be confined to the north side *only* of Halling Common. Of course, there will be cattle on the marsh – in keeping with tradition – but on the north side the cattle will be kept off the RS320 footpath by wire fences already in place. I suggest that a 'north side only' solution would cost Halling Parish Council not a penny.

We were all shocked to find that a sink-hole had opened up in the NW corner of the north side of Halling Common, a hole big enough to entrap – or worse – a child or dog. *Total Properties* were commissioned immediately to fence off the area, and this has been done. The cause of the sink-hole is two-fold: an underground drain to clear surface water from the higher fields has demonstrably broken; and an adjacent natural drainage ditch has been blocked, with resultant back-pooling of water near the sink-hole. The Clerk awaits a report from Southern Water: I suggest that the ditch is cleared by a small mechanical digger to let water again take its natural course to the river. I look forward to working with Cllr Herbert and others about what might be done about these problems, and at what cost". (Cllr George Wenham)

PERMISSIVE PATH FROM FOOT OF PLOUGH PATH TO WHITTINGS FARM

In reply to questions from mainly Upper Halling residents, I can say only that neither the Clerk nor I know of any progress. The first step of an application was properly made to Kent County Highways (Medway), but seems to have stalled. Perhaps our Borough Councillor for Upper Halling, Matt Fearn, can help us?

BARRIER GATE AT TOP OF CHAPEL LANE (RED HILL)

At the very top of Red Hill/Chapel Road, a barrier gate has been installed. It stops all but the most determined walkers from continuing along well-established paths that lead to the North Downs Way and Great Buckland in one direction, and Lad's Hill and Holly Hill in another. Until now, a felled tree trunk was sufficient to stop cars but not walkers. I expect to meet Medway Borough's Footpaths Officer, Adam Taylor on site soon. Usually, Kent County Council gives the landowner an ultimatum to remove such unlawfully placed barriers.

FOOTPATH 201 NOW DIVERTED THROUGH ST ANDREW'S ESTATE

Some residents of the St Andrew's Estate are unhappy that Redrow, the developers, have agreed to a footpath diversion (until 2017) that goes along a private road and over a private grassy area. I shall use the opportunity of meeting Adam Taylor to speak about this.

MARSH FOOTPATHS

Vandals have cut the rope loop that secures the gate intended to keep cattle out of the (expensively) protected area on footpath RS319 that starts near Maximillian Drive.

What is of more concern is that cattle have had free access to our newly-won footpath RS320 where it crosses Wildfowlers' land. Cattle were moved there from Halling Common at the end of October, and kept there into December. Huge damage was done to the path. I am seeking legal advice which suggests that a landowner must not let his animals have free access to a definitive public footpath.

Footpath RS320 starts to the left just past the marsh gate. The access steps and the first part of the path need attention. Cllr Herbert will confirm this. The steps need in-filling with more 'type 1' - grade stone, as does the first part of the path which first needs levelling to remove some very large mounds which are unnecessary obstacles.

Further, the first part of the newly cleared 'Four Dogs' path to the right of the marsh gate has been churned up by cattle. An attempted alternative route means negotiation of extensive mud round a drinking trough. Cllr Herbert suggests that some fencing is needed here, as well as more 'type 1' - grade stone underfoot.

My hope is that the Council will set in motion all that needs to be done to improve Halling Common and protect the marsh footpaths.

Barry Barnes Co-opted by HPC for Footpaths

OPENING OF NEW HALLING STATION SHELTERS

Councillor George Wenham Chairman of Halling Parish Council formally opened the new passenger shelters at Halling Station on 26th February 2016. The event was organised by The Kent Community Rail Partnership and hosted by 12 children from Key Stage 2 (years 3 to 6), all from the school council with Mrs Donnelly, Head Teacher and Miss Fenson, year 4 teacher. The children initially involved are now in Year 7 at Secondary School.



Cllr Wenham cutting the ribbon with Mike Fitzgerald, Chairman of the Community Rail Partnership



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**PETERS VILLAGE – MAJOR ADVANCES
IN 2016**

Work on Trenport’s all-new 1,000-home Peters Village community has reached a crucial phase. The first houses are now being built by major UK housebuilder Bellway, and a date for opening the new road bridge between the east and west banks of the Medway will soon be announced.

The opening will also mark completion of the Peters Village transportation infrastructure, just over two years since work started in May 2014.

The two banks were last linked, albeit by temporary military Bailey Bridge, during World War II.

Its successor is grander and more permanent and bears a new carriageway, joining with the Snodland-Halling roundabout of the A228.

But this road also depends on completion of a new bridge spanning the north-south rail line between the river and the A228. Both new bridges will include footways and cycleways.

Trenport director Chris Hall said of the latest developments: “We are delighted that our first housebuilder is now onsite and anticipate announcements soon for others, taking up the further phases on what we believe is perceived as a premium development.

“It offers excellent jobs and communications potential for residents and a high quality of life, with its own village centre and shops, school, playing fields and other recreation facilities.

“The new Medway crossing is, of course, key to its success, offering easy access to the river’s west bank and on to London and other important destinations via rail and road.

“When completed, around 2024, Peters Village will mark a dramatic transformation and improvement of a derelict eyesore - a brown field site that once housed the former Peters Lime and Cement Works.”

The river bridge received full parliamentary approval recently after a visit by four ‘ministers’, from the pupils’ parliament at Wouldham Primary School, where progress of the new structure has been followed enthusiastically.

The junior VIPs - Dolcie Bond, Harry Banks, Daniel Kemp and Finlay Ingle -were accompanied by school head, Carl Fitter.



The Medway Bridge has reached its final stages

Trenport has also just launched its second annual Tri-History Arts Competition – ‘The River and what it means to me’ – for primary schoolchildren in Wouldham, Burham and Eccles.

The schools’ Year 5 (aged 9-10) pupils will compete for a generous £900 worth of prizes, comprising £250 for the gold prize and £10 for each of his/her classmates, £150 for silver, £50 for bronze and the chance to win voucher prizes for highly commended entries.

The competition is called Tri-History to alert and inspire the children with three facets of the past at the Peters Village site: ancient history from evidence of Bronze Age, Ancient British and Roman habitation; social/industrial history from the more recent past, notably the cement industry and the people who worked in it; and the diverse natural history that Trenport has worked hard to conserve.



Nostalgia Isn't What It Used To Be

TV programmes set in the past seem to be remarkably popular. There's *Call the Midwife*, *Mr Selfridge*, *Mad Men*, *Downton Abbey* - just finished - and *Game of Thrones* - which seems to belong to a fantasy Middle Ages, not that I've seen it. Why this fascination with the past? After all, many of us, if we had lived years ago, would probably (depending on the era) have been below stairs in the big house, hard-working manual workers in the fields, factory fodder or private soldiers, sent out onto the mediaeval battlefield without armour and with only agricultural implements for weapons. Even for the rich, life wasn't so great. It goes without saying that previous generations didn't have mobile 'phones or home computers, but we forget that, within the memory of many people alive today, lavatories were outdoors, many homes did not have an electricity supply and central heating only became common in the 1970s. Do you remember your grandmother putting on her coat to clean upstairs? Well into the twentieth century, the poor in this country could still go hungry and, even for the rich, there was nothing like the year round variety of foods that most of us enjoy today. Until the NHS came into being in 1948, those who couldn't pay might not get to see a doctor. If you were to go back to the days when physicians thought that blood-letting was a good idea and surgeons used neither anaesthetics nor antiseptics, you probably would have had a better chance of surviving most diseases if you didn't see the doctor than if you did. Until the early 1900s, cities like London depended on migration from the countryside to maintain their population because the death rate in towns was so much higher than the birth rate. Someone said that modern dentistry was enough to make him thankful that he hadn't been born any earlier than he was.



So why the fascination with TV programmes set in the past? Partly, I think it is because we like to see how much better off we are today - at least in material terms. I also suspect, however, that there is a feeling that we have lost as well as gained. I do enjoy seeing films made in England in the 1950s and 60s (when I was a boy) when there was so much more unspoilt countryside, there were far fewer cars on city streets and children could play freely in the woods and fields and the streets outside their homes.

I think we have this feeling that, in a possibly mythical past, there was a greater sense of community, that families were stronger and that the big issues we face in life were much less complicated. Knowing your place cuts two ways. On the one hand, it defines and confines you; but, on the other hand, you know that you belong and where you belong.

There are three things I really dislike about C21: the growth in motor traffic; the disappearance of the countryside under housing estates and motorways, etc.; and the growing intrusion of government (especially local government) into our personal lives. I hope I get my bus pass before they get around to making cycle helmets compulsory! Sometimes, I wish I could have missed all that by having been born a decade or two sooner. But then I would have had to live through the war and rationing. I wouldn't have had my appendix out on the National Health. I wouldn't have had the chance to go to university. I would quite possibly have been working in one of those major industries which collapsed at the end of the C20 making thousands of people redundant. I probably wouldn't now be playing with my own personal computer. You might think I would lament the decline in organised religion. I do, but that is in God's Hands and I know that we can trust Him for His Church, however badly people let Him down.


Which, I suppose, brings me to my point. There is no perfect age in which to live. Life on earth has its good points and its bad. We should be thankful to God for the good times. We can trust Him in the bad times. We ought always to acknowledge our need of Him. But what really matters is not this world of time and space. What really matters is eternity. Our eternity depends on God and our faith in Him, which is His gift to us.

SNODLAND





**BEANEYS MEDWAY BAKERY
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**DELIGHTFUL CELEBRATION
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MEDWAY 240253

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Easter Services in the Anglican Parish of Cuxton & Halling.

Good Friday (25th March): 10.00 Family Service at St Michael's; 12.00-3.00 Three Hour Devotion at St John's.

Easter Day (27th March): Holy Communion 8.00 Jubilee Hall, 9.30 St Michael's, 11.00 St John's.



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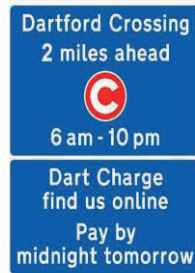
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18TH MAY 2016

Please send articles & adverts with payments to:
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Parish Office, Halling Community Centre

All adverts must be paid in advance or they will not be
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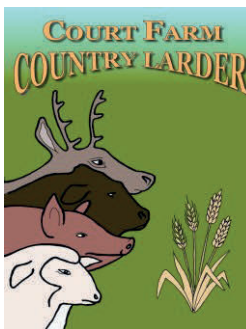
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SPRING EVENTS AT COURT FARM

- Saturday 26 March 2pm Medway Valley Pop Up Cinema Club - General Meeting
- Sunday 27 March 9.30 am RSPB Fundraiser Walk with Master Butcher Pete
- Sunday 17 April 10 am Plantlife's Fundraiser Walk to Ranscombe Farm Reserve
- Sunday 24 April 9.30am RSPB Birdwatching Fundraiser Walk with Master Butcher Pete
- 10am Medway Ramblers Walk through the Bluebells on the North Downs Way

Saturday 7 May

- 10am Medway Ramblers Walk from the Bluebells in the Woods on the North Downs Way behind Court Farm to Paddlesworth Farm & Back
- 12 pm BBQ for all - Ramblers and the general public
- 2 pm free local bands all afternoon in the farmyard and Grain Store
- 6pm Hog Roast
- 7pm **Barn Dance begins. Tickets £10.**
Features the famous Hot Rats World Music band (folk, rock & jazz), the Hartley Morris Men & Gaelic folk music & dancing (a cèilidh, pronounced kay-lee!)
Price includes **free barn dancing lessons** - anyone can learn the promenade in 5 minutes!

To RSVP for any of these fun events at Court Farm, please go to
<https://www.facebook.com/courtfarmkent/events>
or call/SMS Tania on 07841 913 561

Halling Baptist Chapel Open Day

Thank you to everyone who attended the Open Day held on Saturday 6 February 2016. Thank you for your show of support and the encouraging feedback we got from all. Here is a summary of the presentation:

Halling Baptist Chapel was built in 1898 by cement workers as a temporary place of worship for those of nonconformist baptist persuasion. Over the years, however, the building has fallen into serious disrepair, and the cost of bringing it up to standard, along with the ongoing running costs, is not good stewardship. The present situation at the church is encouraging, and the future looks promising.

Possible solutions to our dilemma are to replace our temporary 'tin tabernacle' with a purpose-built construction; to brick-clad the existing building; to sell the land and move to another site; or to sell the land and move to a community building. Since there are no funds available to finance a brand-new building, or even to brick-clad the existing chapel, and since the former fire station was put on the market, the church agreed that the most sensible solution would be to sell our present site in order to purchase the Fire Station.

If our bid for the Fire Station of £175k is accepted, we would seek to sell our present site with planning permission for two semi-detached houses, the estimated value of the land being £190k-£200k. The difference, plus an extra £43k approx., would go towards the cost of adapting the inside of the Fire Station, as well as covering the legal and planning fees, etc. The funds for the purchase of the Fire Station are already available, since we have obtained a bridging loan, which would be paid back when we sold our land. The purchase of the Fire Station would be subject to planning consent, of course.

We believe that we could bring a suitable use to the Fire Station for the benefit of Halling. Besides our Sunday services, some of the activities we would hope to run in the short- and long-term future, as personnel and finances allowed, would be community suppers to fundraise for community needs (a Spring Supper in the Community Centre on **19 March 2016** in aid of the lower recreation ground is already planned); Holiday Bible Clubs (one is being organised for **12-13 April 2016**); a club called 'Impact' for young people aged 15-19; GriefShare (a support course for grieving families); CAP (free debt counselling); a food bank; and a café (in five-plus years' time), among other plans.

Activities that are already taking place include our Sunday School for children of primary school age; our monthly afternoon tea for senior citizens (second Friday of the month 3pm); our 'Christianity Explored' courses; our weekly Bible study groups; and our yearly charitable appeals (an orphanage overseas, child education overseas, and village hampers for Halling at Christmas). In short, Halling Baptist Church has been part of the community for 117 years, but we believe that there is still much that can be achieved, and we are keen to work for the benefit of the people in our village.

The possibility of Halling Baptist Church being able to purchase the Fire Station with allocated parking would enable those coming to our meetings to park without increasing congestion in the local roads. However, if we were unable to purchase the Fire Station and the funding required to replace our 'tin tabernacle' was unavailable, we would still consider selling the chapel site and perhaps moving to a community building for our Sunday services. Nevertheless, as a church, we would continue to strive for the good of the village by promoting the Christian values of love, justice and mercy, but we would obviously be much more restricted in what we were able to do in the village.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to give me a call on either my mobile number, 07868 182423, or home phone, 01634 924973. Kevin Félix Hollington, Pastor at Halling Baptist Church.

A Big Thank you!

Thank you to all who attended the *Community Carol Service* and all who helped to bring a smile to others by such generous contributions. On behalf of those who received a hamper on Christmas: **Thank you!!!**

You can find more photos on our website: hallingbaptist.org.uk



Image credits [1,2 & 3]: Christine Sanderson, Essex Road.

We would like to bring to your attention a **new free service for the residents of Medway** which enables them to test their risk potential from getting **type 2 diabetes**. Many people are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes without realising it. From the NHS viewpoint the growth of type 2 diabetes is a major concern and already accounts for around 10% of the budget - and it is likely to grow.

Medway
COUNCIL
Serving You



We all know that **prevention is better than cure** and so we are keen that as many people as possible take this [free test](#) to assess their risk and then if appropriate sign up to the free programmes that we are offering to help combat the type 2 diabetes threat.

Our Website is <http://www.medwaydiabetes.co.uk>

The free test page is <http://www.medwaydiabetes.co.uk/are-you-at-risk/>

Details about the programme can be found at <http://www.medwaydiabetes.co.uk/our-programme/>

Halling Garden Society

May I prescribe a leisurely look through the latest seed catalogues – We can arrange for you to get 50% - that's half price- if you order from Dobies (Which Best Buy) using our club order forms which carry our Society number. Ring Pat on 01634240480 or Matthew on 01634727424 if you need a copy of the catalogue and form. The catalogue is available on line at www.dobies.co.uk where you will find a larger choice. You can order online but need the club number to get any discount. You can order as many or as few packets as you wish so you don't have to have a large garden or an allotment to join us.

Those with new gardens or new to the area may not know of our activities so this is our chance to introduce ourselves as your local club for all things garden related. We welcome all-comers to join us. Subscriptions are the massive amount of £3 per year. This entitles you to free entry to our 2 shows in April and September, Show Schedules, talks when arranged, updates by email of any related events or offers that we hear about in the South east, and as already mentioned, 50% discount on seeds from Dobies and anything else we arrange during the year. It also gives you contact with likeminded people, some of whom have been gardening in this area for more than 40 years so know the conditions well.

To find out more, look on our facebook page, Parish Council page or ring the numbers mentioned above as we are happy to help and a friendly bunch!!



AVAILABLE TO HIRE FOR:

- Drama/Dance Performances**
- Parties**
- Wedding Receptions**
- Funeral Wakes**
- Business & Social Functions**
- Sporting Activities**



Slimming World
Bo-Peeps
HALARA
Youth Club
Health Clinic
Adult & Toddler Group

Please Support

Your Halling Community Centre

Badminton
Zumba
Pilates
Bowls
Duets Dance
Toddler Football
Legs, Bums & Tums

And Be Proud To Do So



Special rates for Children's Parties
(Ideal for bouncy castle)
Weekends and School Holidays

Other rooms available for hire

All Enquiries, Please Contact:
01634 243696
hallingcommunitycentre@gmail.com





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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

Property Maintenance & Facilities Management

Residential & Commercial

Property Maintenance, Repair and Refurbishment

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Property Maintenance</p> <p>Emergency Repairs</p> <p>Landscaping</p> <p>Fencing</p> <p>Brickwork</p> <p>Plastering</p> | <p>Home Improvements</p> <p>Decorating</p> <p>Electrical</p> <p>Plumbing</p> <p>Carpentry</p> <p>Structural Work</p> | <p>Security & CCTV</p> <p>Double Glazing</p> <p>Roofing</p> <p>Drainage</p> <p>Gutters & uPVC</p> <p>Landlord Support</p> |
|---|--|---|

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

THE JUBILEE HALL
Browdens Road, Upper Halling

The hall is used by members of the village for
 Many different classes and clubs:

- Tuesday Pilates 7.30pm
- Thursday friends and fitness 9.30am–10.30am
 Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
- Fridays Halara 2pm-4pm
- Saturdays Karate 10am
-

Halling Historical Society also use the hall on a
 regular basis as well as the church holding
 services the first Sunday of every month.

**For more information on all these clubs
 and classes just go to our website:**
www.hallingjubileehall.btck.co.uk

**The hall also available to hire for parties
 and functions.**

To hire the hall please contact:
Claire Stotesbury on
01634 244289

or email Claire-mad@hotmail.co.uk



PLEASE GIVE CONSIDERATION TO OTHERS WHEN PARKING IN THE VILLAGE AND WHILE DRIVING
 THROUGH ESPECIALLY ON THE A228.

DODGY PARKING CAUSES ARGUMENTS AND OBSTRUCTIONS, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO
 EMERGENCY VEHICLES AND THE REFUSE COLLECTORS TRYING TO NUDGE THEIR WAY THROUGH.

PLEASE WOULD YOU AND YOUR VISITORS TO THE VILLAGE DRIVE SLOWLY AS THE ROADS ARE NOT
 ONLY NARROW AND CONJESTED WITH DODGY PARKERS, BUT OUR PETS ARE MORE FREQUENTLY
 GETTING INJURED DUE TO SPEEDING VEHICLES.

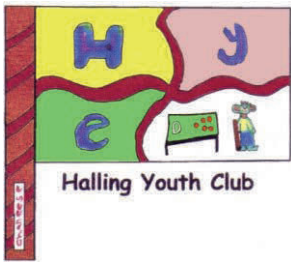
HALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE
 TRUSTEES would like to thank the
 Greenspaces Voluntary Group and
 all villagers who attended the
 Community Centre Garden clean
 and tidy up on Sunday 21st February.

A lot was achieved and it was good
 fun working as a group.

If you have any spare shrubs or
 plants please drop them into the
 patio area at the back of the centre
 for planting. Bags of compost would
 also be appreciated.

DIARY DATE:

**Halling Community Centre
 Trustees invite you all to a QUIZ
 NIGHT
 on Saturday 2nd July 2016
 in the Community Centre.
 More details to follow in the next
 edition of Halling View**



Halling Youth Club recently took 12 members climbing. They all had a great time, though they ached a bit!!



We are currently organising a trip to go trampolining, which will give the members plenty of good exercise while having fun. We are also in the throes of our annual pool competition, which is always very competitive amongst the children, especially during the finals.

The members have already had plenty to do this year during Friday evenings, including, creating aliens from socks and painting piggy banks. They also have the usual activities like playing football, pool, table tennis, air hockey etc. If your child is between 8 and 15 years they are welcome to join us. We are always searching for casual helpers, so if you can help in any way, please contact Paula or Les.

**We are at
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**

DO NOT READ THIS

Especially if you are a thoughtless, irresponsible dog owner.

If explaining to a few dog owners in the village that it is the dog owner's responsibility to pick up their dog's mess then maybe this will help explain why you should **ALWAYS pick up after your dog.**

Dog faeces may contain parvovirus, whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, threadworms, campylobacteriosis, giardia, and coccidia. If left unattended, these parasites will contaminate the water, soil, and can even cause infection in both pets and humans (especially children**). The microscopic Hookworm larvae can be passed to another pet or person directly through the skin or by accidental ingestion as can other bacteria.**

**Pushchair wheels and shoes spread faeces not only along our pathways but into our homes too.
Are you spoiling this village for the majority of dog owners who care?**

Report an irresponsible dog owner:

<http://www.medway.gov.uk/crimenuisanceandsafety/animalsdogsandpests/dogfouling.aspx>

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FREE ESTIMATES

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HALLING BAPTIST CHURCH
AT HALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE
HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB
CHAMPIONS!

Tues. 12th & Wed. 13th April
9.15 to 12 noon
For 6 to 11 yr olds

IT'S FUN & IT'S FREE!

JOIN IN WITH OUR TEAM FOR -
PRIZES & SINGING
STORIES & QUIZZES
COMPETITIONS & GAMES

www.hallingbaptist.org
Halling Community Centre
High Street, Halling,
ME21BS

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Term 4		Dates	
Start	Monday 22nd February	2016	
Good Friday	25th March 2016		
Easter Monday	28th March 2016		
Staff Training Day (No Children)	Tuesday 29th March 2016		
Finish	Friday 1st April 2016		
Spring break	Monday 4th April to Friday 15 April 2016		
Term 5		Dates	
Start	Monday 18th April	2016	
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd May 2016		
Finish	Friday, 27th May 2016		
May break	Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June 2016		
Term 6		Dates	
Start	Monday 6th June	2016	
Staff Training Day (No Children)	Friday 15th July 2016		
Finish	Friday 22nd July 2016		

Medway Local Plan 2012 – 2035

Medway Council held a consultation evening on Thursday 25th February at the Community Centre – did you go?

Are you concerned about:

Continued expansion of housing developments in Halling?

The traffic problems on the existing A228?

People using Halling High Street as a Rat Run?

The lack of local job opportunities?

The lack of local amenities?

All of these and many more are valid comments that you can make to Medway Council. Have your say now because if you do not speak up you will lose your ability to affect what happens to this area in the future.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Medway Council is preparing a new local plan to shape the area over the next 20 years.

Please help us plan for Medway's future by completing our survey on initial proposals

- Fill out as much or as little of the survey as you like
- We promise to respond to all feedback
- You really can influence change

www.medway.gov.uk/planningpolicy

Medway Serving You

Medway Local Plan 2012- 2035

Medway is growing, and we need to provide new homes, jobs, services and roads.

The council is consulting on the first stage of the plan from 4 January to 29 February 2016. We want to hear from all of you.

Key issues for the plan include:

- The best locations for new housing in Medway
- Protecting and enhancing our environment
- How people see our town centres
- How we can boost employment
- Providing for services and infrastructure

Further information and the online questionnaire is available at: www.medway.gov.uk/planningpolicy

You can also view copies of the report at public libraries and Community Hubs across Medway. Staff will help you submit your views. You do not have to respond to all questions in the consultation document – just tell us your views on the issues most important to you.

Please note: if you complete part, or all of the local plan survey, your name and the beginning of your postcode will be made public online.



