# HALLINGWIEW

Hello everyone

Again, another successful Fun Weekend. One or two comments have been passed on to me about increase in token price, the main reason being affordability due to family size. Other than that most people were quite happy and everything went according to plan. I would like to thank everybody who was involved in the organising and executing of the Fun Weekend in particular, Sam Thomas and the Organising Committee and stall holders.

Now for a more sombre note. Since taking over as Chair in May it has not been an easy time at meetings as those residents who attend Parish Council meetings will know. However, it is hoped that things will change and I would like to point out that there are two vacancies available on the Council due to recent resignations.

As a keen dog walker can I please ask dog owners in the village to pick up their dog's mess. Our children in the village will be starting a new school year again in September and it makes an unpleasant walk to school along the river when a small minority of dog owners allow their dogs to foul the footpath and grass areas. Dog poo bags are available in the Parish Office free of charge.

The sale of the Fire Station for the benefit of the village is being handled by Hicks in Snodland and I

hope to report further on this at Parish Council meetings.

Funding applications have been submitted to various agencies to replace play equipment in the Lower Recreation Ground and install an outdoor gym and table tennis table. Fingers crossed the Parish Council is successful.

At this moment in time with the dry weather the Marsh area may be clear of mud but is now a fire hazard. Can I remind everyone not to discard your cigarettes anywhere in the village and place them in bins provided.

I hope that everybody enjoyed their summer break and that our village children were proud of their exam results. Good luck to those starting new schools this year.

Looking forward to seeing more residents at Council Meetings.

George Wenham Chair – Halling Parish Council

## Parish Council Meetings Everyone welcome to attend

8<sup>th</sup> Sept - Jubilee Hall - 7.30pm 14<sup>th</sup> Oct - Community Centre - 7.30pm 10<sup>th</sup> Nov - Jubilee Hall - 7.30pm 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

To apply for a Councillor vacancy
Applicants should be aware that the Parish Council has a code of
conduct that has to be adhered to.
Councillors must also complete a register of interests.
Applicants to apply in person or in writing to the Clerk

#### HALLNG PARISH COUNCIL

Lower Ward:
Councillor Les Hitchcock
Councillor Chris Herbert
Councillor Andy Simpson
Councillor Bob Morton
Councillor Richard Thorne

Upper Ward Councillor Matt Fearn Councillor George Wenham Councillor Trevor Reynolds

North Ward Councillor Mark Joy vacancy

www.halling-pc.co.uk



# Who is eligible?

Any person over the age of 18 who is a citizen of the United Kingdom, The European Community, or the Commonwealth can be a Councillor if they are an elector in, work in, live in or live within three miles of the area of the local Council.

# What will I do if elected?

- Raise matters that the Council can consider and formally decide to take action about at meetings
- Attend Council meetings
- Make informed contributions which influence the debate on the business that needs to be decided at those meetings
- Participate in the Council's decision making process, which in itself is subject to strict rules and guidelines
- Represent the Council externally



From Local Councils Explained by Meera
Tharmaarajah Solicitor for the National Association of
Local Councils

# **Key Points**

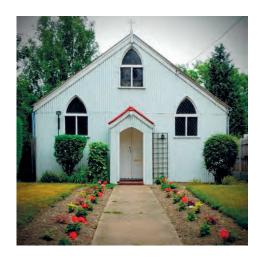
- A Councillor's normal term of office is 4 years
- He/She is the holder of a Public Office and not a volunteer
- They can receive expenses for their role
- The main job of a councillor is to participate in the collective decision making processes of the Council
- He/She has no authority to make decisions about Council business on their own.
- A Local Council may arrange insurance cover to indemnity its councillors against liability resulting from them being representatives of the Council
- A councillor's financial and certain other interests in Council business must be transparent
- He/she is subject to obligations set out in the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council
- Information about councillors is available in the Council's publication scheme
- The first business of the Council's annual meeting is the election of its Chairman.
- Most Councils appoint a Vice Chairman, but this is optional
- The normal term of office for the Chairman and Vice Chair is one year.

# So, what are you waiting for?

Advice is always available regarding becoming a councillor. Contact your local council today to find out more!

#### 117 Years On ...

Who would have thought that the "tin chapel" would be standing 117 years later, especially after learning that it was built by workers from the Halling Cement Works as a temporary place of worship for the newly formed Baptist Church? In 1898, the new chapel was built and was attended by 22 members and 200 children. *The Chatham & Rochester News* of 22 June 1898 reported the celebration of the first anniversary of the formation of the church. Among many guest speakers in its early days, there featured the Rev. Charles Spurgeon (Greenwich), the son of the great Victorian preacher.



Even though the physical building is still standing (or just about!), it is the people, not the building, who form the church. We have been very encouraged in the last couple of years to see a transformation in the congregation. Not only have we increased in numbers from all ages, but we have also experienced a growth in God's grace, a love towards one another, a growth in faith and hope, and of perseverance through difficult trials. We are also, as we are able, seeking to help our community, for the good of the people and for the glory of God.



We have been thrilled with the response to the Christmas Hampers and the Harvest Festivals Orphanage appeals, as well as offers to provide emotional and spiritual support. We are thankful to the villagers who have contributed to the appeals, as well as to local organizations and superstores. We have been very encouraged also with the response to the *Christianity Explored* courses, which are specially for non-Christians or for those exploring the faith, and these have been run from different homes. We are also thankful to God for our new Associate Pastor, Keith Barrett, who has joined the leadership team. We still have much ahead of us, but we are taking one step at a time and within our means.



All are welcome, regardless of background, level of interest, religious affiliation, or life circumstances. As a friend of mine says, "No perfect people allowed!" Isn't that a relief?

Sunday School 9:30am (during term time) Sundays 11am and 6:30pm Why not plan to pay us a visit sometime? If you are not sure what to expect, you will find a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. We sing a selection of hymns or songs, and our speakers are committed to explaining the Bible in a way which connects with our day-to-day lives. We hope that you will benefit enormously from this. The good news of Jesus is for everybody, and our meetings are designed for anyone, from the interested observer to the committed follower. We always have a time for a tea and coffee, and an opportunity to get to know people better, after each of our services.

Pastor Kevin Félix-Hollington 5 Vicarage Road, M: 07868 182423 hallingbaptist.org.uk

# CHARITY RACE NIGHT

# SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER COMMUNITY CENTRE



Doors open: 7.00pm First Race: 7.30pm Tickets: £ 3.00 each

From: HALLING POST OFFICE or

HALARA's CHAIRMAN contact: 01634 240 889

#### Bring your own drinks & nibbles

Back by popular request ~ Last time this fun event quickly sold out!

Organised by Halling & Locality Active Retirement Association in aid of: THE MORTIMER SOCIETY FOR HUNTINGTONS DISEASE, BIRLING HOUSE SNODLAND Reg Charity No. 287579

#### **UPPER & NORTH HALLING WARDS SURGERY - 14th AUGUST 2015**

We would like to thank those residents who turned out for our first attempt at a Ward Councillors' Surgery. We thought it was extremely successful with a frank, civilised and constructive exchange of views on a number of issues, just how it should be.

This was a trial run really, but we would love to do it again and we will let you know as soon as we have agreed a date.

Matt Fearn Mark Joy Trevor Reynolds

#### Freedom

I'm writing this in the midst of the furore concerning the forced resignation of Sir Tim Hunt. He is the Nobel Prize winning biologist who stirred up a twitter storm when he made some silly, sexist remarks at the World Conference of Science Journalists in South Korea. It's a case which gives concern. University College London, one of the institutions from which Sir Tim had to resign, was founded in the name of free speech. At the beginning of the C19, the only universities in England were Oxford and Cambridge and you had to belong to the Church of England to graduate from either of them. UCL was founded so that people who did not conform could nevertheless become members of a university. It is alarming if UCL is now attempting to set limits to what people can say and still take part in academic discourse.

Some people have said that Sir Tim should be reinstated because what he said was not as bad as was first reported and he has apologised. This is probably true, but it's missing the point. Freedom of speech is not freedom to say what most people regard as acceptable. Neither is it freedom to say what the establishment approves of. Freedom of speech is the freedom to say whatever you believe, even if you are being offensive, if you are being stupid, even if you are wrong. Freedom of speech must include the freedom to be racist, sexist and homophobic, as well as freedom to insult somebody's religion or politics. Otherwise it is not freedom of speech. We have to be able to say with Voltaire *I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.* 

But why? Why should people be allowed to get away with offending other people? Why should they be free to say what is unacceptable? Why should we be free to be silly or just plain wrong? Three reasons spring to mind.

- 1) The human rights of the person speaking. What are you going to do with people who insist on saying what society regards as unacceptable? Sack them from their jobs? Fine them? Imprison them? Torture them? Burn them at the stake? It's all been done in the past to people who have insisted on their right to speak the truth as they see it.
- 2) If you try to suppress ideas, other people start wondering what you've got to hide. Official secrecy is fertile ground for conspiracy theorists. *If we're not allowed to discuss Roswell, what do they know that they don't want us to know?*

3) Most importantly, whilst the oddball is probably generally wrong, you don't need to know much history to know that sometimes they are right and the majority of "right-thinking" people and the establishment are the ones who are wrong. Columbus insisted that the world wasn't flat, when many people thought it was. Luther stood up to corruption in the Mediaeval Church, despite its wealth, power and hold on the popular imagination. Galileo insisted that the earth goes round the sun, not the sun round the earth. Nelson Mandela stood out against apartheid. On the other hand, the crowds were wrong when they set free the murderer Barabbas and crucified the innocent Jesus. The Nuremberg rallies were wrong in supporting Hitler. It now looks as if the scientific establishment that told us to stop eating fatty foods for the sake of our health were at least in part wrong. If we eat less fat, we eat more sugar (in processed foods as well as in what we make ourselves), which is far worse for us.

If we want Truth to prevail, the way to do it is not to make it illegal to say certain things (e.g. to deny the holocaust in which the Nazis murdered millions of Jews and other people they despised). Neither is it to sack from their jobs, to fine, imprison, or otherwise persecute dissenters. It is not even to ostracise people with unpopular views. If we want the Truth to prevail, the way to do it is to examine the evidence in the light of reason, to publish the evidence, and to debate the evidence freely and openly. All this should be uncontroversial in an enlightened society. I am, however, going to go one step further and say what might be controversial - that we should examine the evidence rationally and prayerfully if we want to know the Truth. Faith and reason are not, as is often supposed, opposites. Faith seeks understanding. Faith guides us towards understanding. Jesus is the Logos (divine reason) and it is logical to pray if you really want to know the Truth. Roger.

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

#### FREE COACHING OFFERED

#### **Beverley Rousseau**

Many of you know that I have held a diploma in NLP, Life Coaching and Clinical Hypnotherapy for about 3 years now, and a Masters Certificate in NLP for the last 18 months. Just recently I attained my Practitioner Certificate in EFT to add to these skills.

EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique ) is a technique which uses two finger tapping on the acupuncture points of the body to release many many issues both emotional and physical.

After a very busy few months during which time I could not take on any new clients, I now have several vacancies available ..

SO ...... INTRIGUED as to how I can help you? THEN ..........

Contact me, Beverley on 01634 240190; OR at beverleyann.wdd012@gmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LEAVE YOUR NAME AND CONTACT NUMBER CLEARLY AND A BRIEF OUTLINE OF YOUR ISSUES. I will ALWAYS respond ASAP if able. Fully insured and CRB checked / Full confidentiality observed PLEASE NOTE that the free service will continue up until the March 2016 issue of HV, when I will be looking to add yet further qualifications to my skill set and update my services.



#### HALARA

If you like to mix and mingle than come along to Halling & Locality Active Retirement Association group meetings.

We may have snow on the roof but we are still lively. Some members are not so active but our group covers a variety of interests.

From Ten-pin bowling, Short Mat Bowls, Sequence Dancing, Interesting talks, Rambles with Pub lunch, Outings - to a gentle games afternoon. All good fun with friendly people – come along you will be sure of a warm welcome.

Over 50, retired or semi-retired then this may be the group for you.

Contact the Secretary, Carole on 01634 716 049 or email: <a href="mailto:carole.nunn@tesco.net">carole.nunn@tesco.net</a> for further details.

'Mrs Dale's Diary' every day on the BBC wireless Home Service, 'Jubly' (the fruit drink in the odd shaped carton), 'Dolly blue'- to whiten washing, 'Omo' washing powder first coming on the market ~ If you can relate to any of these things then HALARA is the group for you.

Halling Active Retirement Association meet on the last Friday at Jubilee Hall, Upper Halling, for a members' get together. We have various events, such as - talks, cream teas, fish & chips, in-house Bingo, entertainers and once a year, in-house sketches. That is just on the last Friday. Wait until you hear what we do the rest of the month.

#### Are you ready for this??

On the first Monday of the month – Games Afternoon (the board type!!) or curling

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday – Short Mat Bowls

Third Monday of the month – Ten Pin Bowling

First three Fridays of the month – Sequence Dancing

Monthly Ramble (some would say Amble!) – ending up at a local pub for lunch

Theatre outings – this is very popular

Coach trips – another popular activity

Drama group – members perform fun sketches and jokes

Bowls Club Dinner – winners friendly in-house competition receive their trophies

Christmas Dinner – with professional entertainment & a special visit from Santa & his Elf, (and if you have been good all year you may receive a little pressie!!)

If reading the above has worn you out – don't let that deter you, as members can do as much or as little as they want. The age range of members is varied but all share one thing in common they are friendly and know how to enjoy life. So if you have some spare time are over 50 years and retired or semi-retired, then this could be the club for you. Give me a call on 01634 716 049 and get some more details emailed or sent to you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Carole Nunn

Secretary to HALARA

#### WISHFUL THINKING...



PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET.

Would you let your dog poo on your hallway carpet?

#### NO?

Then please pick up after your dog so it doesn't get walked into mine!

Please respect this village as we all live here, not just the odd irresponsible dog owner who spoils it for the rest of us.

#### RAINBOWS, BROWNIES AND GUIDES NEED YOU!



Rainbow, Brownie and Guide groups in Cuxton and Halling are in desperate need of new leaders to run and 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). 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 <a href="www.girlguiding.org.uk">www.girlguiding.org.uk</a> – see Get Involved. Or have a chat with Trudy via email at <a href="mailto:trudybarnowl@orangehome.co.uk">trudybarnowl@orangehome.co.uk</a>. Thank you.

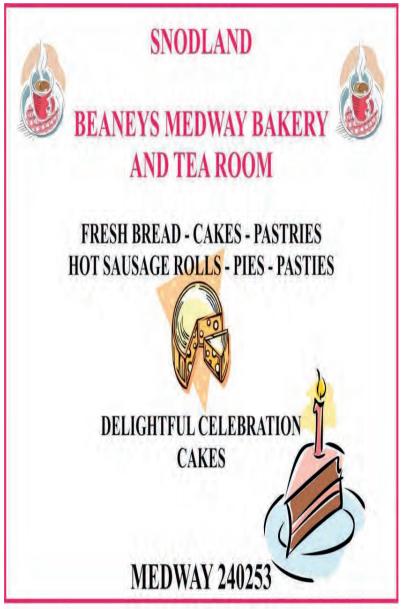
At the beginning of July the 1st Halling Brownies celebrated their 70th Birthday at the Jubilee Hall, Upper Halling. Rev Roger Knight, as well as representatives from the Parish Council and local clubs were invited to party. Brownies gave a lively performance of rhymes and songs before cutting the celebration cake provided by Beaneys Bakery. Amongst those (adults) present representing the Brownies were Chris Constable the Division Commissioner, Haylea Williams, Maggie Palmer, Shirley Parsons, Sarah Seabrook and Trudy Fenton-Scott. Visitors received a goodie bag containing a set of coasters with old fashion photographs of the Guide activities and a commemorative badge designed by one of the girls. Carole Nunn











#### **HALLING'S FOOTPATHS**

**Footpath RS320**: It has been an exciting time. First of all, I was fortunate indeed to be contacted immediately after my appeal in the last Halling View for someone with a petrol-driven cutter. John 'Four Dogs' Martin - I bet lots of dog-walkers will know him from that description! - stepped forward! He reasoned that he liked to walk his dogs along the marsh footpaths, and that he was very ready to do his bit to keep them open. It was the proximity of marshes and the wonderful opportunity to walk his dogs that brought John and his wife to Halling. Together, John and I have 'blitzed' fully open again the footpath RS320 which starts by the steps on the left just past the gate in Marsh Road. Long grasses, brambles, other thorny bushes and over-hangs, and even reeds were cut right back while we raked in turn. Right through to footpath RS319 that runs round the river edge, the RS320 is as fit for walking as it has ever been, with lifting top-bars of two stiles back in place. I am very grateful for the many unpaid hours John has spent on this labour of love. I am no less grateful to another John - John Coleman - who, always ready to trim errant blackberry bushes with his secateurs, walks his black Labrador. Another villager who has made himself available is Andy Beman from The Grooms. Sadly, Andy's golden retriever, Bailey, now finds the park too far.

What added to the excitement was that on 7<sup>th</sup> July John Martin happened to look up, and, some 15 feet above his head, saw a drone – a propeller at each corner – with a camera! Who was flying it, and from where? We ruled out the farmer who would not be alarmed by amateur cattle-rustlers like us. We ruled out friend Kevin Wallis at Marsh Court Farm. I suppose that only leaves the landowner – we were cutting legitimately along the definitive footpath that crosses private ground, and committing no trespass – or a local person with a drone. John and I look forward to appearing on Drone TV!

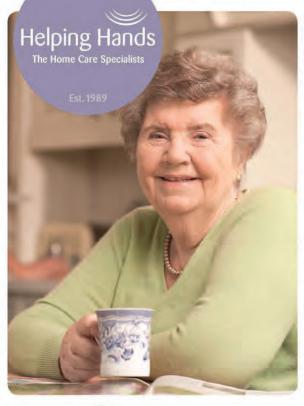


Footpath RS201: Locals will know only too well that this footpath – the link to Pilgrims Road – that starts by the roundabout near the allotments and New Town Social Club has been fenced off by Redrow. Deadlines to re-open the path have passed several times. One delay was due to the unearthing of a fuel line. Then there were legal delays. The good news for Halling is that the Medway Borough Council has not been unaware of the missed deadlines, and a December meeting is arranged to request rather forcibly that *Redrow* opens the RS201 immediately even if means having the footpath through the St Andrew's Estate. The short alternative footpath halfway to Cuxton is of little help to anyone with the A228 being as busy as it is. I am confident that a newly landscaped RS201 will soon be taking us again past the Blue Lake and up to Pilgrims Road.

Plough Path: My efforts for a 'permissive path' along Lafarge Tarmac/Medway Borough land to link the bottom of the Plough Path with Whitting's Farm seem to have hit a brick wall. Negotiations had got as far as talking about installing a kissing-gate at the Whitting's Farm end to replace the locked side-gate, a single strand wire fence to keep people off the tenant farmer's field, and short stakes being driven in by the A228 entrance to prevent caravan and car access. I pressed the road safety aspect: people using the definitive Plough Path and wanting to walk in the Snodland direction should not have to cross an increasingly dangerously busy A228, an obstacle that was not there long before the by-pass was built. Many people in Halling will remember that the proposed line of the 'permissive path' was walked freely years ago – until the locked gate. Yet walkers can turn left when coming down the Plough Path, and be on a definitive path that takes them over the bridge to Cemetery Road and the High Street!

A new path: Again, many people in Halling will remember using a path that started by the stile to right just beyond the marsh gate. Certainly, the late Ted 'Bullet' Stevens and I walked the high ground flood defence – in effect a continuation of the footpath RS320 - round the perimeter of the south side of the marshes to emerge where the Maximillian Drive exit is now. Well, John 'Four Dogs' Martin and I have started chainsawing and cutting our way slowly (and sometimes bloodily) through the dense growth of decades. With holidays behind us, we will be cutting and clearing again. This is when I hope people like Andy Beman will be available to help us to rake and clear what we cut. We'll get there, but it's impossible to announce a Grand Opening date. My idea is that when the new path is clear and open to walkers, we might call it, in recognition of John Martin's amazing efforts and determination, 'Four Dogs Path'. After all, it is for dogs!

Barry Barnes Co-opted by HPC for Footpaths











#### Do you need a Helping Hand?

Our **local** care team has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989.

A family run company we offer you a **one-to-one** 24 hour live in care service that enables you or your loved one to remain at home with compassion and dignity by assisting with: personal care, companionship, errands and housekeeping.

So if you are looking for an **alternative to** residential care or as a **short term answer** whilst recovering from illness or operation - then we're here to help.

To find out how we can help you, call: 0808 180 1016 or visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk

#### **Du4Accounts**



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Over 20 years of book-keeping experience!

Call Carol now!
on
01634 244807 or 0776 535 1064
Email: Du4accounts@btinternet.com



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

#### **19TH AUGUST 2015**

Please send articles & adverts with payments 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 £45 / £25 / £15



# **Total Property**

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Specialists in Property Maintenance, & Facilities Management

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## HALLING COMMUNITY CENTRE 93 High Street, Halling ME2 1BS

01634 243696 www.hallingcentre.btck.co.uk

LES HITCHCOCK – Chairman MARK TICKNER – Treasurer LEN SHARP – Facilities Manager JIM SUTHERLAND – Bookings

# THE JUBILEE HALL Browndens 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

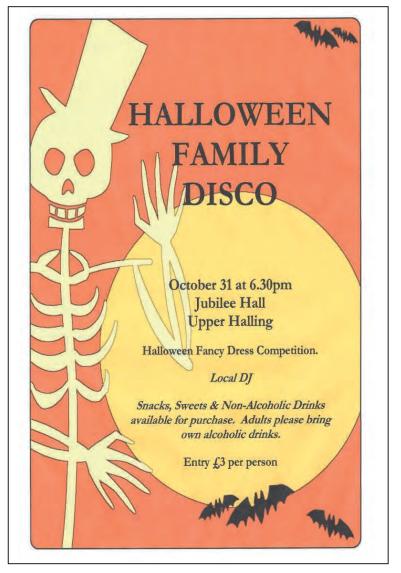
The Woman's Institute and Historical Society also use the hall on a regular basis as well as the church holding services the first Sunday of every month.

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









HALLING WOMENS INSTITUTE PRESENTS A DIARY FOR 2015

#### JUBILEE HALL UPPER HALLING

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015 – 7.15pm
British Calendar Customs
By Mrs Sandy Sharpe

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – 7.15pm
In the Footsteps of Peru
By Mrs S Shaw

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 – 7.15pm The Lazy Gardener By Mrs Hilary Newman

All visitors welcome £2.50 Refreshments and Raffle available



### **DAVID TAYLOR**

### Plumbing / Heating Engineer

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FREE ESTIMATES

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It has taken the Parish Council years, in discussions with the land owner, to replace the bench in Chapel Lane. It has taken someone moments to destroy it!

PLEASE RESPECT YOUR VILLAGE AND THINK CAREFULLY ON THE IMPACT YOUR ACTION HAS ON OTHERS.



This act of vandalism has been reported to the Police.



## Enter the "WI Scarecrows + Sunflowers" Photo Competition, Post Your Fave Pics to our FB Page facebook.com/courtfarminkent 1st Prize is a Luxury Meat Tray

Thanks to Mr Martyn J. Watson for his generous donation of film equipment to create Court Farm's Pop Up Cinema. Join the club, just email Tania Lingham marketing@courtfarm.org Don't forget we also do national deliveries now & you can order from anywhere, anytime through our eshop on www.courtfarm.org

Court Farm Invites You To Join Our Pop Up Cinema Club & Food Hub Social
Committee: just email Tania at marketing@courtfarm.org or call the Butchery
& Country Larder on 01634 240 547

Enter our "WI Scarecrows + Sunflowers" Photo Competition by October 4, the end of the British Food Fortnight. Just post your entries to our FB page!

#### www.facebook.com/courtfarminkent

The winner gets a luxury meat tray prize & certificate from the Butchery &

Country Larder in Upper Halling.

BUY ONLINE from our eshop & check out our

Latest News on www.courtfarm.org

Visit the scarecrows in our new kids' play area next to the farm shop - Bring Your
Own Picnic to our bales of hay.

Thanks goes to Martyn J. Watson of Upper Halling for his generous donation of time, money & labour to create Court Farm's Pop Up Cinema!

We are looking to screen a number of films in the Old Millhouse each year, so please get in touch to suggest a movie or become pan of the Pop Up Cinema Club @ Court Farm in 2016.

#### FUN WEEKEND JULY 2015

I would like to thank the five committee members who organised this year's Village Fayre and those who helped with the events on the day, from the stall holders to those who rush around weeks before and on the day making sure everything runs smoothly. As always, it was a fabulous turnout and this year even the weather was kind. We raised £350 for The Wisdom Hospice. Thanks also to Mark Henry our compare/singer and ZEUS (the band not the dog!) for their lively performance and a special thanks to all those that helped clear up after the event. This includes Cllr Les Hitchcock, who even after retiring from the Committee last year, was still out at silly o'clock in the morning clearing the rec.

The Duck Race had an amazing turnout on the Sunday. Special thumbs up goes to Nigel Holman from Medway Council Greenspaces who organised the clearing of high shrubs along the river bank the day before so our little people could see their ducks cross the finish line. It was great fun to watch everyone's faces as 550 bright yellow plastic ducks bobbed about on the Medway. Thank you Councillor Herbert and his boat crew for their hard work, especially in individually numbering all the ducks, scooping them up with their nets, and then scrubbing them all clean again in the bath!

Our winners were 1<sup>st</sup> Luke Hobbs Duck No. 135, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phoebe Brake and 3<sup>rd</sup> Michell Jones. The boobie prize went to Mark Ridsdale who's duck was last home!

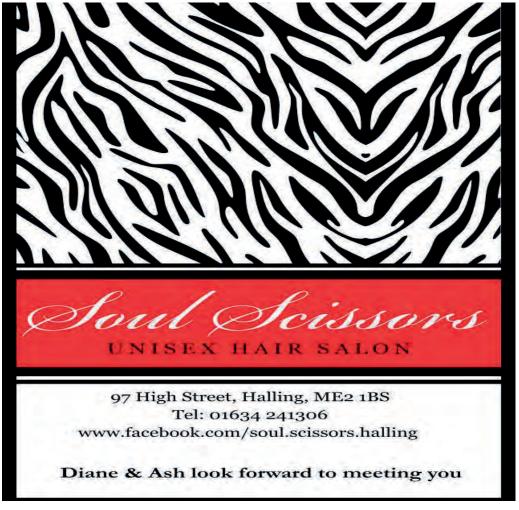
The event was a great success and raised £350 for CROSSROADS Care Kent (young carers' section) who initially donated some ducks.

Sam Thomas & Halling Parish Council











It has been another busy summer at Halling Youth Club with many activities going on including learning Circus Skills, a visit from Jaws 'N' Claws and of course our annual Prom night.

We are always looking for new volunteers. If you have some time to spare on a Friday evening please call in and see us in the Community Centre from 6pm to 9pm during term time.



In November we will be raising money for Children in Need again and would appreciate any help you can give i.e. donations of prizes, help in running stalls etc. Please contact Paula or Vicky on Friday evenings if you can assist in any way.



#### THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, HALLING - FRIDAY NIGHTS

1<sup>st</sup> session 8 to 11 year olds 6pm – 7.30pm

2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Have your say:

We appreciate not everyone can attend PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS where matters can be raised by residents under parishioners' question time.

The Parish Office is open on Mon/Wed and Friday mornings for you to call in with any issues you need the Clerk to pass on to the Councillors.

Alternatively, you can email us on <a href="mailto:hallingclerk@btconnect.com">hallingclerk@btconnect.com</a>, or write your questions below and return to us at the office in the Community Centre.

Please remember there are 7 notice boards around the village which are updated regularly with village information and also you can read what's going on, on our website <a href="https://www.halling-pc.co.uk"><u>WWW.HALLING-PC.CO.UK</u></a>.

Please remember your councillors live in Halling and act for you voluntarily in the interest of the village as a whole.

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To Bill Swan
Clerk to Halling Parish Council
The Community Centre, 93 High Street, Lower Halling, Rochester ME2 1BS