

New Children's Activities and Classes starting this Autumn

NEW PLAYERS WANTED

U12

YEAR 7
AGE GROUP

ALL POSITIONS
NEEDED

HALSTEAD, SEVENOAKS

TRAINING: TUESDAYS

MATCHES: SUNDAYS

CONTACT: OWEN LAWS

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The Knockholt AllStars Under 12s football team are looking for new players, any ability, girls and boys, to join the team, playing at the Pavilion Recreation Ground from September

Drama Kids runs classes for ages 5-11, in a fun, supportive environment at the Parish Room from September.

For more details, go to sevenoaks@dramakids.co.uk

Regular Activities & Events Schedule

7th Sevenoaks Beavers	Monday – every week	5.15pm – 6:30pm, Scout Hut
7th Sevenoaks Scouts	Tuesday – every week	7pm – 9pm, Scout Hut
7th Sevenoaks Cubs	Wednesday – every week	6:30pm – 8pm, Scout Hut
U12 Football Training	Tuesday – every week to end of October	5pm – 7pm, Pavilion Recreation Ground
Warm Welcome Café	Thursday 2-weekly – 02/10, 16/10, 30/10, 13/11, 27/11	2pm – 4pm, Parish Room
Mobile Library	Thursday – 25/09, 09/10, 23/10, 06/11, 20/11, 04/12	10:20am Village Hall, 11:10am BMM Hall
Toddler Group	Friday – every week (term time only)	9am – 10:30am, Pavilion

Diary of Activities & Events

04/10/25 10am - 1pm	Community Café	Parish Room
06/10/25 7:30 - 10pm	Royal British Legion - AGM	Pavilion
07/10/25 9:30 – 11am	Book Club	Parish Room
12/10/25 4pm - 7pm	Harvest Family Meal	Village Hall
13/10/25 2pm	Monday Club - MacMillan Tea Party & Stalls	Village Hall
13/10/25 7:30 - 10pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion
14/10/25 10am - Midday	Knit and Natter	Parish Room
23/10/25 8pm - 10pm	Horticultural Society 'Growing your own vegetables'	Village Hall
27/10/25 1pm	Monday Club - Monday Lunch together	Village Hall
27/10/25 7pm - 9pm	Chatty Crafters	Parish Room
01/11/25 10am - 1pm	Community Café	Parish Room
01/11/25	Freighter Service	11:30 Crow Drive, 12:15pm Southdene
04/11/25 9:30 – 11am	Book Club	Parish Room
10/11/25 2pm	Monday Club - Flower Arranging for Christmas	Village Hall
10/11/25 7:30 - 10pm	Parish Council Meeting	Pavilion
11/11/25 10am - Midday	Knit and Natter	Parish Room
18/11/25 8pm - 10pm	Horticultural Society - AGM	Village Hall
24/11/25 2pm	Monday Club - Just Voices	Village Hall
24/11/25 7pm - 9pm	Chatty Crafters	Parish Room
02/12/25 9:30 – 11am	Book Club	Parish Room
02/12/25 8pm - 10pm	Horticultural Society - Christmas Workshop	Village Hall
05/12/25 5:30pm	Christmas Tree Lighting	Southdene and Village Hall
06/12/25 2pm – 4pm	Christmas Fair	Village Hall
08/12/25 12:30pm	Monday Club - Christmas lunch	Village Hall
08/12/25 7:30 - 10pm	Parish Council Meeting (with refreshments)	Pavilion
09/12/25 10am - Midday	Knit and Natter	Parish Room
13/12/25 10am - 1pm	Community Café	Parish Room

Let us know about any events you are running so we can publish them here and on the website

Autumn 2025



Halstead Parish Council



Welcome to the Autumn/Winter issue of the Halstead Parish Council newsletter, keeping you up to date on activities and news in and around our village

STOP PRESS

SDC Local Plan Consultation October to December 2025

Sevenoaks District Council have announced “our next Local Plan consultation will open on 23 October for seven weeks, closing on 11 December 2025. This is known as the 'Regulation 18' consultation. The Local Plan will guide how new developments are delivered between 2027 and 2042. It will list potential development sites, proposed by landowners, to meet the Government's significantly increased local housing target. In Halstead 208 new homes are proposed - 7 in the centre of the village and 201 on the outskirts of Fort Halstead.

The Government has instructed SDC to identify land for 17,175 new homes. That's 1,145 new homes every year, a 63% increase on the current housing target. Halstead Parish Council have already met with Cllr. Nigel Williams, our KCC Cllr. We will be setting up meetings in Halstead and SDC will set up meetings also. As soon as we have those dates, we will inform you. Please go to the SDC website and input “Emerging Local Plan” and you will find more details.

Clarks Lane Development

HPC are pleased to announce that work on the Clarks Lane site for 10 affordable properties and 3 open market properties is now progressing well. The 10 affordable properties will be for rent only and offered to people based on their connection to this village. It is hoped that these will be ready in Spring 2026. Enquiries should go to the Housing Department at Sevenoaks District Council. Anyone interested should apply to go onto the Housing Register (housing.register@sevenoaks.gov.uk).

NOW HIRING - PARISH CLERK

We're recruiting for a new Parish Clerk to work part-time, 20-25 hours per week, based at home and our buildings around the Parish, helping to care for our Parish Room, Pavilion, Allotments and Recreation Ground, meeting residents and supporting our local community.

Email us at clerk@halsteadparishcouncil.gov.uk for a job description and application form

A21 Sevenoaks Road

Consultation on the proposals to make safety improvements at the A21 junction with London Road are now complete.

The road layout will stay as it is currently, the banned turn is retained with no new traffic signals. The speed limit will reduce from 50mph to 40mph.

For further information about the decision, visit: <https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/a21-sevenoaks-road>

FORT HALSTEAD DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Demolition is planned to start in the next few months, then building work on the first phase of 90 homes will start in May 2026. The plans for the site will also incorporate a Medical hub, Heritage Centre, Community Centre and a bus service for residents.

Sevenoaks District Council is also in discussion regarding the various parish boundaries across the whole site, the intention is to move boundaries so that all properties will be in the same Parish/Ward.

HPC wants to hear your views so email your comments to our Parish Clerk - clerk@halsteadparish.org.uk

Dark Sky – The Impact of Outside Lighting

Traditionally Halstead Village has been a dark village with no streetlights and very little domestic lighting. Darkness at night is one of the key features that defines the countryside and villages, making them different from cities and towns. Benefits of a dark village include:

- **a reduction in light pollution, in energy bills and harm to wildlife**
- **a possible 15% reduction in crime including vehicle crime**
- **an improvement to mental health and sleep quality and our ability to enjoy the night sky**

Halstead Parish Council are currently putting together an information sheet on how to keep Halstead a dark village and suggestions on how we can reduce the impact of overnight lighting in and around our properties.

LITTERING – THE BIG ISSUE

Are you fed up with seeing rubbish around the Village? We are, so we are considering signage at the entry points into the village along with more litter bins to encourage people to dispose of their litter properly or take it home.

Welcome to Halstead Village

You are now in Green Belt with areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Thank you for visiting, please remember to put your litter in the bins provided or take it home with you

Where would you want to see signage and additional litter bins? Please let us know what you think. Share your ideas and help keep our Village clean!

WARM SPACE CAFÉ IS BACK!

Do you need any help filling in forms, using the internet, need advice on something?

Come along to our Warm Welcome Cafés every other Thursday between 2pm and 4pm

Parking in and around the Village

With so many cars in the Village, we've noticed recently that there are more instances of vehicles parking with two wheels on the pavement.

Please think about how you are parking, some residents with pushchairs or mobility scooters won't be able to get past and will have to walk into the road to go past.

HALSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Our regular Parish meetings are held on the the second Monday of the month at the Pavilion.

Next Dates: Monday 13th October at 7:30pm
Monday 10th November at 7:30pm
Monday 8th December at 7:30pm (with refreshments)

The Government is pressing for huge numbers of new homes, this means extra work for us a Council and we have a vacancy for a Councillor. Please email our Parish Clerk if you are interested to find out more.

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library stops at the Village Hall on alternate Thursdays from 10:20 to 10:50.



Next Dates are:

October – 9th and 23rd
November – 6th and 20th
December – 4th and 18th

Rose & Crown Pub

We're pleased to announce that we have successfully registered The Rose & Crown as an Asset of Community Value.

This means that, if the current owners ever decide to sell the property, they must give the Parish Council six months from the date that it goes on the market to raise the necessary funds.

The development of our village is of great importance to most of our residents so we must be sure we are representing their views. The Parish Council is planning a series of talks on the evenings of our Parish Council meetings, to inform and update our residents on areas of concern, such as:

- Housing development
- Green Space
- Dark Skies
- Pub
- Post Office
- Car Cruising Meetings
- Deerleap Wood Soil Dumping
- Road Signage
- Road Safety
- Highway Repairs and Potholes
- A21 Junction with Sevenoaks Road

We'll be inviting everyone to come along and express your opinions and support us.

Halstead Open Gardens 8th June 2025

It was lovely to see Halstead busy with locals and visitors enjoying the sunshine and 11 gardens open as well as an art exhibition, classic cars, allotments, cream teas and our local school open for craft stalls. Over £4,000 was raised for St. Margaret's and Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance.

Many thanks to all those who worked really hard to make the day a success.

Now this traditional event has been revived, we are looking for new gardens to open on 13th June 2027 and more volunteers to participate. If you would like to get involved, please contact Cally Couchman cally@carolyncouchman.co.uk.



Family Summer Picnic - 1st August

More than 80 children and 30 adults joined us for the Summer Picnic, it was lovely to see everyone enjoying the afternoon sun. The playground was full and there were plenty of ball games for everyone to enjoy.

We're looking forward to next year and planning more Summer picnic days



Bus Services Through Halstead

R5/R10 Green St Green - Halstead - Orpington Station
<https://tfl.gov.uk/bus/timetable/r5> or
<https://tfl.gov.uk/bus/timetable/r10/>

Route 3 - Locksbottom – Halstead - Sevenoaks
<https://www.go-coach.co.uk/bus-routes/daytime-routes/3/>

Volunteers Needed!

With so much dry weather this year, our village flowerbeds are always in need of some TLC.

If you can spare a few minutes regularly during the coming months to give them some water or a quick deadhead, they will really appreciate it!