HALLING VIEW

Halling View Issue 136 December 2026

Merry Christmas

Another year has almost passed us by. It always seems to me that years seem to fly past faster and faster. No sooner are we celebrating a New Year than we next seem to be preparing for the festive season. But what a year it has been for Halling.

We have had the Easter Egg hunts at the Moot Brewery and the Five Bells, the unveiling of Sofia's Throne down by the river and then Hallingbury 2, our very own Music Festival. We can also look forward to our Pantomime, Snow White on Saturday 5 December – see inside for more details.

On a personal note can I say thank you to all my fellow Councillors, and all the staff for their work and support throughout the year.

Wishing you all a Very Merry Xmas and a Fantastic 2027.

Richard, Chair, Halling Parish Council



HALLING VIEW is produced and delivered by Halling Parish Council. If you have any comments or suggestions for future editions please contact the Parish Council on 01634 241551 or via email at: assistantclerk@halling-pc.gov.uk



TICKETS £5. AVAILABLE AT HALLING POST OFFICE

Santa is Visiting Halling!

The PTFA Sleigh run is Friday 18th December – after a long journey from the North Pole, Santa, his elves and a strange green visitor will set off around 4pm from the school, before heading to St Andrew's first! The route and location will then be updated by our trusted sleigh puller... Rudolph (sporting a Total Properties van). The route will also be updated on the Simply Halling Facebook Page.

Community stops should be:

- Between 4:45pm to 5:15pm at New Town Social Club
- Between 6:45pm to 7:15pm at the Jubilee Hall
- Between 8:00pm to 8:30pm at the Community Centre

Halling Needs You



In May 2027 we have the Local Election in Medway. We also have Halling Parish Council elections. If you feel that you can spend the time working within your village community then you will have the opportunity to put yourself forward for election as a Parish Councillor.

There are certain criteria that need to be adhered to but if you feel that the community of Halling can benefit from your commitment then please contact Chris, our clerk at Halling Parish Council, who will take you through the process of joining our Parish Council. clerk@halling-pc.gov.uk

Remembrance Day 2026

On Sunday 8 November, Halling paused to remember and give thanks to the men and women who lost their lives in two World Wars and other armed conflicts. The Remembrance Service in St John's Church was followed by a parade to the War Memorial at Forge Green, where wreaths were laid and a two-minute silence was observed.



Halling Village Sign



St John's Church



War Memorial, Forge Green

Halling's gratitude to the men and women who gave their lives was expressed in the tapestry of poppies outside the church, the poppy banner outside Jubilee Hall and a spiral of poppies adorning the village sign outside the Community Centre. All three installations were created by the Halling Women's Institute.



Outside St John's

The Children at Halling's Pre-School also made a wreath which was displayed inside the Community Centre.



Children's Wreath

Halling Historical Programme 2027

The Historical Society has just completed its series of talks for this year and has finalised its 2027 programme of talks and events:

Monday 15 February, *The Rise and Decline of the Darnley Family at Cobham Hall* by Paul Kingman

Monday 12 April, *The Walls have Tongues – Graffiti in Medieval Churches* by Sue Flipping

Monday 14 June, *Rochester Riverside* by Roger Backway

Friday 16 July, Annual Society Outing: Fort Amherst

Monday 13 September, *Chatham Intra* by Rob Flood

Monday 15 November, *Mrs Mary Ross: Eighteenth-century Naval Shipbuilder* by Dr Jeremy Clarke

All talks are held at the Jubilee Hall, Upper Halling, starting at 7.30pm. Annual Membership is £12 (visitors £3.50). For further details visit: hallinghistory.co.uk or email: hallinghistorical@gmail.com



Prings Hall

The final 'blue plaque' for the Halling History Trail has now been put in place at Prings Hall, Upper Halling. The plaque was funded jointly by Halling Parish Council and a private donation, both of whom the Historical Society gratefully acknowledges.

HALARA Celebrates



Gill Morton (chair) and Carole Nunn (secretary) of HALARA



The King's Award for Voluntary Service

Members of the Halling Active Retirement Association joined other branches of the Kent Active Retirement Association (KentARA) to receive the King's Award for Voluntary Service, at a reception held at Kent County Hall earlier this year.

Gill Morton and Carole Nunn (chairperson and secretary of HALARA) represented Halling at the reception, and watched Ian Sharp, Chairman of KentARA receive the award from Lady Colgrain, the Lord-Lieutenant of Kent, on behalf of His Majesty, King Charles lll.

the King's Award

The King's Award is the equivalent to receiving an MBE and recognizes the work of volunteer groups in bringing people together to enrich lives and improve local communities. KentARA was especially praised by the King's Award judges in this regard, as the organisation is run entirely by volunteers. KentARA was first established in 1984 and now has 76 ARAs (Active Retirement Associations) spread across Medway and Kent, with members giving their time to organise regular events, day trips and holidays.



The Award and Certificate



Ian Sharp receives the award

The Halling Association, HALARA, was established in 1997 and has over 100 members. Its activities include Short Mat Bowls, Ten-pin Bowling, a weekly Craft Session, Fish & Chip Lunches, a Christmas Lunch, a Christmas Buffet, coffee mornings, art classes, pub lunches, cream teas, and an Annual Quiz fundraiser for a chosen charity. This year's charity is Blood Runners based in Rainham whose volunteers deliver vital supplies, organs, tissues and medication to where they are urgently needed. There are monthly talks held at the Jubilee Hall on the last Friday of each month.

For more information about HALARA please email the secretary at: halasec21@gmail.com.

St. John's Church, Halling & Parish Events

December Christmas Events

All Welcome

- Sat. 5th Dec. 10am–12 Christmas Coffee Morning – Church Hall
- Wed. 16th Dec. 12 Noon MU Christmas Lunch
- Fri. 18th Dec. Setting Up the Tree Festival
- Sat. 19th Dec. 10am -2pm TREE FESTIVAL – Daily
- Sat. 19th Dec. 5pm. CAROL SINGING -Outside St, John's Church Lychgate, with Mulled wine and Mince pies.
- Sun. 20th Dec. 3pm Christingle & Impromptu Nativity, Halling Church
- Mon. 21st Dec. 10am -2pm TREE FESTIVAL
- Tues. 22nd Dec. 10am -2pm TREE FESTIVAL
- Wed. 23rd Dec. 10am -2pm TREE FESTIVAL
- Thurs. 24th Dec. 10am -2pm TREE FESTIVAL
- Fri. 25th Dec. 8am — Christmas Day Service, Halling Church

Regular Church & Community Events

- Sundays 11am – Holy Communion Service Halling Church
- Tuesdays 7pm – Halling Community Choir
- Thursdays 6 –7.15pm – Halling Youth Chess Club (ages 6–16)
- Saturdays 10am-12.00 noon – CHURCH OPEN MORNINGS
- First Saturday of each month | 10am–12 noon – LEGO Drop-in Mornings Halling Church
- Every 3rd Wednesday 10.30am – Mothers' Union, Cuxton & Halling Branch, Church Hall
- Last Wednesday of each month 7–9pm – Bell Ringing Practice
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays of each month 7–8pm – Beginners Bellringing Practice

Church Donations

www.achurchnearyou.com

hallingchurchwardens@cuxtonandhallingchurches.org

St. John's Church, High Street, Halling ME2 1BT

Everyone Welcome!

Can You Donate Food this Christmas?

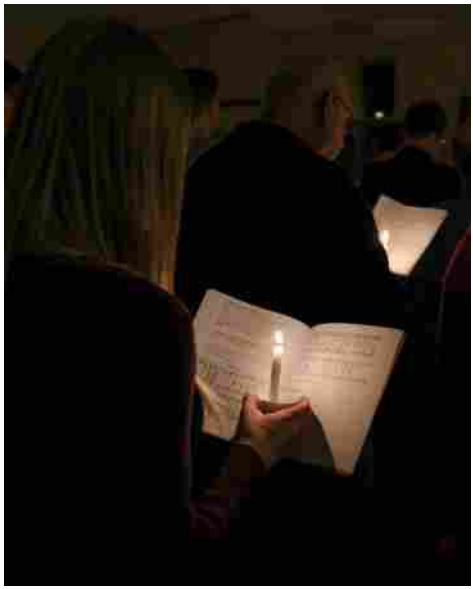
Pastor Kevin Félix Hollington, Halling Baptist Church

With demands rising, Halling and Medway Foodbanks need your support. Please donate non-perishable and in-date items to help us feed those in need around us. A typical food parcel includes cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes or pasta sauce, lentils, beans and pulses, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tea/coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits, UHT milk, fruit juice, and toilet roll.

Please bring your donations to any of our Christmas services, no gift is too small:

- Carols by Candlelight Saturday 12th December 5pm
- Christmas Day Service, Friday 25th December 10:30am
- Sunday Services 11:00am (Collection point: Sundays 10:00am - 1:00pm)

Halling Baptist Church, The Old Fire Station, Vicarage Road, ME2 1BE.



Carols by Candlelight Saturday 12 December 5pm

www.hallingbaptist.org.uk

Lego Builders at Youth Club

During the Autumn Term the Halling Youth Club organised a Lego building competition to discover Halling's most talented Lego Builders. The competition ran for six weeks, when the members of the Club proved that Lego is the world's most ingenious toy as they designed and built a range of imaginative and inventive entries. The judges and Youth Club Leaders were highly impressed by everyone's efforts. The Lego models covered vehicles, stadiums, bridges, houses, gardens, parks, fruit, rainbows, animals, flowers, aircraft and spaceships.

Just before half-term the awards were presented by Richard, Chairman of Halling Parish Council, to Halling's most creative young Lego-minds. In first place was Thomas, runner-up was Tilly, and sharing third place was Poppy and Belle.



Thomas



Tilly



Belle



Poppy

The Youth Club meets every Friday at the Community Centre from 6pm to 7.30pm. For more information on the Club search for Halling Youth Club on Facebook.

Autumn at the Girl Guides

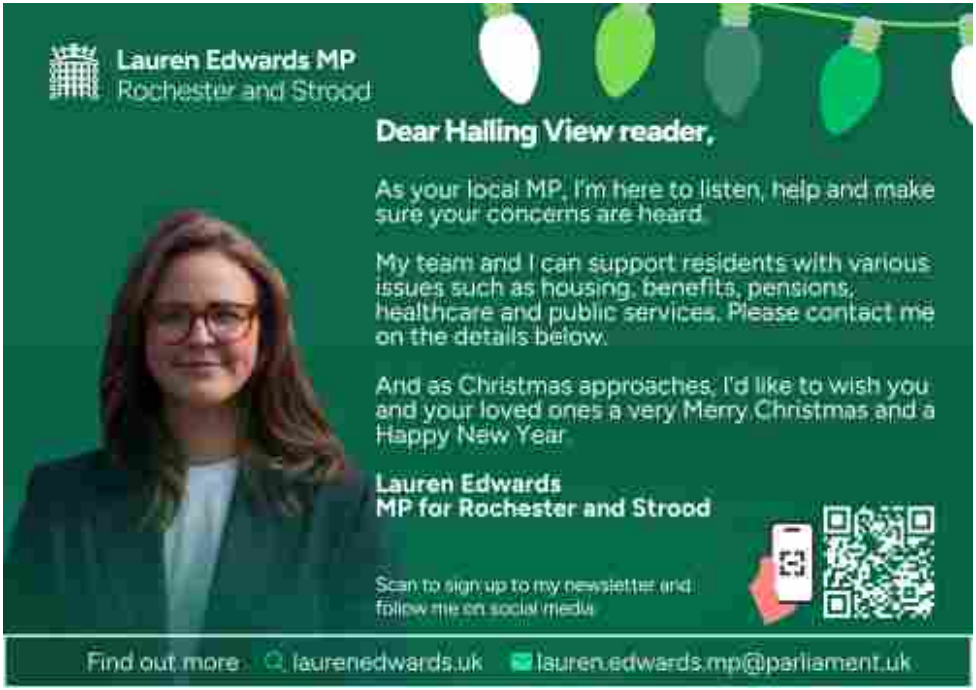
All of the units have been busy completing badges since September. The Rainbows have completed their Autumn and Great Outdoors interest badges. From creating autumn wreaths to learning about the wildlife in the autumn. A rain gauge was put outside the hall so the girls could keep track of rainfall, with weather charts for a week for the Great Outdoors badge.

Girlguiding
Cuxton and Halling District

The Brownies have been hard at work with their Book Reviewer badge and also have been learning about allergies and what to do if anyone has an allergic reaction, working towards their Allergy Badge. The Bookworm and Allergy badge was on the agenda for the Guides. They also had great fun with glow sticks on bonfire night, sticking them to each other and having fun in the dark.

The Rangers have been working on their Cooks Badge. Creating a meal of Tacos with brownies and blueberry muffins for pudding. Whilst learning to use utensils and cooking on the hob and oven safely. The Rainbows and Brownies went to Lakeview Care Home on bonfire night. The girls had a great time with the residents creating firework pictures, a cardboard firework and bonfire biscuits. It was a fabulous evening and we're looking forward to our next visit.

Halling Rainbows have five spaces available. If you would like your daughter to join us then please head to our website and register her at www.girlguiding.org.uk. Rainbows are for girls from the age of 4 to 7. We meet at the Jubilee Hall in Upper Halling every Thursday 4pm to 5.10pm term-time only. On the same evening we also run Brownies 7 to 10 years, from 5.15 to 7.45pm. Guides 10 to 14 years and Rangers 14 to 18 years from 7.45 to 8.30pm.



Halling, Cuxton & Riverside Councillors

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07386 502080

Halling Parish Council

Halling Parish Council is based in the Parish Office at the Community Centre. The office is open Monday and Thursday from 3pm to 5pm and can be contacted on 01634 241551 or via email, clerk@halling-pc.gov.uk Our website address is: www.halling-pc.gov.uk. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 11 January, at the Jubilee Hall, Upper Halling, 7.30pm.