
Councillor Phil Filmer

Halling Parish Council is deeply saddened to share news that long-standing Medway councillor, Cllr Phil Filmer, has passed away.



Cllr Phil Filmer

Known for his kindness and personable nature, Cllr Filmer will be missed greatly by people across the whole of Medway. We will miss a dear friend, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this difficult time.

Cllr Filmer was first elected to Medway Council in 2000, having previously been a councillor for Rochester-Upon-Medway City Council from 1991 to 1995. He remained a member of Medway Council since that time representing All Saints ward from 2000 to 2003, then Peninsula ward from 2003 to 2023, before being elected for the Cuxton, Halling and Riverside ward in 2023.



Halling Junior Chess Club

Free, friendly and fun, Halling Youth Chess Club welcomes total beginners and experienced players aged 6 to 16. We meet at St. John's Church (left) on Thursdays from 6pm to 7.15pm. Details search 'Halling' at: www.achurchnearyou.com

Hallingbury 2026: Saturday 8 August

This year's Hallingbury will be held on Saturday 8 August at the Lower Rec and has been expanded to include five bands. There will also be three bars, numerous food outlets, stalls and bouncy castles for children.



The Lower Rec will be transformed on Saturday 8 August for Hallingbury

Hallingbury 2026 will begin at 1pm and will conclude at 8pm. Please remember to bring along to the Rec your chairs, picnic blankets and bucket hats.



New Councillors Needed

The Parish Council currently has a number of vacancies for Councillors which it is hoping to fill.

If you are interested in local community decision making, improving Halling, or helping out at events such as Hallingbury, becoming a Parish Councillor could be for you. Meetings are held every other month and there are training opportunities for new Councillors.

If you are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact the Council office on 01634 241551 or email clerk@halling-pc.gov.uk

HALARA Programme 2026-27

The Halling Active Retirement Association recently held its AGM and will be hosting a varied and interesting programme of speakers in the forthcoming year (details right). The talks are held at the Jubilee Hall on Fridays (2pm – 4pm).

The AGM also chose SERV Kent Bloodrunners as this year's charity, a volunteer charity which delivers blood, organs and vital medical supplies to all over the country.

Two new activities have now started, both on Thursday mornings at the Community Centre. A Craft Session is held from 9.30am to 11am, supplemented by homemade cakes and savouries at the HALARA Coffee Morning from 10am to 11am. For further details of HALARA's regular events – art classes, short mat bowls and outings – please email HALARA at: halasec21@gmail.com



Jeff Manning

Last month HALARA member Jeff Manning completed the 'Walk 100 Miles in May' to raise money for Prostate Cancer Research, a charity which aims to make a difference to men and their families who have been affected by prostate cancer. Jeff has now completed his 100 mile walk and raised £170. To donate towards Jeff's walk please search for 'Jeff Manning 100 miles' on www.justgiving.com.

29 May, HELEN ALLINSON
Crime in Victorian Britain
31 July, PETER WOODYBY
Behind the Scenes at the BBC
28 August, JOHN SCOTT
Pearly King
25 Sept, KRISTINA BOULDEN
Romney Marsh Wools
27 November, ALAN HAINES
The Baby Boomers Part Two
29 January, DEAN CASTON
Queen Elizabeth II
26 February, KEITH WHITNELL
Murder-in-Medway
26 March, EDDIE ASQUITH
In Full Flight

What's the Point of Life?

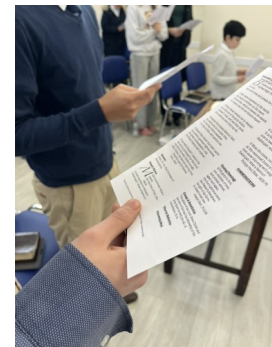
Pastor Kevin Félix Hollington, Halling Baptist Church

We use catechisms to teach our children. These are sets of questions and answers that help us teach tried and tested truths rooted in the Bible. For example, the Westminster Shorter Catechism Q1 asks: 'What is Man's Primary Purpose?' Answer: 'Man's primary purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.'



hallingbaptist.org.uk

This teaches us we weren't made for ourselves but for God. Glorifying God means to make His greatness visible to others. We do this by obeying God's command to love Him above all things and to love our neighbour as ourselves. However, our sin – our fallen nature of selfishness and self-centredness – brings God's displeasure and righteous judgement against us. But God, rich in mercy, provided a Saviour born of a virgin.



This Saviour – God the Son – lived the perfect life we could never live, and died in the place of sinners to reconcile us to God. By turning away from sin to Jesus Christ, we gain access to God, who enables us to glorify Him and to enjoy Him forever. Are you trusting in Christ alone for salvation?

For more information, or for other catechism questions please visit: www.hallingbaptist.org.uk

Halling Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers



Halling Rainbows (ages 4-7), Brownies (7-10), Guides (10-14) and Rangers (14-18) meet every Thursday during term time at the Jubilee Hall in Upper Halling with Rainbows starting at 4pm, Brownies at 5.10pm and Guides and Rangers at 6.45pm.

The girls take part in many activities, gaining interest badges and learning new skills. During the Bank Holiday weekend at the beginning of May, the Brownies enjoyed their time away at a 'Zootropolis' themed Pack Holiday near Wilmington. They enjoyed crafts and games and a fabulous time was had by all.



At the moment the Rainbows are working towards an interest badge, where they are learning all about different allergies and what reactions people can have to certain types. They will learn what to do if someone has a bad reaction to a certain food item, or other things they could be allergic to.

The Brownies and Guides are taking part in the Ecology badge, part of which has had them clearing weeds at the Jubilee Hall, and planting flowering plants in pots to encourage more Butterflies and Bees.



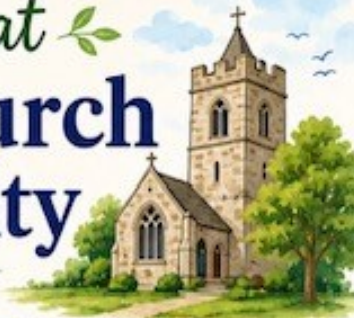
The Rangers have also planted up some pots for their Gardening badge, learning all about soil types, different planting seasons and what plants are best for the four seasons.

At the end of May, the Guides and Rangers will be off to PGL (Parents Get Lost) to enjoy a weekend of fun and activities.



If you would like your daughter to join one of the Groups, please register her at www.girlguiding.org.uk and you can also use this email address to register if you would like to volunteer with us too, and we always appreciate the help we get from volunteers.

What's On at St. John's Church & Community



UPCOMING EVENTS



Halling Youth Chess Club

Thursday 4th June
Ages 6-16 | Weekly | 6.00-7.15pm



Churches Count on Nature 'Scavenger Hunt'

Love your Burial Ground Week
Saturday 13th June / 10am-12 noon



The Peninsula Big Band Concert

Friday 19th June / 7pm



St. John's Day – Bellringing Workshop Free Lessons

Wednesday 24th June / 6.00pm -9pm



Teddy Bears' Picnic

Wednesday 19th August



Holy Communion Service

Every Sunday | 11.00am

REGULAR ACTIVITIES



Community Choir

Every Tuesday | 6.30pm



Halling Youth Chess Club

Every Thursday
Ages 6-16 | Weekly | 6.00-7.15pm



Lego Drop-in mornings

Every First Saturday
of each month
10am -12 noon



Mothers' Union – Cuxton & Halling Branch at Cuxton Church Hall

Every 3rd Wed | 10.30am



Bell Ringing Practice at St. John's

Last Wednesday of
every month | 7.00 - 9.00pm

All Welcome!

Faith • Friendship • Community

KALC Community Award 2026



**Nirmal receiving the
Community Award**

At the recent Halling Annual Parish Meeting, Nirmal Menan of the Halling Post Office received the KALC Community Award which recognises individuals who have made a significant contribution to their local community.

The award cited that 'Nirmal and the Halling Post Office has provided a central point of contact and community support for residents across many years, alongside working with the Parish Council and local organisations'.

Nirmal received the award from The Mayor of Medway, Cllr Douglas Hamandishe, and Cllr Richard Thorne, Chairman of Halling Parish Council.

Dear Halling View reader,

I want to use this edition to remind you of the different ways you can get in touch with me and how my office can help.

As your MP, my role is to listen to your concerns and help resolve them where I can. My team and I regularly support residents with issues such as housing, benefits, pensions, NHS access, and problems with public services. We can also raise matters with the relevant authorities on your behalf.

If you need help, are unsure where to turn, or want to share your views, please do get in touch. My contact details are below, and my office will always do its best to help.

**Lauren Edwards
MP for Rochester and Strood**



Get in touch:

Email: lauren.edwards.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.laurenedwards.uk

Phone: 0207 219 7667

Letter: Lauren Edwards MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Scan for social media, newsletter sign up and more:

