

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS AUGUST 2023



The rare and endangered Fiery Clearwing moth, recently found at the Brickfields.

Photo taken from the Butterfly Conservation website

**Compiled, edited and published for the village on behalf of
St Margaret's Church**

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

6 August 2023 - 8am Quiet Communion with Rev Jacky Davis

13 August 2023 - 10am Family Worship with Lis Willmet

20 August 2023 - 10am Communion with Rev Jacky Davis

*27 August 2023 - 10am Combined Communion with St Mary the Virgin Newington at *Newington* with Rev Amanda Lane

Also there is always a Sunday online service at 10.30am on The Six YouTube which can be accessed at: <https://bit.ly/3JykJ8W>

MIDWEEK SERVICES

We hold a short midweek service of Praise and Prayer in the church on Wednesday mornings from 10am to 10.30am. Prayers for the community, personal needs or illnesses and there is opportunity for prayer for yourself if you would like it. All are welcome and you are invited to stay for tea/coffee after. Rev. Jacky Davis, 843189.

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

6 August 2023 - Lynne

13 August 2023 - Lesley

20 August 2023 - Gillian

27 August 2023 - Eileen

ST MARGARET'S BEREAVEMENT COFFEE TIME

Just a reminder our meeting is still available to anyone who has had a sad loss of loved ones. We have great conversation, and laugh, but still remembering those who have passed away. It may feel difficult to walk through the door on your own, but be well assured, you will soon feel "at home". Please contact Jackie 07840 258665 for any queries. We even have a social secretary, who arranges day outings for us.

RUMMIKUB GROUP - 1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH

A small Rummikub group meets ONCE a MONTH at Emily Bartlett's house, 1pm-3pm on the 1st THURSDAY of the month - the next session will be on 3 August 2023. Beginners are welcome as two of us can teach you. For more information call 841139.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Dear Friends

I have just finished a training course about safeguarding. A subject guaranteed to get some pretty lively – and sometimes colourful – responses from people!

As a teacher, as well as taking different roles in the church, I have undergone a lot of training over the years, with certificates and DBS certificates enough to wallpaper a significant-sized room. I am also safeguarding lead in three of our parishes.

You may already have nodded off, but I am writing about this now because I believe passionately that safeguarding is an essential part of who we are and what we do. After all, shouldn't it be in our DNA as human beings to want to see others flourish and feel safe? That everyone should be able to live without fear? One of the most terrifying things that seems to jump out of the TV screen when there are news reports from conflict zones is the fear on the faces of the youngest and most elderly, those most vulnerable to the appalling effects of bombs and gunfire.

We don't need to protect those around us from such extreme violence, but the damage done to those who live with the fear of physical or sexual violence, or whose lives are minutely controlled by those who claim to love them and should have their best interests at heart, can be incalculable.

I was recently hearing tales of awful, casual brutality that happened at schools in the '60s and '70s, with staff ruling by terror and the threat of physical violence. And as a young woman growing up in the '70s, I am not the only one to have been affected by the casual assumption of older men that they could say and do things which would, thank heavens, be unacceptable today. Things weren't always better!

Progress is often hard won, and I am grateful that we now live in a society where, notionally at least, certain attitudes and behaviours are

no longer acceptable. But we are far from perfect, and there has been much which has left a legacy of suffering, both within the church and in wider society. That must be addressed, and we must be on the alert for that which still needs to be challenged. And that is why we need safeguarding training, and structures which seek to protect against wrong behaviours.

And it is why we need to be ready to be challenged, to be disturbed, and to stand up for those who are the most vulnerable and on the fringes of our communities. That's what Jesus did when he spoke to and healed lepers, when he ate with tax collectors, when he healed the woman who had suffered years of bleeding, when he sat alongside the woman caught in adultery. It's what Jesus did when he gathered children around him and spoke of how precious they are.

Jesus allowed those around him to be fully human, to know they were loved and not judged. And in the end, that's what safeguarding is all about. Active love.

Every blessing

Amanda

FRIENDS OF THE BRICKFIELDS

An update from Judy Telford:

Summer seems to have finally arrived, I counted ten species of Butterfly on my morning walk today (12th July), I was beginning to wonder whether we would see many this year as we had such a slow start to the season coupled with a very dry period last summer.

A recent Moth survey found two rare, protected Moth species along the sea wall which is good news.

A young Nightingale and some young Little Owls have been spotted, no doubt there are many more youngsters about so please keep your dogs close and keep to the paths.

Our next work party is planned for Sunday 13 August 2023, meet at 10am at the gate at the end of Lapwing Drive. If you can't make it please

help in your own time by snipping back brambles and other overgrowth along the paths, the Brickie is mostly maintained by volunteers and we need all the help we can get!

If you are on Facebook we have a page; Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields on which we share news and history plus the natural world on the site. Otherwise we can be contacted by email; friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com or on 07486 530068

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library stops outside the Memorial Hall fortnightly from 1.50pm to 2.30pm. The next dates are Thursdays 10 and 24 August 2023

MOBILITY ITEMS

A temporary home has been found for the village mobility items, a minimum of 24 hours notice is needed at present and the contact details are: Jackie Swift 842749 or Dawn Drury 842688

KEEP FIT GROUP

A friendly group of ladies meet for local walks on Monday/Wednesday evenings from the Memorial Hall. For more information call Liz on 842272.

LOWER HALSTOW WALKERS

All are welcome.

Starting at 10am every Monday, including Bank Holidays, from the end of Lapwing Drive, by the Brickfields, and usually there will be two walks on offer; a brisk 2 hour walk and a one and a half/two hour walk at a more moderate pace (the slower walk will have opportunities for an earlier detour if the distance is longer than some walkers can manage). Walkers who want to go faster can, but will be asked to wait for the rest of the group at suitable points, as currently happens, this way we can be inclusive of everyone. A short walk will be available for up to one hour if people request it in advance, please contact Margaret on 07964 067915 to arrange it.

The first Monday of every month when we walk to the golf club we will still have two walks, one taking the shortest route possible, arriving first

and therefore being served first. Sturdy walking shoes/boots and a waterproof jacket are recommended.

Please phone Margaret on 843927 for more information

RETURN OF THE RAFT RACE AND THE FIRST RAFT RAVE

Thank you to everyone who was involved in organising the first Raft Race to take place in 21 years and also the very first Raft Rave later on the same day.

Both events were great fun and hopefully raised some money for other village events/groups

Four teams took part in the Raft Race - MOPE, Adventures Unlimited, Swan and the Wet Bandits.

The MOPE team won in some style!



The winning MOPE team

THE THREE TUNS - AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

The pub will remain closed on Tuesdays in August.

Silent Disco

On Friday 25 August 2023 there will be a Silent Disco at the pub from 9pm to 11pm

The Annual Beer and Cider Festival

At the pub from Saturday 26 August to Bank Holiday Monday 28 August 2023 with live music each day:

Saturday 26 August

2pm The Borrowers

8pm The Chaucers

Sunday 27 August

2pm Alice Band

8pm The Zac Schulze Gang

Bank Holiday Monday 28 August

2pm The Chillbillies

KENT POLICE - NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE OFFICER



**Kent
Police**



PC Jez Chittim.

I would like to introduce myself as the new Kent Police neighbourhood beat officer for Hartlip, Newington, Upchurch, Bobbing, Iwade, Lower Halstow and Kemsley wards.

I have worked for Kent Police for 17 years, mostly within neighbourhood policing and really enjoy this type of work. I will be on foot patrol throughout the area and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

If you see me please come and say hello and let me know of anything I can assist with.

Thank you for your support.

PC Jez Chittim

Kent Police - Swale Neighbourhood Officer

Email: Jez.Chittim@kent.police.uk

Contact your local policing team at: <https://bit.ly/3pprLHW>

Is it an emergency? If so, please Call: 999 now.

FACEBOOK PAGE FOR GARDENERS

A friendly group for anyone interested in green-fingered hobbies such as gardening, allotments, fruit and veg growing, house plants and flower arranging. Everyone welcome including absolute beginners.

Please search on Facebook for Our Lower Halstow and Upchurch Community for Gardeners and Growers.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Swale Food Bank is supported by the Trussell Trust which provides food and toiletries in Swale and surrounding areas. This is run in partnership with local churches including St. Margaret's of Lower Halstow part of "The Six". The aim is to provide 3 days emergency food and support to local people referred to the Food Bank in a crisis. The collection point in Lower Halstow is 34 Crouch Hill Court. Please place any food/toiletry items in grey box by garage, or if money in an envelope marked "Food Bank" into letter box

RECYCLING

In her collection boxes outside 1 Curlew Avenue, Lynne Morris can now only recycle:

Dental products
Cheese wrappers
Used stamps

(No more medication blister packs as Superdrug will no longer take bulk donations. Small donations can be made individually at Superdrug, Sittingbourne.)

TUESDAY SOCIAL CLUB - ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, TUESDAY 22 AUGUST 2023, 7.30 TO 9PM

The Tuesday Social Club

22nd August 2023

Did You Know?

A light hearted talk by Liz about St Margaret's Church itself.

7.30pm - 9pm

St Margaret's Church

Please note change of venue for this month only, there will be no charge and no raffle but there will be refreshments.

***The Tuesday Club supports St Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow.
For more information call Liz on 842272***

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

The Fiery Clearwing moth (photo on the front cover), which is a nationally rare moth, has been discovered at the seawall area of the Brickfields, where it is laying its eggs amongst the plants. The Parish Council have asked the Environment Agency not to cut the vegetation along the seawall until September, when the breeding season for this very rare and protected moth is over.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the Parish Council website (<https://www.hugofox.com/community/lower-halstow-parish-council-17855/home>) where you will find notices of local road closures, Parish Council policies, agendas and Minutes amongst other things. The Parish Council will post some items on the Village Facebook group, but this is not their main method to inform residents and it is not monitored by the council. Please contact the Clerk via email: clerk.lhpc@gmail.com or on 01760 336459 if you have any queries.

LIVE WEATHER STATION AND WEBCAM

Lower Halstow Yacht Club has a live weather station and webcam looking out over the creek. It is on the yacht club website and is open to everyone weather.lhyc.org.uk

FUTURE DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES:

HALLOWEEN DISCO:

Thursday, 26 October 2023

SANTA SATURDAY:

Saturday, 9 December 2023



NEW SCHOOL-START WEDNESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER



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TIMETABLE

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6.45-7.30-12yrst+ HipHop

Saturdays

9-9.45am- Baby Ballet 3yrst+

9.45-10.30- Boogie Beats Streetdance 3yrst+

10.30-11.30- Musical Theatre

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LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we come to the end of another academic year, I can't believe how quickly it has passed and how much we have managed to fit in, it is so lovely to be back to normal now after Covid and to be able to enjoy our annual events, especially those where we can invite parents and the local community to join us.



This term Rowan Class (Year 1) headed out to Wingham Wildlife Park in the last class trip of the year, the weather was lovely and sunny and the children had great fun seeing all the animals.

We have been celebrating a few sporting successes this term too; our Year 5 and 6 boys' football team finished third in the league whilst our Federation Girls team (joint with Newington) finished in first place. We are very proud of them all for their teamwork and sportsmanship. The weather was kind to us and we managed to fit in our annual sports day which was won by Dover House this year. The children tried really hard in all the activities and supported each other brilliantly. One of the highlights was the sprint races at the end, with gold medals being awarded to the fastest girl and boy in each class.

Term 6 is an important term for our Year 6 pupils as they complete a number of activities to prepare them for secondary school and later life. They have completed two money and finance sessions delivered by The Family Trust, which aim to help the children understand basic budgeting, saving and spending. The children also had First Aid training to ensure that as they become more independent they are well equipped to face the wider world.

After SATS, our Year 6 pupils from both schools headed off on their residential trip to Kingswood; they took part in shelter building, fire making, Jacob's ladder, archery, climbing and problem solving to name just a few of the fun activities. Once they came back they went into full rehearsal mode for their end of Year 6 performance 'The Pirates of the Curry Bean'. It is an amusing tale of piracy, treasure hunting and a man returned to his family. The event was well attended and the audience were very impressed by the standard of the singing of all the children.

To ensure a smooth start to the new academic year in September, all children had the chance to meet their new teachers and teaching assistants and spent two mornings together completing activities and

getting to know one another. Our Year 6 pupils also had the opportunity to spend some time in their new secondary school to help them familiarise themselves with the much larger buildings!

In preparation for our new pupils who will join us in September we have decorated our Year R classroom, had new wood effect lino laid as well as purchased new wooden furniture to complete the look. It is now a very inviting space which fosters learning and enquiry.

After the success and enjoyment of the event last year, we invited Scott Ryan in again. He is a specialist outdoor chef, who created some new dishes with the children: all cooked on an open fire. The dishes created were linked to periods in history that the children had studied throughout the year. This meant that the school grounds smelt lovely for several days but the best bit was eating their creations at the end!

Hopefully the glorious weather will continue and everyone can enjoy lots of lovely outdoor summer activities before the Autumn chill arrives and we are back in school once more.

Michelle Crowe, Head of School





FUNDRAISE FOR KSS THIS SUMMER

Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex (KSS) delivers world-leading pre-hospital emergency care 24/7 to the 4.8 million people who live in its region – plus the many millions more who travel through this area, which has some of the busiest roads in the country. Its crews of pilots, doctors and paramedics responded to 3,224 incidents in 2022, the charity's busiest year in its 33-year history.

Each year, the charity must raise £16.6M – equivalent to £45K per day - to operate its life-saving service, with 87% of its total income raised through the generosity of its supporters. Throughout the year, KSS organises a number of different fundraising events and, this summer, there are lots of opportunities to take part and help the life-saving charity raise vital funds.

Cuppa for your Crew

This summer, why not host a Cuppa for your Crew by bringing together friends and family for a cuppa and slice of something nice? Whether

you host a coffee morning or bake sale stall - at home, work or as part of a community group – each sweet treat sold and cuppa consumed will help KSS to keep flying and save lives.

KSS Ride

Returning for its third year on Sunday 20 August, KSS Ride offers horse riders the opportunity to enjoy an eight-mile hack through the beautiful woodland and farmland of the Bilsington Priory Estate in Kent whilst raising funds. Pre-booking is required: aakss.org/kssride

Lauren Simmons, Head of Events at KSS, said: “Every pound raised by taking part in our fundraising events makes a real difference, helping us to ensure we can be there for the most critically ill patients in their hour of need. On behalf of KSS, a very big thank you to everyone who supports us. We could not do what we do without you.”

For further information: aakss.org.uk

CONTENT

Please note that the editor is not responsible for any inaccuracies which may occur in items from contributors. Contributions are printed (usually with only minor adjustments or corrections if necessary) as submitted.

The editor has to assume that the contributors have checked their facts. If you have any queries or complaints please contact the relevant organisation direct.

ADVERTISING IN THE VILLAGE NEWS

If you would like to advertise in the Village News minimum suggested donations are - Full page £10 per month, Half page £5 per month, Quarter page - £2.50 per month.

All monies received go towards the cost of printing the newsletters. Everything else is done free of charge by volunteers. The PCC reserves the right to exclude adverts if they appear unsuitable

The deadline for items for the September 2023 Village News is noon on 12 August 2023. Please email items for inclusion as early as possible to ransleyfamily@gmail.com

CONTACTS

(Telephone numbers are 01795 unless otherwise stated)

If you notice any information is out of date, if anything has changed, or you would like something else included, please let Gill know on ransleyfamily@gmail.com or call 07771817152

Borough Councillors for Bobbing, Lower Halstow & Iwade

Lloyd Chapman, lloydchapman@swale.gov.uk

Roger Clark, 430324, rogerclark@swale.gov.uk

Citizens Advice

0800 144 8848, citizensadvice.org.uk

Cricket Club

Mark Stevens, 842090

Dog Warden

Daytime 417850

Out of hours 07795 237479

Flood Wardens

Kay Howard-Challis, 844408, kayhelen2017@outlook.com

Abbie Dowell, abbie_mcdowell@hotmail.com

Friends of the Brickfield

friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com

Judo Club

Jon 07944 755036

Kent Wildlife Trust

01622 662012

KCC Potholes

03000 418187

Kent County Councillor

Mike Baldock, 471139, 07522 442964, mike.baldock@kent.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Gordon Henderson, 423199, www.gordonhendersonmp.org.uk

Memorial Hall

Chairman, Keith Howard-Challis, 844408, lowerhalstowhall@gmail.com
Bookings Kay Howard-Challis, 844408

Neighbourhood Police Officer

PC Jez Chittim, jez.chittim@kent.police.uk

Neighbourhood Watch

Co-ordinator, Richard Asbury, LHNWatch1@gmail.com, 07894 792802,
Facebook - Search Lower Halstow Neighbourhood Watch

NHS

111

Noise nuisance

Daytime 417850

Out of hours 07881 817601

Parish Council

Parish Clerk, Ann Smith, clerk.lhpc@gmail.com, 01760 336459,
<https://www.hugofox.com/community/lower-halstow-parish-council-17855/home>

Playgroup

Heather Salisbury, 07984 613532

Police

General enquiries, 01622 690690, kent.police.uk

Neighbourhood Watch 01634 792131

Samaritans

116 123 - free number day or night; email jo@samaritans.org (response time 24 hours)

School

842344, <https://www.lower-halstow.kent.sch.uk/>

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

Richard Sutehall, lowerhalstow.gsl@sittingbournescouts.org.uk

Short Mat Bowls

John Mustoo, 843681, Mick Porter, Secretary, 484345

St Margaret's Church

Rev. Julian Staniforth, 227329

PCC Secretary, Dawn Drury, 842688

Church Enquiries, Jackie Swift, 842749

Swale Borough Council

Main office, 424341

The Three Tuns

842840, www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk,

info@thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk

Village News

Distribution, Glenda Tress, 843757

Items for inclusion send to Gill Ransley, ransleyfamily@gmail.com,

07771817152

Yacht Club

Dave Quigley, 841242

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SJP APPROVED 10/03/2023

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