

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS October 2021



*One of the wonderful scarecrows from the 2020 trail!
What will this October bring?*

October Services at St Margaret's

3 October - 8am Communion

10 October - 10am Family Worship

17 October - 10am Family Communion

17 October - 3pm Thanksgiving Service for the life of Alan Swift

24 October - 10am Family Worship

31 October - 10am Morning Worship

Also there is always a Sunday online service at 10.30am on The Six YouTube

Altar Flower Rota

3 October - Jennifer

10 October - Georgina

17 October - Liz

24 October - Yvonne

31 October - Lesley

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR ALAN SWIFT - SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER AT 3PM

Jackie and the family would like to invite you to come along to Alan's service, as we could not have an honourable service for his funeral, the numbers being very restricted as with many of these sad occasions.

We aim to have the service followed by afternoon tea, with a glass of wine. There will be an exhibition of Alan's village work and old village history. Any queries please call Jackie on 842749.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

If you would like to share any of this type of news with everyone in the village in future editions of the Village News, please email brief details to me at ransleyfamily@gmail.com or pop written details round to me at 16 Cumberland Drive.

MOBILITY ITEMS

St. Margaret's Church has a selection of Mobility Items, to borrow for emergencies or long term loans. Please call Ursula 842924 or Tricia 842419

FRIENDS OF THE BRICKFIELD - WORK PARTY SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER 2021

We are having our annual reed bed maintenance session on 2 October starting at 10am.. Please come if you can, we need lots of help. Bring gloves and wear long sleeved clothing the reeds are sharp! If you'd like more details please ring me on 844058.

There will be further work parties throughout the winter months, these will be advertised in the Village News and on our Facebook page;

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1745374939097984>

Judy Telford.

THE THREE TUNS

The next pub quiz will be on Wednesday 6 October 2021, bookings only and a maximum of 6 per team/table. Last month's quiz raised £225 for St Mungo's charity.

For a temporary period from 21 September 2021 the pub will be closed every Tuesday until further notice. This is to make sure that all staff get 2 days away from work each week.

BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING - FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER 2021

Come and join us as at St Margaret's Church between 10am and 4pm as we raise funds Enjoy a coffee with friends - have lunch - have a browse!

We are collecting jewellery, nearly new bric-a-brac (no clothes thank you), and of course we need cakes and goodies to offer for sale. Non food donations can be dropped off from 3 October and edible donations nearer the day or on the day. Donations will be gratefully received by Liz and Dave Hadley at 14 Curlew Avenue or Jackie Davis at Mill House (next to The Three Tuns)

LOWER HALSTOW SCARECROW TRAIL 2021

The Scarecrow Trail is back for a second year! It will run from 3pm on Friday 22nd to 4pm on Sunday 31st October 2021. If you would like to build and display a scarecrow, or if you don't want to build one but are happy to display one (built by someone else), then please contact the school PTA on lowerhalstowpta@gmail.com. Everyone is invited to take part, not just school families. There is an (optional) theme of TV & Film - all we ask is that all scarecrows are family friendly.

The Scarecrow Trail is in aid of Lower Halstow School and all money raised goes to help the children. Donations can be made through our website at <https://lowerhalstowpta.wixsite.com/scarecrows> or in person by contacting us.

Thanks for taking part, we can't wait to see your scarecrows!

CHARITY CRISP PACKET RECYCLING

We are collecting Crisp Packets for recycling - please drop off at 34 Crouch Hill Court. All brands accepted, preferably flat. Plastic Free Lower Halstow

MEDICINE BLISTER PACKS AND PENS RECYCLING

Lynne Morris has now put a plastic collection box outside 1 Curlew Avenue for clean and dry used pens and medication blister packs (please make sure there are no personal details on the packs). Money raised from the blister packs will go to Parkinson's UK and pens will go to Terracycle and be recycled.

LADIES DIY KEEP FIT

A friendly group of ladies meet for exercise on Monday evenings. For more information call Liz on 842272

AUCTION OF PROMISES - NOVEMBER 2021

To raise funds for local community groups an auction is being planned for mid November (just in time to buy some Christmas presents!). If you would like to make a pledge please contact Carina Jacobs carinaj65@outlook.com

FOODBANK 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. Margarets 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

LOWER HALSTOW POETRY FESTIVAL

Many thanks to everyone who supported, took part and attended the first Lower Halstow Poetry Festival in August 2021. Everyone agreed that it was a wonderful event and the committee were delighted with how the day unfolded with so many highlights. Particular thanks to St Margaret's Church for providing a wonderful venue and to Jackie Swift and her amazing team of ladies who provided everyone with tea, coffee and cake; they made the incredible sum of £252,80 in donations - the most they have ever collected in one day! Thank you too to everyone who donated cakes. Also thank you to Cllr Mike Baldock for suggesting a festival and his continued input, to George Peters for his amazing recitations, to everyone who contributed lines for the Kubla Khan, to Kate Forward for her research and presentation, to Rachael and Sam Dyke for the use of their brilliant equipment, to Tim Goldup for his fantastic video, to the many children from the school who contributed such superb pictures, poems and albatrosses and all the brave people who took part in the Open Mic sessions. Every contribution to the festival was so gratefully received and helped to make it a memorable community event with so many magical elements. Look out for announcements for the second Lower Halstow Poetry Festival in 2022!

MOBILE LIBRARY

The dates for October were not available on the KCC website when the Village News was being prepared.

HEALTH WALKS

Start at 10.00 am every Monday, including Bank Holidays, from the end of Lapwing Drive, by the Brick Fields, and there are usually three walks on offer; a leisurely 1 hour walk, a leisurely 1.5 hour walk, and a brisk 2 hour walk. Sturdy walking shoes/boots and a waterproof jacket are recommended. Please phone Margaret on 843927 for more information.

BLYTHESWOOD SHOE BOXES

It's that time of year again. Hopefully you will find a leaflet in this newsletter. Please consider making a box up to help those who won't get anything this Christmas. If you cannot make a box up, a selection of donations would be welcome.

Collection points are:

Hilary - 34 Crouch Hill Court, Jackie - 48 School Lane, Una - 2 Cumberland Drive, Liz - 14 Curlew Avenue and of course St Margarets Church when it is open.

Last year we donated 55 boxes to Blytheswood. For more information phone Hilary 841632
Thank you, Hilary

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

There was no Parish Council meeting in August. The next meeting is on Tuesday 5 October. Ann Smith, the Parish Clerk has now moved and her new phone number is 01760 336459

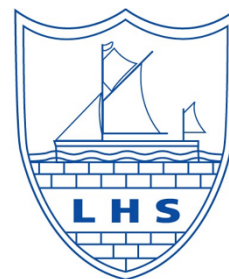
Lower Halstow Parish Council's website provides a wealth of information <https://www.hugofox.com/community/lower-halstow-parish-council-17855/home/?preview=e3277b7cbc194cee8dd5580b9b87877b>

LIVE WEATHER STATION AND WEBCAM

Lower Halstow Yacht Club now have a live weather station and webcam looking out over the creek updating currently every 15 minutes. It's on the yacht club website and is open to everyone
<https://weather.lhyc.org.uk>

LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

The children were welcomed back to school for the new academic year with a surprise in the form of a massive balloon rainbow arch from Balloonatic. You can see photos on <https://twitter.com/lowerhalstowsch>. Teddy, the school dog, was even wearing rainbow ribbons for the occasion and the whole school started this year's learning journey by sharing a wonderful picture book called 'Return' by Aaron Becker which features rainbows. As usual the written work and art work produced by the children was very impressive.



The new reception children started on the following Monday and were quick to settle in and find their feet with the help of their teacher and teaching assistants. Our lovely PTA volunteers welcomed their parents with tea and biscuits and we got the chance to know our new families as for many this was their first real visit to the school. We have also welcomed some new faces in other year groups too and the school roll continues to grow.

One of the best 'normal' activities we have done so far this term is to join together in the (well-ventilated) school hall for an assembly. We haven't done this since March 2020 so it was lovely to all be together and to sing together again too. We are lucky to have such a large hall which enables us to do this and we hope that we are able to continue these little things that bring so much joy to school life.

During the summer holidays we have had a running track installed so the 'daily mile' will become a regular feature of our fitness routine. Our oldest pupils have already started their weekly swimming sessions at Swallows, having missed out last year, and several trips and visitors are planned for the coming months using the new minibus.

With our return to 'normal' we have certainly learned to value and appreciate the activities and routines that we took for granted in the past.

Miss Crowe and Mrs Deevoy

PASTORAL LETTER

"The Earth: Our Common Home, a Place for All"

"Wherever I lay my hat, that's my home". Remember this number one song? For those who love pub quizzes, can you name the singer and the year?

This sentiment feels especially poignant right now given the recent events in Afghanistan. People have literally left everything, setting off into the unknown to do just that; to find a place where they can lay their hat and call it home. But it's not just Afghanistan as the continuous flow of refugees seeking a safer place, risking everything to do so, reminds us. The recent generous response of the donations by so many gives grounds for hope for them in finding that new home in this country; a response rooted in the gospel call to "*love thy neighbour*".

“Home”. This simple yet evocative word stirs deep yearnings within us as it touches upon questions of life, both in the here and now and for beyond death. At its most basic level home is a roof over our head, our own front door, food on the table, a comfy bed! It’s a place where we can be secure, where we belong, where we can know we are loved and accepted for who we are, where we can rest, where we can be at peace at one with ourselves, with others around us and with our surroundings. For me this word speaks powerfully of the promise of the presence of the Lord’s love with us: *“we will come and make our home with them”* ¹

In the church calendar we are in the Season of Creation, from September to Harvest at the start of October. We are thinking about the Earth as “Our Common Home: A Place for All”; for people and for wildlife alike. We are looking ahead to the COP26 conference in early November, when difficult choices will need to be faced given the climate crisis. For this is now a current reality not a future threat as recent events this summer have highlighted; the unprecedented rains and floods in Europe; raging forest fires. These capture headlines when other effects don’t, such as the relentless rise in sea levels, threatening far-flung places both people and wildlife call home.

“The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands.....day after day they pour forth speech, night after night they display knowledge” ² Creation, this Earth is speaking, groaning in distress *“as in childbirth”* as the Bible puts it ³ . Will we heed this voice? Will we be willing to embrace the changes needed? What can we each do to make a difference where we are? This, so we can sing the song for us all to a place to lay our hat and call it home.

Every Blessing!

Julian

Rev Julian Staniforth, Rector of The Six

¹ John 14.23; ² Psalm 19.1-2; ³ Romans 8.22

LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS – SEPTEMBER 2021

A STRONG COMMUNITY
UNITED TOGETHER

YOUR ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

Breach Lane	Diane Harris, Michael Porter
Burntwick Drive	Amy Lundie
Crouch Hill Court	Tony Roberts
Cumberland Drive	Glenda Tress, Chris Mayes
Curlew Avenue	Richard Asbury
Heron Close	Peter Fullalove
Landrail Road	Dave Giles
Lapwing Drive	Lynne Morris
School Lane	Clare Jane, Dawn Nickolls, Audrey Robins
Sheerness Road	Liz Moulard
The Street	Cheyenne Hayward
Vicarage Lane	Rachel Parker
Wardwell Lane	Keith Howard Challis
Westmoreland Drive	Kerry Ward

We would like to extend our thanks to PCSOs Lee Fennell and John Cork who have been commended for their response to medical incident in Upchurch.

Sergeant Ryan Chase said:

‘This is a good example of members of the community working with our officers to assist someone in need. I would like to commend PCSOs Fennell and Cork for their actions, as well as the member of the public who flagged them down and the doctor who stopped the moment he saw someone who needed help. Their actions potentially saved a life.



Headline News

Read all about it....

- The LHNW meeting was kindly attended by our Dog Warden for Swale and PCSOs Lee Fennell and John Cork.

- The PCSO Team continue to visit the village daily as part of their patrols.

- There were 4 Reports in the period.

- Minutes of the monthly meeting will be available on the Facebook group or by contacting your road representative.

USEFUL CONTACTS

EMERGENCY SERVICES		999
NON EMERGENCY POLICE	www.kent.police.uk – Website Chat Service	or 101
PCSO	Lee Fennell Lee.Fennell@kent.police.uk	07929 376822
DOG WARDEN	swale.gov.uk/dogs-and-animal-welfare	01795 417850 or 07795 237479
RURAL TASK FORCE	rural.task.force@kent.police.uk Inspector Dave Smith Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw Rural Crime Co-ordinator Doug Robertson	07528 989095 07800 675376 07870 252185 07972 004587
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR	Richard Asbury LHNWatch1@gmail.com	07894 792802
FACEBOOK SEARCH -	Lower Halstow Neighbourhood Watch and Join the Group

LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS – SEPTEMBER 2021

A STRONG COMMUNITY
UNITED TOGETHER



The next Neighbourhood watch meeting will be on 11th October.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DOG WARDEN

The Neighbourhood watch meeting was attended by the Dog warden for Swale as we are aware of some recent incidents in the village involving dogs.

- It is the owner's responsibility to secure their dogs. Any dogs found unattended should be reported to the dog warden. If the dog or dogs can be contained the warden can attend to check for a microchip and reunite with the owner.
- Please ensure your dog has a microchip and that the details are kept up to date.
- Dog owners have a responsibility to control their dog. The definition of attack includes the dog behaving in such a way that a person becomes fearful that they might be attacked. The dog does not need to bite someone for you to have committed an offence. If the dog's behaviour is aggressive or threatening you may be prosecuted.
- Nuisance Dog noise can be reported to the council. There are no fixed rules on times. It does not have to be the middle of the night to be a nuisance.
- Pick Up the Poo – There have been 4 successful fixed penalty notices issued to dog owners based upon ring doorbell / security footage. Not clearing up after your dog is an offence.
- In all cases reporting is key – If the wardens aren't contacted it's like it has never happened and nothing will change.

Incidents can be reported to:

Noise Complaints	swale.gov.uk	or 01795 417575
Dog Fouling	swale.gov.uk	
Dog Warden	swale.gov.uk/dogs-and-animal-welfare	01795 417850 or 07795 237479

- Stickers are available and new neighbourhood watch signage is going up in the village.
- An abandoned vehicle has been trailered away and removed.
- Information regarding reporting suspected fraud has been put onto the facebook page and posters will be put in village notice boards.
- With nights drawing in there has been increased Shed and outbuilding break-ins. Please be extra vigilant. Shed alarms are a good deterrent. Bicycles can be secured together inside a secured shed to make it even more difficult to steal. Valuable items should not be left in outbuildings wherever possible.

CONTACTS

(Telephone numbers are 01795 unless otherwise stated)

Some details may be out of date, if anything has changed, or you would like something else included, please let Gill know on ransleyfamily@gmail.com or call 843871

Borough Councillors for Bobbing, Lower Halstow & Iwade

Corrie Woodford, corriewoodford@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, 844404, kayhelen2017@outlook.com

Abbie Dowell abbie_mcdowell@hotmail.com

Judo Club

Jon 07944 755036

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 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>

PCSO

Lee Fennell, 07929 376822, lee.fennell@kent.police.uk

Playgroup

Heather Salisbury, 07984 613532

Police

General enquiries, 01622 690690, kent.police.uk

Neighbourhood Watch 01634 792131

School

842344, <http://www.lowerhalstowandnewington.org.uk/>

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

Lisa Joiner, gsllowerhalstow@yahoo.com

Short Mat Bowls

John Mustoo, 843681, Glenys Lovell, Acting Secretary, 842376

St Margaret's Church

Rev. Julian Staniforth, 227329

PCC Secretary, Dawn Drury, 842688

Church Enquiries, Jackie Swift, 842749

Email: LowerHalstowChurch@outlook.com

Swale Borough Council

Main office, 424341

The Three Tuns

842840, www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk,
info@thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk

Village News

Distribution, Glenda Tress, 843757

Yacht Club

Dave Quigley, 841242

**The deadline for the November 2021 Village News is noon on
12 October 2021**

**Please email items for inclusion as early as possible to
ransleyfamily@gmail.com**

The PCC reserves the right to exclude adverts if they appear unsuitable.

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.

UNIQUELY YOURS FLOWERS AND MORE

A village based flower arranging business offering flowers and crafts for all occasions, tailored to meet your needs.

No job too small. Find me on Facebook or at <https://www.uniquelyyoursflowers.co.uk> or call Liz on 07730 893747

DISCO CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

Range of fun on offer - discos; glitter tattoos; games/prizes;
candy floss machine; doorstep visits; smoke machine;
disco lights and music; popcorn machine; glow face paint and nails;
character/mascots; bubble machine
Packages available - see on Facebook or contact Hannah/Emma on
07713 124723

MIDKENT IT SOLUTIONS

Local village IT engineer available to help with all your IT needs,
including PC/laptop repairs, wifi/network issues, printers, software, anti-
virus, office 365 licenses, Windows 10 upgrades and much more.

www.midkentit.co.uk, 01634 912105/07542795078,
enquiries@midkentit.co.uk

TANTRUMS AND CURLS

Village based hair salon in Burntwick Drive, contact Kerry Hills on
07772 385397

Prices and full list of services available at
tantrumsandcurls.co.uk

Experienced Financial Adviser offering Pension and
Investment Planning & Mortgages

Michael van der Straaten
Chartered Financial Planner
Edenwood Wealth Management

19 The Street, Lower Halstow
Contact me on 07824 392342 or
Email: edenwood@sjpp.co.uk
Website: www.edenwoodwealth.com

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up
repayments on your Mortgage