

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS September 2022



Photo kindly supplied by Courtney Williamson

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

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

(Thursday 1 September 7pm Outdoor Communion, at The Field, Wardwell Lane)

4 September - no service at St Margaret's, 10.30am Benefice Communion, Newington

11 September - 10am, Family Worship

18 September - 10am, Family Communion

25 September - 10am, Family Worship

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 service

There is a new mid week service starting in St. Margaret's, Lower Halstow on Wednesday 7 September at 10am. It will be a fresh weekly time of Praise and Prayer, and will include time to sing, to give thanks for all good things and to pray for the village community (that means YOU!), and all other needs. We will finish with coffee within the hour, unless you would like private prayer for yourself which is always gladly given. All are invited to come and give it a try!

Queries to Rev. Jacky Davis 843189.

Altar Flower Rota

4 September - Georgina

11 September - Yvonne

18 September - Lesley

25 September - Lynne

ST MARGARET'S BEREAVEMENT COFFEE TIME

Every Thursday in September 10am to 12noon bereavement coffee time in the church. We have been open for a while now. So, anyone who feels they would like to come into the church, for a chat, a prayer, a quiet time, you may feel its hard to walk though the door, but you would be very welcome. We just chat, our gentlemen are full of history and stories, a time to listen, and join in and feel at home. Give Jackie a call to reassure you. 07840258665

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: “Like a tree planted by streams of water”

Do you find sometimes that a particular moment keeps coming back to you? It was a rather sad-looking plant on a warm sunny day. On this day's retreat I was attending with some colleagues, someone noticed this plant, on a mantelpiece, was drooping and looking rather sad and forlorn. So they went to fetch some water, poured it into the plant pot making sure it had a good long drink. When we gathered later in the same room, the plant had noticeably perked up, its flower and leaves refreshed. It just needed water, and only water would do.

Are we any different from that plant? On recent hot sunny days, there's nothing like water to quench our thirst. Only water will do. Yet what about those times in life when we feel dry inside, when we know we're running on empty? This may be for various reasons in our lives. No time for ourselves? Pressures of work and family? Worries about life, such as paying bills at the moment? Wondering what life is all about? What do you do, where do you go, where do you turn? Just pause for a moment. Where might your spirit be dry and crying out right now?

I went on a long walk with some others yesterday evening across the marshes by Lower Halstow. It was a lovely and restorative time in the evening air after a busy day. Looking around the land was dry and parched, the ground hard underfoot. Yet the trees were still green, their roots penetrating deep below ground drawing on deeper waters enabling them to withstand the heat pressure above, illustrating an image from Psalm 1 “blessed are those....who delight in the teaching of the Lord.....they are like a tree planted by streams of living water , which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither”.

Who or what are we living for? In his book “Second Mountain” the journalist David Brooks argues that if our lives are rooted in today's individualistic culture we will remain thirsty and unsatisfied. He observes, drawing on life examples, how satisfaction is found through commitment to others, to a cause or community. One of the earliest Christian thinkers, Augustine reflecting on his life, wrote “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in

You.” Speaking to an ostracised woman collecting her water Jesus said, “everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst.....a spring of water welling up to eternal life”. Here’s a simple invitation for rooted and refreshed living just like that plant: “Come all you who are thirsty, come to the water; unfailing love is waiting for us”. So will we?

Every blessing!

Julian

Rev Julian Staniforth

Rector & Priest-in-Charge of The Six benefice

KENT RIDE AND STRIDE - SATURDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2023

Time to plan your route!! This annual event is a huge success story which raises money directly for a church of your choice AND the Friends of Kent Churches charity which allocates all monies raised in grant form to churches needing financial help with the fabric of the building. The task is to seek sponsorship from family and friends for the number of churches visited on the day. Participants can either walk, cycle, ride, run. Over 700 churches are open between 10am and 6pm. For sponsorship forms please contact Liz 01795 842272.

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.

NEW - RUMMIKUB GROUP - THURSDAYS

From Emily Bartlett:

I am starting a small Rummikub group up ONCE a MONTH at my house on 1 September. This will be between 1pm & 3pm on the 1st THURSDAY of the month.

Beginners are welcome as two of us can teach you.

If you cannot make September but are interested in coming in October then that will be fine.

POP-UP COMMUNITY CAFE - SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

The Pop-Up Community Cafe will be open again in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 3 September 2022, 10.30am to 1.30pm. Pop along for a coffee, cake and a chat, time to relax with a newspaper, bring a book to exchange and enjoy time with friends.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

MOPE (Men Only PE) are looking for new players, we play volleyball on Monday evenings (7-8pm) in Lower Halstow School sports hall. Mope is currently men aged between 45 and 65 but any age is welcome and levels of fitness.

The first session is free and then £4 after that. For more details contact Tony on 07482 786656

FRIENDS OF THE BRICKFIELDS

From Judy Telford:

The Friends have been busy working on your behalf but, owing to personal issues the paths have not been cut as often as we would wish. I apologise for this but there are very few volunteers and we really do need more help. If you see a path needing attention maybe volunteer to cut a little of it, we have tools you could borrow.

I would like to thank the Long family for their generous donation of more equipment, it is much appreciated, thank you!

September work parties; 10am at Lapwing Drive Gate - Wednesday 7 September - path maintenance. Friday 30 September reed bed cut, please come and help out at this one even if only for half an hour, it's a big job. We have more jobs planned for the winter so please keep an eye out for future dates both in the Village News and on our Facebook page (Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields) and come to help if you can.

LIVING LIVELY - A SINGING GROUP FOR PEOPLE OVER 50.

From Jackie Swift :Friday afternoons 2pm - 3.30pm. NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL. Starting 16 September 2022.

The group run by Matthew our “choir master”, has been running for quite a few years. No auditions just come along to enjoy singing a variety of songs. Matthew works us hard, but we have lots of laughs. Time for a tea break, to catch up with everyone. Ladies and gentlemen enjoy the professional encouragement from Matthew.

The sessions are terms (like the schools) There is a fee, but its worth it, going home feeling uplifted.

Any queries phone Lynn 842740 or Jackie 842749.

VINTAGE SINGALONG AND TALK - SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 2-4PM

Come along to our fund raising afternoon in St Margaret's Church Vintage singalong with Rosie to enjoy some old songs. Another treat our village historian Mr George Peters, will be giving a talk on “Flora & Forna, Birds, Plants, of the Medway Estuary. Refreshments will be served.

ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO OUR LOVELY VILLAGE CHURCH

THE THREE TUNS - LIVE MUSIC 30 SEPTEMBER FROM 8.30PM

On Friday, 30 September 2022 from 8.30pm there will be live music with the Zac Schulze Gang in the pub.

The pub will remain closed on Tuesdays in September.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library stops outside the Memorial Hall fortnightly. The next dates are Thursdays 8 and 23 September 2022.

VILLAGE 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

LOWER HALSTOW WALKERS

We have changed our name and are no longer part of the Health Walks programme. We are now Lower Halstow Walkers, and all are welcome. Starting at 10am every Monday, including Bank Holidays, from the end of Lapwing Drive, by the Brick Fields, and 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.

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.

LADIES DIY KEEP FIT

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

LOWER HALSTOW



GARAGE

SALE

SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

9.00AM – 2.00PM



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**£5.00 PITCH FEE DONATION TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH COMMUNITY FUNDS. CONTACT RICHARD
ASBURY - LHNWATCH1@GMAIL.COM**



LOWER HALSTOW 14TH ANNUAL NOVELTY DOG SHOW

SAT 17TH SEPTEMBER
ON LOWER
HALSTOW VILLAGE
GREEN



Judge:

Keith Howard-Challis MBE

Steward:

Kerry Gardner

REFRESHMENTS

FUND RAISING STALL
FOR PDSA

CLASSES:

FANCY DRESS

VETERAN

MOST HANDSOME
DOG

PRETTIEST BITCH

HAPPIEST DOG /
BITCH

DOG & OWNER
LOOK-ALIKE

PUPPY (6-12
MONTHS)

AND MANY MORE

LOWER HALSTOW
VILLAGE HALL

REGISTRATION: MIDDAY

JUDGING STARTS: 2PM

In addition there will be two demonstrations:

12noon - Rachel Woollven who teaches Dog Obedience Classes

12.30 - AMDK9 who teach dogs to sense when their owner has health problems

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

The Parish Council has replaced the Brickfields gate yet again after the previous gate was vandalised it has been agreed by the council to install CCTV.

Three bike riders have been frequenting the Brickfields causing a disturbance and noise nuisance and if seen, please do not approach them, but report this to our PCSO or the Police.

A meeting and presentation between members of the village and the developers of Raspberry Solar Farm was held on the 29 July in the Memorial Hall. It was attended by several members of the public and three members of the Parish Council. A comprehensive and informative presentation about the proposed solar farm was given by the developers followed by a question and answer session. A planning application has been submitted by the developers and a decision by Swale Borough Council is due on 3 October.

Councillor Portman met with representatives from Age UK in July to discuss how to support the senior members of our village who are experiencing loneliness and isolation. Age UK in Kent is keen to support those individuals living in rural areas and they are offering several programmes of support. Further information will be provided shortly.

Invoices for the allotments and Westfield Car Park will be sent in September for the year 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

Would you like to serve your community? Are you looking for a new challenge? The Parish Council currently has two vacancies for councillors. Please contact the Clerk for further information.

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.

The next meeting is in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 7pm.

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

BIG MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING/AFTERNOON - FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER 2022

Please come along and join us at St. Margaret's Church between 10am and 4pm and help us raise much needed funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Last year the village response to this cause was tremendous and we raised an amazing £725.15. We would love this year's effort to be as good or even better!

Why not join us on 7 October and enjoy a morning coffee and cake, a soup lunch or afternoon tea while at the same time have a browse of what else is on offer!

We are collecting jewellery, nearly new bric-a-brac (no clothes thank you), and of course we need cakes and goodies!

Non food donations can be received prior to the event and edible donations nearer the day or on the day. They will be gratefully received by Liz Hadley at 14 Curlew Avenue or Jacky Davis at Mill House (next to the Three Tuns).

We look forward to seeing you!

AUCTION OF PROMISES - 7 OCTOBER 2022

A fun Auction of Promises will be held on the evening of Friday 7 October 2022 in the Memorial Hall, just in time to buy some fun Christmas presents. Funds raised will go to village organisations/activities.

ADULT QUIZ NIGHT - 11 NOVEMBER 2022

Adult quiz night raising funds for Lower Halstow Beaver & Cub Group, kindly put together by Michael Van der Straaten, on Friday, 11 November 2022 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. £5 per person entry, 6 people per table. Tickets on sale soon

RECYCLING

In her collection boxes outside 1 Curlew Avenue again Lynne Morris is recycling medication blister packs (please make sure there are no

personal details on the packs), Ferrero Roche packaging, cheese packets, toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, floss containers, used stamps, egg cartons, beauty soft plastics and used pens. Also foil (deflated) balloons and banners
Everything is collected and recycled for various charities and kept out of landfill.

MORE RECYCLING

Nescafe dolce gusto coffee pods can be taken to Kelly Brown at 19 School Lane

LIVE WEATHER STATION AND WEBCAM

Lower Halstow Yacht Club has a live weather station and webcam looking out over the creek updating every 15 minutes. It is on the yacht club website and is open to everyone weather.lhyc.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 the October 2022 Village News is noon on
12 September 2022**

**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 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, 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 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

Kirsty Linge, 07772 226114, kirsty.linge@kent.police.uk

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

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

Lisa Joiner, gslowerhalstow@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

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,
843871

Yacht Club

Dave Quigley, 841242

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

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

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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