

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS March 2022



*Lambs at Elm Farm
Photo kindly supplied by Glenda Tress*

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

2 March - 10.30am, Ash Wednesday, Communion with Ashing
(6 March - no service at St Margaret', Benefice Communion at St Mary's Newington at 10.30am, to which all are invited)
13 March - 10am, Family Worship
20 March - 10am, Communion
27 March - 10am, Mothering Sunday Family Worship

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

Altar Flower Rota

No flowers during Lent

St Margaret's Bereavement Coffee Time

Every Thursday in March 10am to 12 noon bereavement coffee time in the church. We have been open for a few months 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.

Easter Craft Morning - Saturday 9 April 2022

Message from Hilary Gates:

Easter Craft Morning at St Margaret's Church, 10am to 12noon, Saturday 9 April 2022 everyone is welcome, children and adults. Come along and have a go at making Easter crafts - painting, cooking, decorations. There will be tea, coffee and biscuits. Free event, donations welcome.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

If you would like to share any of this type of news with everyone in future editions of the Village News please email brief details to ransleyfamily@gmail.com or pop written details round to 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. A storage solution is still required. If you can help please call Ursula.

THE THREE TUNS

The pub will be closing on Tuesdays again in March.

POP-UP COMMUNITY CAFE - SATURDAY, 5 MARCH

Message from Jane Summers:

Lower Halstow Memorial Hall

10.30 - 1.30 pm Saturday 5 March 2022

Come along for a coffee, cake and a chat. Time to relax with a newspaper, bring a book to exchange and enjoy time with friends.

FRIENDS OF THE BRICKFIELDS

Message from Judy Telford:

Next work party date is Saturday 26 February 2022, 10am at the Lapwing Drive gate as usual. Please come and help if you can spare an hour or two.

The following work party is scheduled for 12 March at 10am, however, we may be holding one or two midweek work parties as we are expecting a delivery of 105 whips which will need planting, please watch our Facebook page for details. As always there is loads to do, if anyone would like to help in their own time please get in touch, I'm sure we can find you something to do!

Contact; friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com

Facebook page; Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields

LADIES DIY KEEP FIT

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

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. 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

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library stops outside the Memorial Hall fortnightly. The next dates are Thursdays 10 and 24 March 2022.

HEALTH WALKS

Start 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 leisurely 1 hour walk and a brisk 2 hour walk. 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.

LOWER HALSTOW MEMORIAL HALL

Message from Kay Howard-Challis:

The Village Hall is still requesting that anyone who hires the hall must leave it Covid clean, unfortunately Covid has not gone away, and we all would like, when entering the hall, for it to be Covid clean. Yes, we have a very good and cleaner, who does a great job, but there is not always time for her to clean in between events, so thank you all for your kind and considerate passed and present assistance.

As you most probably know we have been updating the hall, only a few years ago, we had a new kitchen, more recently new toilets, over the next half term, new lighting for the hall, and in the summer break we will be repairing the outside, so making the hall better for all who hire it and

making use of it's facilities. There are tea towels for all to use, but please take them home and wash them, if possible put them back or hand them back to me.

A big moan, there has been people using the hall's white table cloths and white chair covers, they are not for all to use, yes use of them, if you have had a hire agreement with me in advance. These white table cloths and white chair covers must all be washed and ironed every time they are hired, so to just using them and putting them back filthy dirty is just not on, and if caught will be asked never to use the hall again.

If you would like to hire the hall or would like any other information, please contact me, Kay - Booking Clerk for the Memorial Hall, either on kayhelen2017@outlook.com or 01795 844408.

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

No items were received from the parish council for this month

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

LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

The new year has got off to a great start at Lower Halstow School, so much has happened and we've only been back for a month!



Despite still having quite a number of Covid cases amongst staff and children we have still managed to offer the children clubs, trips and a range of wider curriculum activities alongside our classroom learning. Year 2 headed off to Leeds Castle where they learnt about the castle and its grounds as well as dressing up and re-enacting a traditional tale. The children have told me that it was their 'best trip ever'. Meanwhile our Year 3 pupils visited the city of Rochester and learnt about the cathedral, castle and the city's history, one of the highlights was travelling there on the train. At the Guildhall museum they were able to try on armour as well as handle real historic weapons. Their energy levels were tested as they climbed all the steps to the top of the castle however the views at the top were very picturesque. A great day was had by all!

Another highlight for the school was being awarded a £200 prize for taking part in the DS Smith cardboard recycling pilot scheme. Our

school community collected a massive 144kg of cardboard! Representatives from DS Smith came to the school to lead an assembly on the Circular Economy and then Gordon Henderson presented the children with a plaque and certificate. The School Council are due to meet to decide on how they would like to spend the money next term.

This term our Year 6 pupils have been getting tuneful by starting to learn to play the ukulele, they have been having weekly lessons with a teacher from Kent Music School and are enjoying learning the basics, hopefully the tunes will come together soon – we are looking forward to hearing them in action.

In preparation for when we can have playtime together as a whole school again, some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been trained in how to be lunchtime play-leaders. They are going to use the Year 4 children as guinea pigs in Term 4 and then hopefully they will be able to work with the younger children after Easter. They have learnt a selection of games and dances to complete with the younger pupils.

Just before we broke up for the half term holiday, the Year 4 children performed their class assembly to their families. The assembly was based around the Anglo-Saxons and they enjoyed impressing the audience with their facts and information that they had learnt this term. The assembly was recorded so that the rest of the school could watch it in their classroom too.

Hopefully next term the weather will begin to warm up as we head into Spring, we have so much planned for next term; pancake races, Year 3 and 4 cricket coaching, World Book day and a sports hall athletics competition to name just a few.

Michelle Crowe, Head of School

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE - 2-5 JUNE

A group led by Tina Portman and including Kerry Ward are planning a weekend of events for the Jubilee. Qualified first aiders and marshals will be needed. If you would like to help please email kerry.tress@hotmail.co.uk.

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 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

PASTORAL LETTER

“Will your anchor hold?”

As I write this piece, we are currently exploring a theme in the form of a question first posed by Jesus’ disciples “Teach us how to pray”. We are looking at a simple model intended to help us all to pray in a way that we can all say “I can do that!”. It uses the acronym PRAY: P for Pause, R for Rejoice, A for Ask, Y for Yield.

It seems that one thing we are hard-wired to do as human beings, is to pray, regardless of whether we have faith or not. It seems that we look to something or someone bigger than ourselves, especially when trouble comes. There’s an old saying, that I think goes back to WW1: “You never find atheists in foxholes”. Some of course may dispute this. But what it means is that when the shooting starts, or rather when the pressures come threatening to shake or take away all that we hold most dear, it is then that our core beliefs or faith are shaken, whatever those may be. And we all live by faith in something or someone whether we realise it not. Our times remain unsettled times even if the pandemic is waning. Other pressures loom; the higher cost of living; the rumbling of potential conflict in Ukraine. Closer to home, I’m aware how several in our congregations and their family members have been or are under pressure through illness, yet supported not least through prayer.

So this week I have been reflecting on “Rejoice”; a word that triggers memories of playing an old always uplifting U2 song by that name. “Rejoice in the Lord always”(1) & “be joyful in all circumstances”(2), wrote St Paul. Such words could jar, if we miss hearing what they say:

“in” not “for” all circumstances. For Paul was writing from his experience of being held unjustly in prison. “Rejoice” does not ignore reality, but points us towards Jesus, who reveals that God is always with us and for us. So we can find hope, strength and peace. We can rejoice, because “nothing can separate us from the love of God”(3), not even the worst we can imagine, if we will trust in him. Life circumstances may not change; but our response to them may change.

An old hymn asks the question “Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?” As Christians we will seek to sing, live, rejoice in and invite you to join with its chorus: “We have an anchor that keeps the soul, steadfast and sure while the billows roll, fastened to the Rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour’s Love!”

How are you anchored? Will yours hold? Will you fasten it to the Rock, that is Jesus?

Every Blessing!

Julian

Rev Julian Staniforth, Rector of The Six

Philippians 4.4 (2) 1 Thess 5.16 & 18 (3) Romans 8.39

LIVE WEATHER STATION AND WEBCAM

Lower Halstow Yacht Club has 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 NEIGHBOURHOOD

WATCH NEWS – FEBRUARY 2022

A STRONG COMMUNITY
UNITED TOGETHER



HEADLINE NEWS

- There was a single isolated report in January of a confused male who claimed to be lost and was looking for directions to the A3.
- The PCSO Team continue to visit the village daily as part of their patrols.
- The monthly meetings started again in February 2022 which gave people an opportunity to meet our new PCSO.

Anti-Social Behaviour can be reported to:

Noise Complaints	swale.gov.uk	or 01795 417575
Bonfires	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	

Residents are encouraged to report any on-going issues but in the first instance an amicable solution with your neighbours is better. Please be aware that noise complaints generally apply after 11.00pm.

Pregnant Sheep falling on their backs happens a lot around this time of year — and can be fatal. If a sheep is left on its back and cannot get up, it can be vulnerable to attacks from crows and other birds.

If you find a sheep like this, grab a good handful of wool and turn it around. If possible, keep it still for a few minutes, so it 'acclimatises'. If you can't get it to stand up, please inform the nearest farmer possible.

The Sea Wall is deteriorating rapidly due to a combination of bottle diggers and high spring tides. It is imperative that bottle digging into the sea wall is stopped. Please report any instances to the PCSO or neighbourhood watch so that the offenders can be stopped.

USEFUL CONTACTS

EMERGENCY SERVICES		999
NON-EMERGENCY POLICE	www.kent.police.uk – Webchat Service	or 101
PCSO	Kirsty Linge kirsty.linge@kent.police.uk	07772 226114
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

YOUR LHNW ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

Breach Lane	Diane Harris, Michael Porter
Burntwick Drive	Amy Lundie, Sue Still
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



LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A STRONG COMMUNITY
UNITED TOGETHER



The Lower Halstow Neighbourhood Watch (LHNW) are Fundraising to provide an all-inclusive Community Games Picnic Bench in the Village Park.

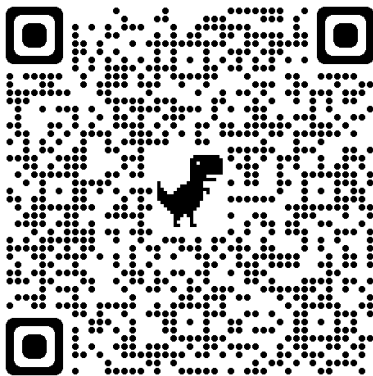
Even with a Community Grant we are still short of our target and are calling on the generosity of our community to help us to achieve it.

Attached is a QR code for a go fund me page or donations can be made to:

Lower Halstow Neighbourhood Watch	Sort Code 30-98-97
	Account Nr 60816762

We realise that times are financially tough for so many so any donations will be gratefully received.

Many Thanks in advance..





Be the first to find out what's happening in **your area**

My Community Voice is a two-way engagement tool brought to you by Kent Police.

Whether you live, work or socialise in Kent or Medway, My Community Voice provides real-time messages directly from our police officers, staff and volunteers, about matters that may affect you or your community.

Your voice is important to us and we want to hear what concerns or views you may have in the area that is important to you. You can also share messages with others or reply to our alerts if you have information to share.

From crime prevention advice, to the latest updates on scams, appeals or events – you control what information you receive and how you receive it, by email, text or voice message.



Sign up today or to find out more visit **www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk**

Report a crime

Report a non-urgent crime online **www.kent.police.uk/report**

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 **www.kent.police.uk/contact**

In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service 18000. Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

www.kent.police.uk



CONTACTS

(Telephone numbers are 01795 unless otherwise stated)

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, 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

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

**The deadline for the April 2022 Village News is noon on
12 March 2022**

**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

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
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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