

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS



Lower Halstow's most famous visitor? Samuel Taylor Coleridge who visited our village in 1806 and will be celebrated at the Poetry Festival on 21 August

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

Treasurer Needed for St.Margaret's

You will need to be confident at:

- 1) Working with spreadsheets
- 2) Completing various returns to the Diocese (monthly)
- 3) Paying in money
- 4) Paying St. Margarets invoices via Internet banking
- 5) Claiming Gift Aid
- 6) Bank statements reconciliation
- 7) Year-end report and Diocese Returns
- 8) Attending and reporting at monthly Parochial Church Council meetings (covid rules permitting) (min 2 hours)
- 9) Attending and presenting at Annual Parochial General meetings
- 10) Provide financial forecasts when requested
- 11) Dealing with emails
- 12) Keeping tidy paper records

If you are interested or would like some more information please email Susan via the email: LowerHalstowChurch@outlook.com

August Services at St Margaret's

1 August - 8am BCP Communion
8 August - 10am Family Worship
15 August - 10am Communion
22 August - 10am Poetry Festival Service
29 August - 10am Family Communion

Altar Flower Rota

1 August - Jennifer
8 August - Liz
15 August - Yvonne
22 August - Lesley
29 August - Cheyenne

MOBILITY ITEMS

St. Margaret's Church has a selection of Mobility Items, to borrow for emergencies or long term loans. Please call Ursula 842924, Tricia 842419 or Jackie 842749.

REMEMBERING

From Glenys Lovell - It is with much sadness that we have heard of the passing of Liz Hendy, one of our much loved players at Lower Halstow Shortmat Bowls Club. She died on 28/6/2021 at home, after a very short illness. She was a lovely lady who will be sadly missed by us all. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her Husband Neville and all their family.

BEAVER AND CUB GROUP

The Beaver and Cub Group continues to run in the village without a Scout Leader, if you would like to volunteer or would like any information please contact Lisa Joiner, Group Scout Leader, 1st Lower Halstow via gslowerhalstow@yahoo.com

LOWER HALSTOW POETRY FESTIVAL

The first Lower Halstow Poetry Festival is taking place on Saturday 21 August 2021, 10am to 4pm at St Margaret's Church. Open mic sessions between 2 and 4pm. Refreshments and cake being kindly provided by the Lovely Ladies of Lower Halstow and you can be assured of a very warm welcome and some friendly faces.

Please pop by to celebrate our village's historical connection to the great Romantic Poet **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**! Learn a little about his life, read his works and watch videos of local people reading his epic poems. Enjoy the wonderful artwork and pens produced by our school children and fellow residents and perhaps take to the mic to read your own personal favourite poem. Learn about the history of the area, explore the church and consider joining Kent Libraries who will be joining us for the day! There will also be storytelling for the children and a few other surprises and it is all free. For more details please contact Carina Jacobs: Carina65@outlook.com, 07899 951044

EDITH MAY THAMES BARGE - TILLER & WHEEL

Information from Ed Gransden:

The Edith May has been based in the village for nearly 22 years and is one of only 25 or so barges left sailing on the East Coast.

Having been restored in the village, she is in good shape. However, the same cannot be said for many of the other surviving fleet, with several, including Lower Halstow's own Westmoreland, being chopped up in recent years for lack of funds to restore and maintain them.

In addition to this, there is a scarcity of new blood coming through qualified to sail them, with the vast majority of remaining Bargemasters over 60 and near retirement. Clearly, the prevailing model of chartering the barges to defray costs, which has been standard for the past 50 years, is no longer a viable means to keeping sailing barges alive.

In 2019, Ed Gransden and Heather Burgess set up Tiller & Wheel to try to address this steady decline in barging and put them back at the heart of the coastal community these ships helped shape. Using the Edith May, they have set up a new model whereby the public no longer have to pay to get aboard for a sail, removing the barrier of cost that made it inaccessible for many.

This is supported by crowdfunding website, Patreon, whereby those that choose to support this initiative, can do so for as little as £3+VAT a month. There are currently over 100 patrons, which have supported over 400 people to get aboard for free in May and June.

It is great to already have the support of so many villagers and we hope that more take us up on the opportunity to come sailing in the future. 2021 is almost fully booked, but the 2022 sailing schedule will soon be released.

For more information, please visit the website - www.tillerandwheel.com or if you would like to support our work, check out our Patreon page - www.patreon.com/tillerandwheel

LADIES DIY KEEP FIT

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

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.

MEMORIAL HALL REOPENING

The Hall was due to reopen on 19 July 2021 subject to Government guidelines.

MEMORIAL HALL - TREASURER AND CLEANERS NEEDED

The hall is in need of a Treasurer. Only one to two hours per week plus a monthly meeting (once the hall re-opens). The hall is run by volunteers and Trustees and not by the Parish Council.

Paid cleaners are also required, mainly after functions. The pay will be £15 per hour.

If interested please email lowerhalstowhall@gmail.com or phone Keith Howard-Challis on 844408.

LOWER HALSTOW TREASURE HUNT IS BACK!

Sunday 15 August 2021

Register your team in the Three Tuns garden anytime from 11.30 to 3pm, results announced in the Three Tuns at 5pm. Live music from duo PJ and Rose at 4pm and the pub will be providing their normal food menu.

From 12noon tea, coffee and squash will be on sale at St Margaret's. Free to enter Scavenger Hunt for the kids

£8.00 a team in aid of Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Message from Kerry Ward - just wanted to give everyone a few things to look forward to now that restrictions are lifting...

There will be another children's Halloween disco taking place in half term, on Thursday 28 October.

The very popular lunch with Santa will also be back on Saturday 4 December.

In addition to this and following last years success, we will be bringing back the sleigh round with Father Christmas and his helpers!
Dates for this to follow nearer the time....

Thank you to everyone who takes part and helps me with these events. The smile on everyone's face is priceless and we have also managed to donate funds from this back into our village groups and amenities. Thank you also to Mary Hales for the generous donation towards this year's events.

More details in future editions of the Village News and on the Lower Halstow Village News Facebook page.

SWALE 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

HEALTH WALKS

We 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.

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

The July meeting of the Parish Council was held outside. There will be no meeting in August and the next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday 7 September. John McGee received a Community Award for his work on the Lower Halstow Gigabit Project.

Photos taken by Steve Aveline



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

MOBILE LIBRARY

The next dates are Thursdays 26 August and 23 September 2021,
1.50pm to 2.30pm.

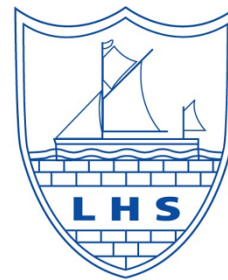
THANK YOU

Message from Glenda Tress - thank you to all the volunteers who deliver the newsletters. Wishing Ann Smith good luck with her move and thank you to Sue Still who will be taking on a round

(And of course a massive thank you to Glenda who organises all the distribution of the Village News each and every month!)

LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

This term has almost felt like a normal Term 6 at Lower Halstow School with lots of end of year activities taking place. The weather has been kind to us and pupils have enjoyed a range of activities to round the year off in style.



We managed to have our sports day as a whole school, still in our bubbles, but with enough space for us to watch the different events and cheer each other on. The parents couldn't join us however we filled Twitter with photos. The highlight of the morning was the year group sprint finals and the awarding of medals and certificates. In the end it was Dover house who scored the most points and ended up holding the trophy – well done to them.

Trips have also been permitted which has enabled our Year 2 pupils to take part in the Wild Estuary Project run by Medway and Swale Estuary Partnerships. Each week the children have visited the Lower Halstow estuary and surrounding area to focus on a different theme, so far they have looked at den building, litter collecting and recycling and land and sea habitats – this caused great excitement as the children hunted for crabs! Other trips have included the Y3 Horton Kirby River trip, Y4 Rochester Guildhall Museum, Y5 Royal Observatory and Cutty Sark and Y6 Creed Outdoor Activity Centre.

Secondary teachers have visited us to meet with our Year 6 pupils who will soon be heading off to secondary school; meanwhile the rest of the school have spent a morning and an afternoon with their new teacher getting ready for September. This year has just whizzed by so quickly, it hardly seems possible that we are already meeting our new classes!

The PTA ran a successful fund raising 'Break the Rules' day, this involved the children being invited to pay to break certain rules. This included wearing nail varnish and make up, having an unhealthy playtime snack, wearing caps in class and wearing non uniform. The children clearly loved breaking school rules and managed to raise £304.70!

June ended with our annual Science week where the focus was 'Awe and Wonder'. The children participated in whole school bug hunts, completed adaptation experiments at school and home and had a visit from Professor Bubbleworks, who completed workshops in each

class. The activities were based around the text 'Moth' by Isabel Thomas.

In July for 'try something new month', the whole school took part in outdoor cooking with Scott Ryan from Wild Classrooms. Everything the children made and ate was cooked on an open fire! The menu for each class linked to their topic work so children experienced eating: nettle frittata, speltotto (a dish similar to risotto), chard palenta, Saxon potage, vegetable curry and Tunbrod (rye polar bread). Great fun was had by all with cooking and trying the dishes!

As well as all this, pupils all sat their end of year assessments and with only 1 more week of the term to go I wonder what else we can fit in!!!!

Update provided by Miss Crowe, Head of School

PASTORAL LETTER

I am writing this letter in the week leading up to the euro 2020 cup final. The excitement around the country is palpable it seems like you can't turn on any media without some football reference and St. Georges flags can be seen decorating windows, cars, walls and even people. I should begin by confessing that I am somewhat wilfully ignorant about football. I'm not totally sure which way up the ball goes. However, I was struck by the pre match coverage of the semi-final. In it they discussed how loss and disappointment had shaped the team starting with Gareth Southgate and his experience in Euro 96 setting the attitude of the team and how they coped with losing in 2018. The commentator discussed how important this attitude was, saying how the team had been strengthened and hardened out of those experiences of loss.

Obscurely it reminds me of an ice breaker, getting to know you, question:

If you could have been born into any time period which would you choose? To me this seems a fundamentally flawed question as we are the sum of our experiences. All of our experiences both good and bad over the years of our lives are the building blocks from which our personalities are formed. Being born into any other time period would mean that we would be formed from a completely different set of experiences and as such the person living then would be unrecognisable from ourselves today. I know that I am overthinking the question. At least it's not the one about what animal would you be? Or what title would you give your autobiography?

When things are difficult it can be tempting to blame God. Why am I going through this God? Why won't you deliver me from this situation? That is not to say that God doesn't perform miracles. However, what I have found in my life is that God does not tend to come along, drop down a rope ladder and airlift me out of difficult situations. He is far more likely, if I let Him, to parachute in and sit beside me. Being that comforting loving presence and bringing His peace.

In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus says:

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light'

Blessings

Rev. Simeon Nevell

LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS – JULY 2021

A STRONG COMMUNITY
UNITED TOGETHER



WELCOMING 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

Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week – 19th to 25th July 2021

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.

Headline News

- Our meeting was attended by our PCSO.
- The PCSO Team continue to visit the village daily as part of their patrols.
- There were just 4 reports in June that have been investigated.
- 2 Reports related to suspicious Activity (one of these was found to be a food delivery driver).
- 1 Reports related to theft of a Catalytic Converter.
- 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
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	
SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAYS NUMBER	For any issues with the school site	03000 419191

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, 842908, clerk.lhpc@gmail.com

<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, 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

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 September 2021 Village News is noon on
12 August**

**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

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

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 Burnwick Drive, contact Kerry Hills on
07772 385397

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