

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS November 2022



*Memorial Wood
photo kindly supplied by Karen Thorpe*

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

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

6 November - No service in Lower Halstow
- 10.30am, Benefice Service at St Mary's, Newington.

13 November - 10.30am Remembrance

20 November - 10am, Communion

27 November - 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

We are holding 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 November - Lesley

13 November - Lynne

20 November - Gillian

27 November - Eileen

Help with Cleaning

A plea to anyone who has an hour to spare (approximately weekly) to clean the toilet and kitchen at St Margaret's. Two friends can be together to do it? Or even cleaning the church. We have a rota, but we would always welcome more help. Michelle who we gratefully thank for the years of cleaning the toilet and kitchen, has finally had to retire from the job. We also thank the ladies who clean the brass, the ladies who help to keep the church clean. Not forgetting the very talented ladies who arrange the flowers. Our church needs kind help to keep it going. Please get in touch with Jackie Swift 07840 258665.

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

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus was telling them the parable about their need to pray continuously and not to be discouraged. He said. In a certain city, there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. In that city, there was a widow who kept coming to him, asking: "Give me justice in this case against my adversary" For a while he refused but finally he said to himself, I do not fear God or respect people, but I will give this widow Justice because she keeps bothering me. Otherwise there will be no end to her coming here and embarrassing me". The Lord said:" Listen to what the unjust judge says" Won't God provide justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he be slow to help them? I tell you, he will give them justice quickly. But when the human one comes, will he find faithfulness on earth?

Jesus is teaching all his followers that it is essential to pray all the time. We have this mental picture that prayer must be well prepared, possibly written and properly presented. These have their place when we lead the church family in prayer but here it is about "our case". I find this statement very appealing as it is saying that when something becomes ours, it preoccupies and infiltrates our life in such a way that we think about it all the time, we are affected by its development and we even unconsciously dream and act on it. It is about something that the Holy Spirit places in our hearts and we accept the burden of it. In this prayer we pray all the way and we do not have to start from the start. We do not have to write a diary or notes we just bring our case to the Lord, just as we are, and just as we feel about it. We cry and we laugh, we beg, shout, and whisper as we experience the battle of the heart. Jesus gave

us a story about a poor widow and her case – this case is not necessarily just a personal matter, it could be something or somebody who needs justice as well, somebody who needs to be woken and find a purpose in his life or make a commitment to follow Jesus. Thank God for all the faithful and continuous prayers for this world by so many. This ministry is not appreciated in this world – Jesus said “do not be discouraged”. We might hit a wall, opposition and we often don’t see much of the effect of our prayers and everything tells us to give up, quit, get up and do something else. Just like the widow and the ungodly and disrespectful judge. But even the opposition will dissolve, if we fill our hearts with the word of God which is relevant to our case and situation. Let the prayers flow from our lives for this world, people and their souls. Carry the prayer burden and desire a better world.

Robert Zachar

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE - 11 NOVEMBER 2022

There will be a short remembrance service at the Memorial Wood on Friday 11 November 2022, starting at 10.45am.

RUMMIKUB GROUP - 1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH

From Emily Bartlett:

I have started a small Rummikub group up ONCE a MONTH at my house, this will be between 1pm & 3pm on the 1st THURSDAY of the month (3 November 2022). Beginners are welcome as two of us can teach you. For more information call 841139.

POP UP COMMUNITY CAFE - SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2022

Jane will be holding a Pop Up Cafe in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 5 November 2022, 10.30am - 1.30pm. Go along for a coffee, cake and a chat. Time to relax with a newspaper, take a book to exchange and enjoy time with friends.

ADULT QUIZ NIGHT - 11 NOVEMBER 20022

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. Take your own drinks and snacks. Raffle on the night. Contact kerry.tress@hotmail.co.uk to book.

THE THREE TUNS - CHRISTMAS MARKET

There will be a Christmas market at the pub on Wednesday, 30 November 2022, 5pm to 9pm

The pub will remain closed on Tuesdays in November.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library stops outside the Memorial Hall fortnightly. The next dates are Thursdays 3 and 17 November 2022.

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

FRIENDS OF THE BRICKFIELDS

From Judy Telford:

Autumn has arrived, winter is on its way. Migrating birds are filling the Estuary - well worth a walk along the sea wall about an hour before or after high tide, there are hundreds of birds out there. A Kingfisher and a Water Rail have been spotted in the stream by the reed bed. Plenty of fungi about after the rains, lots of things to see.

Log piles. We have left log piles in various places, please leave these undisturbed as they are an important habitat for rare beetles and provide shelter for wildlife.

As always there's a ton of work to do to improve the Brickfield, our next work party will be on the morning of Sunday 20 November 2022, meeting at the Lapwing Drive entrance at 10am as usual. Everybody welcome, young or old we can find you something to do!

Finally, thank you to all those people who beaver away quietly in the background, filling in holes in the paths, picking litter, pruning etc., it doesn't go unnoticed and is much appreciated.

Don't forget to keep up with our news on our Facebook page; Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields.

Contact us on friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com

AUCTION OF PROMISES UPDATE

The Lower Halstow Poetry Group's first Auction of Promises was a great success, even though both the auctioneer and treasurer were prevented by Covid from being there! A huge thank you to everyone who made a promise and/or bought a promise.

The substitute auctioneers did a wonderful job and £2122 was raised during the fun evening. All of the profits will be divided between village organisations and activities.

Unsold promises

There are 3 amazing promises still available (at the time the Village News was going off to be printed):

- A. 4 tickets for the New Year's Eve Party at Edenwood Place between Rochester and Maidstone
- B. 4 driving lessons for beginners donated by village driving school Top Class
- C. a 4 hour disco for your special event (only available during university holidays)

If you are interested in buying any of the 3 unsold promises, please contact Carina via email carina65@outlook.com

UPDATES FROM KAY HOWARD-CHALLIS

The Annual Lower Halstow Dog Show

What a lovely day, not too hot, but still the sun shone, and even though there was a big event of Paws In The Park, and people were going up to

London to pay their respects to our late and much loved Queen Elizabeth, we still had a good turn out for our Village Annual Dog Show. A huge thank you to The Pop Up Cafe; Julia for helping to raise over £50.00 on The PDSA raffle; to Kerry Gardner for all the running about being a diligent Steward; to Pat Perrett for giving out the numbers and listing the dogs in their different events (easier said than done) and for Keith being the Judge, partially as he would like to give every dog a first place, and then to Gaynor's beautiful Golden Retriever, who was the overall winner, but most of all, a huge thank you for all the dog handlers, as it is always feels good when every one of you, take the best dog in the show, home. Thank you to everyone who came, Oh and I have a large 1st place sign, which must of come off the rosette, give me a call on 844408 to either collect it, or I can put it through your letter box. Kay

Lower Halstow Memorial Hall

The hall is getting very busy, so if you would like to book the hall over the Festive Season, please call me, as I would hate to tell you that the hall was already booked. Of course if you have already booked the hall, your booking is safe.

I appreciate that I am forever being a gloom and doom person, but Covid is still around, and if you hire the hall, please after your event, make sure that the hall is Covid clean for the next person who goes into the hall. Practically every day little children of pre school age use the hall, I would hate to have to cancel your event if there was a Covid surge within the Village, so please be diligent in washing the hall floor and spraying all surfaces with disinfectant, all products required to clean the hall are always provided.

DIY KEEP FIT GROUP

A friendly group of ladies meet for varied exercise on Wednesday evenings in the School Hall at 7pm. For more information call Liz on 842272.

FUTURE DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES:

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WITH SANTA - 3 DECEMBER 2022

Tickets will be on sale from kerry.tress@hotmail.co.uk

LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD

WATCH NEWS – OCTOBER 2022

————— A STRONG COMMUNITY —————
UNITED TOGETHER



HEADLINE NEWS

- The AGM was held in September and it was positive to reflect on a Year of achievements.

Our vision

Our vision is a society where neighbours come together to create safer, stronger and active communities.

Our mission

Our mission is to support and enable individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe, which increases wellbeing and minimises crime.

Our values

In all our work and relationships, we will be relevant, accountable and inclusive. We aspire to be:

Neighbourly

We aspire to be good neighbours.

Community focused

We bring people together.

Inclusive

We are welcoming to all people.

Proactive

We are active within communities and we are relevant in today's world.

Trusted

We are dependable, caring, respectable, approachable and supportive.

Collaborative

We work as a team, in partnerships and within communities.

- The PCSO Team continue to visit the village as part of their patrol but we need to report incidents directly. Facebook is not monitored by the PCSO so only makes residents aware. Posters of police contact details have been put up around the village.

- CCTV surveillance at various incident areas in the village has been installed.

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	<i>Position Open – Please contact Richard if Interested</i>
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 Mouland
The Street	Cheyenne Hayward
Vicarage Lane	<i>Position Open – Please contact Richard if Interested</i>
Wardwell Lane	Keith Howard Challis
Westmoreland Drive	Kerry Ward

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.





LH Neighbourhood Watch Meet & Greet Lunch Event

Saturday 19 November 2022

12 noon - 2.00 pm

Memorial Hall – Lower Halstow

Come along and meet your Street/Road Neighbourhood Watch representative at our first meet and greet event. We want to know how we can best assist the community and we need your help.

-

Lunch of hot soup, donated by The Coop in Upchurch, will be available, along with various community information for you to access.

-

A representative will be attending from the Fuel and Water Service giving away FREE energy saving products.

Please register in advance to receive a FREE energy pack worth up to £50.

Email : LHNWatch1@gmail.com



We look forward to meeting you soon.



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

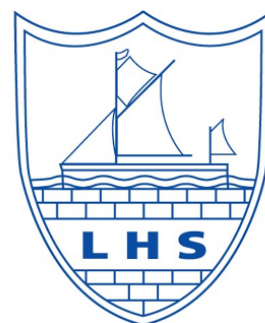
We have changed our name and are no longer part of the Health Walks programme. We are now Lower Halstow Walkers, and all are welcome. Starting at 10am every Monday, including Bank Holidays, from the end of Lapwing Drive, by the Brick Fields, and there will be two walks on offer; a brisk 2 hour walk and 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.

LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

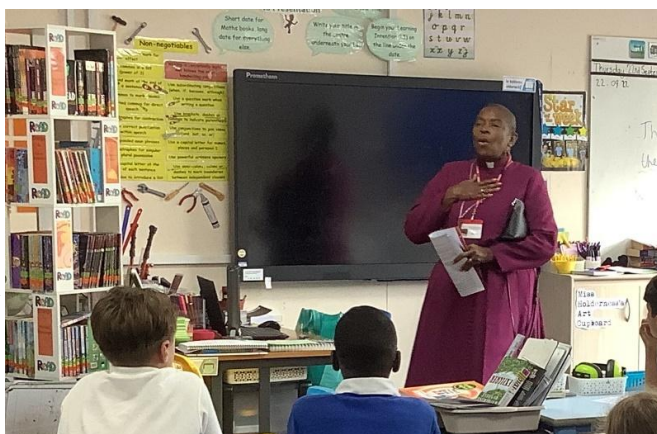
As the term has continued we are all really back in the swing of things as we enjoy many of the events that Autumn brings. We gathered together to celebrate our harvest festival with a lovely service from Reverend Amanda. Each class wore a different colour of the rainbow and brought in a food donation to match. All of the food was donated to the Swale Food Bank who also came in and did an assembly for us to explain what food banks are all about.



The whole school celebrated Safety week; Year 5 headed off to the Railway Safety Centre at Margate where they learnt about how to keep safe near railways through interactive workshops and activities. Meanwhile back in school our Year 1 and 2 children learnt how to be safe when riding their scooters. They even got to head out around the local area to practise what they had learnt.



One of our most exciting events this term was our visit from Bishop Rose. It was only a fleeting visit as she had lots of other schools to visit in the area, however she visited every class and the children were able to ask her questions about her role and how she came to be a bishop. She had a tour of the school and even found time to stop for a quick drink and homemade cookie.



The children from Year 3 have also been heading out and about in the local area focusing on the Brickfields and the estuary. They have completed a range of activities linked to the environment.

The term ended when Year 1-6 pupils had a visit from the poet Zohab Zee Khan, below, one of our pupils, from Year 6, has shared her experiences of meeting him.

'I loved meeting the poet (Zohab Zee Khan). He talked about how he decided to create poetry in the first place to express his emotions and feelings. Zohab Zee Khan also recited a few of his poems to the whole school. He was a very fast talker as he read his poems outstandingly

fast and really emphasised some of the language in his poem. The poet also had a very enthusiastic voice when he spoke. Zohab Zee Khan also had a great sense of humour and was very funny. When we were all in the hall he made hilarious jokes to all of us! I found them very humorous.

Zohab was helping us create our own poems as well, he told us to do a brain dump on our pieces of paper. He said that this would let everything in your mind get onto the piece of paper. He said that after that we could write a poem together. Zohab helped us write the poem it was great fun! I was really inspired by Zohab Zee Khan, I think the whole school really enjoyed the experience, I know I did!

Michelle Crowe, Head of School

LOWER HALSTOW SHORT MAT BOWLS

The club played a return match against Upchurch on 13 October 2022 starting at 3pm. The match was four games played over 9 ends using 2 mats. Home advantage had a big effect on the results which were:

Mat 1

Home 8 ends – 1 Away

Home 4 ends - 5 Away

Mat 2

Home 7 ends - 2 Away

Home 7 ends - 2 Away

Result.

Lower Halstow 3 - Upchurch 1

Considering the difficulty on playing on our mats, Upchurch played very well and in a very friendly spirit and the half time refreshments went down very well so everyone was looking forward to a repeat match.

The club enters teams in the Swale League and are always looking for new members, novices and experienced players. Come along on to the Memorial Hall on Mondays 2pm, Wednesdays 7.30pm where bowls are available for loan so only flat soled lightweight shoes are required.

Report by John Mustoo, 843681. Secretary Mick Porter, 484345.

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

Hedges, Trees, Shrubs and Vegetation Overhanging Footpaths, Pavements and Highways

This is a polite reminder to anyone who has a hedge, trees, shrubs or vegetation that borders a pavement, footpath or road as under the 1980 Highways Act (s154) it is an offence to obstruct pavements, footpaths, or roads by vegetation from their property. Landowners and occupiers have a responsibility to keep all public highways clear. This means that if you have any vegetation overhanging or encroaching on a pavement, footpath or road please ensure it is cut back to the boundary of your property to ensure safety and prevent accidents to members of the public. Unfortunately, there are many examples in our village of overgrown vegetation encroaching on public footpaths and roads. The Parish Council will be sending out additional correspondence to any landowner or occupier who disregards the rules on behalf of Kent County Council who have a legal duty to ensure the 1980 Highways Act is complied with.

Our Late Queen Elizabeth II

Many villagers left flowers and cards by the Jubilee Oak tree in memory of our late Queen who passed away in September. The flowers and cards are being collected and will be composted. Once decomposed the compost will be returned to the Oak tree as a mulch next year.

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.

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

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.

RECYCLING

In her collection boxes outside 1 Curlew Avenue, 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.

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 December 2022 Village News is noon on
12 November 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, 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,
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

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