

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS JULY 2024



The very wonderful Pauline Stevens ringing all the bells at St Margaret's for a wedding back in about 2004

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

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

7 July 2024 - 10.30am, Benefice Communion, Rev Julian Staniforth and Jean Kerr

14 July 2024 - 10am, Morning Worship, Andrea and Rev Julian Staniforth

21 July 2024 - 10am ,Family Communion, Rev Julian Staniforth

28 July 2024 - 10am, Family Worship, Rev Jacky Davis

Also there is always a Sunday online service at 10.30am on The Six YouTube which can be accessed at: <https://bit.ly/3JykJ8W>

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

7 July 2024 - Liz

14 July 2024 - Eileen

21 July 2024 - Yvonne

28 July 2024 - Georgina

CELEBRATION FLOWERS

If you have a special celebration coming up and would like it marked in a special way, we can dedicate a pedestal in church with a card to mark the occasion. All you have to do is contact us two weeks before and tell us how much you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers, from as little as £5. Alternatively, you can buy the flowers and drop them off to one of the flower rota ladies. We will make a beautiful pedestal and add a card to mark the occasion.

For more information please contact Liz on 842272.

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.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Dear Friends

My time as an assistant Curate at The Six Benefice is coming to an end. The last 3 years has gone by in a flash like the images that you see as you fly by on the train when you look out of the window. I will by no means have met very many of you. I wish that I had been able to get more involved in the community.

What I will take away with me is very much a feeling of being a part of a family. I have got to know some people quite well through taking services and being a part of school assemblies and public civic services. I may have conducted weddings, baptisms and funerals that you may have been present at. I have been working as part of a larger team and have been impressed with the energy that they have in serving the village communities of the six.

Those three years covered the period of Covid 19 and economic fallout from the cost-of-living crisis. I saw how the Church communities continued to support food banks, Ukrainian refugees and Sudanese asylum seekers. I was proud of those that I served alongside and those we served as they 'Loved God and Loved their neighbour'. Or as a more modern theologian called Robby Dawkins book is titled 'Do what Jesus Did.'

One thing that I knew, but perhaps had not perceived was how important it is to belong to the local worshipping community. In a world where we are encouraged to be self sufficient and perhaps individualistic, It was made clear to me how we all need each other. That the Church is not about lovely old buildings but more about being the church made up of living stones. A place of welcome and worship.

I pray that you will all be blessed and that you look out for one another.

Reverend Nick Carpenter

MOBILITY ITEMS

From Jackie Swift:

Under the umbrella of St. Margaret's, we hold a selection of mobility items, which can be borrowed in emergencies. If any one has any items they wish to donate for "lending out" our very kind gentleman Mr Tony Clark, will collect and deliver. Tony's No. 07977 566097. Dawn's No. 842688. Jackie's No. 07840 258665. Thank you

RAINBOW CAFE - EVERYONE WELCOME

St Mary's Church, Upchurch 2pm to 4.30pm on the second Thursday of each month. Children's snack deal £1
Homemade cakes and savouries and hot drinks.
Children's crafts and storytelling.

WE ARE SO LUCKY

From Zena and Derek Tutt:

We were so pleased to see this contribution by Rob Smith in the May issue. Volunteers not infrequently have to do a variety of work not seen by the rest of us before we are able to see and benefit from their labours.

THANKS GIVING EVENING FOR THE 80th D DAY COMMEMORATION

From Jackie Swift:

The village had a great evening on the 6 June 2024, with over 200 people at the Lower Halstow Dock. With music from the 40s, the barges in the dock, drinks sold from the barge Edith May. Then at 9.15pm, the Beacon was lit. SO a big thank you for all those who organised the event. The Parish Council, Steve Gates, and all the helpers. Not forgetting the music man.

Thanking the 4 people who collected for SSAFA, what a great collection from Lower Halstow, we collected £611.44., which was amazing.

What else can we say, but a great BIG THANK YOU, to everyone.

RUMMIKUB GROUP - 1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH

A small Rummikub group meets ONCE a MONTH at Emily Bartlett's house, 1pm-3pm on the 1st THURSDAY of the month - the next session will be on 4 July 2024. Beginners are welcome as two people can teach you. For more information call 841139.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library stops outside the Memorial Hall fortnightly from 1.50pm to 2.30pm. The next dates are Thursdays 11 and 25 July 2024.

FRIENDS OF THE BRICKFIELDS

From Judy Telford:

We have heard Nightingales singing in at least three places on the Brickie, there's at least one very vociferous Cuckoo and we were really pleased to hear a Turtle Dove near the Lookout. They have been absent for a few years now so it would be lovely if they decided to return here for the summer.

Our next work party will be on Saturday 13 July 2024, meeting at the Lapwing Drive entrance at 10am as usual. We have also planned the reed bed's autumn event for 5 October 2024, we need as many people as possible for that date please, carting and burning the cut reed. If anyone is adept at using a brush cutter we really need some help cutting reeds the week before even an hour would be a huge help - us regular volunteers aren't getting any younger!

Here's to more rare birds returning to our patch.

Information and updates are available on the Facebook page - Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields. To get in touch email friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com or ring 07486 530068

Join Now!

Ballet Class

3yrs-5yrs



Lower Halstow
Memorial Hall
Wednesday 4.30-5pm

To book your place call us on 07537166684 or
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THE EDGE STUDIOS...

HIPHOP CLASSES

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE
HALL ME97ES

WEDNESDAY
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5-5.45-6YRS+
5.45-6.30-12YRS+

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LOWER HALSTOW WALKERS

All are welcome.

Starting at 10am every Monday, including Bank Holidays, from the end of Lapwing Drive, by the Brickfields, and usually 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. A short walk will be available for up to one hour if people request it in advance, please contact Margaret on 07964 067915 to arrange it.

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.

KEEP FIT GROUP

A friendly group of ladies meet for local walks on Monday evenings, outside the Memorial Hall. For more information call Liz on 842272.

THE THREE TUNS

The pub will remain closed on Tuesdays in 2024.

The Village Treasure Hunt will be taking place on Sunday 21 July 2024 with registration from 11am.

Live music in the garden from 3pm by the Ankle Bashers

August Bank Holiday Beer Festival

Friday 23 August 2024 - Silent Disco from 8pm

Saturday 24 August 2024 - Music by Ska Trek from 2pm and Generation Show Band from 7.30pm

Sunday 25 August 2024 - 2pm Loose Change 7.30pm Top Guns

Monday 26th August 2024 - 2pm The Chillbillies.

LOWER HALSTOW



GARAGE

SALE

SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2024

10.00AM – 2.00PM



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**£5.00 PITCH FEE DONATION TO THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COMMUNITY FUNDS.**

SORT CODE 30-98-97 : ACCOUNT 60816762

**PLEASE EMAIL RICHARD - LHNWATCH1@GMAIL.COM
WITH YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE MAP**

HULKED

soundwalk

Listen whenever you visit The Old Brickfields. You can also join us at the Lower Halstow dock for our themed open days, where we will offer assistance on using the app and can provide listening devices for those who don't have access to a smartphone:

- experience the soundwalk
- meet the artists
- enjoy live music
- visit the Ardwinia sailing barge
- sail on the Edith May
- listen to talks by local heritage and environment experts
- take part in all-age workshops inspired by the soundwalk
- enjoy all day refreshments and bar

6 July 2024

10am - 4pm

OPEN DAY

28 September 2024

10am - 4pm

OPEN DAY

  @hulkedproject
www.hulked.co.uk

 ECHOES

Listen to the soundwalk on your own or with friends using the Echoes app at The Old Brickfields.



SCAN THE CODE



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University of
Kent

CREATIVE ESTUARY

ELECTRIC MEDWAY.

ANNA BRAITHWAITE

TILLER & Wheel



Shoregate (Edith May) by Ed Gransden

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.



Please join us for a fun Quiz Night on Friday 12 July 2024 at 8pm in

The Memorial Hall

Raising funds for Lower Halstow Scout Group

Hosted by Michael van der Straaten

Tables of 6 @ £5 per head (pay on the night) – byo drink and snacks

Raffle and “Heads and Tails” too!

Please book your team’s table with kerry.tress@hotmail.co.uk

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 TREASURE HUNT - SUNDAY 21 JULY 2024

From Michael van der Straaten:

We're Back !!

After a fallow year in 2023, we are pleased to bring back the Treasure Hunt for 2024 on Sunday 21 July 2024

Form a Team of any size, then visit us in the 3 Tuns garden from 11am to collect your map and clues.

Last Team out at 3pm, results in the garden about 5pm. Suitable for all ages but there is a bit of walking on rough terrain in the Brickfields. Most teams take about 90 minutes to 2 hours to complete

£10 per team with all proceeds to support the Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields

First prize is a hamper of goodies

Raffle and kids scavenger hunt

Annual Lower Halstow

Treasure Hunt

Sunday 21 July 2024

Explore the village, solve the clues, and win a Luxury Hamper!

No need to pre-book; just form a team of friends and family, &
visit us in the

Three Tuns Garden

anytime between **11.00 am and 3pm** to register and collect
your treasure map.



The hunt should take about an hour and half and is suitable
for all ages.

Live music in the Garden from 3pm,
winners announced at 5pm

Entry £10 per team

Proceeds to go to the Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields

THE TUESDAY SOCIAL

Tuesday 23 July 2024, 7.30pm

Please do join us for an insightful talk on

The History of Kent Policing

by Pam Mills

All welcome

Memorial Hall, School Lane, Lower Halstow, ME9 7ES

£4 entry on the door Refreshments Raffle

Contact Liz 01795 842272

The Tuesday Social is an informal event in support
of St Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow

For more information call Liz 842272

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meet in the Memorial Hall, School Lane at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month.

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.

LIVE WEATHER STATION AND WEBCAM

Lower Halstow Yacht Club has a live weather station and webcam looking out over the creek. It is on the yacht club website and is open to everyone weather.lhyc.org.uk

LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

As Term 5 drew to a close, Acorn Class (Year R) visited Curly's Farm on the Isle of Sheppey and tried their hand at being farmers for the day. They learnt what it takes to care for the livestock, where our food comes from and engaged in lots of hands on learning activities, including feeding the animals.



Meanwhile back in school, as part of our enrichment programme, we had some special feathered friends visit us to demonstrate their flying skills. Several owls flew in accompanied by their handlers. The children learnt lots of owl facts and were treated to a spectacular flying demonstration.

Term 6 has started with the whole school thinking about being charitable and raising money for some very worthwhile charities. Each class have planned and led a range of fundraising activities to support two charities of their choice. The children in each class chose some charities that meant something to them and then the school council voted on their favourites. Lower Halstow School chose to support Mercy Ships UK after being inspired by a video they watched in a recent assembly as well as the local charity 'Happy Endings Rescue'. Each class decided on what they would do to raise money. The events included a dance-athon, free choice afternoon, hamster sitting, non-uniform day, cake sale and a sponsored trim trail event. The proceeds are still being counted however, each class was proud of what they had achieved.

Acorn Class (Year R) feature:

We can't believe how time has whizzed by for Acorn Class and that we suddenly find ourselves in Term 6, the final term of their very first year at 'Big School'!

Acorn Class have had a very busy and fun packed start to the term after their return to school from the half term holiday. They have been learning about dental health, having enjoyed the story "The Boy who Hated Toothbrushes" by Zerha Hick. They looked at models of teeth, and

explored how teeth are different shapes and sizes, to help us bite, tear and grind food. They learnt that teeth help us to speak clearly and of course gives us our best dazzling smile! They even made their own toothbrushes using junk modelling materials!

The class then talked about all the different things that they can do to keep their teeth clean, healthy and pearly white: Here is what Acorn Class came up with:

“We have to drink milk and eat good vegetables.” Jacob

“Brush your teeth in the morning and at night time.” Gabby

“We have to go to the dentist and lay down and then they check our teeth.” Isabelle

“We can get cavities in our teeth so we have to brush them.” Meredith

“We can drink milk for teeth and eat yoghurt for our bones.” Hadley

This then lead onto their topic of ‘Under the Sea’ as they have started to learn about creatures with razor sharp teeth who live in the seas and oceans of the world - sharks!

In other news....

As part of the school’s Charities Week, Acorn Class voted to support the charity, ‘Mercy Ships UK’; a fleet of hospital ships that deliver free surgery and sustainable healthcare to those most in need. In order to raise money, the youngest and most energetic members of the school undertook 10 challenging laps of the trim trail! The children had lots of fun and showed lots of perseverance too.

Michelle Crowe, Head of School



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 items for the August 2024 Village News is noon on
12 July 2024.**

**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 07771 817152

Borough Councillors for Bobbing, Lower Halstow & Iwade

Lloyd Chapman, lloydchapman@swale.gov.uk

Roger Clark, 430324, rogerclark@swale.gov.uk

Brickfields

Judy Telford, 07486 530068, friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com

Citizens Advice

0800 144 8848, citizensadvice.org.uk

Cricket Club

Mark Stevens, 07950318576

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, kayhelen2017@outlook.com

Mentalk Health Sittingbourne

mentalk-health.org

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>

Playgroup

Heather Salisbury, 07984 613532

Police

PC Phil Clemens

philip.clemens@kent.police.uk

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, <https://www.lower-halstow.kent.sch.uk/>

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

Ria Smith, Group Scout Leader, ria.smithuk@gmail.com

Short Mat Bowls

John Mustoo, 843681, Mick Porter, Secretary, 713120

St Margaret's Church

Rev. Julian Staniforth, 227329

PCC Secretary, Dawn Drury, 842688

Church Enquiries, Jackie Swift, 078402 58665

Swale Borough Council

Main office, 424341

The Three Tuns

842840, www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk,

info@thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk

Village News

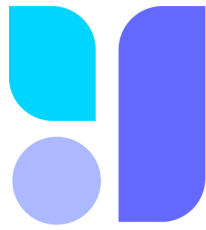
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Items for inclusion send to Gill Ransley, ransleyfamily@gmail.com,

07771 817152

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