

LOWER HALSTOW VILLAGE NEWS JUNE & JULY 2025



*Summer solstice walk, 21 June 2019, photo kindly supplied
by Glenda Tress*

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

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

1 June 2025 - 8am, Quiet Communion, Rev Ron Partridge

*8 June 2025, Pentecost - 10.30am, The Six Communion, outdoors at St Mary the Virgin, Newington, Rev Robert Zachar

15 June 2025, Trinity Sunday - 10am, Communion - Rev Alan le Grys

22 June 2025 - 10am, Morning Worship, Teresa Parker

29 June 2025 - 10am, Communion, Rev Amanda Lane

*6 July 2025 - 10.30am, The Six Communion at St Mary Magdalene, Stockbury, Rev Amanda Lane/George Hulme

13 July 2025 - 10am, Morning Worship, Lis Willmet

20 July 2025 - 10am, Communion, Rev Ron Partridge

27 July 2025 - 10am, Songs of Praise, Liz Mouland

* services held at other churches

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

1 June 2025 - Helen

15 June 2025 - Georgina

29 June 2025 - Liz

13 July 2025 - Yvonne

27 July 2025 - Gillian

COMMUNITY CAFE

Memorial Hall

First Saturday of the Month

11.30am – 2.30pm



LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

What a lovely start we've had to the Summer terms at Lower Halstow School! The sunshine has certainly lifted everyone's spirits and brought extra energy to our days at school. The penultimate term of the academic year has been a busy, but exciting time, full of learning, laughter and lots of outdoor activity while the good weather has been with us – let's hope it continues!



We're incredibly proud of our pupils who recently took part in the Bikeability training course. Over the course of the week, the children worked hard to complete both their Level 1 and Level 2 awards. They learned essential skills for safe cycling—first mastering control and awareness in the school grounds before heading out to practise on the roads around the village. We're delighted to say that every single child successfully passed the course! Each of them received a well-deserved Bikeability certificate and badge to celebrate their achievement.

Our Year 3 children have had the most wonderful time this term learning all about our local estuary through an engaging Cleaner Coast workshop. The experience was filled with hands-on learning—from crabbing and bird spotting to plant identification and understanding the environmental impacts on our coastline. The children thoroughly enjoyed every moment, and it's been a truly special opportunity to explore nature right on our doorstep. It's an experience the children will remember for a long time to come!

A huge well done to our amazing Year 6 pupils who recently completed their SATs tests this term. These tests are an important milestone in their primary school journey, and every child approached the week with great focus, resilience and determination. We are incredibly proud of how hard they have worked in the lead-up to these assessments—their effort and positive attitude have truly shone through. Now comes the agonising

Lower Halstow Village News
June & July 2025

wait for the results, which we won't receive until July. In the meantime, we hope they feel proud of all they've achieved so far.

We've already packed so much into this term, and there's still plenty more to look forward to in the coming weeks. From exciting trips to special events, it promises to be a busy and enjoyable time for everyone. Let's hope the sunshine continues to stay with us as we make the most of all that's ahead!

Acorn Class, Year R feature:

Acorn Class were very excited to host a reading event with their parents this term. We decided to make the occasion even more special by decorating some cakes to share when snuggling up for story time. As you could tell by the smiles on their faces, the children really loved having their parents joining them in school for a cuddle and a story, and going by the comments they made, the cakes were enjoyed too!

Abdul-Haadi - I liked the cakes!

Oakley - I liked reading with mummy, and eating cakes too with her. My sister had one when I got home.

Constance - I liked having a snuggle with mummy and eating cake whilst reading!

Maryanne - I like mummy and daddy and cake!

Darcy - I liked having mummy read to me in school.





Friends of Lower Halstow School are busy gearing up for the Summer Term activities! All monies raised will go towards funding the new computers for the soon-to-be refurbished ICT Suite at the school. Last term, we held a Signs of Spring competition for all pupils, and the

overall winner was Christopher in Year 4 who created a fantastic stop-motion video entry. Please visit our website to see all the winning entries, as well as Christophers ingenious video.

We still have a few Tea Towels available for sale at £6 each! They feature every pupil and staff member at the school and are a fantastic keepsake. Please contact us if you would like to purchase one.

Our Summer Fair will be held on Friday 4 July, 3.15pm-4.30pm, on the school field (weather permitting!) and is open to anyone who would like to attend. If you would like to have a stall at the Fair, or would like to donate a raffle prize, please email us.

We also have a Break The Rules Day, Leavers Disco and Welcome Morning for New Starters coming up - please visit our Facebook page to keep up-to-date with all events.

And finally, the Scarecrow Trail is back again this year - the theme will be revealed in the next edition of the Village News!

Please visit our website friendsoflhs.org.uk for more information about FoLHS, email us at hello@friendsoflhs.org.uk or follow our Facebook and Instagram accounts 'Friends of Lower Halstow School'.

Thank you!

Rachael & Lucy

FoLHS Co-Chairs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT/PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Friends

Last month, we celebrated VE Day, commemorating 80 years since the war ended in Europe. It had been a hard-fought nearly six years. But the end finally came, and we all rejoiced. Weeks of mopping up remained, but the main conflict in Europe was over.

Eighty years is a long time, but we remember now, as they must have realised then, that not everything was over for everyone. Three more months would be needed in the Asia-Pacific theatre before VJ Day could be celebrated. My father and my mother's brother were in that conflict. My earliest memory is going to our local railway station one night with my mother and Dad's whole family to meet him coming home from the war.

It seems like there is always more to do. One job is done, one danger is overcome, but we find that there is more work to do before we can rest. Beacons were lit in May to remember a past victory, but beacons were once lit all over Britain as a warning of conflict to come. We may be living in times like that now, where endings and beginnings have been happening all around us, and are still going on. More to do, before we can rest for a while. Whatever good we hope to achieve, whatever risks we face, we need to know that we aren't alone. Whatever is good in God's eyes, God will never leave us.

Yours faithfully - with God's help

Ron Partridge, curate and chaplain (retired)
Lower Halstow

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library stops outside the Memorial Hall fortnightly from 1.50pm to 2.30pm. The next dates are Thursdays 12 and 26 June and 10, 24 and 31 July 2025.

Lower Halstow Memorial Hall Booking Clerk - Voluntary Position

The above voluntary position will become vacant in September 2025, if you are interested, please contact the Secretary, email address - lowerhalstowhall@gmail.com. The position requires logging all bookings etc., training is available for all the minimal relative requirements.

**LOWER HALSTOW ANNUAL NOVELTY DOG SHOW TO BE HELD
ON SATURDAY 21 JUNE 2025 *** RAIN OR SHINE**

Registration 9.00am in the Hall

Judging Begins At 12.00 Noon

Lower Halstow Annual Novelty Dog Show is delighted to tell you that, Kerry Gardner is the Judge this year and Diana Swift will be her Steward.

Rosettes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd

Classes are:-

Fancy Dress

Dog and Owner Look-alike

Most Handsome Dog

Prettiest Bitch

Young Puppies - 3month to 6 months Dog or Bitch

Young Puppies - 6month to 12 months Dog or Bitch

Veteran - 7 years old Dog or Bitch

Happiest Dog or Bitch

Scruffiest Dog or Bitch

Best Rescue Dog or Bitch

Best Pedigree Dog or Bitch

Best Brace of Dogs (not necessary the same breed, but look alike)

Child - Under 12 years old to show their Dog or Bitch

Dog or Bitch the Judge and Steward would like to take home

Races - weather permitting

Very Small Dog or Bitch

Small Dog or Bitch

Medium Dog or Bitch

Large Dog or Bitch

Overall Winner - All Dogs That Have Come 1st In Their Class

Fundraising for PDSA *****

Refreshments

DOG SHOW PDSA STALL

From Kay Howard-Challis:

If you have any (good as new) items that can be used at the Annual Dog Show on 21 June 2025 to assist the PDSA stall, they will be very much appreciated. We can collect, or you can leave them at no. 2, Elm Place, or even bring them on the day, early if possible. Thank you so much

THE THREE TUNS

We continue to be closed on Tuesdays

Sunday 13 July 2025

We have live Music from 6.30pm with Gumboots Reggae Duo.

Date for the Diary

August Bank Holiday Beer & Cider Festival

Saturday 23, Sunday 24 & Monday 25 August 2025

Contact for more details and reservations on 842840

www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk

THE TUESDAY SOCIAL - 24 JUNE 2025

AR Botanicals - Kent Herbs and Plant Oils

A very interesting evening with local herbalist, Mandy Rickard DipPhyt
Come along and find out about the power and wonder of natural herbs.

7.30pm

Memorial Hall

School Lane, Lower Halstow

Refreshments. £4 entry on the door. Raffle.

Phone Liz on 842272

The Tuesday Social is a fundraising event
for St Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow

THE TUESDAY SOCIAL - 29 JULY 2025

BIRDWISE

An enjoyable and informative presentation by Hayley about the wonderful diversity of birdlife in our estuary and how to look after them.

7.30pm

Memorial Hall

School Lane, Lower Halstow

Refreshments. £4 entry on the door. Raffle.

Phone Liz on 842272

The Tuesday Social is a fundraising event
for St Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow

BUS SERVICES IN LOWER HALSTOW - Services 327/328

(SD = School Day, SH = School Holiday)

We thought it might be useful to have information about bus times for the village, this summary was created with lots of help from Julia Dunphy. For details of stops etc look at chalkwell.co.uk

Monday to Friday, not Bank Holidays

Sittingbourne to Chatham

7.20 (SD), 7.30 (SH), 9.35, 12.30, 15.32 (SD), 16.02 (SD), 17.50

Chatham to Sittingbourne

7.38 (SH), 7.39 (SD), 9.26, 13.24 (SH), 13.34 (SD), 15.53 (SH), 16.13 (SD), 18.28

Saturdays

Sittingbourne to Chatham

7.45, 12.55, 15.35

Chatham to Sittingbourne

9.08, 14.37, 17.17

LOWER HALSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meetings are held in the Memorial Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm

Foraging on the Brickfield

Recently two people were seen in the Memorial Wood with step ladders and large bins, cutting all the flowers off a Rowan tree. When challenged, they said they intended to make elderflower wine and could not be persuaded to stop or accept that Rowan flowers are never used in making elderflower wine.

The Royal Horticultural Society on their website, advises that Rowan berries are poisonous and should not be eaten!

Furthermore, please can we remind everyone that it is a criminal offence and can lead to a conviction to remove, damage or destroy anything on the Brickfield without the consent of the Parish Council.

Allotments

There are a few allotments available to rent. If you fancy having a go at growing your own vegetables, fruit and flowers please contact the the Parish Clerk in the first instance at parishclerk@lowerhalstowparishcouncil.gov.uk

The fees, terms and conditions are on the Parish Council website where you will also find a host of other information:
<https://www.lowerhalstowparishcouncil.gov.uk>

CONTACTS

(Telephone numbers are 01795 unless its a mobile number or otherwise stated) If you notice any information is out of date, or you would like something else included, please let Gill know on ransleyfamily@gmail.com or call 07771 817152

Brickfields - Judy Telford, 07486 530068,
friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com

Cricket Club - Mark Stevens, 07950318576

Dog Warden - Daytime 417850. Out of hours 07795 237479

Flood Wardens - Kay Howard-Challis, 844408,
howardchallisk@gmail.com , Abbie Dowell,
abbie_mcdowell@hotmail.com

Food Bank Donations - leave any food/toiletries items in grey box at 34 Crouch Hill Court. Place any money in an envelope marked "Food Bank" into letter box

Judo Club - Jon 07944 755036

KCC Potholes - 03000 418187

Kent County Councillor - Richard Palmer, richard.Palmer@kent.gov.uk

Member of Parliament - Kevin McKenna,
kevin.mckenna.mp@parliament.uk, 07519 087522

Memorial Hall - Chairman, Keith Howard-Challis, 844408,
lowerhalstowhall@gmail.com Bookings, Kay Howard-Challis, 844408,
howardchallisk@gmail.com

Mobility Items - to borrow or donate, call Tony Clark 07977 566097, Dawn 07910339116 or Jackie 07840 258665.

Neighbourhood Watch - Co-ordinator, Richard Asbury,
LHNWatch1@gmail.com, 07894 792802, Facebook - Search Lower Halstow Neighbourhood Watch

Noise nuisance - Daytime 417850. Out of hours 07881 817601

Parish Council - Parish Clerk, Ann Smith,
parishclerk@lowerhalstowparishcouncil.gov.uk 01760 336459,
www.lowerhalstowparishcouncil.gov.uk Meetings are on first Tuesday of the month at 7pm

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;

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 07910339116, Church Enquiries, Jackie Swift 078402
58665

Swale Borough Council - Main office, 424341

Swale Borough Councillors for Bobbing, Lower Halstow & Iwade -
Lloyd Chapman, lloydchapman@swale.gov.uk, Roger Clark, 430324,
rogerclark@swale.gov.uk

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, 07771 817152

Walkers (Lower Halstow Walkers) 10am every Monday, including
Bank Holidays, from the Brickfields end of Lapwing Drive, a brisk 2 hour
walk or a one and a half/2 hour walk at a more moderate pace. Call
Margaret on 843927 for more information.

Wildlife Rescues -Lenham Hedgehog Rescue 07932 383552,
Columbines Wildlife Care 07738 573818/07738 515263, Thorne
Hedgehog Rescue 07825 952201, Kent Wildlife Rescue 07824 893399

Yacht Club - Dave Quigley, 841242

**The deadline for items for the August/September 2025 Village News
is noon on 10 July 2025**

**Please email items for inclusion as early as possible to
ransleyfamily@gmail.com**

ADVERTISING IN THE VILLAGE NEWS

If you would like to advertise in the Village News donations are requested. Minimum suggested donations are - Full page £15 per edition, half page £7.50 per edition and quarter page £3.75 per edition. 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



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Info@bcwindowcleaning.co.Uk

Www.bcwindowcleaning.co.uk

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