

**LOWER HALSTOW
VILLAGE NEWS
February 2022**



*Redshank at the creek
Photo kindly supplied by Janey Hinton*

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

6 February - 8am, Communion

13 February - 10am, Family Worship

20 February - 10am, Communion

27 February - 10am, Family Worship

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

Altar Flower Rota

6 February - Liz

13 February - Yvonne

20 February - Lesley

27 February - Cheyenne

St Margaret's Coffee Mornings

For February, every Thursday 10am to 12 noon coffee time in the church, have a chat, sit quietly, light a candle, you will be very welcome. Call Jackie 01795 842749, for any queries you may have

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.

My Funny Valentine

You never were romantic

But I loved you just the same

Your smile, your laugh, your twinkling eyes

Oh, to hear you call my name

I miss your presence every day

But today the hurt's so sore

You're my heart, my soul, my eternal self

I'll love you evermore

Sending heartfelt blessings and strength to all those who find themselves alone this Valentine's Day. Pam Shephard

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 February.

NEW POP-UP CAFE

Message from Jane Summers:

Lower Halstow Memorial hall

10-1pm Saturday 5 February 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. We hope to hold an AGM this spring and the date will be published in the Village News.

If you are interested in what we are doing on the Brickfield, its history or would like to see photos of the natural world we share there please join us on Facebook, to find us search for Friends of the Lower Halstow Brickfields

For other information email us on friendsofthebrickfields@gmail.com

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 February 2022 and then 10 and 24 March 2022.

HEALTH WALKS

Start at 10.00 am 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 PARISH COUNCIL

Handyman/Litter Picker Retirement

The Parish Council would like to thank John Knott who has retired from his position after six years' service keeping our village clean and tidy (litter picking), amongst other duties. He will be greatly missed. The Parish Council are seeking a replacement for John. If you are interested please contact the Clerk (clerk.lhpc@gmail.com) for more information.

Sea wall

Ian Nunn, operations manager from the Environment Agency is due to meet with Parish Councillors in January to view the erosion of our sea wall at the request of the Parish Council. An update after the visit will be provided.

Eco dog bins

Two new Eco dog waste bins have been installed by the Parish Council at Gibbs Amenity field and the Recreation ground. This is to encourage dog walkers to clear up after their dogs.

Repairs

Repairs to the lookout area on the Brickfield and the bannister on the steps leading up to the Brickfield have been repaired.

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 PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE OF VACANCY

NOTICE is hereby given that two vacancies occurred in the membership of the above Parish Council.

Under the Local Government Act 1972, ten electors can petition for an election by writing to the Proper Officer at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT within 14 working days of the date of this Notice.

If no petition is received within that time period, the Parish Council will fill the vacancy by co-opting a person onto the Parish Council.

Persons wishing to be considered for this appointment should apply in writing to the Clerk to the Parish Council as soon as possible but no later than: -

Friday 18th February 2022

Written applications should be made to the Clerk at the following address:
c/o The Parish Clerk,

Amberley,
5 The Street,
Sporle,
King's Lynn
Norfolk
PE32 2EA
or by e-mail: clerk.lhpc@gmail.com
Ann Smith
A I Smith
Clerk to Lower Halstow Parish Council
Dated: 6th January 2022

LOWER HALSTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school had only been back for a few days by the deadline for this month's Village News, so instead of a news update we have a poem



Happy New Year!
We used to have fear,
But now it's a new year.
It's time for a new start,
The excitement glows in my heart.
Kiss goodbye 2021,
It's time for a new year of hope and fun. We like to spend time with
family and friends too, We look forward to this the whole year through.
We are going to have lots of fun,
Over this new year run.
We hope 2022 will be a good year,
We long for holidays and a bundle of cheer.
We hope you feel comfort like a Sunday roast, May we take this moment
to raise a toast. Bring it on 2022,

Happy New Year from us to you.
From Oak class – Lower Halstow Primary.

UPDATES AND NEWS FROM KERRY WARD

Santa breakfast and lunches

Despite a rise in covid cases in the village throughout December, we still managed to run 2 successful sessions for the children. As well as a visit from the main man himself we also had a visit from Olaf. The snowball arena was a huge hit, as was the snow and other activities. For those

that were unable to make it they still got to have some fun with a doorstep elf visit and a present! 75 children in total took part and it was lovely to see them all enjoying themselves. Huge thank you to everyone that helped out on the day and with all the planning, shopping and present wrapping!

Sleigh round

I just want to say a massive thank you to everyone that helped out in some way with the sleigh round this year. To all the characters and marshals, Finley Jacobs for supplying the cones, Les Wareham for donating the glow sticks and especially John Hawkins who made it all possible. Thank you also to all you residents for clapping, cheering, donating and generally making it an enjoyable round. It was a lot quieter than last year due to restrictions being lifted, the weather and possibly the different timings but we still managed to raise over £800 to go back into the village which is great.

Easter events - 16 April 2022

Planning is already underway for an Easter event on Saturday 16 April. The aim is to make this a family friendly event with minimal costs! Weather permitting, we will have a big picnic on The Gibbs area. There will be an Easter scavenger hunt with Easter eggs for prizes. Everyone can take part but must register to do so, as all children that live in the village will receive their egg for free! Others that wish to take part from outside the village may do, but will also need to register and pay a £1.50 fee. More details and registration will open nearer the time.

We also hope to run a duck race! We will have lots of small rubber ducks each with a number on. You will be able to sponsor a duck for £1 and will be given your number to track if it comes in the top 3! The race will begin at the school lane end of the stream where all ducks will be tipped into the water. The first, second and third duck to reach the finish line which is Westmoreland end of the stream will win a prize!! More details will follow but get the date in your diary!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - 2- 5 June 2022

As you all know this year sees the Queen's Jubilee and a 4 day Bank Holiday. We will be putting together a committee for those that want to be involved in organising some events to remember this by, so if you are interested please can you let me know and I can add you to the group. At the moment it has been suggested that we have the lighting of the beacon on the brick fields on the Thursday evening.

The church has agreed to open up on the Friday and Saturday to house an exhibition of "70 years of lower halstow" . If anyone has any photos, stories, memories, etc they would like to share please get in touch so we can arrange this.

A best dressed house has been suggested as well - hopefully this will get bunting all round the village.

In line with other events across the country we would like to, of course, have a street party on the Sunday. We are thinking this will be in school lane so we can use the field and the memorial hall. Bring along a picnic, set up your gazebo and we can all celebrate together.

There are, of course, lots of other things we could do but that does mean we need volunteers...if you think you could help or you have any ideas please let us know. If you would like to volunteer you can speak to Kerry or email her at kerry.tress@hotmail.co.uk

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

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.

LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD

WATCH NEWS – JANUARY 2022

A STRONG COMMUNITY
UNITED TOGETHER



For the past 40 years, Neighbourhood Watch have supported and enabled individuals and communities to be connected, active and safe. We have grown in strength since the first UK scheme was established in Mollington, Cheshire, in 1982, to the largest UK crime prevention charity that we are today. In recognition of this milestone and to celebrate our rich history, we are thrilled to launch a special-edition logo for 2022.

HEADLINE NEWS

Please extend a Warm Welcome to our new PCSO Kirsty Linge and our Heartfelt Thanks and Best Wishes go to PCSO Lee Fennell in his new role from Lower Halstow Neighbourhood Watch

Read all about it....

- There were 2 Reported incidents in the period.
- 1 report of poaching which police attended but no vehicles were seen.
- 1 report of a male being stuck in the mud on the estuary and attended by KFRS, but there was no cause for concern.
- The PCSO Team continue to visit the village daily as part of their patrols.
- Parking on Breach Lane is difficult but please respect the Double Yellow Lines.
- The monthly meeting for January 2022 was postponed and we hope to run these again from February 2022.

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2022
FROM LOWER HALSTOW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



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
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

Covid is still causing isolation for so many people. Neighbourhood watch is here to help so please contact us if you need assistance with shopping, collecting medication or LFT tests, or if you just need a friendly chat. Please check on neighbours, especially the vulnerable, and help to keep everyone safe through these challenging times.

PASTORAL LETTER

Dear friends

There has been a lot in the news recently about how supermarkets are struggling with their supply chains, about empty shelves and reduced customer choice. But one of the things that strikes me is just how much choice we still have, what a huge variety of goods there is on offer in our shops and online.

I love to try different foods, to shop for new ideas and exercise that choice. Just looking at something like the range of coffees on sale, or the array of electronic devices available, can be overwhelming. For a long time, I have tried to be conscious of making good choices when I shop, of trying to ensure I don't buy from companies exploiting people or the environment, but it can be really tricky to get good information.

And when I reflect on this, it seems astonishing that in a world where we know the need to build sustainable practices for the sake of our planet, where it is accepted that slavery and child labour are wrong, these things are still so widespread. It is well known that the tea, coffee, fruit and chocolate we buy may well have been harvested by children who should be at school, or playing, not working to save their families from poverty. And many large corporations' working practices routinely involve the devastation of rainforest or exploitation and pollution of water sources.

The fashion industry is notorious for the reliance on, at best, poor working conditions for many employees so we can enjoy cheap, throwaway fashion. If it's really cheap, someone, somewhere will have paid the price. And it won't be those owning the big corporations.

Wouldn't it be great if, instead of consumers having to struggle to make sustainable choices, all companies were legally required to change damaging practices, which currently they not only get away with, many profit from them! A Business, Human Rights and Environment Act would make it illegal for companies operating in the UK to have human rights' abuses and environmental destruction in their supply chain, and those causing or profiting from harm would be held to account, while their victims would get the justice they deserve.

A group called The Corporate Justice Coalition is calling for this new law to hold producers to account, prevent abuses and ensure victims are

compensated and damaged environments restored, as far as possible. If you want to know more, take a look at www.traidcraft.org/hold-businesses-to-account ; you could add your name to the petition.

Jesus told his followers to 'love your neighbour', and if we are honest, surely we know in our hearts that all people deserve to be treated fairly, even if it means some inconvenience to ourselves! This sort of action is, for me, a perfect example of faith in action, of recognising the humanity we share with people around the globe we may never meet. And surely, the suffering of any human being, particularly if caused by the greed of others, is something which diminishes us all.

So, go, love your neighbour – wherever in the world they may live!
Every blessing

Rev Amanda Lane

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>

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, 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, 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 March 2022 Village News is noon on
12 February 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.

THANK YOU

Thank you this month to the Neighbourhood Watch and The Three Tuns for donations towards the costs of printing the Village News. And a huge thank you to Paul Tidey for very kindly offering to print the Village News.

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

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www.midkentit.co.uk, 01634 912105/07542795078,
enquiries@midkentit.co.uk

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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