

Lower Halstow Village News

August 2014

(Actual Cover Picture Not Yet Available)

SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S IN AUGUST

Sunday 3rd August

8.00 a.m. Traditional B.C.P. Spoken Communion
6.00 p.m. Praise Communion

Sunday 10th August

10.30 a.m. Family Communion
Refreshments afterwards

Sunday 17th August

10.30 a.m. Morning Praise
Refreshments afterwards
6.30 p.m. Evensong

Sunday 24th August

10.30 a.m. Welcome Service
Refreshments afterwards.

Sunday 31st August

10.45 a.m. All Age Communion Service
for The Six at Iwade

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

August 3rd WW1 weekend; 10th Ann Chesson
17th Liz Mouland; 24th Yvonne Quigley;
31st Anna Slade.

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER VILLAGE NEWS
IS NOON ON TUESDAY 12th AUGUST.**

E MAIL ADDRESS pauline.elmfarm@btconnect.com

*THERE IS NO NEED TO WAIT FOR THE DEADLINE BEFORE YOU
SEND YOUR NEWS. IT HELPS TO SEND IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.*

VILLAGE DIARY FOR AUGUST and other dates for your diary.

Friday 1st August **MEMORIAL HALL GAMES AFTERNOON from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.** Do come and join in this enjoyable afternoon. Even if you do not participate, still come and have a chat with your Lower Halstow village friends. There is no joining fee, just £1.50p per person, which will include a cup of tea/coffee with a biscuit and a very warm welcome.

Saturday 2nd August No Breakfast Club this month. Back in September

Saturday 2nd August – Monday 4th August **WORLD WAR 1 WEEKEND**
REFLECTIONS OF LOWER HALSTOW – 1914 in Words, Pictures, Flowers and Music in St. Margaret's church.

Please join us in church as we explore life in the village in August 1914. We will have a display giving a brief history of the young, brave lads who volunteered from Lower Halstow. The church will be decorated with floral arrangements inspired by poetry and music written by those affected and with photos from the era. There will be a series of events in the church to mark the weekend.

The church will be open at the following times with daily events:

Saturday 2nd August from 10.00 a.m to 4.00 p.m. At **2.00 p.m.** Michael Mills will present a talk on the First World War, the talk will be aimed to suit children, so every one is welcome.

Sunday 3rd August from 1.00 p.m to 4.00 p.m. At **2.00 p.m** there will be singing from two lovely ladies known locally as 'Those Women', they will be singing popular songs known to us from the First World War. Afternoon Tea will be served afterwards, so everyone is welcome.

Monday 4th August from 2.00 p.m to 6.30 p.m. The Thames Sailing barge, Edith May, will be joining us in the parish dock.

Our reflections will end with a short service at 6.30 p.m, concluding with Fred Slade playing 'Sunset' on the trumpet. After the service please stay for a glass of wine to reminisce, and everyone is welcome.

There will be tea, coffee and cake available during all three days to welcome visitors and to enjoy the ambience of the church.

Please do come and join us as we mark the Centenary of the outbreak of the First World War in this simple but beautiful way.

Tuesday 5th August **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** in the **MEMORIAL HALL**. Parish Council meetings commence at **7.00 p.m.** for a public open time, followed by the Parish Council business.

LOWER HALSTOW CRAFTERS

Since the last Village News we have had some very successful days. Our jewellery making produced items which we were proud to wear (mine went with me to Russia) and our first attempt at glass painting has also brought out some skills we did not know we had. So much so that we are keen to do some more on. Pictures of our achievements can be seen on our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/lowerhalstowcrafters>

Our meetings for August are still in the planning stage but the dates are as follows:-

Wednesday 6th

Monday 11th

Wednesday 20th

Monday 25th closed for Bank Holiday

If you would like to join us you would be very welcome and can obtain more details by calling Margaret on 01795 843100 email Blenmerrow@firenet.uk.net or Barbara on 07788871772 email barbaracastleptn@aol.co.uk

Thursday 7th August DOMALEE AFTERNOON TEA at 2.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall. Come and enjoy homemade cakes and tea and meet up with old friends and make new ones. These teas are held on the first Thursday of each month in aid of local charities and as well as a lovely tea we have a raffle and play Hoy Bingo. Young mums and dads and little ones are always welcome, so we'd love you to come and join us. Entry is £1.50.

Saturdays 9th and 16th August St. MARGARET'S CHURCH will be open from 2.30 p.m. until 4.30 p.m. On the 2nd the church will be open from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. for our special World War 1 weekend. On the 23rd there is a wedding at 2.00 p.m. so we will open at 3.30 p.m. On the 30th there is a wedding at 4.00 p.m. so we will open at 2.30 p.m. but close at 3.15 p.m. We offer a cup of tea/coffee free of charge and a cool place to sit on a hot day.. This is the last month this year when we will be opening on Saturday afternoons, so if you've recently moved into the village do feel free to come and get to know our oldest building while we are still open.

Thursday 28th August COFFEE STOP in St Margaret's Church. 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. (and every fourth Thursday in the month). There will be special activities for the children, so please bring them along and enjoy a relaxing break. We serve hot or cold drinks, cakes, toasted sandwiches and home-made savouries etc. at very reasonable prices, in the beautiful setting of our ancient village church. Everyone welcome.

Saturday 30th August WHIST DRIVE in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m. £3.00. Everyone welcome.

UpARA (Upchurch Active Retirement Association)

We had a very successful launch of our new association in Upchurch and our membership has now risen to 123, against our upper limit of 150. Our first expedition away from home was a Ten Pin Bowling event in Chatham, which was well attended, and we all started to remember skills from our youth.

Our next events are:

Monthly Meetings (2nd Friday of the month) Friday 8th August 2.00 p.m. (Members Free; Guests £2.00.)

Coffee Mornings (4th Tuesday of the month) Tuesday 26th August 9.30 a.m. until 12.30 p.m. (Members £1.50; Guests £2.00)

Village Walks (every other Friday) Friday 1st August 6.00pm

Outing Wednesday 13th August Day Trip to Brighton.

New members welcome. Annual Subscription £15.

David Powell – Chairman davidrpowell5@hotmail.co.uk 01795-843550

Saturday 4th October Memorial Hall Committee QUIZ NIGHT at a NEW STARTING TIME of 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m., still with teams of 6 and a midway Ploughman's type refreshments. Please bring your own beverage.

Saturday 11th October Memorial Hall Committee BARN DANCE.

As we have a limited amount of room for this event at the Memorial Hall, to avoid disappointment please book your tickets early by contacting Kay on 01795 844408

REGULAR DATES

Every Monday 10.00 a.m. Free HEALTH WALKS starting from the main entrance to The Brick Fields. A brisk walk of up to two hours on mainly flat ground. Sturdy shoes and a rain coat recommended.

Every Monday 1.00 p.m. THE LIBRARY VAN calls at Lower Halstow outside the Memorial Hall.

Every Monday SHORT MAT BOWLS 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall

Every Wednesday SHORT MAT BOWLS 7.30 – 9.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall

Every first Wednesday of the month QUIZ NIGHT at The Three Tuns.

Not quite a regular date – Usually every fourth Tuesday of January, February March, April, July, September and October Gardening Club meets in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m. We have speakers who come to the Hall and give a talk on a variety of topics. These will always be published beforehand in the Newsletter and visitors are always very welcome.

The fourth Thursday of every month THE BRIDGE COFFEE STOP in St. MARGARET'S CHURCH, 9.30 – 11.30 a.m.

PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk Christine Fordham, 18 Cumberland Drive, Lower Halstow. Tel: 01795 844060, or email clerk.lhpc@gmail.com

Litter Picker Required The Parish Council require a contract litter picker for approximately 5 hours a week. Anyone interested in bidding for this contract should submit their price to the Parish Clerk. The Council can loan suitable equipment if required.

Memorial Wood An initial meeting of interested parties has now been held and the design and timescale finalised. The official dedication of the wood is planned for Tuesday 11 November. A brick plinth will record the names of all those from the village killed in armed conflict from 1914 onwards, anyone interested in sponsoring a brick should contact the Clerk. Other groups or individuals interested in taking part in the project should also contact the Clerk.

Lights Out – 4th August A national shared moment of reflection to mark 100 years since the start of WW1 is planned for 4 August when everyone is asked to turn out all their lights from 10-11pm except for one candle. Full details can be found at <http://www.1418now.org.uk/lights-out/> and on the Parish Council notice board.

Lower Halstow website We in the process of updating the Lower Halstow website as part of a project to develop new ways of keeping villagers informed of news and events. The first stage is to develop the events diary and for this we need your help.

If you have a club, society or other local event that you think may be of interest to the village, please send details to the Parish Clerk (clerk.lhpc@gmail.com).

MEMORIAL HALL

At the AGM on the 17th June John Mustoo stood down as Chairman. The new Management Committee is Keith Howard-Challis as Chairman, Kerry Gardner as Secretary, Sue Mumford as Treasurer, Kay Howard-Challis as Social Secretary and Jill Peters as Booking Secretary.

The Management Committee would like to thank Keith Howard-Challis for agreeing to be our Chairman. We all look forward to working with him.

We would also would like to say a big thank you to John Mustoo for all his hard work over the past 19 years and hope he enjoys his spare time, although he will still be a Committee member.

YACHT CLUB

A big thank you to villagers and visitors for the Yacht club annual charity race and BBQ in aid of Mcmillan nurses on Sunday 29th June. We enjoyed a brisk SE wind and started from the moorings down Halstow creek, past Sharfleet to the Stangate Spit buoy on the Medway and back. The 'race' was followed by a BBQ with salad trimmings organised by member's partners. Collections totalled £160 which the club has matched to total £320 for Mcmillans.

BATTLEFIELD TOUR On Sunday 6th July, a full coach, with mainly village people on board, went on a visit to the Somme. Michael Mills, whose knowledge of World War 1 is remarkable, arranged this memorable day. Firstly we visited Grevillers British Cemetery, where we paid our respects to Thomas Sifleet, a Lower Halstow man, who is buried there. Alan Swift laid a wreath, and a minute's silence was held. Our next visit was to Lochnager Crater. This giant hole, 300ft in diameter and 90ft

deep, was blown under the German lines at 7.28 p.m. just prior to the attack at 7.30 a.m. - the beginning of the Battle of the Somme. Every year on the 1st July, a Remembrance Service is held. In the rain we stopped at a battlefield at Gueudecourt. This is a tragic story, where the 6th Buffs and 6th West Kent were disastrously cut down, including Edward Smith, another Halstow man. Michael talked us through the battle. He played the last post, and again a minute's silence was held. This is a very short synopsis. Anyone who says "I can't think about all that now. It was over a long time ago." should take a few minutes to stop and think what those soldiers went through for our future. Michael is an excellent guide, telling us lots of stories on our journey, and we were all captivated by the history of the Somme. Come and hear him give a talk in the church on Saturday 2nd August at 2.00 p.m. Jackie Swift

THE VOLUNTEERS *by Chris Mayes*

As we look back and think about the horrendous event of World War 1 we remember that many of those who lived through it all thought that it would not happen again – but then came the Second World War, 1939 – 1945 and several smaller conflicts in which our service personnel have given their lives.

At the same time, as well as volunteering to join the armed forces to fight for their country, many others volunteered in other ways to strive for peace - nursing staff, home guard, fire service, work in factories and mines, the transport systems and in government offices. Many of those who did so lost their lives for the peace and security of this country that we enjoy today. Fortunately this spirit of volunteering has not been lost in today's world, although without loss of life. There are many in the community who gave their time and money to others; those who help by visiting the sick in hospitals and hospices; those who run beaver, brownie, cub, guide and scout groups; those who run youth clubs; those who give their time and money to children in need; those who help the homeless; those who are voluntary special constables and fire-fighters; those who belong to the Neighbourhood Watch. Many, including those who have retired, do voluntary work as school governors, serve on the Parish, Church or Borough Councils or help with the U3A (University of the Third Age). There is plenty to do and volunteers are always needed to help make and keep this community and country a better place for the future of our children and grandchildren.

THANK YOU Bradley Jacobs, here is an enormous thank you for providing Lower Halstow village with two football goals. I saw, even before the cement had dried, youngsters and their parents enjoying your very generous gift. Thank you so much from a grateful granny, Kay.

MOBILITY AIDS St. Margaret's has items in excellent condition, i.e. wheelchairs, commode, etc. These are available for emergency borrowing. We are always pleased when the church can help in the community. Please contact Tricia 01795 842419, Jackie 01795 842749 or Ursula 01795 842924

YOUR LOCAL 'BEST ONE' VILLAGE SHOP IN BURNTWICK DRIVE – now under new management. Opening times are: Monday - Saturday 7.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. Sunday: 8.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. All your daily needs including milk, bread, newspapers and magazines. We are doing our best to give you good service.

NEED A TAXI? Call Charlie, your local independent taxi, on 07920 113 860 or 01795 506100. Fully licensed and insured.

GUITAR TUITION: For all levels and styles in a relaxed atmosphere. Call Jeremy on 01795 842620.

DO YOU NEED AN EXPERIENCED, RELIABLE BUILDER? I'm available for small and medium jobs - repairs, alterations and refurbishments, from hanging a door to fitting a new kitchen or bathroom. Contact Bill Ransley on 07889 600677 or 01795 843871.

PHOTO SERVICES If you have damaged or faded treasured photos, I can repair them by scanning and digital restoration. Other photo services include printing from negatives, slides and digital files with photo enhancement, archiving onto CD/DVD and bespoke picture framing. I can also provide advice on your printing or PC problems. Contact Tony Fordham on 01795 844060 or mobile 07791 992734.

AVON CALLING For your new brochure call Kay on 07941681244.

MR. DIG-IT'S GARDEN SERVICE (formerly Lower Halstow) For one-off or regular visits call Peter on 01634 574676 or 07787 813 512.

EMgardening 01795 841755 or 07846715300
We can TAME and MAINTAIN your unruly garden.
Grasscutting, Hedgetrimming, Small Tree work etc.

ALISON'S ALTERATIONS If it can be sewn, I'll sew it! Fix, alter, replace, zips, buttons, rips, linings, badges, smaller or larger (if possible), clothing bags, soft furnishings and house-hold linens.
email: creativesewing@live.co.uk text/phone my mob: 07813084051 phone: 01795 555853
Also WANTED – vintage clothing and textiles

PLUMBER & HEATING ENGINEER
Gas Safe registered
COMPLETE BATHROOMS SUPPLIED & FITTED
R. H .PARKER LTD
Worcester, Bosch and Valient boilers supplied and installed
from as little as £1600 with 5 & 7 year warrantee options
Kestrel's, 100 School Lane, Lower Halstow
Daniel Parker (01795) 843361 Steve Parker
07771 333084 No call out charge 07879 883153

Experienced Financial Advisor offering Pensions and Investment planning

Michael van der Straaten FPFS
Chartered Financial Planner
19 The Street, Lower Halstow
Contact me on 07824 392342 or
Email : michael.vanderstraaten@sjpg.co.uk
Website : www.michaelvanderstraaten.co.uk

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Please note that the editor is not responsible for any inaccuracies which may occur in reports and news from contributors. Contributions are printed (usually with only minor adjustments and corrections if necessary) as handed in. The editor has to assume that contributors have checked their facts and that the news is correct. If you have any queries or complaints please contact the relevant organisation direct – telephone numbers are listed on the back page.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

(01795 unless otherwise stated)

*If you find that any of these numbers is no longer in use
please let Pauline know on 842028*

The Rev. Jacky Davis 842557

Jackie Swift (churchwarden) 842749

Pauline Stevens (PCC secretary) 842028

Memorial Hall new bookings (Jill Peters) 844054

The school 842344

The Three Tuns 842840

Short Mat Bowls (John Mustoo) 843681
Cricket Club (Mark Stevens) 842090
Beaver Cub Scout Group (Dave Giles) 843193
1stlowerhalstowscouts@gmail.com
Playgroup (Heather Salisbury) 01634 233182
Yacht Club (Dave Quigley) 01795 841242
Judo Club (Jon) 07944755036.
The Parish Clerk (Christine Fordham) 844060
PCSO 57932 Matthew Link, Lower Halstow & Iwade,
101 or 01795 419116 matthew.link@kent.pnn.police.uk
Crime Stoppers 0800 555111
Swale Borough Council (Main office) 424341
Swale Borough Councillor for Lower Halstow & Iwade (Ben Stokes) 476979
County Councillor (Lee Burgess) LeeBurgess@kent.gov.uk
M.P. Gordon Henderson 423199 www.gordonhendersonmp.org.uk
Citizen's Advice Bureau 0870 1212105
Police (general enquiries) 01622 690690
Neighbourhood Watch (John Haddaway) 01634 792131
Dog Warden 077952 37479
Noise nuisance 417850 (out-of-hours 07881817601)
N.H.S. Direct 0845 4647
Parish Council Website: www.lowerhalstowpc.kentparishes.gov.uk.

If you would like your name and number added, or you would like to suggest another useful number, please contact Pauline Stevens on 842028.

If any number changes, or you are no longer a contact person, please let Pauline know.

THE DEADLINE FOR ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE SEPTEMBER VILLAGE NEWS IS NOON ON TUESDAY 12th AUGUST.

Items for inclusion to Pauline at Elm Farm (842028)
or pauline.elmfarm@btconnect.com

Please remember – if we don't receive your news, we can't print it!