

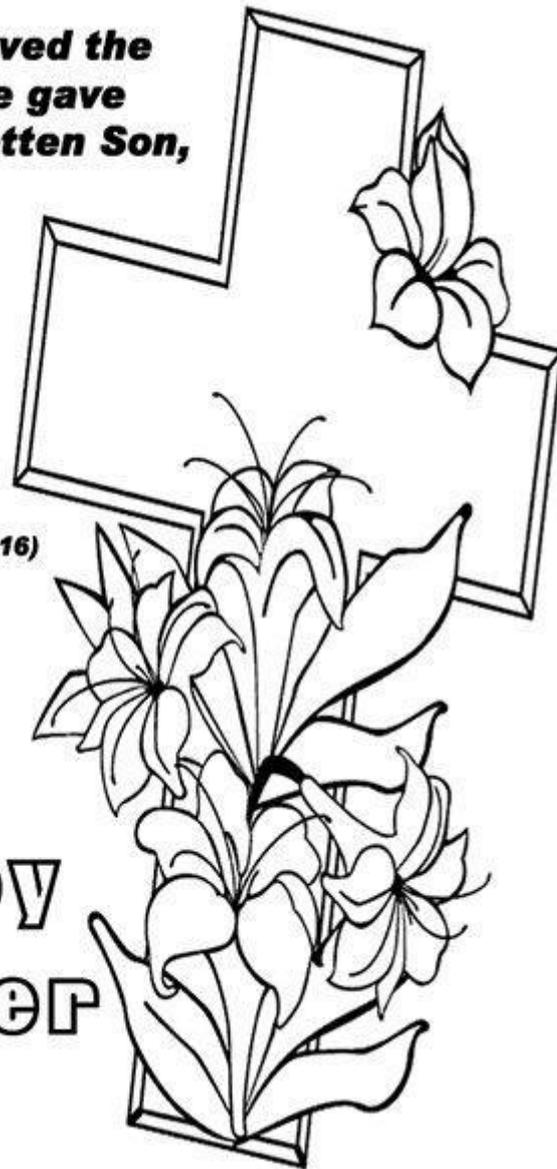
LOWER HALSTOW  
VILLAGE NEWS

APRIL 2015

**For God so loved the  
world, that he gave  
his only begotten Son,  
that  
whosoever  
believeth in  
him should  
not perish,  
but have  
everlasting  
life.**

*(John 3:16)*

**HAPPY  
EASTER**



**Celebrate Easter at St. Margaret's 30<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April**

*Compiled, edited and published for the village by*  
**St. MARGARET'S CHURCH**

## SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S IN APRIL

### HOLY WEEK

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 p.m. Compline

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7.30 p.m. Compline

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April GOOD FRIDAY

10.30 a.m. All-age Service. Walk of witness from Upchurch starting at 9.30 a.m.

### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April EASTER EVE

7.30 p.m. 'Light the Fire' service

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April EASTER DAY

6.00 a.m. Sunrise Service + Communion

10.30 a.m. Family Communion

*Refreshments afterwards*

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April

10.30 a.m. Family Communion

*Refreshments afterwards*

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April

10.00 a.m. Morning Worship

*Refreshments afterwards*

6.30 p.m. Evensong

**N.B. Please note change of time.**

Evensong will be at 6.30 p.m. up to and including October.

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April

10.30 a.m. Welcome Service

*Refreshments afterwards*

### ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

April: 5<sup>th</sup> Easter; 12<sup>th</sup> Denise & Faye Balban

19<sup>th</sup> Georgina Kindred; 26<sup>th</sup> Maggie Mills & Fiona Harrington.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Liz Moulard.

### THE DEADLINE FOR THE MAY VILLAGE NEWS

**IS NOON ON SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL.**

*HERE 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 APRIL** and other dates for your diary.

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and every Thursday in April** TAI CHI CLASS in the Memorial Hall from 1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m., each class £5.00.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** GAMES AFTERNOON at the Memorial Hall from 2 o'clock to 4 o'clock. Games include Rummikub, Euchre, Whist, Scrabble, Dominoes and many other card or board games. No joining fee - just £1.50 for a cup of tea/coffee plus biscuits and a very warm welcome.

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April** Parish Council THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARISH will be held at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall. All are welcome. There will be a short presentation on the work of the Parish Council in the last year as well as information about the new Emergency Plan – how it can help you and how you can help others!

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April** SPRING CRAFT FAIR at St. Margaret's Church, 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. We are delighted to be holding our first sale of the year. Do join us for a wide selection of local crafts, including jewellery, home baked and home-made produce, woodwork, pens, potter and cards, at possibly the prettiest location around. Refreshments available.

**UpARA** (Upchurch Active Retirement Association)

Our next events are:

**Monthly Meeting** (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month) Members Free; Guests £2.00

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April** – 2.00pm

**Coffee Mornings** (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month) Members £1.50; Guests £2.00

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April** 9.30am until 12.30pm

**Village Walks 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday**

**Outing: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May Little Venice & Camden Lock**

David Powell – Chairman [davidpowell5@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:davidpowell5@hotmail.co.uk) 01795-843550

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** COFFEE STOP in St Margaret's Church. 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. (and every fourth Thursday in the month). 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.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April** The ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING will be held in St. Margaret's church at 8.00 p.m. This is the Annual Meeting to which anyone is welcome to come along and find out what we have been doing in the past year – how the money has been spent or saved, what we have been doing to keep the church in good repair and how the social life of the church has progressed. Unless you are involved in the day-to-day running of the church you are probably unaware of what keeps St. Margaret's here for us all, and this is an opportunity to ask questions and find out what goes on behind the scenes. It is, of course, the meeting when elections take place – churchwardens, Parochial Church Council etc. We know that this doesn't help to attract a good attendance, but we promise you won't be coerced into helping to run the church unless you feel you would like to. Please do come along out of interest. You will be most welcome.

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April** GARDENING CLUB at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.

Our guest speaker is Mr Colin Trinity whose subject will be Auricolas - Plants in Bloom. Visitors £1 and refreshments 25p. Please come along and join us. We look forward to seeing you there.

Gardening Club would like to thank Alan Swift for his talk on Lower Halstow & The Great War. His depth of knowledge on the subject and love of the village shone through and everyone had an informative and very pleasant evening. Thank you Alan for a special talk.

## **LOWER HALSTOW CRAFTERS NEWS**

We are now well into 2015 and lots of crafty activity has been taking place. At our last meeting we made Easter chickens. All made in the same way but the different fabrics used gave them each an individual character. If you missed the meeting but would like to have a go at making one, I can forward the pattern to you.

We were so engrossed in our sewing that we forgot to plan our April activities! So far we are going to have a go at tea cup candle making in April and then who knows what we might aspire to? Details will be put onto our face book page at LH crafters along with photos of our creations. Please ring for details if you would like to join us. Happy Easter.

Margaret on 0795 843100 or Babs on 01634 786922.

**Friday 8th May SCOUT GROUP QUIZ NIGHT** - a fun and friendly quiz night **in the Memorial Hall at 8.00 p.m.** Tables of 6, £5 per head - raffle, snacks provided, bring your own drink. Call Mick on 842587 to book. Please help us raise funds to support the young people of our village.

**Saturday 9th May Memorial Hall Committee FAMILY BARN DANCE in the Memorial Hall.**  
More details in the May Village News .

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May Yvonne's Plant Sale.** Come along to **10 The Street** between **10.00 a.m. and 12 noon**, where you can buy a variety of lovely plants at very reasonable prices.

**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.**

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## **LOWER HALSTOW 100 YEARS AGO ....**

### **HARRY REED**

L/6002 Private Harry Reed 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Queens Own Royal West Kent Regt was killed in action at Hill 60, Belgium, on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 1915. With no known grave, he is commemorated on Menin Gate Memorial Ypres. Having served with the BEF from October 1914, he was awarded The Mons Star with clasp as well as the British War and Victory Medals. He already held the Medal for Service in Malta.

Son of Abraham and Harriet, Harry was born at Southborough in 1882, and worked at High Brooms Brickworks, joining the regular army in 1900. After serving his full time in the Royal West Kents he was transferred to the Reserve, returning to 28 Springfield Road Southborough working as a labourer. In the 1911 Census he is listed as in Llanleillth Wales and in 1913 he married Ellen Giles there. Recalled back to the army in 1914, they came to live at 4 School Lane, Lower Halstow, and the Church records show the baptism of a son, Charles Henry, 25<sup>th</sup> December 1914. After her husband's death, Ellen returned to Wales and later remarried. She died in 1920.

Harry Reed enlisted in the RWK Militia on 9<sup>th</sup> August 1899 and then attested for the regular army at Malta joining the Royal West Kent Regiment on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1900. On completion of his full

engagement he transferred to Reserve but was recalled on the outbreak of War, landing to join the B.E.F with the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. Royal West Kents at Le Havre 13<sup>th</sup> August. The battalion were much involved with the early fighting at Mons and the Marne. He sustained a gunshot wound to the head on 26<sup>th</sup> October and was evacuated to England for treatment. On 11<sup>th</sup> March 1915 he re-joined his unit in the front line. He was killed in action at Hill 60, the scene of so much desperate fighting and where the gallantry of the Royal West Kents was recognised by Sir John French who declared that “nothing ever required greater tenacity or courage” than what these troops had to endure.

Afterwards his wife received a letter from Pte. G Cork, a Newington man, who was with him when he was shot, saying that “they had been having a very warm time of it all night”, and Harry was look out man when he was hit. His last words were “Let my wife know George, and send my love to her and the .....” - presumably his son. George Cork survived the War, returning to Newington.

**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

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Clerk** Christine Fordham, 18 Cumberland Drive, Lower Halstow. Tel: 01795 844060, or email [clerk.lhpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.lhpc@gmail.com)

**Dog Walkers** Would you please make sure that you clear up after your dog; it is an offence not to do so. There is a particular problem in Church Path. The Council have asked the dog wardens to patrol the village and report any offenders.

**Project Working Party** The Parish Council have formed a working party to discuss and recommend village improvement projects to the Council. The Working Party would also be responsible for researching funding sources. Any parishioners who would like to join the working party should contact the Clerk.

**Be a Parish Councillor** Nomination papers to stand for election as a Parish Councillor are now available from Swale Borough Council: email [elections@swale.gov.uk](mailto:elections@swale.gov.uk) or phone 01795 417558. Closing date is 9<sup>th</sup> April.

**From Nigel Randell** ... Have you ever thought about becoming a part of your Parish Council, but worried that you couldn't fit it into your life? So did I, but since being persuaded to apply last April, I have wondered why I hadn't done it before! First of all, I had a very warm welcome and although I took on additional responsibilities like the website and emergency planning, the time commitment has been quite small. What's more they are a very friendly bunch and you don't need any special skills. For many years there have not been enough candidates to force an election but let's make 2015 different. There is a form to fill in but it is very simple (copies of forms and help provided if you need it). The deadline for nominations is early April so there is still time. If you are interested contact the Parish Clerk by email on [clerk.lhpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.lhpc@gmail.com) or by phone on 844060.

### **APOLOGIES FROM THE EDITOR**

**Sittingbourne Heritage Museum** The opening times for late February to April should read 1.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

**Thank you** to a villager for a generous donation of £10 towards Village News funds. I should have mentioned this last month.

**SCOUT GROUP TEXTILES COLLECTION** - The Scout Group are fundraising by again collecting unwanted textiles house to house on **WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL**. We welcome donations of **clothes, shoes, belts, bags, sheets, towels, curtains** etc, in ANY CONDITION. Empty bags will be delivered shortly, if not already - please use binbags if you have more to donate.

Leaders, recognisable by the red and white group scarf, will be collecting from **6.00 p.m.** - please do not leave bags out during the day as we do not want them stolen.

Kindly do not add duvets, inner cushions or pillows, or books, toys, electrical items etc as we cannot take them. Thank you for your support.

**PICK-YOUR-OWN DAFFODILS** The daffodils in the orchard in front of Elm Farm house are available to anyone who would like to support church funds by posting a donation in the front door letter box. This year we will be supplementing St. Margaret's Flower Fund so that we can ensure there will be funds available to the altar flower ladies when they have to purchase flowers for the church, but, if you are as generous as you were last year, we may place half the amount in the church Heating Fund so that we all benefit (eventually). Pick as many daffodils as you like, but, as always, remember that there may be poorly sheep and lambs in this orchard, so we ask that you shut the gate if you find it closed, keep children away from sheep and lambs and please don't bring dogs into the orchard.

**FOR SALE – Cox 22' motor boat.** New 13.5bhp Beta Marine engine. Moored at Lower Halstow Yacht Club, 2 berths, a galley with a 2 ring hob and grill, separate flushing toilet cubicle and a large 4 person cockpit. The boat was used for local fishing trips and family days out, but a health condition means that we can no longer make use of the boat. £7,500. Photos available. For more information and to view call Will Ransley on 01795 843871, or 07889 600677 or email [ransleyprojects@gmail.com](mailto:ransleyprojects@gmail.com)

**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.

**FABULOUS FINGERTIPS** Manicures, pedicures, gel polish, gel nail extensions. Fully insured. Home service available. Call Tanya on 843362 or 07876 458021 [www.fabulousfingertips.co.uk](http://www.fabulousfingertips.co.uk)

**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.

**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.

**GELLUX NAIL TECHNICIAN** Fully trained and insured. Gel nails/toenails will last up to 15 days - over 20 colours! Please call Hayley to book an appointment 07411686090. Special offer at the moment £18 (normally £20)

**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](mailto: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**

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19 The Street, Lower Halstow

Contact me on 07824 392342 or

Email : [michael.vanderstraaten@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:michael.vanderstraaten@sjpp.co.uk)

Website : [www.michaelvanderstraaten.co.uk](http://www.michaelvanderstraaten.co.uk)

**Advertising rates:** £1 per line for those which are for personal gain, but at the same time constitute news or provide a service for villagers. £2 per line for other commercial adverts. The P.C.C. 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 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. Julian Staniforth 227329

Jackie Swift (churchwarden) 842749

Pauline Stevens (PCC secretary) 842028

Memorial Hall (chairman) Keith Howard Challis 844408 [lowerhalstowhall@gmail.com](mailto:lowerhalstowhall@gmail.com)

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 (Roger Truelove) [roger.truelove@kent.gov.uk](mailto:roger.truelove@kent.gov.uk) 425445

County Councillor (Lee Burgess) [LeeBurgess@kent.gov.uk](mailto:LeeBurgess@kent.gov.uk)

M.P. Gordon Henderson 423199 [www.gordonhendersonmp.org.uk](http://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. 111

Parish Council Website: [www.lowerhalstowpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://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 MAY VILLAGE NEWS IS NOON ON SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL.**

Items for inclusion to Pauline at Elm Farm (842028)

or [pauline.elmfarm@btconnect.com](mailto:pauline.elmfarm@btconnect.com)

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