

**LOWER HALSTOW**  
**VILLAGE NEWS**  
**OCTOBER 2016**



**‘All is safely gathered in ‘ere the winter storms begin’**

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

## **SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S IN OCTOBER**

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

**8.00 a.m.** Traditional B.C.P. Spoken Communion

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.00 a.m.** Morning Worship

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.00 a.m.** Communion

**4.00 p.m.** Evensong

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

**10.00 a.m.** Family Time with refreshments  
The service starts at **10.15 a.m.**

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.45 a.m.** All-age Communion at Iwade

### **ALTAR FLOWER ROTA**

**October:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Liz Moulard; 9<sup>th</sup> Yvonne Quigley;  
16<sup>th</sup> Ann Smith; 23<sup>rd</sup> Jackie Swift & Joan Mustoo;  
30<sup>th</sup> Ursula Aylward.

**November:** 6<sup>th</sup> Georgina Kindred.

## **THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER VILLAGE NEWS IS NOON ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

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

**WANTED URGENTLY** - a volunteer to distribute Village News in Crouch Hill Court. Please get in touch with Glenda Tress on 843757.

**IT'S BLYTHSWOOD CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX TIME AGAIN** As usual, you will find a leaflet enclosed with this Village News telling you about the project which we at St. Margaret's church have been supporting since 2003. These boxes are desperately needed and so much appreciated by the recipients in deprived and troubled areas.

The deadline date is early in November, and we will be including that in the November Village News. Una Mayes at 2 Cumberland Drive will be pleased to see you with your shoe box, or they may be taken to the church.

*(The editor is in need of a couple of shoe boxes. If you have one to spare I would be grateful if you would phone 842028 or leave in the back porch at Elm Farm)*

**VILLAGE DIARY FOR OCTOBER** and other dates for your diary.

### **LOWER HALSTOW CRAFTERS**

Our meetings are informal and fun and open to all, whether you are an experienced crafter or a complete beginner. We enjoy learning new crafts and sharing ideas. Please feel welcome to come and join us. We meet between 1.30 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. and charge £1 per meeting which goes towards materials. You can see photos of our achievements on our Facebook page at Lower Halstow Crafters. For further details and venues contact Sue on 841730 or email sue.e.mumford@btinternet.com or Margaret on 843100.

Dates for October are:

**Monday October 3rd** - creating gifts for Christmas

**Wednesday October 12th** – creating remembrance poppies using felt

**Wednesday October 26th** - creating gifts for Christmas

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October** **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.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October** **GAMES AFTERNOON** in the **Memorial Hall** between **2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m.** The games include Rummy, Euchre, Whist and Scrabble and the cost is £1.50 which includes a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits. There is no joining fee, so come along and join in. You would be so welcome.

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October** **BREAKFAST CLUB** at **St. Margaret's Church** begins again in **October**, This time we shall be meeting on the **2nd Saturday of each month** so we **start at 9.30 a.m.** on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October**. Each session lasts for 2 hours so children need to be collected by parents/carers at 11.30 a.m. We cater for all Primary school children, (4+ to 11 years) but this autumn we are lucky enough to have some of our now slightly older regular attenders coming along to help. The morning starts with a continental style breakfast, followed by games and activities linked to a Bible-based theme. We would love to see some 'new faces' as well as welcoming back our 'regulars'. For further details contact Liz Hadley(842654), Becky Ridley (841028) or Hilary Gates (841632).

### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** **St Margaret's Church YOUTH GROUP**

Now that the nights are drawing in and the colder evenings are upon us, the youth group will be meeting in the Memorial Hall. This month we will meet on Friday 21st October, then November 18th and December 9th. We meet at 5.30 p.m. for an hour and a half. We have a variety of games and craft activities, refreshments and a DVD on the go! The group is open to 11 years and up. For more information call Liz on 07730893747. St Margaret's Youth Group Team.

**Saturday 22nd October** QUIZ NIGHT in the Memorial Hall, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Quiz begins at 7.30 p.m. **Tables of 6 - £5.00 per person**, which includes a Ploughman's Supper. Please bring your own beverage. To book call Kay on 01795 844408

**Saturday 29th October** WHIST DRIVE in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m. Entry £3.00, includes refreshments and a raffle ticket. Everyone welcome.

**UpARA** (Upchurch Active Retirement Association)

**Monthly Meeting:** **Friday 14th October** 2.00 p.m. Members free; Guests £2

**Coffee Morning :** **Tuesday 25th October** 9.30 a.m. Members £1.50; Guests £2

**Ten Pin Bowling:** **Tuesday 11th October** 9.45 a.m.

**Walks:** 1st & 3rd Fridays - Village Hall 9.30 a.m.

**Boules:** **Tuesday 18th October** 2.00 p.m.

**Kurling:** **Monday 3rd October** 2.00 p.m.

**Friday 28th October** 2.00 p.m.

**Outing:** **Saturday 8th October** The Sensational 60s at the Marlowe theatre.

**Friday 4th November** *Memorial Hall Committee* - our monthly Games Afternoon 2.00 to 4.00pm

**Saturday November 26th** Grand CHRISTMAS MARKET, 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m

with a surprise visit from ???????? who will be opening the Market. Perhaps nearer the time the secret will be told to you all.

**Friday 2nd December** *Memorial Hall Committee* - our Christmas Special Games Afternoon 2.00 to 4.00pm, do join us.

### **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 two weeks on THURSDAYS (13th October)** THE LIBRARY VAN calls at Lower Halstow outside the Memorial Hall at 12.15 p.m. Queries to van driver or 03000 413131.

**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.

### **PASTORAL LETTER**

#### **Being Connected.**

North Kent has been my home for the last three years and in the last few months I have been working with the Methodist churches in Gillingham and Hartlip. I am a (permanent) deacon in the Methodist church. As well as being ordained to this order of ministry I am a member of a 300-strong dispersed religious order (The Methodist Diaconal Order). This means I pray daily for my brothers and sister in the Order and we also share a commitment to pray for those in our community. I love getting to know people, finding connections and building relationships. It is the best part of my job! I'm getting to know a few people in the parishes of The Six and enjoy working with Rev Steve and Dawn Plumb in the Kingsquad after-school club in Hartlip.

God is a God of relationship: He is the Father! Over the last few weeks in church we have been hearing Luke's account of Jesus in encounters, many one-to-one, which transform lives, both in healing and in new understandings of kingdom values.

St Paul describes the church as the body of Christ, connected with each part being treasured for the unique contribution it makes to the whole. It is found in 1 Corinthians 12 and includes hilarious (I think) conversations between the foot, ear, hand and eye. If we sometimes doubt our place in the church here is sound teaching to convince us otherwise.

Experts say that connecting with others and knowing where we fit in is a key aspect of well-being. Being connected with God through scripture and prayer is something we can all work on, and through this our faith communities can be strengthened.

I'm looking forward to the months ahead, to finding what God has in store, and for new and existing relationships between the Anglican and Methodist churches in our area.

God Bless, Deacon Pru Cahill.

PS, the word *relationship* does not appear in the Bible. For homework, see how many alternative descriptions you can find.

**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. The items that the church keep for anyone to borrow, mainly wheelchairs, periodically need a little service so ...

**WANTED URGENTLY** - a willing person, with a few hours to spare now and then, to look at the equipment and make sure they are in good working order, sometimes pumping up tyres and checking the wheels etc. These items are frequently being borrowed for a short time. If anyone is out there we would be very grateful for a little help. Jackie Swift – tel: 8427499

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Clerk** Mrs Ann Smith, 11 Cumberland Drive, Tel: 01795 842908

email [clerk.lhpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.lhpc@gmail.com)

**Council Vacancies** There are two Councillor vacancies for Lower Halstow Parish Council. Anyone interested in becoming a Councillor should send their details to the Clerk with a short CV including a brief statement of the skills and interests you feel you could contribute to the work of the Council. If you require any further information or wish to apply for the position please contact the clerk.

**Local Knowledge** Residents of a property at Westfield Cottages have discovered a large brick dome structure under the ground. If anyone has any local knowledge about what this might be, the Council would be grateful if they could contact the clerk.

**Volunteer Community Warden** Our Community Warden, Shane, is going to lead a work party to weed and generally tidy up the old, neglected graves in the Burial Ground. If anyone is interested please email [shane.mcneelance@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shane.mcneelance@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone 07703 454180. If members of the public wish to report any issues or concerns, Shane is usually in Lower Halstow on Thursdays.

**VANDALISM, DAMAGE AND THEFT AT THE ALLOTMENTS** - a request from an allotment holder.

I wondered if you could mention this in Village News.

Recently there have been acts of vandalism, damage and thefts at the allotments next to the Memorial Hall. Some of the incidents include garden chairs being removed and smashed, produce being picked and destroyed and damage to gardening tools.

The allotment holders work hard to maintain their plots and to grow fruit and vegetables. Mindless acts such as these are very disappointing. I would ask if those responsible could be considerate and find more worthwhile pursuits to amuse themselves. I am sure they would not like their possessions to be needlessly damaged.

The police have been informed of the incidents.

*(This is disappointing to all of us who care about the village. Possibly children might be involved, in which case parents please can you help?)*

**LOWER HALSTOW SHORT MAT BOWLS** The club held its annual barbecue on Saturday xxx August. Thanks are due to Angela and Tony Russell for providing the venue and Pat Perrett, social secretary, for providing such an enjoyable evening.

At the A.G.M. on Monday xxx August both the chairman, Bill Robinson, and vice chairman, John Mustoo, stood down with Neville Hardy becoming chairman and Vic Lovell vice chairman.

The Swale Winter League commenced in September. The Lapwings will play in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. The season will consist of 10 matches as opposed to 12 last season. Matches up to Christmas: 18<sup>th</sup> October Newington Nomads (home); 15<sup>th</sup> November Sheppey Swampies (home); 25<sup>th</sup> November Eastling Cherries (away); 5<sup>th</sup> December Sheppey Swampies (away). The club decided not to take part in the proposed triples competition played on a K.O. basis with the first-drawn teams having home advantage with no corresponding away match. John Mustoo.

**FOUND** - pair of glasses in Heron Close. Contact (01795 843488) for details.

**PLEASE TAKE CARE** - *a message from a concerned villager.*

I found half a packet of Paracetamol on the footpath near the school (stream side). Please be aware that the contents are very harmful to children and dogs, and please do take care to see that packets of any drug are safely stored in handbag, pocket etc.

**VINYL RECORDS, CDs, AND CASSETTE TAPES URGENTLY REQUIRED**

The Fenner Frost Foundation is a newly-formed charity (1167049) that will be opening a record shop in Sittingbourne High Street. The purpose of the shop is to advance the skills and education of young adults with a learning disability. Here they will be involved in all aspects of running a shop. They will be assisted to identify and source stock, serve customers, handle money and undertake general shop duties. If you have any records, tapes, or CD's that you would be willing to donate please contact Alison on 01795 843357 or 07881278689 for collection.

**THE VILLAGE SHOP IS NOW OPEN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT**

Groceries, a bakery, a paypoint, a cash machine, frozen and chilled food, household items, spirits and wine, alcohol and beers, medicine, newspapers, stationery. 01795 844630

**SUN PIER HOUSE** - Enjoy riverside views, homemade cake and light lunches at this award-winning Gallery & Tearoom. Open 10am – 4pm, Tuesdays - Sundays, Sun Pier House, Medway Street, Chatham, ME4 4HF. Free parking for Tearoom customers. No disabled access. For further information please contact us 01634 812 805

**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.

**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.

**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: [thestitchistsews@gmail.com](mailto:thestitchistsews@gmail.com), phone: 01795 555853  
Also WANTED – vintage clothing and textiles.

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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 (Ann Smith) 842908 email [clerk.lhpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.lhpc@gmail.com)

PCSO 46056708 John Cork, email [john.cork@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:john.cork@kent.pnn.police.uk) Telephone: 101

Swale Borough Council (Main office) 424341

Swale Borough Councillors for Bobbing, Lower Halstow & Iwade

Ben Stokes 476979 [benstokes@swale.gov.uk](mailto:benstokes@swale.gov.uk)

Duncan Dewar-Whalley 07889 808871 [duncandewar-whalley@swale.gov.uk](mailto:duncandewar-whalley@swale.gov.uk)

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

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 (Erin Scott) 01634 792131  
Dog Warden 077952 37479  
Noise nuisance 417850 (out-of-hours 07881817601)  
K.C.C. Highways potholes 03000 418187  
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 NOVEMBER VILLAGE NEWS IS NOON ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER.**

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!