

LOWER HALSTOW
VILLAGE NEWS
SEPTEMBER 2016

Join us at
HARVEST FESTIVAL at St. Margaret's
on Sunday 25th September at 10.00 a.m.
and at
THE HARVEST AUCTION at St. Margaret's
on Monday 26th September at 7.30 p.m
Details on page

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

SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S IN SEPTEMBER

Sunday 4th September

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

Sunday 11th September

10.00 a.m. Morning Worship

Sunday 18th September

10.00 a.m. Communion

4.00 p.m. Evensong

Sunday 25th September HARVEST FESTIVAL

10.00 a.m. Family Time with refreshments

The service starts at **10.15 a.m.**

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA

September: 4th Jackie Swift & Joan Mustoo; 11th Ursula Aylward;
18th Georgina Kindred; 25th Maggie Mills & Fiona Harrington.

October: 2nd Liz Moulard

THE DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER VILLAGE NEWS

IS NOON ON MONDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

*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 SEPTEMBER and other dates for your diary.

Friday 2nd September **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.

Tuesday 6th September **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.

UpARA (Upchurch Active Retirement Association)

Monthly Meeting: **Friday 9th September** **2.00 p.m.** Members free; Guests £2

Coffee Morning : **Tuesday 27th September** **9.30 a.m.** Members £1.50; Guests £2

Ten Pin Bowling: **Tuesday 13th September** **9.45 a.m.**

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

Boules: **Tuesday 20th September** **2.00 p.m.**

Kurling: **Monday 5th September** **2.30 p.m.**

Friday 23rd September **2.00 p.m.**

Horse Race Evening: **Friday 23rd September** **7.00 p.m.**

Friday 15th September **ST. MARGARET'S YOUTH GROUP** After a summer break, we resume our fun monthly meetings on Friday 15th September at **5.30 p.m.** This is an informal group for children age 11 years and older. We have just 'chilling time', an art and craft table, and games - plenty of things for you to choose. As always, we start with refreshments and to finish, if you want to, we set you a challenge to complete before the next meeting. For more information contact Liz on 07730893747. The St Margaret's Youth Group Team.

Saturday 17th September **FAMILY BARN DANCE** in the Memorial Hall, **7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.** Dancing begins at **7.30 p.m.** Tickets **£5.00** each for adults. Under **14-year-olds £3.00** each. Bring your own beverage and supper. For tickets call Kay on 01795 844408.

Saturday 24th September **Ursula's CHEESE & WINE EVENING** at **7 Burntwick Drive** from **6.30 p.m.** in aid of the Over 60's Christmas Tea Party.

Saturday 24th September **WHIST DRIVE** in the Memorial Hall at **7.30 p.m.** Entry **£3.00**, includes refreshments and a raffle ticket. Everyone welcome.

Sunday 25th September **HARVEST FESTIVAL** at St. Margaret's at the Family Time, **10.00 a.m. with the service starting at 10.15 a.m.**

Harvest Festival has been celebrated each autumn at St. Margaret's for many years. Traditionally local produce was brought along and, before the 1960s, distributed among those living in the village who either were unable to grow fruit and vegetables or who were in need. Today, with much smaller gardens and very few allotment holders, we no longer receive the amount of fresh fruit and vegetables as in the past and we auction the produce on the following evening. The school plays a large part now in providing produce in the form of packets and tins when they celebrate Harvest Festival in the church on the Friday. Our special Harvest Service this year is on Sunday 25th September, which is also our Family Time service. If you haven't been to this service before please do come along. You will be more than welcome. We begin with refreshments at 10.00 a.m. and continue after the service which starts at 10.15 a.m. There will be a time for any donations of produce you may like to bring along to be

taken to the altar, and all the produce will be auctioned on the following day, the proceeds being given to a church project in Entebbe, Uganda which the benefice have agreed to support. Lesley Ambrose, who used to live in Hartlip, is involved in this project which aims to enable the provision of a meal once a month to the growing number of children attending the church (60 - 100) many of whom come hungry. This would be to provide a bowl of porridge and bread, costing £30 in total each time.

Monday 26th September HARVEST AUCTION in St. Margaret's church at 7.30 p.m. This auction is open to anyone who would like to come along and not just for those who came to the Harvest Festival service. We welcome children, especially those who are old enough to help us by being runners. You may wonder if it is too late for smaller children to be up and about, but we try to finish by 8.30 p.m., and you are welcome to leave whenever you like. We have an experienced auctioneer who has been doing the job since 1980, and he won't mind me telling you that he is nonplussed these days by the foreign contents of quite a large number of the tins and packets. He finds that having older children as runners is a great help because they know far more than he does about foreign produce. So please do come along, bring your children, help the auctioneer and pick up some bargains, knowing that proceeds will be donated to the Entebbe 'Porridge' project.

Tuesday 27th September GARDENING CLUB, 7.30 p.m., in the Memorial Hall. Flowers for the Home. Club member, Liz Mouland, will show how to make some simple flower arrangements for the home. Using the traditional triangle shape, Liz will arrange flowers in a basket; she will also create a simple table decoration and for her final piece create a Harvest arrangement using the 'continental' style. The arrangements will be available to purchase at the end of the evening. Visitors £1.50 - do join us.

Thursday 29th September MACMILLAN: WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING at St. Margaret's Church Lower Halstow from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. We shall be hosting our own Big Coffee Morning/ Afternoon to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. In this village alone so many of us have been or are being touched by the affect a cancer diagnosis has on our lives or the lives of those close to us. Macmillan, which is a registered charity, works alongside the NHS in England, to provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support as well as campaigning for better cancer care because cancer affects more than just those facing it they are there for friends and family too. Sobering statistics show that one in three of us will face cancer. The money we raise will help Macmillan make sure that no one has to face it alone.

So please, please come along sometime on Thursday 29th September. Why not pop in when you've dropped the children at school. Bring the little ones with you - there'll be toys and games available for them.

No children to consider, then a coffee morning is a good time to 'catch up' with friends and neighbours or even have some lunch together. There'll be savoury snacks as well! If your morning is busy then make time for an afternoon cuppa. You'll be most welcome.

Should you fancy helping for a while on 29th or would like to donate a cake/s please contact Liz Hadley (842654) or Jackie Swift (842749).

To find out more about Macmillan Cancer Support visit the website at macmillan.org.uk

Friday 7th October Memorial Hall Committee - our monthly Games Afternoon 2.00 to 4.00pm

Saturday 8th October BREAKFAST CLUB at St. Margaret's Church begins again in October, (no September session.) This time we shall be meeting on the **2nd Saturday of each month** so we start at **9.30 a.m. on Saturday 8th 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).

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

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 Mondays i.e. 1st September, then 15th September **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.

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

CONGRATULATIONS to Joan and John Mustoo who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on Thursday 4th Aug. As they were going away, they donated flowers to the church, and Georgina Kindred arranged them beautifully at the pulpit.



PARISH COUNCIL

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

email clerk.lhpc@gmail.com

Council Vacancy There is a vacancy on 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 at clerk.lhpc@gmail.com telephone 01795 842908.

Change of Parish Clerk The Parish Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the new clerk, Ann Smith, (contact details above) and also give a very big thank you to Christine Fordham who has done an excellent job as Parish Clerk over the last few years and has now moved to a new life in Wiltshire.

Change of PCSO Contact Details Our new PCSO is 46056708 John Cork. Email address: john.cork@kent.pnn.police.uk Telephone: 101.

BEST FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

Many thanks to all those who have worked hard on their front gardens and have helped to make our village a more attractive place. With so many lovely gardens to see, deciding on the best three was not an easy task for the Parish Council! However, the winners have been chosen and are as follows:-
1st - Eastwold, Vicarage Lane; 2nd - 7 Burntwick Drive; 3rd - 88 School Lane.

We would also like to commend a few of the many other contenders. These are 5, 14 and 17 Cumberland Drive, Fortune Lodge and 11 The Street, 8 Landrail Road and 7 Seaview Cottages, Breach Lane. Congratulations to all!

Request from a concerned bird lover ... Please can all those with bird feeders and baths be aware that there appears to be an outbreak of trichomonosis in the area. This disease is easily transmitted through contaminated food or water, e.g. where a bird with difficulty swallowing regurgitates food that is then eaten by another individual. It can affect any bird and has been particularly devastating to green finches. The advice from the RSPB is for regular (every week or so) cleaning and disinfecting tables and baths to help minimise the spread of this disease. If ill birds are observed then removing the feeders for a few weeks is also recommended to disperse the birds. Symptoms include fluffed up appearance, difficulty swallowing, food around the beak and lethargy. Thank you for helping the wild bird population.

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, phone: 01795 555853
Also WANTED – vintage clothing and textiles.

FABULOUS FINGERTIPS Manicures, pedicures, gel polish, gel nail extensions. Fully insured. Call Tanya on 843362 or 07876 458021 www.fabulousfingertips.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. Julian Staniforth 227329

Jackie Swift (churchwarden) 842749

Pauline Stevens (PCC secretary) 842028

Memorial Hall (chairman) Keith Howard Challis 844408 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
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
PCSO 46056708 John Cork, email 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
Duncan Dewar-Whalley 07889 808871 duncandewar-whalley@swale.gov.uk
County Councillor Roger Truelove 425445 roger.truelove@kent.gov.uk
County Councillor Lee Burgess LeeBurgess@kent.gov.uk
M.P. Gordon Henderson 423199 www.gordondhendersonmp.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.

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 OCTOBER VILLAGE NEWS IS NOON ON MONDAY 12th SEPTEMBER.

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!