

Malherbe Monthly Number 223 February 2023



The Nu-Venture No 59 bus in Grafty Green. News article in magazine on pages 6 & 7. Picture courtesy John Collins

Useful contact names and telephone Nos.

Courter	contact names and telephone it	
County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast Shellina.Prendergast@kent.gov.uk	07970 461160
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Ziggy Trzebinski ziggytrzebinski@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 078524 92770
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	Vickie Ford email boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	07791 135248
Village Hall bookings	Jan Carter email janlcarter@btinternet.com	850898
Village Hall General Enquires	Jon Thompson email bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk Mobile 07932 112730	851351
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Priest in charge	Dr John Huggins email: vicar@lvb.org.uk	850280
Curate	Charlotte Coles Mobile 07805 092823	
Pilates	Cheryl Stubbs email:	07852
Flidles	c.stubbs8@btinternet.com	602369
Art Class	Cathy Hill email: cathyonthehill@hotmail.com	07927 045708
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield Mobile 07500 895831	
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The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit! Anything for the **March** edition should be left in Grafty Green Telephone Box, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th February**

News from St. Nicholas Church - February 2023

Seems a long time ago that we celebrated Christmas and New Year, but a small reminder of the final church events of 2022. The Crib Service on Christmas Eve was so special, as we celebrated with many friends from around the benefice, parents, grandparents, toddlers, babies, schoolchildren, and even a few well-behaved dogs! So many that we ran out of order-of-service sheets in the first few minutes. Must mention the splendid acting, telling the story of the events in the stable in Bethlehem from the point of view of the animals. John, Angela and Peter really threw themselves into the storyline and are already gearing up for an equally impressive performance next year!

A truly family occasion to appreciate the true story of Christ's birth with joy. St. Nicholas, patron saint of children and the original Santa Claus, (Father Christmas), must have smiled.

Reminders

The church porch is open at all times and has a refreshment table to make hot drinks and relax, especially if you have walked up the hill or need some shelter from the wintry weather.

The mini-foodbank box is under the table. Please use it if you need to, or add to it when you visit. A more extensive food bank is at the back of St. Mary's church in Lenham.

The main church building is only open for services, cleaning etc. but a key can be obtained at any time from one of the churchwardens. Their details are elsewhere in the magazine or on the church noticeboard in the porch.

Celtic Morning Prayers are said in the side chapel each Monday 9.00-9.30am. Please contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev. Charlotte Coles or the churchwardens at any time if you have any prayer requests. Prayers will be said in Morning Prayer time or in private if you wish.

Information

Village Coffee Morning takes place every Tuesday in the village hall in Grafty Green from 11-2pm. This coincides with the Pop-up Post Office, 12-45-2.15pm and most weeks there will be various stalls, Hillary for organic meats, Esther for very special locally produced cosmetics, Corinne with her local honey, the church eco-shop with household cleaning products, as well as Sylvia's homemade jams and Sally's marmalade and lemon curd. For precise details each week see the blackboard outside the hall. Of course, you can also enjoy the cakes and biscuits on offer! Any donations will go, half to the church and the rest to a charity chosen by the coffee morning visitors. This month £150 have been given to the Aspire group of local primary schools, which includes Platts Heath and Ulcombe.

The pile of knitted squares for blankets is growing apace. Any wool/yarn is welcome, so please scour your cupboards or charity shops. Jacqui, Angela, Liz and Sally(C) are setting the pace.

The new Craft venture in the hall is looking exciting. Janice is the driving force and we much enjoyed the first get-together on Friday 20th January. Four spinning wheels were produced and thanks to John two were able to be used. A new skill for us. Janice has arranged for future dates, each Friday morning 10-12noon. She hopes others will join, bringing their own craft projects and be able to experience and learn from each other.

Lent begins at the end of February. There are plans to again provide Lent lunches each week for 4/5 weeks through March and in the run-up to Easter. Details as to time and place have yet to be finalised, so keep an eye on the village hall and church noticeboards and at the coffee mornings for more information.

Finale

Started joining the knitted blanket squares last night. Have a big confession to make, the young spaniel retrieved one this morning!! Obviously treasured it and hid it! (needs some repair now!)

Perhaps she's reminding us of a need perhaps for warmth for a homeless person and their dog. Will be checking where there is most need for blankets, this winter weather shows no sign of easing. Keep warm!

Sally Alexander



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Contact Details

Ron Galton, Chairman - Tel: 01622 850369 (Finance, Planning, KALC) ron@boughtonmalherbepc.org

Robert Turner Tel: 01622 850325 (Finance, Planning, KALC) robert@boughtonmalherbepc.org

> Barry Adams Tel: 01622 850288 barr313@btinternet.com

Nick Eastwood Tel: 01622 850330 nicholas.eastwood.bmpc@gmail.com

Vickie Ford, Parish Clerk - Tel: 07791 135248 boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com



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59 BUS NEWS

As part of KCC's cost cutting measures, their financial support for almost forty bus services across the county will cease on 11th February, and the 59 service is one of those that KCC will no longer support.

A meeting chaired by Boughton Malherbe Parish Council has already been held with representatives from other parishes along the route and the current operator, Nu-venture, to discuss options for the continued provision of a bus service after the subsidy ends and ways of financing it, and this work is continuing.

In the meantime, Nu-venture has offered to continue to operate a once-aweek shopper's service on Wednesdays on a trial basis starting from 15th February, and is proposing to run this until July. It will run via Ulcombe, Kingswood, Chart Sutton, and Boughton Monchelsea, just as it did before last year's lengthy closure of Ulcombe Hill for South East Water work, and will go direct to and from Maidstone Town Centre. Ulcombe Hill is due to be closed again from 6th to 17th February, so on 15th February Grafty Green and Ulcombe cannot be served.

From 22nd February and on subsequent Wednesdays, departure from Grafty Green will be at <u>09.37</u>, due to arrive in Maidstone, King Street, at 10.33.

The return service from Maidstone, King Street (Stop L2, close to Greggs), departs at **<u>13.00</u>**, due to arrive at Grafty Green at 13.52.

This is a trial so it is absolutely vital that the service is used, both to demonstrate a continuing need for a bus service, and to support any case for financial support.

The phrase <u>'USE IT OR YOU REALLY WILL LOSE IT'</u> has never been truer!

John Collins

Sadly, Kent County Council funding for the Mondays to Saturdays daytime bus 59 ceases from 11 February 2023. Contact ARRIVA for details of school-time buses.

Until July 2023, Nu-Venture will continue to operate a limited replacement daytime service on Wednesdays as shown below.

Please - use it or lose it! Continuation beyond July 2023 will be dependent on the amount of usage shown in the coming months.

Wednesdays only - starts 15 February 2023

Code	W
Nu-Venture bus service number	59
GRAFTY GREEN Kings Head	0937
Ulcombe near Chestnut Close	0944
KINGSWOOD Village Hall	0952
Kingswood Chestnut Drive	0954
Warmlake Corner	0959
Chart Sutton opp Chart Corner	1002
Boughton Monchelsea opp The Cock Inn	1006
Boughton Monchelsea Albion	1008
Linton Corner	1013
Old Loose Hill	1017
The Wheatsheaf	1023
MAIDSTONE King Street	1033

Code	W
Nu-Venture bus service number	59
MAIDSTONE King St BUS STOP L2	1300
Boughton Monchelsea Albion	1322
Boughton Monchelsea The Cock Inn	1325
Chart Sutton Chart Corner	1328
Warmlake Corner Chartway Street	1331
Kingswood opp Chestnut Drive	1338
KINGSWOOD opp Village Hall	1340
Ulcombe opp School	1347
GRAFTY GREEN	1354

Route - as current Bus 59

GRAFTY GREEN - Ulcombe - KINGSWOOD - Chart Sutton - Boughton Monchelsea - Maidstone

Code W = Wednesdays only - No service on other days. NO service on Bank Holidays

Buses serve all bus stops on line of route. Please give a clear hand-signal to the driver when boarding.

Pay on the bus with cash or card. Single and return fares available for all journeys.

We welcome the English National Concessionary Travel Pass.

Published by Nu-Venture Coaches Ltd. 01622 882288. www.nu-venture.co.uk

Village Hall News – February Newsletter

We will be hosting the following events at the hall this spring:-

Pancake evening on Tuesday 21st February 4pm to 7pm

Once again we will be hosting our pancake evening. We will be offering a selection of sweet and savoury pancakes together with the usual refreshments so please come along and enjoy a delicious pancake and spend some time over a cup of tea with friends. As well as the pancakes there will be activities to keep the children entertained.

Flicks in the Sticks Presents Blazing Saddles Friday 17th March at 7pm

Following a great suggestion made by a member of the village at the welcome back event we will be hosting our first film night at the hall. Having canvassed opinion, we have decided to show the classic comedy Blazing Saddles. There will be complementary popcorn and light refreshments. Tickets are £5 per person and can be obtained from myself on 07932 112730 or by emailing bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk

60's/70's Music Night and Meal on Saturday 22nd April – doors open at 7pm

Dougal & the Blue Cats will be performing live for us at our 60's/70's Night. There will be a complementary glass of fizz on arrival, a three-course themed meal and a fancy dress competition, so dust off those platforms, flairs and tank tops and get ready to boogie! There will be a pay bar and tickets are £15 per person and can be ordered from myself, (for contact details see above).

Spring Craft Fair Sunday 2nd April 10 am to 2pm

We will also be hosting our spring craft fair at the hall on Sunday 2nd of April where you can browse a selection of stalls offering a wide range of interesting crafted items, have a chat with friends and enjoy a cup of tea and some cake. There will be a wide range of stall holders including beauty products, bags and lots of gift ideas. There will also be an Easter Egg hunt for the children. Any donations of cake will be very welcome and we look forward to seeing you on the day.

Jon Thompson Hall Committee Chairman

bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk

<u>www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk</u> Facebook – graftygreenvillage

FLICKS IN THE STICKS PRESENTS

BLAZING SADDLES



GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE HALL FRIDAY 17TH MARCH 7PM TICKETS £5 CALL JON THOMPSON ON 07932112730

GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE HALL PANCAKE EVENING



TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 4PM TO 7PM VILLAGE HALL COME AND MEET YOUR FRIENDS SWEET & SAVORY PANCAKES £2 EACH

60s / 70s Music Night & Meal. Grafty Green Village Hall Sat 22 April



live music from Dougal & the Blue Cats Doors open 7.00 pm meal from 7.30 pm Music from 8.30 fancy dress optional!

Ticketz: £15 from Jon Thompson 07932 | | 2730 or bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk

News from your KCC Member for Maidstone Rural East

Rather late in the day but I'd like to start by wishing you all the very best for 2023.

2022 was undoubtedly a difficult year for many of us and there is little doubt that many more challenges lay ahead – the cost-of-living crisis continues to bite residents and businesses, inflation remains high and global issues such as the invasion of Ukraine have had a huge impact on us all – including local government.

Whilst KCC received a better than anticipated financial settlement from the government last autumn the reality is that this simply isn't going to be enough to keep pace with the rising demand and costs that are needed to deliver services – especially when it comes to the most vulnerable amongst us. KCC's draft budget for 2023/24 -

https://www.kent.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/143871/draft-budgetreport-2023-2034-including-appendices-A-K.pdf will be considered by Members at our Budget County Council meeting on 9th February and will stimulate a lot of debate around some really difficult decisions that will have to be made so KCC can continue to deliver services in the most sustainable and effective way.

As part of these challenges, KCC has had to look ahead and plan for how things can be done differently and still maintain an effective level of support for residents who need it. One of the proposals under consideration is looking at changes in the way buildings are used to deliver some of the community services – ranging from children's centres and youth hubs, public health services for children and families, community services for adults with learning difficulties, the adult education offer and Gateways.

The Community Services consultation -

https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/community-services-consultation outlining these proposals was launched last week and any help you can provide in encouraging residents to have their say before it closes on 26th March would be really good. I know it's a hefty document to read – as one or two of you have already pointed out to me - but there are ways of navigating to information at relevant district/ward level and there's also a list of drop-in sessions where people can find out more and ask any questions.

Finally, here is a link https://us8.campaign-

archive.com/?u=7efcd0bedbc1757eb8a93cce4&id=8f3a65bf21 - to the latest edition of the e-newsletter which goes out on a regular basis to those who have subscribed to receive it directly into their inbox. It contains information about the Community Services consultation amongst other things and, as ever, I would be grateful if you could share widely including on parish websites, magazines and social media.

I'm hoping to provide more regular – and localised – updates as we go through this year but I think you all know me well enough by now to know that I'm always at the end of an email or telephone to help with any issues you may have. And that I **never** find it easy to turn down a challenge when it comes to doing the right thing for the communities within Maidstone Rural East.

Shellina Prendergast

Cabinet Member for Communications and People KCC Member for Maidstone Rural East

Helen Whately

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

I work for you. If you have a problem you think I can help you with, please contact me or visit me at one of my surgeries House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

www.helenwhately.org.uk

Tel: 020 7219 6472; Email: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

Do you enjoy your photography? Would you like to improve your skills?

Then why not join Maidstone Camera Club and share your enjoyment with other members. We have an interesting programme throughout the season which suits both beginners and the more experienced alike.

It doesn't matter whether you use a mobile phone camera or a conventional digital camera, it is the images which are important. Our members like to talk about photography and learn from each other.

- · Talks by visiting experts on prints and digital images
- · Competitions for prints and digital images
- Hands on practical evenings with demonstrations
- Special interest groups

Come along to one of our meetings which are held at the Civil Service Social Club, Recreation Close, Maidstone, ME14 5AZ on Tuesday evenings during the season (September – May) 7.30 p.m. – 10.00 p.m. or contact us as below. You will be made to feel very welcome.



www.maidstonecameraclub.org.uk

Peter Brook on 07828 133508 Ben Kirby on 07706 051137

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com Rill House The Street Ulcombe Maidstone ME17 1DR

NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that due to the resignation of Grant Kennaird, a vacancy has arisen in the Office of Councillor for the Parish Council.

If by 15th February 2023 (14 days excluding weekends and bank holidays, after the date of this notice) a request for an election to fill the vacancy is made in writing to:

The Proper Officer Maidstone Borough Council Maidstone House, King Street Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ

By TEN electors for the Parish, an election will be held to fill the vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

Dated: 26th January 2023

Clerk to the Parish Council



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting held in the village hall at 7.00pm on Monday 16th January 2023

Present: Cllrs B Adams; N Eastwood; R Galton; G Kennaird (Chair); R Turner Clerk: Mrs Vickie Ford

Cllr Kennaird opened the meeting at 7:03 pm

- 1. Declaration of anybody filming/recording this meeting none
- 2. Apologies for Absence none
- 3. Declarations:

(i) Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda – Cllr Turner declared that he would not be voting on item 5.(ii) as it related to his previous residence
(ii) Declarations of Lobbying – none

4. Approval of Minutes of the Planning Meeting on 28th November 2022 – approved and signed as a true and accurate record

5. Planning Applications:

(i) Public Session – no members of public present: no public session (ii) 22/505604/LBC

PROPOSAL: Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations including replacement of 2no. triple casement windows with French doors, removal of oil fired boiler, modern studwork partition and door and installation of air source heat pump ADDRESS: Offens Farm, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AP

RESOLVED: to give a neutral response with no additional comment

(iii) 22/505664/LBC

PROPOSAL: Listed Building Consent for internal alterations for the installation of through floor lift with associated works

ADDRESS: Cherry Tree Cottage, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AN Cllr Eastwood stated that the application related to a neighbouring property but, as there were no external alterations proposed, he had no interest to declare. RESOLVED: to give a neutral response with no additional comment

The Meeting closed at 7:07 pm



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

MINUTES OF A MEETING of the FINANCE and STAFFING COMMITTEE of BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL held at 7:15 pm on Monday 16th January 2023 in Grafty Green Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: B Adams; N Eastwood; R Galton; G Kennaird; R. Turner (Chair) Clerk: Mrs Vickie Ford

Cllr Turner opened the Meeting at 7:15 pm.

- 1. Declaration of anybody filming/recording this meeting none
- 2. Apologies for Absence none
- 3. Declarations:

(i) Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda – none (ii) Declarations of Lobbying – none

- Approval of Minutes of the Finance and Staffing Committee Meeting held on 7th November 2022 – approved and signed as a true and accurate record
- 5. Parish Council Staffing -
 - (i) Clerk's Working Hours

At the request of the Staffing and Finance Committee (minute ref 4, 7.11.22), the Clerk had made a record of her working hours and had presented a report to Committee members. It was noted that the Clerk was working a mean average of 10.4 hours per week.

(ii) Annual Pay Increase (Clerk)

RESOLVED: to exclude the press and public under subsection (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 for the following item on the grounds that it concerned the Clerk's terms of employment.

The Clerk also left the meeting temporarily.

RESOLVED: to recommend to Full Council £1 per hour increase in Clerk's salary 2022/23, in line with NJC pay scales.

The Clerk re-joined the meeting.

The Committee expressed its concern regarding the hours being worked by the Clerk and asked that she continue to maintain a record, which she agreed to do.

6. Review of Revised Draft 2023/24 Budget and 2023/24 Precept

The Chairman summarised the letter received from Maidstone Borough Council, which gave details of the provisional tax base for 2023/24: maintaining the present Band D equivalent charge of £27.84 per household per annum would generate a precept of £7,113; maintaining the 2022/23 precept of £7,005 would decrease the charge per household per annum by 42p.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had resolved to earmark the remaining Quinn donation money (£52,899.38) for the potential purchase of the Village Green for 12 months and proposed that the funds be earmarked for a further year. Cllr Eastwood stated that he would not support earmarking the funds for a further year on the basis that no approach towards permanent acquisition of the Village Green had been proposed to Council. The Clerk undertook to investigate.

The Clerk gave an update on the situation regarding the 59 bus service: maintenance of a bus service through the Parish from July 2023 would be dependent on financial support from the Parish Council but it may be possible to apply for a grant from Kent County Council, eligibility to be confirmed.

RESOLVED: to recommend the revised draft budget to the Full Council, subject to maintaining the existing charge per Band D equivalent household per annum with the additional £108 allocated to "contingency".

RESOLVED: to recommend setting a precept of £7,113 to the Full Council.

7. Internal Audit Review

RESOLVED: to accept the review of the effectiveness of the internal audit 2021/22, as presented by the Clerk.

8. Internal Audit Plan

9.

RESOLVED: to adopt the internal audit plan 2022/23 as presented by the Clerk. Review of Terms of Reference for the Finance and Staffing Committee

RESOLVED: to recommend to Full Council as presented by the Clerk, subject to paragraph 7 being amended to read:

"Terms of Reference

The Committee may review the Terms of Reference of the Finance and Staffing Committee and make appropriate recommendations to Full Council."

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	Actual to 31.12.22	Forecast to 31.3.23	Draft budget 2023/24
	£	£	£	£	£
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RECEIPTS	5,731	7 005	7,005	7,005	7,113
Precept	<u> </u>	7,005	327	327	327
Parish Services Scheme	409	327		276	300
Bank interest			226	270	500
Misc		450		677	
VAT Refund	200	150	7	677 8,285	7,740
TOTAL RECEIPTS	6,340	7,482	7,558	8,285	7,740
Balance brought forward from previous year			85,966	85,966	22,844
PAYMENTS					
Staff Costs - Clerk's Salary	2,498	4,196	3,079	4,470	4,700
Other Costs					
Village Green Maintenance:	500	500			
Grass etc			203	500	500
Trees			1,175	1,175	900
Fencing			-	200	500
Village Hall Hire	250	250	-	250	250
Christmas Tree	300	300	240	300	350
Christmas functions	300	-	-	-	400
Litter Collection/lengthsman	100		424	600	800
PRoW replacement gates	-	-	792	2,000	2,600
Community grants:					
Churchyard Maintenance	500	500	-	500	500
Platinum Jubilee event	-	-	793	793	-
Village Hall Centenary celebration	-	-	500	500	-
Air Ambulance			50	50	50
Community Grants e.g. Coronation event					1,000
Emergency Plan		-	-	-	-
Training Courses	300	300	170	300	300
Internal/external Auditor	70	100	90	90	300
Insurance	370	400	489	489	500
KALC Membership	300	300	229	229	250
SLCC membership fees (Clerk)	-	-	120	120	120
Contingency (incl defib spares)	50	-	238	238	408
Chairman's Expenses	50	-	-	-	-
CPRE Membership	36	36	36	36	36
Stationery, postage, admin	200	200	217	500	500
Total Other Costs	3,326	2,886	5,766	8,870	10,264
Repairs Fund contribution	500	-	-	-	-
Village Green Fund	-	400	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	6,324	7,482	8,845	13,340	14,964
Ringfenced reserves (CIL)				4,358	
Earmarked reserve (Village Green)				52,899	
Contingencies					
Emergency reserve					7,500
Clerk additional hours				810	2,010
Community bus				010	5,000
CLOSING BALANCE	and the second second	All and a second second second		22,844	1,110

Grafty Gourmet

This one of those love it or hate it desserts. It's a great and very simple seasonal dessert with its combination of sweet and sour tastes. Serve with custard.

Classic Rhubarb Crumble

For the filling

500g of rhubarb, chopped into chunks the length of your thumb 100g of golden caster sugar 3 tablespoons of port

For the crumble topping

140g of self-rising flour85g of butter, chilled50g of light brown muscovado sugar50g of chopped walnuts

1. Tip the rhubarb into a saucepan with the golden caster sugar and port. Cover and simmer on a very low heat for 15 minutes, adding more sugar if you want. When soft (but still holding its shape) and sweet enough, pour the rhubarb into a medium baking dish. Heat oven to 200C/180C fan.

2. To make the topping, rub the self-rising flour and chilled butter together with your fingers until you have a soft, crumbly topping. Then add the light brown muscovado sugar and the chopped walnuts. Mix together with your hands.

3. Scatter the topping over the rhubarb and bake for 30 minutes or until golden brown on top. Serve piping hot with a thick custard.

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Beer Garden



Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

The Railway Children Return

Friday 10th February 2023

Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00

Running time 1hr 35 mins

Whatever your age, don't miss the return of Jennie Agutter (this time with the wonderful Sheridan Smith and Tom Courtney) in **The Railway Children Return** (2022), the brilliant follow-up to the 1970s Railway Children film. Jennie Agutter again plays Roberta, now a grandmother, who takes in a group of children evacuated to Yorkshire during WWII. When during a game of hide and seek the children find a wounded American soldier on a train whom they believe is a spy on a secret mission, the scene is set for another first-class enjoyable story. So, take an evening return to see Jennie and the children in action again in this unmissable film. Directed by Morgan Matthews, certificate PG.

Following that on March 10th is **Phantom of the Open**, a heart-warming British comedy telling the remarkable true story of Maurice Flitcroft, a novice golfer who manages to gain entry to the 1976 British Open Golf Championship qualification.

Please get in touch for more information, to join our mailing list or to become a member. **Admission**: members £4, non-members £5 **Annual membership**: £6 (over 16's only)

lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com

www.lenhamfilmclub.org

@lenhamfilmclub

Yoga Classes in Grafty Green Village Hall with Sue Burch

Monday and Thursday mornings at 9.30 and Wednesday evenings at 7 Classes are an hour and a half; approximately 70 minutes of physical practice, 10 minutes breathing techniques, meditation and 10 minutes full relaxation. Yoga is a mindful practice that enables the practitioner to step back from the busy world – time for 'you' - a 90-minute holiday.

New term starts 20th February through to 6th April for a 7-week term £42 To join a class – call 01622 850381 or 07803 962339

Fresh Fish Tuesdays!

For many years now Mel has been delivering a weekly fresh fish selection from Hastings to customers in Grafty Green on Tuesday afternoons between 3 and 3.30 – telephone to book her to call at your house on 07976 435217; a quick and efficient service!

Music Notes for February 2023 – B Hardy

Early February is very busy with a lot of conflicting events and I have picked out two local pantos, both of which fall in the "don't miss" category as musical and community events. There may be other pantos in Kent which can be found from an internet search, but most of the professional one's finish at the end of December. So here then is my list:

***Friday 3rd Feb 7.30pm and Sat 4th Feb. 2.30pm and 7.30pm** at Leeds Village Hall, Lower St., Leeds ME17 1RN the Leeds Amateur Dramatic Society's panto is "Jack, the 7 elves & the beanstalk". Always very popular, this annual musical event attracts traditional audience participation. Tickets at <u>www.ticketsource.co.uk</u> or from society members.

***Saturday 4th Feb 7.30pm** at Mote Hall, Maidstone, Maidstone Symphony Orchestra's concert includes Saint-Saens' 1st Cello Concerto featuring prizewinning Polish cellist Maciej Kulakowski and Beethoven's 7th Symphony. Tickets 033 616 3366(booking fee applies) or at the door. *Also on **Saturday 4th Feb 2.30-7.30pm** (performance at 6.30pm) Maidstone Singers and Sutton Valence Choral Society offer at St. John's CEP School, Provender Way, Grove Green, ME14 5TZ a "come & sing" event at which participants can join with the choirs in singing popular opera choruses. Tickets (participants or audience): <u>https://www.suttonvalencechoral.com/other-local-events</u>

*Sunday 5th Feb 3.00pm at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Crescent Rd., Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2LU, the Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra's Winter concert includes works by Prokofiev (soloist Isata Kanneh Mason), Beethoven and Guerra-peixa. Tickets 01892 530613,

*Wednesday 8th Feb – Saturday 11th Feb, 7.30pm (plus 2.30pm on Saturday) at Hollingbourne Village Hall, ME17 1TR, the Hollingbourne Panto this year is Aladdin (with a modern twist). Highly recommended. Tickets <u>gimberry@btopenworld.com</u>

***Saturday 18**th **Feb (time tba)** at Etchingham Church, High St. Etchingham, TN19 7US, Cranbrook Choral Society provide a community concert in aid of Hospice in the weald. Tickets & info: tickets@cranbrookchoral.org.uk

Anniversary

An anniversary in February has been difficit to find, but I have chosen the Italian composer Fausto Romitelli who was born on 1 February 1963 in Gorizia. He studied composition at the Milan Conservatory and subsequently took part in courses at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena with Franco Donatoni and at the Scuola Civica di Milano. He moved to Paris in 1991 where he became a student of Hugues Dufourt and Gérard Grisey. From 1993 to 1995 he was compositeur en recherche at IRCAM.



Romitelli achieved successes in numerous European competitions, and his music has been performed by ensembles such as Berg Orchestra and at festivals such as the Festival d'automne Paris [fr], Musica nova Helsinki [fi], Steirischer Herbst [de] (Graz), Venice Biennale and the Darmstädter Ferienkurse. His video opera An Index of Metals (2003) was awarded the Franco Abbiati Prize of Italian music critics in 2004.

He died aged 41 on 27 June 2004 in Milan following a long battle with cancer.

Link Word Puzzle - Answers at the back (don't look first!)

	Find the missing word?
1	Times, Newspaper focused on Business
2	Hank, Lead guitarist of 'The Shadows'
3	Eden, Classic James Dean film
4	Take away, Hit track from the film 'Top Gun'
5	The Cross, Humanitarian organisation established in the 19 th century
6	Date, Former TV game show hosted by Cilla Black
7	Gary, Late TV chef with spiky hair
8	Ronaldo, Fleet footed Portuguese football star
9	Kirsty, Sang with The Pogues on a 'Fairytale of New York'
10	The Great, Scott Fitzgerald classic

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Cycle	Launch	Outboard	Motor
2	Воу	Mate	Yard	
3	Court	Gum	String	
4	String	Prize	Bridge	
5	Barrel	Belly	Ginger	
6	Class	Golf	Sandwich	
7	Dead	Prickly	Stroke	
8	Cuff	Golf	Missing	
9	Abiding	Out	Suit	
10	Big	Custard	Toffee	
11	Keeper	Play	Table	
12	Dry	Tommy	Wet	
13	Footed	Page	Site	
14	Blood	Seagoing	Speed	
15	Baby	Ranger	Telegraph	
16	Account	Business	Travel	

Grafty Green Gardening Club Program of Events 2023

Date	Speaker/Event	Торіс	
1	Dr Mick Lynn and	Which came first the Bee or the	
January 10	AGM	Flower	
February 7	Steven Harmer	The story of Plant Hunting	
March 7	Kevin Tooher	Getting the best out of Composting	
April 4	Caroline Halfpenny	A Gardener's response to Climate	
April 4	and Spring show	Change.	
Saturday April 29	10 am Plant sale on the	ne Green	
Sunday May 14	Coach outing to Leon	ardslee	
June 6	Outing to Faversham – Edible Culture		
July 4	Outing to Elmside, Ulcombe - Rhian Banham's Garden		
Sunday August 13	Coach outing to Hyde Hall		
September 4	Victoria Golding and Autumn show	Marden Meadow	
	Weekend away in Do	rset, staying in Weymouth, visit	
September 8,9,10	Chawton House and C	Gardens, Abbotsbury, Athelhampton	
	House and Garden and Holme Gardens		
October 3	Lou Nicholls	The Winter Garden	
November 7	Christine Bartlett Healthy House Plants, Happy Home		
December 5	Social – wine and cheese with slide-show		

Acknowledgment and thanks were given to Sue Burch and Rosemary Smith at our AGM on January 11th as they stand down from the Committee after an impressive 25 years' service! Both will of course still be involved by their continuing membership of the club.

Sue and Rosemary have both been limitless in their hard work, devoting so much of their time to the Gardening Club by way of hosting meetings and events from their own homes, Bar B Q's evenings, opening their gardens and encouraging other to do the same, also providing a regular flow of ideas for involving the club in contributing to Village Fete's very popular catering and other stalls. A diversion was to provide assistance to the Church for the introduction of a wildlife garden.

For many years provision of the flower planters around the village and village hall garden was done by the club and Michael must be mentioned here for his help. An Annual Plant Sale was always a popular event. Most recently a successful entry into the Villages Scarecrow Festival in which 'Mr In Capability Brown won first prize

following being exhibited in the Mall in Maidstone, this, in spite of his developing aroma!

Thanks also to our Spring and Autumn show judge Lesley Feakes who is retiring from the Committee having completed a number of years helping us with this event. We are very grateful to Lesley.

On February 7th we look forward to a talk by Steven Harmer about the Story of Plant Hunting.

Outings take place from May to August this year (see Programme for details of these) and add your name to the lists on Club evenings.

Membership entitles you to a subsidised price for the two coach trips and also allows you to receive regular newsletters plus discount at Rumwood Nursery and the Potted Garden.

Further details from Carole Frost (Co-Secretary) on 07 817 459 186.

Ulcombe History Society

The next talk at the Ulcombe History Society on Tuesday 21st February at 7.30pm in Ulcombe Village Hall will be by Molly Poulter. It is entitled Memsahibs in India in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Molly was the archivist in the India Office Library. She was in charge of the European Manuscript Collection and her talk is based on the many paintings in that collection.

The talk charts the life encountered by the women who went out to India in the 18th and 19th centuries to join husbands or family members in what was at that time a strange and little-known country.

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Love is in the air!

This month we celebrate Valentine's Day and many will prepare elaborate displays of love for those nearest and dearest to them! Perhaps you'll be writing a card, buying a gift or presenting some flowers to someone special in your life? Valentine's Day can also serve as a welcome reminder that even our most sincere expressions displays of love cannot come close to the love that we have received from God.

In the Gospel of Luke (15:11-32) Jesus shares the parable of 'The Prodigal Son'. It tells of a son who asks his father for his share of the inheritance whilst his father is still living. Despite how hurtful this would have been, the father agrees and gives his son the money. The son soon moves away and squanders the inheritance on wild living. He runs out of money, hits rock bottom and eventually decides to return home and ask his dad to live as one of his servants. The incredible twist comes in the father's response to his son and it is designed to show us the love of our Heavenly Father towards us. Rather than reject or berate his son, the father ran to meet him and embraced him in a huge bear hug. He bestowed gifts upon him and laid on an extravagant feast to celebrate that his son had returned home.

Beyond displaying God's love through parables, Jesus demonstrated it through his life and ultimately through his death. The theologian Thomas Goodwin put it this way; "Christ is love covered in flesh". Jesus showed that there is no length that our Father God won't go to in order to lavish love upon us. All we need to do is begin the walk home and receive the embrace of the Father who runs to meet us.

I'll give the final word to the author Dane Ortlund who beautifully states; "Even the most intense human love is but the faintest echo of heaven's cascading abundance. His heartfelt thoughts for you outstrip what you can conceive."

Len Valley Benefice February 2023

Everybody is welcome

"In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith"

Gal 3:26 (NRSV)

Wednesday 1st February

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 5th February 9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church 11.00am Harrietsham: Morning Worship 11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 12th February

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church followed by joining the market.

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong



Sunday 19th February 8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion 9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion 9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church 11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship *with baptism* 11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 26th February 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Harrietsham 'Identity: "I am completely included"



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District Support -	- Dawn Riach- Brown	07773 397125
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Find the missing word?	
Financial Times, Newspaper focused on Business	L
'swobsh? bot of tarist of 'The Shadows'	2
mlit nead remet Jassic James Dean film	5
Take my breath away, Hit track from the film 'Top Gun'	4
The Red Cross, Humanitarian organisation established in the 19 th century	S
Blind Date, Former TV game show hosted by Cilla Black	9
Gary Rhodes , Late TV chef with spiky hair	L
Cristiano Ronaldo, Fleet footed Portuguese football star	8
Kirsty MacColl , Sang with The Pogues on a 'Fairytale of New York'	
The Great Gatsby, Scott Fitzgerald classic	01

awenA	Word 3	Word 2	Word 1	
Motor	Outboard	Чэписл	Cycle	٢
Stable	Yard	Mate	goy	2
əoys	String	ung	Court	5
Draw	Bridge	Prize	String	4
Beer	Ginger	Belly	Barrel	S
dulD	Sandwich	Golf	Class	9
fseH	Stroke	Prickly	Dead	L
syniJ	pnissiM	Golf	fluD	8
wej	Jin2	Out	pribidA	6
əlqqA	foffee	Custard	bia	0
əmiT	fable	Ыау	Keeper	11
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