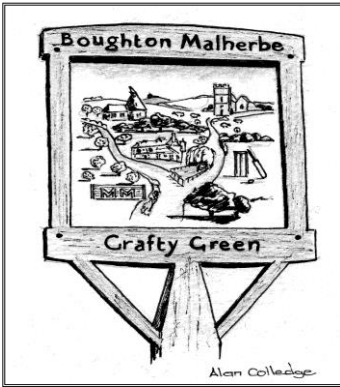


# Malherbe Monthly

Number 219  
October 2022



**Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath**

## Useful contact names and telephone N<sup>os</sup>.

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
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
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	
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Pilates	Cheryl Stubbs email: c.stubbs8@btinternet.com	07852 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	
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday at approx. 3pm by Post Office	07976 435217
<b>Malherbe Monthly Production Team</b>		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

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 **November** edition should be left in  
Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on  
01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20<sup>th</sup> October**

**Front Cover:** St Nicholas church, showing the flag at half mast following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the new church notice board, and the scaffolding erected for the repairs to the tower.. Picture courtesy of **John Collins**

## **News from St. Nicholas Church**

### **October 2022**

What a roller-coaster of emotions we have lived through in September this year. We could see the Queen becoming more frail day by day. Still the announcement of her death coming suddenly on that Thursday afternoon, so soon after pictures of her receiving the new Prime Minister at Balmoral only two days earlier, came as a shock to most. Then the whirlwind of the events which took place in Scotland and around the United Kingdom, culminating in the funeral itself in Westminster Abbey and in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, with the accompanying processions, captivated our attention. Only years of preparation and meticulous attention to detail could have resulted in such a fitting farewell to someone who had given her whole life to this nation and to many around the world.

Strolling the 10 hours through the night along the Thames to pay our respects, seemed a paltry response to the years of her tireless efforts for us.

### **Reminders**

**The church porch** continues to be well visited and the refreshments appreciated. It was useful to have this space for the signing of the condolence book and as a place to reflect and leave flowers for Her Majesty.

**The main church building** has been open more frequently, to allow for private prayer recently. The candle-lit space seemed appropriate to come together on the evening of Sunday 11th for the national minute silence.

As we return to normal, you will need to contact the churchwardens, as before, for a key to visit. Their details are in the magazine and on the noticeboard in the porch.

**The church tower.** At last the repairs to the masonry above the West Door are complete!. The scaffolding will soon be removed and the area is now safe.

**Celtic Morning Prayers** continue each Monday morning, 9-9.30, in the side chapel. If you have any prayer requests please contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev. Charlotte Coles or the churchwardens, or leave a note in the basket in the

porch and prayers will be said at Monday Morning Prayer time or in private if you wish.

**Donations to Ukraine** can still be taken to the back of St.Mary's church in Lenham. Directions are in place when you get there and is open daily from 9am- 5pm.

Main items needed are: *nappies, baby wipes, baby food/ milk (not glass), sanitary items, medical kit basics, pain killers, tinned meat and fish (with ring-pulls), blankets and warm socks.*

**Re-organisation of the pews is ongoing.** The first viewings of the oak refectory table in progress in Peter's workshop look wonderful. Well worth the wait. We are already able to make good use of the space with our existing tables.

**Village Coffee time.** A great atmosphere in the hall on Tuesdays, through the morning 11.00am-2.15pm. Plenty of time for friends to come and go, shop for greengroceries 11-1pm, purchase Pluckley teas and coffee, hand-made cards, peruse the church eco-samples, buy some local honey and Sylvia's jams and enjoy a hot drink and homemade cakes and biscuits. All before making use of the pop-up Post Office from 12.45-2.15pm.  
Dogs are very welcome too!

**Harvest Festival is at 3.30pm on Sunday 9th October.** All contributions of food welcome. There will be an auction of perishable foods, e.g. Homemade cakes, fruit, vegetables etc. The proceeds of these will go to Homeless in Maidstone and non- perishable goods will go to the Food Bank.

Also during the service we will have a chance to celebrate and remember the life of **Mike Davidson**, a fitting time for a farmer, being surrounded by the rich harvest of fruit and grain.

After the service we hope everyone will stay and join together for a Harvest High Tea

## Weddings

We look forward to the weddings in St.Nicolas this month:

**Katie and James** on Saturday 8th October

and

**Nicola and David** on Saturday 22nd October

We continue to pray for these couples as they begin their new life together.

## Finale

It has been heart-warming to see the many messages on the pages of condolence here and in many other places, as well as listening to the conversations along the way to the lying-in state. We have been privileged to be the generations who could appreciate at first hand the life and work of Queen Elizabeth II.

**God Save The King**

**Sally Alexander**



The advertisement is enclosed in a black rectangular border. On the left side, there is a large, stylized graphic of a light fixture, resembling a chandelier or a modern lamp, with a dark brown body and a lighter brown shade. To the right of this graphic, the text 'Plummer Electrical Service' is written in a large, bold, brown serif font. Below this, the text 'Call James Plummer' is written in a smaller, brown sans-serif font, followed by the phone number '07912344510' in a large, bold, brown sans-serif font. In the top right corner, there is a small logo for 'NICEIC DOMESTIC INSTALLER'. The logo consists of a red and black square with the letters 'NICEIC' in white, and below it, the words 'DOMESTIC INSTALLER' in black, with a small red house icon to the right.

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**Boughton Malherbe  
Parish Council  
Contact Details**

**Ron Galton, Chairman**

- Tel: 01622 850369

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

[ron@boughtonmalherbepc.org](mailto:ron@boughtonmalherbepc.org)

**Robert Turner**

Tel: 01622 850325

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

[robert@boughtonmalherbepc.org](mailto:robert@boughtonmalherbepc.org)

**Barry Adams**

Tel: 01622 850288

[barr313@btinternet.com](mailto:barr313@btinternet.com)

**Nick Eastwood**

Tel: 01622 850330

[nicholas.eastwood.bmpc@gmail.com](mailto:nicholas.eastwood.bmpc@gmail.com)

**Grant Kennaird**

**Vickie Ford, Parish Clerk**

- Tel: 07791 135248

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[retreat@heatherschiroprody.co.uk](mailto:retreat@heatherschiroprody.co.uk)

The Brown Barn, Bull Hill, Lenham Heath, Kent, ME17 2JA (Off the A20)

## **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](http://www.helenwhately.org.uk)

Tel: 020 7219 6472; Email: [helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk)

## **Village Hall News – October Newsletter**

The committee have been finalising the arrangements for activities at the hall being provided for your entertainment and enjoyment this autumn.

### **Grafty Green Scarecrow Festival Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 10 am to 2pm.**

Please get busy building your scarecrows which can be displayed either on the village green or in your front gardens. Resources such as timber, straw or assistance with construction can be provided if needed.

Everyone is welcome at the Hall which will be open on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October for light refreshments, (tea coffee cake etc.), where a display of scarecrow drawings provided by the children at Platts Heath School can be viewed, the children can draw their own scarecrows and a map providing the locations of all the scarecrows in the village can be obtained for you to visit and vote on your favourite. The winning scarecrow will be displayed in Maidstone Town centre. Please let me have details of your scarecrow once constructed by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October so that they can be included in the map.

### **Christmas Craft Fair Sunday 20th November 10am to 2pm**

Our Christmas Craft Fair will be held at the hall on Sunday 20th of November from 10 am to 2pm where you can browse handmade jewellery, cards, wooden planters, resin gifts, wax melts, other craft items and Batch Made in Heaven Bakery cakes. Have a chat with friends and enjoy a cup of tea and some cake. Providing you with gift ideas for some unique and individual Christmas presents produced by local craftspeople. We are hoping that the choir from Platts Heath Primary School will be able to sing carols so the event should have a lovely festive feel to get us all ready for Christmas.

### **Panto Robin Hood – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 5.30 pm**

I am pleased to say that we have once again been able to book Gerry Graham's Touring Panto. This years Panto is Robin Hood and the performance will be at 5.30 pm on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> November. Those of you who have seen their performances in previous years will know that they are of an excellent standard and are great fun. We have been able to secure a last-minute booking at a rate comparable with last year so I am also pleased to advise you that we will keep the ticket prices the same as last year – £25 for a family ticket of two adults and two children, £10 for an adult and £5 for a child - Good news in these times tightened budgets. There will be a bar and light refreshments available. To book tickets, please contact myself on either 07932 112730 or [bromey@ashleylaw.co.uk](mailto:bromey@ashleylaw.co.uk)



## **Christmas Quiz**

I am pleased to say that Richard ably assisted by his elves will be hosting his very popular annual Christmas Quiz - we are just finalising a date for the event, (probably early December), which will be communicated to you very shortly but the format will be the usual teams of eight, a pay bar, supper, lots of unwarranted heckling and insubordination usually caused by inebriation. Please save the date, dust off those Christmas jumpers and organise your teams. For those of you like me who don't have any friends don't worry we can find you a team on the night!

## **The Outreach Post Office Service Every Tuesday 12.45 pm to 2.15 pm.**

I have held a review meeting with the Postmaster from Headcorn and I am pleased to report that we are receiving a better and more consistent service following the problems we had earlier in the year. Regrettable though it is there will always be the odd, (hopefully exceptional occasion), when the service is cancelled due to sickness or other unforeseen circumstances but the Postmaster has given me an assurance that wherever possible this will be avoided.

There is no truth in the rumour that the service has ceased and I would urge you all to continue to support the Post Office where you can as the more activity there is the more likely we are to be able obtain an extension to the service in the future.

We are trying to bring local businesses into the hall for the coffee morning, (11am to 2.15pm), which runs alongside the Post Office, (12.45 pm to 2.15 pm) and presently they offer locally grown fruit and vegetables, (12 noon to 2pm), Eco Shop products, Pluckley tea homemade preserves including locally produced honey and locally produced hand made cosmetics and soaps.

If you know of anyone who would like to supply locally produced items for visitors to purchase at the coffee morning please let me know as we would like to offer these if it is feasible to do so.

**Jon Thompson Hall Committee Chairman**

**[www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk)**

**facebook – graftygreenvillage**



# **Beware Of Scams!**

## **The Government Energy Discount**

**For your information this payment is automatic**

The UK Government Energy Bills Support Scheme starts in October. Every household in Great Britain with a domestic electricity supply will get a £400 discount to help with energy bills.

This is a Government discount which you don't pay back and you don't need to apply for the scheme. You won't be asked for your bank details at any point – please stay alert to potential scams.



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## **Yoga Classes**

Grafty Green Village Hall

Enhance your wellbeing at the weekly classes Monday and Thursday mornings

9.30 – 11

AND

Wednesday evenings 7 – 8.30

*No classes the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> October – new term to begin 31<sup>st</sup> October.*

More information – contact Sue Burch (British Wheel of Yoga teacher) on

01622 850381 or email [grafftyyoga@gmail.com](mailto:grafftyyoga@gmail.com)



# Scarecrow Festival

## Grafty Green Village Hall

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 10 am to 2pm**

Make your own scarecrow to display in your front garden or on the village green by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Provide details of your scarecrow, (your name, contact details, type of scarecrow and location) to Jon Thompson by email to [bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk](mailto:bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk) by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

We would like to see as many people as possible visit the Village Hall on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October between 10 am and 2pm to view an exhibition of scarecrow drawings produced by the children at Platts Heath Primary School. You will also be able to collect your scarecrow location map whilst enjoying a cup of tea and cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

Go on a scarecrow safari around the village and return to the hall and vote on your preferred scarecrow.

The winning scarecrow along with the scarecrow built by the eco warriors from Platts Heath Primary School will be displayed in Maidstone Town Centre between the 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October.

If you need any assistance with resources such as timber, straw or with building your scarecrow please contact Jon Thompson on either 07932 112730 or [bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk](mailto:bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk)





# **Christmas Craft Fair**



**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 10.00-2.00**

**Grafty Green Village Hall**

Lots of exciting stalls including:

Christmas Wreaths

Wax Melts

Handmade jewellery

Resin8 Crafts

Batch Made in Heaven Bakery

Platts Heath Primary School PTA

Handmade cards

OG Plants and Produce

Avon

Ickle Bit of Love Crafts

Alan Colledge local artist

Children's aprons and dog bandanas

Handmade crafts from St Nicholas Church

As usual our wonderful tea, coffee and cake stall will be open so that you can come along and meet up with friends.

**Plus, for the first time ever we have Platts Heath Primary School  
Choir singing for us!**

We look forward to seeing you all and would welcome cake donations for the tea and coffee stall on the day.



GERRY GRAHAM'S TOURING PANTOS  
PRESENTS

# THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

*Appearing Here*

At Grafty Green Village Hall 5.30pm to 7.30 pm on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Prices are £25 family ticket (2 adults & 2 children) or adult £10 and ch ld £5

Tickets can be obtained from Jon Thompson on 07932 112730 or [bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk](mailto:bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk)

WRITTEN BY

*GERRY GRAHAM*

[WWW.TOURINGPANTOS.CO.UK](http://WWW.TOURINGPANTOS.CO.UK)

## **Grafty Gourmet**

This is a great autumnal recipe and so easy to make.

### **APPLE & BLACKBERRY CRUMBLE MUFFINS**

300g of plain flour, plus a little extra  
for dusting  
1 tablespoon of baking powder  
A Pinch of salt  
190g of caster sugar  
210ml of milk

1 large free-range egg, beaten  
100g of butter, melted  
Finely grated zest of 1 large lemon  
250g (1 large) Bramley apple  
150g of blackberries

For the crumble topping:-

15g of butter, at room temperature  
25g of plain flour  
15g of demerara sugar

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C (fan180°C) and line a 12-hole muffin tray with paper muffin cases.
2. First, make the crumble topping. Rub the butter into the flour until it resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar and work the mixture with your fingers until it forms nuggets.
3. For the muffins, sift the flour, baking powder and salt into a mixing bowl and stir in the sugar. In another smaller bowl, beat the milk with the egg, melted butter and lemon zest.
4. Peel, quarter and core the apple, and cut into blackberry-size pieces.
5. Stir the wet mixture into the flour and sugar mixture until combined. (It's fine if it's still a bit lumpy.) Stir in the apple and blackberries.
6. Spoon the mixture evenly into the paper cases and sprinkle over the crumble topping. Bake for 20-25 minutes until risen and golden. Cool for 5 minutes, then serve warm.



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## Lenham Film Club

*at Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way*

### Downton Abbey: A New Era

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00**

*Running time 2hr 5 mins*

Whether you're new to the Downton Abbey story or already firmly hooked, don't miss this date with Downton Abbey: A New Era (PG 2022). With its charm, humour and emotional tugs, this outstanding film is a splendid fanfare for our autumn and winter programme. Starring the original cast from the TV series and earlier film, the Crawley family sets off to the south of France to the mysterious villa which the Dowager Countess (Maggie Smith) has inherited. Meanwhile at home, Downton Abbey has been taken over by a film crew to the mixed pleasure of its residents, especially its staff. Directed by Simon Curtis and brilliantly acted, this is perhaps (or perhaps not!) the last glorious huzzah in the Downton story. Do join us for a memorable evening.

Looking ahead, our November performance is our member selection choice. On Armistice Day, Friday the 11th, we will be showing Operation Mincemeat (PG 13 2021), starring Colin Firth and based on a true episode in World War II, when British intelligence tried to fool the Nazis about where the Allies were planning to make their next move. 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



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## Music Notes for October 2022 – B Hardy

Lots of good local concerts this month including the bi-annual hospice concert. This is a first-class musical event at which performers - including professional soloists – give their time and talents freely (indeed chorus singers all make a donation) and all profits go to the Heart of Kent Hospice. I recommend it most strongly. Then the list is:

- **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** 3.00pm at St. Nicholas Church, Church Road, Otham ME15 8SA Lees Court Music will be presenting a concert of British choral music in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year. Entry to the concert is free. There will be refreshments afterwards and a retiring collection in aid of The Friends of Otham Church.
- **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October** 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre ME15 7RN Maidstone Symphony Orchestra's opening concert for the season includes Mendelssohn's - *Violin Concerto* and Elgar's - *Symphony No.1*. Tickets 07817 429143 or at the door. Come early to catch Steve Migden's Free Pre-concert talks from 6.40-7.10pm.
- **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October** 7.30pm at the church of St. James the Great, East Malling ME19 6AG there is a performance of Haydn's *Nelson Mass*. This is a "come and sing" event hosted by East Malling Singers – any singer can take part. Contact 01622 750943 for tickets and also for information as to how to take part.
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** 7.30pm at St Dunstan's church, Stone St., Cranbrook TN17 3HA the Wealden Consort, together with "Strings Attached" are holding a concert entitled "Music to inspire the Spirit". Free entry with a retiring collection. Halftime refreshments.
- **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre, ME15 7RN, the bi-annual Hospice Concert will be a concert performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*. This is a very popular charity event, with professional soloists and a chorus from the combined choirs of the area. Tickets: [www.hokh.org/events](http://www.hokh.org/events) or Tel: 01732 885749.

The anniversary date this month is 12<sup>th</sup> October, 150yrs since the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams, English composer. He is among the best-known British symphonists, noted for his very wide range of moods, from stormy and impassioned to tranquil, from mysterious to exuberant. Among the most familiar of his other concert works are *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* (1910) and *The Lark Ascending* (1914). His vocal works include hymns, folk-song arrangements and large-scale choral pieces. He wrote eight works for stage performance between 1919 and 1951. Although none of his operas became popular repertoire pieces, his ballet *Job: A Masque for Dancing* (1930) was successful and has been frequently staged.

# Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

## Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting held in the village hall at 7.00pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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

**Cllr Kennaird opened the meeting at 7 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**
4. **Approval of Minutes of the Planning Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – approved and signed as a true and accurate record**
5. **Planning Applications:**
  - (i) **Public Session – none**
  - (ii) **APPLICATION REF: 22/503480/FULL**

PROPOSAL: Demolition of existing outbuilding, erection of 1no. outbuilding including repositioned site access and associated landscaping  
ADDRESS: Barnside, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AP  
Members noted that the existing outbuilding had once been a meeting place for hop pickers.  
RESOLVED: to support the application
  - (iii) **APPLICATION REF: 22/503858/FULL**

PROPOSAL: Erection of a wrap around side and rear extension to detached garage. New external brick wall with piers and new front entrance gate. New brick paved external hard standing  
ADDRESS: Willington Lodge, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AT  
RESOLVED: to give a neutral response to the application

**The Meeting closed at 7.06 pm**



# Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

[www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk](http://www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk)

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 5th September 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs B Adams; N Eastwood; R Galton (Chairman); G Kennaird; R Turner  
Clerk Mrs Vickie Ford  
Cllr Z Trzebinski (Maidstone Borough Council)

The Chairman opened meeting at 7.30 pm

**Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it – none**

### **M01/09/22 Apologies**

Apologies from Cllr Prendergast (Kent County Council) and Cllr Round Maidstone Borough Council) were received and accepted.

### **M02/09/22 Declarations:**

**Any lobbying – none declared**

**Any interest in items on the Agenda – none declared**

**Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests - none declared**

### **M03/09/22 Approval of Minutes**

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings.

### **M04/09/22 Public Session – three members of public present**

Mr Ken Parish asked the Parish Council to specify maintenance required on the footpath between Woodcock Lane and Headcorn Road and ending at the bus stop.

RESOLVED: to authorise Lengthman's services as follows: to trim the grass every other month and to trim the hedges every three months in season, to commence as soon as possible; one hour's work for each task. The Parish Council thanked Mr Parish for keeping the Village so clean.

### **M05/09/22 Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) Report**

Cllr Trzebinski reported that MBC had been working hard to reduce fly tipping and had seized a vehicle seen fly tipping on occasions. The Community Protection Team had seized counterfeit designer goods in Maidstone. A new Go Green information centre would be opening in Maidstone Mall on 8<sup>th</sup> September. MBC was also running free concerts and festivals, about which the Parish Council would be informed. MBC was looking to acquire 1,000 houses specifically for Maidstone residents.

### **M06/07/22 Planning Outcomes since 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Noted that:

22/501981/FULL New pitched roof to front porch, erection of a two storey rear extension with a loft conversion and 3 no. roof lights at Sunnysbank, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AN: **REFUSED**

22/502766/SUB Submission of details pursuant to condition 6 (closure report) of application

18/503189/FULL for Top Barn, Popes Hall Farm, Sandway, ME17 2BH: **APPROVED**

17/503763/NMAMD Non-material amendment - Amendments to Plot 9 main dwelling - Internal alterations, additional external windows & doors, external windows & door sizes & positions, change of external cladding to tile hanging, changing of timber windows to foil wrapped upvc windows, addition of one chimney and conservatory as set out in attached drawings. Amendments to annexe - Window sizes &

position, additional windows & doors, alteration of part of ground floor to habitable area, log burner, change of garage door size as set out in amended drawings (original application ref: 15/505906/FULL) for Grafty Green Garden Centre, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AT: **REFUSED**

**M07/09/22 Planning Committee Terms of Reference**

RESOLVED: to adopt the final draft with an additional amendment at paragraph 7:

*The Committee may review its Terms of Reference and make appropriate recommendations to Full Council.*

**M08/09/22 Local Policing/Community**

Police/Crime Report: It was noted that the latest information was for June and 1 crime had been reported.

**M09/09/22 Speedwatch:** Cllr Kennaird reported that he was organising training for the volunteers.

**M10/09/22 Liverton Hill, Ditches, gullies, potholes**

Councillors noted that Liverton Hill was free of water leaks.

RESOLVED: to add the heading "Water Leaks" to future agendas.

The Chairman reminded those present of the water leak at the junction of Church Road and Woodcock Lane, which had been reported by the Parish Council and others. Kent County Council (KCC) had taken up the matter with South East Water. It was noted that the leak was increasing in volume.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to forward relevant correspondence to Cllr Trzebinski, who undertook to chase up.

It was noted that the new signage at the junction of Crumps Lane and Headcorn Road had finally been installed on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. However, the repainting of the white lines was still outstanding despite chasing by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to forward relevant correspondence to Cllr Trzebinski, who undertook to chase up.

**M11/09/22 59 Bus**

Cuts to the service had been postponed until after the KCC Full Council meeting to be held during the following week. A member of the public said they were pleased that the temporary service during the closure of Ulcombe Hill went into the centre of Maidstone.

**M12/09/22 Highways Improvement Plan**

There were no changes to be made.

**M13/09/22 Councillor Reports on any External Meetings**

Cllr Turner reported that he and the Clerk had visited NatWest Bank in Maidstone to obtain account balances and to enquire about various changes to the accounts requested by the Parish Council in March. It was noted that the Bank had not carried out the Parish Council's instructions. However, Cllr Turner and the Clerk had been able to obtain the information needed to complete the bank reconciliation statement to 31<sup>st</sup> August and contacts to make the previously requested changes.

**FINANCE**

**M14/09/22 Balances at the Bank:** Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 were noted:

Nat West current	£3,173.99
Nat West saving	£46,541.36
Nationwide	£14,230.15
Cambridge and Counties	£23,486.79

**M15/09/22 Receipts since last meeting:** £11.73 bank interest

**M16/09/22 Bank Reconciliation**

The statement prepared by the Clerk was accepted and signed.

**M17/09/22 Cheques to sign:** Amesis Ltd £42

**M18/09/22 Authorisation of any payments since the last meeting:** V J Ford £65.27; Amesis Ltd £42; Mrs R Smith £203.25; V J Ford £78.90

**M19/09/22 Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements**

RESOLVED: to continue as part of the SAAA sector led auditor appointment regime for the next 5 years.

**M20/09/22 Declaration of Filming or Recording Meeting**

RESOLVED: the Clerk to reword on all agendas the standing agenda item regarding declarations of recording meetings to make absolutely clear that such declaration is not mandatory.

## **GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE GREEN**

### **M21/09/22 Fence replacement**

The Chairman reported that he had received a quotation for the replacement of the fence between the pub beer garden and the Green. As the price quoted was over £1,000, it would be necessary to obtain two further quotations. Cllr Trzebinski suggested another local company to approach and would forward details. Cllr Eastwood suggested that it may be prudent to wait and renew all of the fencing around the Green.

### **M22/09/22 Maintenance**

The Chairman had approached various garden contractors with a view to maintaining the Green from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to ask MBC if they could carry out the required grounds maintenance and, if so, at what cost.

It was noted that arrangements for watering the flowers would need to be made.

The Parish Council received formal notice of Mr and Mrs Smith's resignation with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. As Mr and Mrs Smith were present, the Chairman thanked them warmly for all their work on the Village Green over many years.

### **M23/09/22 Scarecrow Festival**

Members discussed the Village Hall Committee's request to attach scarecrows to the Village Green fence.

RESOLVED: to delegate authority for the decision to the Clerk, subject to the outcome of a risk assessment for insurance purposes.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to ask the Village Hall Committee Chairman if the intention was for the scarecrows to be displayed on the Village Green only or elsewhere around the Parish in addition.

### **M24/09/22 Operation London Bridge**

The Chairman stated that he would be speaking with the Vicar of the Benefice on the matter of producing a book of condolences in the event of the death of Her Majesty the Queen.

RESOLVED: to produce a book of condolences from the Parish, possibly in conjunction with the Parish Church.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FoI)**

### **M25/09/22 Adoption of the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) Model Publication Scheme**

RESOLVED: to confirm adoption of the ICO's Model Publication Scheme.

### **M26/09/22 Data Protection Fee**

RESOLVED: to remit a data protection fee to the ICO on an annual basis

### **M27/09/22 Response to FoI Requests**

RESOLVED: to delegate authority for responding to FoI requests to the Clerk.

RESOLVED: to amend Standing Order 15 (b) (viii) accordingly at the next Full Council meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 pm

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

	Find the missing word?
1	The ____ Boys, US rock band
2	____ Back, A Beatles No 1 hit
3	_____, Louise Redknapp's former group
4	Patrick _____, Dirty Dancing star
5	_____ Radcliff, Harry Potter actor
6	Roald _____, Author of Matilda
7	Milton _____, An English Town
8	Total _____, An action TV game show
9	_____ Burke, An X Factor winner
10	Mary _____, Frankenstein author

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Question	Sales	Sunlight	<b>Direct</b>
2	Acute	Right	Wide	
3	Curtains	Hair	Work	
4	Court	Triple	Prince	
5	Station	Inner	You	
6	Tight	Flint	Care	
7	Charity	Goer	Hall	
8	Escape	Margin	Boat	
9	Queen	Sleep	Spot	
10	Project	Bank	Branch	
11	Speed	Carbon	Internet	
12	Human	Horse	Sack	
13	Tower	Alarm	Wise	
14	Green	Cake	Cup	
15	Retail	Aroma	Radio	
16	Action	Petrol	Foot	

# Grafty Green Gardening Club

## Program of Events 2022

### Our 25<sup>th</sup> Year

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
11 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM and Alison Marsden	More garden impact for less effort
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Dr Mick Lynn	Potions, Parasites and Pests
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Simon Ginnaw/Spring Show	Birds beyond the boughs
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Fergus Garrett	Succession planting for a long season
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	6pm Outing to Bilting House, Godmersham, TN25 4HA	
7 <sup>th</sup> May	10am. Plant Sale, Village green (if wet in the Village Hall)	
20 – 22 May	Weekend away to West Sussex and Hampshire	
7 <sup>th</sup> June	6pm Arnold Yoke, Back Street, Leeds.	
5 <sup>th</sup> July	6pm Garden party in the village	
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	6pm Outing to Hurst House, Hastingleigh, TN25 5 JD	
6 <sup>th</sup> September	Katherine Hook/ Autumn Show	Sloe Seduction
<b>4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Steve Edney</b>	<b>Think beyond the flower, plants with good seed heads.</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> November	Tom La Dell	Brogdale and the National Fruit Collection
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Practical evening/Social	

On 4th October we will be in the Village Hall to hear a talk by Steve Edney entitled 'Think beyond the flower, plants with good seed heads'. This promises to be a very interesting talk and we look forward to seeing as many of our members and friends as can make it.

**In our gardens:-** it is time to plant up containers for Winter colour. As soon as you can do so evergreen hedging plants can go in, if this is not possible it is best to leave this task until Spring. Deciduous hedging can be planted all through the Winter providing soil conditions allow.

Lavateras and other tall plants can be pruned by about a half to prevent wind rock damage during Winter. Check all newly planted trees and shrubs regularly and if they are loose firm them in again. A stake can be provided to hold the plant steady. If your soil is heavy clay don't firm too heavily as air will be driven out of the soil.

**Carole Frost - Secretary**



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## **Christian Message by Joan Drury October 2022**

Fifteen years ago I moved from South London to Grafty Green. Moving away from friends and familiar places is difficult but this day has stayed in my memory as especially happy. Dominic Goodwin had organized the removal of furniture and it all arrived without a hitch. Before long it was installed in Weirton Villa and, to my surprise, we were sitting down to lunch in my new home. As well as Dominic and Vanessa, Gerda was with us, Sally Alexander and Tony Old. A happy day as I began to enjoy life in Grafty Green.

Saying 'goodbye' and adjusting to new surroundings can be traumatic but it is the way of life for Christians. We are called to be on the move. I've been checking this out in the Bible. After the resurrection of Jesus some of the disciples were scattered – Philip to Samaria, Paul travelled about the country and went to Lydda (*Acts 9*) where he met the paralysed man, named Aeneas, whom he healed. On the same journey Peter met Tabitha who also turned to Jesus. As the early disciples turned to Jesus, every journey was an opportunity to share the Christian faith.

I remember a song with the words "Travel far and wide, Tell them why I died." Moving house can become an opportunity to talk. You don't have to be a paid-up member of a Mission Society to talk about Jesus. It is hard to move from the familiar but again and again Jesus said "Go and tell". This is what we must do. It's not easy.

Let me admit that I knew God's call to start a Bible study group when I came to Grafty Green BUT I was nervous – timid – hesitant. Jesus needed to give me a push. I gave in! The first book we studied was Ruth. There followed many years of exciting discussions on the Bible and the joy of getting to know other believers better. I praise God that he gave me the push I needed.

We need to look around for opportunities to share.

*Joan Drury was a Reader in the Len Valley Benefice for 15 years and moved to a care home in Whitstable over this summer. We said a formal goodbye to her in church on 28<sup>th</sup> August. We will miss her lots!*

## Len Valley Benefice October 2022

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

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe:  
Holy Communion (BCP)

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast  
Church

**9.30am** Ulcombe: Café Church

**11.00am** Harrietsham: **Harvest**  
Morning Worship

**11.00am** Lenham: Holy  
Communion

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe:  
Holy Communion

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy  
Communion

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast  
Church

**11.00am** Lenham: Morning  
Worship

**11.00am** Ulcombe: Harvest Holy  
Communion

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

**9.30am** Lenham: Holy  
Communion Service

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

**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:  
**Harvest** Choral Evensong

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

**8.00am** Lenham: Holy  
Communion (BCP)

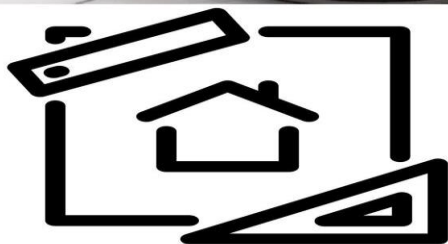
### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

**10.30am Benefice Holy  
Communion at Lenham**

‘Being the people of God in the  
Len Valley Benefice’

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Creative Sunday

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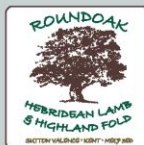
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Lenham Surgery recorded messages)	<b>01622 858341</b>

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Calor Gas Emergencies	<b>08457 444999</b>
KCC Emergencies	<b>03000 41 41 41</b>
Highways	<b>03000 41 81 81</b>

KCC Community Wardens:

Local warden – Stuart Ellesmere	<b>07969 583923</b>
District Support – Dawn Riach- Brown	<b>07773 397125</b>

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Maidstone Borough Community Protection - **01622 602202** – Bonfires, crime, dogs, domestic abuse, loan sharks, noise, pests and protection orders

Environmental Services – **01622 602162** – Fly tipping, Street cleaning, Litter, Bins, dead animals

## Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Question	Sales	Sunlight	Direct
2	Acute	Right	Wide	Angle
3	Curtains	Hair	Work	Net
4	Court	Triple	Prince	Crown
5	Station	Inner	You	Tube
6	Tight	Flint	Care	Skin
7	Charity	Goer	Hall	Concert
8	Escape	Margin	Boat	Narrow
9	Queen	Sleep	Spot	Beauty
10	Project	Bank	Branch	Manager
11	Speed	Carbon	Internet	Dating
12	Human	Horse	Sack	Race
13	Tower	Alarm	Wise	Clock
14	Green	Cake	Cup	Tea
15	Retail	Aroma	Radio	Therapy
16	Action	Petrol	Foot	Pump

	Find the missing word?
1	The <b>Beach</b> Boys, US rock band
2	<b>Get</b> Back, A Beatles No 1 hit
3	<b>Eternal</b> , Louise Redknapp's former group
4	Patrick <b>Swayze</b> , Dirty Dancing star
5	<b>Daniel</b> Radcliff, Harry Potter actor
6	Roald <b>Dahl</b> , Author of Matilda
7	Milton <b>Keynes</b> , An English Town
8	Total <b>Wipeout</b> , An action TV game show
9	<b>Alexandra</b> Burke, An X Factor winner
10	Mary <b>Shelly</b> , Frankenstein author

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