

Malherbe Monthly

Number 203
June 2021



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

Useful contact names and telephone N^{os}. BOUGHTON MALHERBE/GRAFTY GREEN

County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast Shellina.Prendergast@kent.gov.uk	07970 461160
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Ziggy Trzebinski	890276 TBC
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	Chris Hume email boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	07972 630555
Village Hall bookings	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@gmail.com Mobile 07990 574214	853583
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
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	07805 092823
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield	07500 895831
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday at approx. 3pm by Post Office	01580 754300
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
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 **July** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th June**

Front Cover: A very happy 'Luna' enjoying her walk in the spring sunshine

News from St. Nicholas Church

The Easter Season is now behind us and we look forward. Even Pentecost (Whitsunday) has passed and we look for a new beginning, with the help of God's Holy Spirit, given to us all at Pentecost. This fresh start will be opening up to us as we, and hopefully the world, emerge from the ravages of the pandemic, looking out as one with the world and behaving with more compassion, love, humility and respect, not hankering after the frenetic, 'no time to stop and stare' way we may have left.

Going back to 'basics' may be the way 'forward', as I heard someone say in church yesterday.

The Porch at St.Nicholas has been a haven for anyone walking up the hill, visiting the churchyard, or just enjoying the peace of the countryside, especially when that cold wind was blowing throughout May. It still remains open for all as the main building is closed.

Do take note of the barriers surrounding the tower and West Door. The masonry repairs are taking time and it remains a possible danger area.

TAKE CARE!

Morning Prayer is said daily, on-line, at 9.30 am. Please contact Rev.Anne Price on 01622 924963 or revanne@lvb.org.uk if you would like to join in any day.

If you have any prayer requests do contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev. Anne Price or the churchwardens at any time and prayers will be said at Morning Prayer time, or in private if you wish.

Celtic Morning Prayer has returned, at 8.45-9.15am each Monday morning in the side chapel. A great way to start the week!

Other services are available. Please contact the church office for updates. The Church of England has links to regular services on their website and there is a daily prayer on Facebook.

Services at St.Nicholas Timings have almost returned to normal, despite the restrictions of masks, sanitiser, no singing and social distancing etc. ;

June

6th 9.30am Communion

13th 3.30pm Evensong (followed at 4.30pm-6.30pm, outside if weather permits, Eco-presentation and churchyard wildlife count with refreshments)

20th 9.30am Communion

27th 11am Informal

Eco-spot. An update on the mealworm front! Wherever I try to hide the mealworms so the little birds can enjoy them in peace, the magpies always get to them first and the starlings don't just eat them one-by-one, they stuff as many as possible into their beaks, looking like little puffins with rows of fish in theirs!

Also interested to hear, via the 'Great British Sewing Bee', that denim fabric uses vast amounts of water and other ingredients in its manufacture, to make it extremely hardwearing and long-lasting, so much so that denim jeans have been found in old mining areas of the USA that are still in good condition 150yrs later. A reminder to us that this fabric, and others, should never be just tossed aside and replaced with a more fashionable garment. It has used a lot of the earth's resources in its production, is costly on all counts and obviously does not degrade easily!

Cannot wait for the weather to warm up.

Sally Alexander

St. Nicolas in the Community. An update from Vanessa;

" We have two new projects planned which we hope will be of benefit to the community and we would be enormously grateful for your support.

The first is on Sunday 13th June from 4.30-6.30pm where we are taking part in a Wildlife Count in our Churchyard. This is a nationwide project where all the churches are encouraged to pick a fixed time and record all wild animals and plants which they can find in their churchyard. Everyone is welcome and it would be wonderful if as many people as possible could come and lend us their eyes and ears to spot what we have. As we are hoping to make our churchyard more wildlife friendly it would be wonderful to make this a yearly event where we can chart our success. There will be refreshments for sale, but as we need good weather this event will be postponed if it is raining.

The second project is to start up a weekly pop-up Eco shop in our church from September onwards. This is a shop where you can buy eco-friendly products and reduce plastic waste by refilling your shampoo and washing liquid containers from our bulk supplies. This is becoming increasingly popular in big towns, but there is no fill-up station in this area of Kent and we hope to become a destination for 'fill-up' enthusiasts. We are fortunate to have some young volunteers who are hoping to run the shop and they would love to introduce some of their ideas to all of you on the 13th of June during the wildlife count. They would love to ask for advice and feedback on what the community might like see stocked in this shop and show some samples. We are hoping to make zero waste as affordable as possible to combat plastic waste and serve the community.

With many thanks,

Vanessa "

Kings Head Pub – Grafty Green



Please be aware that we are still cooking Fish & Chips for takeaway on Friday Lunch and Evening.

Please order in advance by calling on **01622 850259** and we wish everyone to stay safe and well and thank you for your support.

Yoga Classes

Yoga classes will be resuming in the Village Hall -

Monday morning 9.30 – 11 - 7th June
Wednesday evening 7 – 8.30 – 9th June
Thursday morning 9.30 – 11 – 10th June

At the moment I am restricted to numbers and Wednesday evening is now fully subscribed.

The Monday morning class is initially to accommodate my Harrietsham class as I am not able to use that hall until the vaccination programme has been fulfilled. I will also plan some Saturday morning practices which will be open to my non regulars or new yogis.

Email – graffyyoga@gmail.com

Phone – 01622 850381

Sue Burch
British Wheel of Yoga Teacher

Sue's Nature notes

Since the house martins and swallows returned in late April the weather has meant that they have had to go off again in search of insects; their presence has been spasmodic and the repair work to their nests is taking for ever.

The lack of insects will have contributed to the success of robins, blackbirds, and thrushes hatching and rearing a clutch of chicks; perhaps only the strongest chick will fledge.

Not so obvious is the plight of the bats; they will have come out of hibernation later than most years and needing to put on weight. Unfortunately, because of the lack of insects the Kent Bat Group have been very busy nursing bats back to health to release them once they have rehydrated and gained weight. This will have affected the likelihood of the females giving birth this year; bats mate in the autumn and whilst they go into a torpid state for the winter the embryos don't develop until the spring and the conditions are right for the bats to return to their maternity roost to rear the young.

Sue Burch

Great Crested Newts

Sue's notes on reptiles and amphibians last month came just as they are wondering whether it is warm enough to venture out of their secure hibernation and face life again in the big wide world. Anyone who has made a planning application in the parish has probably had to deal with the delays and expense of recording great crested newts (GCN or *Triturus cristatus*) in the area.

GCN are a highly protected species as their habitats are under threat and they are becoming scarce. They have a complicated life cycle which is more than just hibernating in the winter and living in ponds in the summer. When the weather is warm enough in the spring they wake up and make for a nearby pond to mate. This has to have some marginal vegetation, in shallow water, to provide a safe space for the eggs to be laid and the hatchlings to survive. The pond has to have some open water but not be part of a stream or the young are simply washed away. It must essentially be free of fish and other predators or the young will be gobbled up.

If that sounds like ponds on the Low Weald (Grafty Green and southwards – rather flat and on impermeable Weald Clay) that is why we are an important area for GCN.

Then things get interesting. After a couple of months, the young GCN crawl out of the pond and spend the summer and autumn on dry land. That's why your pond may be important for GCN even if it dries out by mid-summer. GCN surveys can only be done at breeding time and look at ponds within 250m or more as they travel quite long distances in search of insects and other invertebrates to eat. Hedgerows are great for shelter and

long grass is essential so that they can forage away from the prying eyes of local birds. Scientists love a buzz word so we now talk about 'metapopulations' of the linked habitats of ponds over an even wider area.

Come the first frosts of autumn and it is time to hibernate again, in a safe place of piles of logs and twigs or rubble.

Tom La Dell

Grafty Geeks – Privacy Settings – June 2021



Privacy Settings

WhatsApp Messenger - WhatsApp has changed it's group settings to include "everyone" by default, so people you don't know can add you to a group without your knowing. These people may include scam messages, loan Sharks, etc. You can change the default settings as follows:

1. Go to Whatsapp
2. In the Settings menu, found top right, (3 dots)
3. Select Account
4. Then select Privacy
5. Select Groups
6. Change from (Everyone" to (My contacts)



Facebook - This is the same in Facebook - so check your account settings as follows:

1. Account Settings – located in the top right corner on the home page,
2. Select "How people can find and contact you". There are 4 places to check:
 - Who can send you friend requests?
 - Who can see your friends list?
 - Who can look you up using the email address you provided?
 - Who can look you up using the phone number you provided?



Grafty Green Gardening Club

Garden Safari

Saturday 12th June

1 – 6 pm

6 very different gardens

£5 per person, children free

Guide to gardens taking part available from
Post Office or electronically by email -
burch1997@aol.com or on the day from
first garden entered.

Ploughman's lunch at the King's Head
orders to be placed by 6th June telephone
01622 850259

**Boughton Malherbe
Parish Council
Contact Details**

Ron Galton, Chairman

- Tel: 01622 850369

ron@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Robert Turner

- Tel: 01622 850325

robert@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Barry Adams

Nick Eastwood

Grant Kennaird

Chris Hume, Parish Clerk

- Tel: 07972 630555`

boughtonmalherbecpc@gmail.com

**A short update from
the Parish Council**

Date for Traffic Calming Work

We are pleased to advise that the traffic calming works in Grafty Green works are due to take place on 23rd August 2021 for one week. These works will be carried out under a road closure between the hours of 0930 and 1530 to avoid too much disruption and access will obviously be maintained for residents so far as practicable at the time.

For anyone who has not seen the designs for the scheme these can be found on the Parish Council website, together with questions and answers about the scheme.

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

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The Kings Head
Grafty Green

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16th Century
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"Dover Bill" -
the Highwayman!



Traditional Sunday Lunches
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Lunches and Suppers

Booking Advisable
01622 850259

Children's Room Beer Garden



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council on Monday 17th May 2021, 7.45pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs R Galton (Chair); R Turner; B Adams; N. Eastwood; G Kennaird
Clerk Mr Chris Hume

Cllr Galton opened meeting at 7.51pm

1. **Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it.** - none
2. (i) Cllr R Galton was elected as Chairman to Boughton Malherbe Parish Council for the next year.
(ii) Cllr Galton signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
3. (i) Cllr R Turner was elected as Vice Chairman to Boughton Malherbe Parish Council for the next year.
(ii) Cllr Turner signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
4. (i) Cllr G Kennaird was elected as Chairman of the Planning Committee for the next year
(ii) A Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee was not elected for the next Year
5. (i) Cllr R Turner was elected as Chairman of the Finance and Staffing Committee for the next year
(ii) A Vice-Chairman for the Finance and Staffing Committee was not elected for the next year
6. **Apologies** – none
7. **Declarations:**
Any lobbying – none declared
Any interest in items on the Agenda – none declared
Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests - none declared
8. **Approval of Minutes** – approved the Minutes of 8th March 2021
9. **Matters Arising** – Clerk to correct error in the figure for the projected underspend from million to thousand. Clerk to ask Martin Round to chase up the complaint regarding Kitsilano. Cllr Kennaird updated the council about the planter application to KCC at Eastwood Road. It was agreed that Cllr Kennaird would first produce a proposal for the planter
10. **Public Session** – no members of public present
11. **Annual Reviews**
 - i. Reviewed delegation arrangements/confirmation of portfolios, to committees, sub-committees, employees and other local authorities. – agreed that Cllr N Eastwood and Cllr B Adams will continue to hold the Highways portfolio and that Cllr Kennaird will lead on the traffic calming scheme
 - ii. Noted the terms of reference for committees which will be reviewed at the first meetings of the committees.
 - Planning,
 - Finance and Staffing
 - iii. All councillors will be members of the committees
 - iv. Appointment of any new committees, the number of members (including, if appropriate, substitute councillors) and receipt of nominations to them. None
 - v. Reviewed and adopted the standing orders and financial regulations

- vi. Reviewed and adopted the Kent Code of Conduct for Members
- vii. Reviewed the representation on or work with external bodies and arrangements for reporting back – including Maidstone KALC. Cllr Galton and Cllr Turner to attend Maidstone KALC meetings
- viii. Reviewed the inventory of land and assets including buildings and office equipment.
- ix. Reviewed and confirmed arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks. Confirmed that Came and Company would arrange insurance in 2021/22
- x. Reviewed the Council's and/or employees' memberships of other bodies. – agreed to continue membership of CPRE and KALC
- xi. Agreed the Council's complaints procedures
- xii. Agreed the council's employment policy and procedures
- xiii. Agreed the risk register
- xiv. Appointed Lionel Robbins as the Independent Internal Auditor

12. Finance

12.1 Income since the last meeting –noted precept MBC £5,731.48

12.2 Authorised the following payments since last meeting: KALC £234.86 Air Ambulance £50; Fire Hydrant markers £55.18 ; Came and Company £379.59 ; Traffic Survey £ 354.00

12.3 To sign any cheques: Lionel Robbins, internal auditor £90.00 CPRE £36.00

12.4 Note the Balance at the Bank-
 £ Nat West 48,072.99
 £ Nationwide 14,150.58
 £ Cambridge and Counties 22,963.65

12.5 Bank Reconciliation – noted end of year statement

12.6 Internal Auditor's Report – received and noted the report circulated separately

12.6 External Audit 2017/18 – (i) Approved and signed the Annual Governance Statement
 (ii) Approved and signed end of year Accounting Statements

12.7 Outturn for 2020/21 budget – noted underspend of £1,307.42

12.8 Bank Signatories – agreed that the Clerk should set up online banking and agree internal controls with the internal auditor. Clerk to find out whether other banks offer dual authorisation for no charge.

13. Dates, time and venue for meetings in 2021/22 - agreed dates are:

5th July 2021
 6th September 2021
 8th November 2021
 24th January 2022
 7th March 2022

14. Broadband Connectivity – it was agreed that a donation would not be made to the Openreach ME17 2BH Community Fibre Partnership as there is no legal power for the council to fund or support broadband provision. A S. 137 grant could be used as a means to make a modest grant, but it was decided that this would not be pursued as the spend is capped at £3,800 and is the only flexible spend available to the council and would prevent the council making equal payments to other localities in the Parish. It was felt that this was not fair and would not provide the level of funding required.

15. Correspondence - Letter from Eddie Hughes circulated separately. Thank you letter from the Air Ambulance

16. Further Information - none

CLOSED SESSION

17 Confidential – noted Correspondence received from a resident regarding a Parish Councillor which is not relevant to parish council matters

CLOSED SESSION ENDED

18. Highway and Footway Matters

18.1 Liverton Hill – nothing to report

- 18.2 Ditches, gullies, pot holes** – poor white lines near Crumps Lane junction. Cllr Adams to report
- 18.3 Speedwatch** – nothing to report
- 18.4 Highways Improvement Plan** – (i) noted the latest version of the HIMP
(ii) Received the results of the traffic survey on Headcorn Road – summary data produced by Cllr Eastwood and raw data to be sent to KCC by the Clerk
- 18.5 Footpaths** - (i) replacement of stiles – . It was agreed that the Clerk would produce a list of stiles for improvement for the next meeting with guidance from Cllrs Turner and Eastwood.
(ii) Footpath's map – it was agreed that cllr Galton will produce photographs using the history society book plus wording about the Greensand Way in discussion with Sue Burch. Clerk to then send to KCC to produce the map.
- 18.6 Fire Hydrants** – noted report from Chris Wheal, and noted the information on the Parish Scheme and agreed to keep the matter under review
- 19. Councillor Reports on any External Meetings attended** - Cllr Galton reported on meeting with MBC and neighbouring parishes regarding Gypsy and Traveller issues
- 20. Quinn Donation** – it was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting after the Clerk reports the spend to date

The meeting closed at 9.42pm

Helen Whately's Parish Update

Our road to recovery

The past few weeks have seen glimpses of normal life return.

When I was in Lenham recently, people were calling into shops, returning from the school run, and chatting in the queue outside Home Bake. It was exactly the kind of afternoon that would have seemed so normal in 2019, but now, fills me with hope and relief.

The progress we've made in bringing the virus under control is thanks to the hard work and sacrifices of so many people and the phenomenal success of our vaccine rollout.

Our local vaccination teams have been working flat out for the past five months getting jabs into arms. Over 580,000 people in Kent have now received two doses of a Covid vaccine, helping to save lives and get us back to something like normal life.

But we are not out of the woods yet. These next few weeks will be crucial in keeping the virus under control and keeping our recovery on track. Everyone can play their part by following the guidance, taking up the offer to get vaccinated, and getting tested regularly.

National recovery was at the heart of the Queen's Speech. A new Health and Care Bill will help us better integrate services and give people the care they need closer to home. A new public body for our railways will help deliver simpler fares and reliable services. And an enhanced Environment Bill will put nature at the heart of our recovery.

There is still a long way to go, but we are on the road to recovery.

Back to school

I visited Hollingbourne Primary School recently to talk about the improvement work the school is trying to secure and was given a tour by two of the Year 6 House Captains.

I'm pleased that the new funding formula for schools is making a difference - particularly to schools that have been historically underfunded. This is something I called for along with other Kent MPs.

The new funding formula for schools means every primary school is guaranteed £4,000 per pupil with secondary schools getting at least £5,150 per pupil.

Getting businesses back on their feet

Seeing shop doors open and pints being pulled again has been a truly wonderful sight over the past few weeks.

The excitement of being able to welcome back customers was clear from the shop owners and traders I spoke to in Lenham recently. Local shops are far more than just places to pick up essentials. They are part of the glue that holds communities together. As restrictions ease, it's more important than ever we support our local businesses.

I know the cut in VAT for hospitality businesses and extension of the business rates holiday are making a big difference to many local businesses, in addition to grants and the furlough scheme.

Cultural recovery

Local arts and culture have received another boost from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund.

Over £150,000 was provided to groups in Faversham and Mid Kent from the second round of allocations, including the Urban Soul Orchestra. The Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone has also received a grant from the Fund.

As a former Arts Minister, I know just how important culture and the arts are to our society and economy.

I'm eager to see theatres and music venues come back to life as soon as possible. In the meantime, it's good news that more local arts and culture groups are being supported through this difficult time.

Have your say on Shepway regeneration plans

A consultation has been launched on plans to regenerate part of Shepway.

I'll be meeting Golding Homes in the summer to discuss their plans, which would see Cambridge Crescent developed to include 240 new homes, an updated shopping area, and new public spaces.

While improvements are needed, change can be unsettling. Residents of Cambridge Crescent will rightly have questions about these plans – particularly where they will live during the construction phase and compensation plans.

It's essential this development puts community needs first and focuses on making life better for people in Shepway, which is why this consultation is so important. For more information contact shepwayregen@goldinghomes.org.uk or call 01622 212790.

No truck with rule-breaking lorries

I've stepped up efforts to get HGVs off country roads.

With Channel freight returning to normal and Operation Brock being ended, there is no excuse for lorries who continually flout the weight limit on roads.

I know this continues to be a problem on the B2163 through Leeds, where a 17-tonne weight limit is in place. I raised this with Kent County Council and Kent Police, and I'm pleased more checks have been carried out recently. Thank you to everyone involved in the Lorry Watch scheme in the village.

Getting these weight limits put in place is a step in the right direction, but they need to be properly enforced.

Village Hall News June 2021

I am pleased to advise you that we will be welcoming a new activity to the village hall when we re-open the hall after lockdown in June. A Pilates class will be held at 9.30 am on Tuesday mornings for an hour, hopefully from the 22nd June.

If you would like to join this new class please contact either:

Christine Williams - Email -christinewilliamspilates@gmail.com or mobile 07552 101842 or Cheryl Stubbs -Email - c.stubbs8@btinternet.com or mobile 07852 602369

That is not the end of the good news!

Yoga will also be returning to the Hall with an additional session on Monday mornings alongside the usual Wednesday evening and Thursday morning sessions and if you would like to attend any of these Yoga classes please contact Sue Burch on either mobile 07803 962339 or email graftyyoga@gmail.com .

Kind regards,

Jon Thompson
Village Hall Chairman

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We hope you are keeping well. April and May have been busy months with the Lenham Neighbourhood Plan referendum and the local council and county council elections taking place. The rest of the month also looks busy along with June as we await the next stage in the Maidstone Local Plan Review process. More details on what's been happening and what to expect coming up next is below.

Lenham Neighbourhood Plan

The Lenham Neighbourhood Plan is now a statutory planning document and the countryside protection policy within is a material consideration for the Maidstone Local Plan Review and all future planning applications.

This is a major milestone in our fight against Maidstone Council's Heathlands Garden community proposal. The countryside protection policy is key in preserving the green space around our village. Thank you to everyone that voted YES!

Taking the challenge to the Council Leader's door

As you may recall, SOHL chairperson Kate Hammond stood against Leader of Maidstone Council Martin Cox in East Ward in local borough elections on 6th May. We sent a strong message as part of the campaign, it is time for change, it is time to stop the bad decisions and stop bad planning. Martin came very close to losing his seat, winning by just 15 votes compared to a 523-vote majority back in 2016.

Housing and infrastructure appeared to be a key theme across the borough throughout the elections and we found a number of wards within Maidstone who are feeling the same as we do. We are all tired of bad planning and the lack of infrastructure. We are using the influence we wielded at the elections to pressure Maidstone Council to take a breath and reassess their current strategy for the Local Plan Review. The Conservatives with their majority will now form their new administration and we will be keeping a close eye on what they do next.

SOHL joins national grassroots campaign group

A new grassroots campaign group has formed to lobby government to improve the planning system. The new alliance has seen over 400 local campaign groups (some highlighted on the map below) come together, showing the alarming national situation starkly. The united group also aims to support each other in their respective battles to ensure no one finds themselves alone, facing the spending power and knowledge of developers, their own councils and government. We are looking at which areas we can best help the group. The new alliance also featured in the national press last month and you can read the story [here](#).

Wait for third iteration masterplan continues

The much anticipated third iteration of the Heathlands Garden community masterplan continues to be withheld from publication by Maidstone Borough Council.

MBC are using an exemption in the Freedom of Information regulations to claim that the masterplan is still being completed and is classified as an unfinished document despite them confirming to us and their council committee in March that they were having to work towards a submission date of 31st March.

SOHL continue to challenge the decision not to publish and will be seeking to refer the matter to the Government's Information Commissioner in due course to investigate further.

We believe they are frustrating the process of informing local residents where the new redline boundary of the site is going to be, despite them confirming on the 24th March that the 18 landowners who had opposed inclusion in the last masterplan were 'to be obliged',

Leave our village alone! campaign due to begin

Finally, look out for our new fundraising campaign that is due to launch this week titled "Leave our village alone!" with the creative help of our friends at the Wow Factory in Charing who have kindly supported us over the last 18 months.

The next stage in the Local Plan Review is expected to start in earnest next month and with the Council appearing undeterred in dropping their plans for Heathlands at this stage, we face the unavoidable decision but to begin to consider a full legal defence of the plans. To do this, we are advised that we will need to fundraise an eyewatering £20,000 for legal and town planning expenses. We have held off as long as possible in having to do some serious fundraising but we now have no other choice..

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Coleen _____, A regular on 'Loose Women'
2	_____ Robson, Played Tracy Stubbs in 'Birds of a Feather'
3	_____ D'Acampo, Italian Chef
4	Alf _____, only original 'Home and Away' actor
5	_____ Todd, Fleet Street's fictional character
6	Tess _____, Presenter on 'Strictly Come Dancing'
7	_____ John, Singer of 'Candle in the Wind'
8	Paddy _____, Leader of The Liberal party from 1988 to 1999
9	_____ Brown, who retired from 'Eastenders' at the age of 93
10	Goldie _____, who played Private Benjamin

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Water	Blind	Off	Colour
2	Weight	Metal	Top	
3	Ladder	Tow	Guide	
4	Jump	Jet	Resort	
5	Ground	Flash	Lash	
6	Flask	Packed	Cleaner	
7	Fund	State	Private	
8	March	Leap	Bull	
9	Pudding	Pitch	Magic	
10	Story	Private	Sergeant	
11	Horse	Plain	Peg	
12	Bow	Cup	Pin	
13	Wing	Handed	Luggage	
14	Figure	Step	God	
15	Address	Order	Vote	
16	Heart	Law	Record	

Grafty Green Gardening Club Programme 2021

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
5 th January	Kevin Tooher	Pruning
2 nd February	Lucy Adams	Dry Gardening
2 nd March	Laura Brady	Vegetables & Herbs – Growing & Cooking
6 th April	Group Zoom 7.30	Flower Arrangements with a Spring Theme
Sat 8 th May	Plant Sale, on the green if fine and in Hall if wet	
4 th May	Visit to Knowle Hill Farm, Ulcombe	
1st June	Visit to The Croft at Thurnham	
12th June	Grafty Open Gardens	
6 th July	Visit to Godinton Garden	
3 rd August	Visit to Horton Farm	
7 th September	DeJaeger – Bulbs	
10/11/12 Sept	Weekend away in Herefordshire	
5 th October	Ian Gray (Mammal Society)	Hedgehogs
2 nd November	TBC	
7 th December	Visit Winter Event at Kew.	

Grafty Green Gardening Club - Update for June

A visit to The Croft at Thurnham has been arranged for the evening of 1 June (own transport). The address is The Croft, Pilgrims Way, Detling Hill, Maidstone Kent, ME14 3HY. On arrival drive between two houses to a parking area in the orchard. Donations will go to the Hospice.

On July 6th a visit is booked for Godinton Garden beginning at the earlier time of 5pm for those of us who want to have tea & cake before our tour. Please let Veronica know on (01622) 850384 if you are coming as the garden will need to know our numbers.

In our Gardens:- We can plant out Runner Beans and Tomatoes into the soil now. Keep sowing salad vegetables at regular intervals to ensure a regular crop. By now, at least 6 weeks should have passed since bulbs naturally grown in grass flowered and the grass can be mown. Yellowed grass will soon return to green with a good water and feed. Time also to plant hanging baskets and plant out summer bedding flowers. Shrubs that have finished flowering can be trimmed to shape.

If you would like to join the Gardening Club a subscription to our Treasurer Doreen Hulm at Lavender Cottage, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green of £5.00 will secure membership for a whole year.

Carole Frost - Secretary - Grafty Green Gardening Club.

The Ulcombe History Society, all being well, is planning a tip to Parham (and possibly Petworth) on Sunday the 19th of September. There are still a few spaces left on the coach and if you are interested, please contact John Moore on: jemore7825@gmail.com

Grafty Green Dog Walking Club

Due to the risks for dogs and owners that has hit the news, we thought it would be a good idea to set up a dog walking group.

**This will be from the 29th March adhering to Covid 19 restrictions.
From the 29th March the rule of 6 will allow 6 people from different households to meet outside.**



We are planning for this to be a daily walk (Weather permitting) and approximately 30 to 45 minutes.

This is only open to residents of Grafty Green so address confirmation will be required to join.

The appropriate arrangements can be set up on a particular day, there can be more than one time set for each day.

You don't even have to have a dog to join.

If more than 6 people show up, groups can be separated, until further Covid restrictions change.

This is experimental to start with so changes can be made to work for everyone who wishes to take part.

Interested walkers can contact Doreen Hulm on 07748 592281 to be added to a WhatsApp Group

Those who do not have WhatsApp please see the Grafty Geeks section in this magazine.



Meeting place, times and routes will not be added to any public websites or social media. These will all be arranged via the WhatsApp group.



Grafty Gourmet

This is such a simple, yet fantastic recipe. It can be used for any piece of chicken, but here I have used drumsticks.

Oven fried Southern Chicken

2 cups of crushed Ritz crackers (about 50)
1 tablespoon of finely chopped fresh parsley
1 teaspoon of garlic salt
1 teaspoon of paprika
1/2 teaspoon of pepper
1/4 teaspoon of ground cumin
1/4 teaspoon of rubbed sage
2 large eggs
10 chicken drumsticks

1. Preheat oven to 180°. Place a toasting rack in a large baking pan and coat the rack with spray cooking oil.
2. In a shallow bowl, mix the first seven ingredients. In a separate shallow bowl, whisk the eggs. Dip chicken in the egg, then dip in the cracker mixture, patting to help coating stick to the chicken. Place on the rack.
3. Place in the oven for 20 minutes. After 20 minutes, turn the chicken and bake until the chicken is golden brown and juices run clear, 15-25 minutes longer.



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Music Notes for June 2021 – B Hardy

By the end of June, it seems likely that orchestras and choirs will be able to rehearse again "in the flesh" albeit while still taking precautions on spacing etc. However, the lack of rehearsals up to now means no concerts locally yet. The delayed 2020 BBC young musician competition has completed at last, and the performances of the final were as always quite phenomenal. If you didn't manage to watch it on TV, the winning performance is still on u-tube and the whole final is available on BBC i-player.

Meanwhile I will continue to regale you with musical anniversaries, this time for June. There are lots so here are just a few relating to the more well-known musicians:

8th June – 350th anniversary of birth of Tomaso Albinoni, Italian composer

18th June – 200th anniversary of the first performance of Carl Maria von Weber's popular opera "Der Freischütz"

25th June – 100th anniversary of birth of Peter Wishart, English composer

29th June – 80th anniversary of death of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Polish pianist, composer and politician.

I suspect that Peter Wishart is the least well known of those I have listed, and as he was almost a local I will quote his Wikipedia entry:

Peter Charles Arthur Wishart (25 June 1921 – 14 August 1984) was an English composer. born in Crowborough. He studied with Nadia Boulanger in Paris from 1947–1948 and taught at the Guildhall School of Music, Birmingham University, King's College London and Reading University where he was Professor of Music from 1977. His compositions include several neo-classical operas, orchestral and chamber pieces, and a large amount of church music. Critics have commented on Wishart's strong and individual lyricism and his admiration for the music of Igor Stravinsky.

He was married to the mezzo-soprano singer Maureen Lehane, with whom he worked with at Reading University. His son by a previous marriage James Wishart is also a composer. After his death, Maureen began a music festival in his memory, the Great Elm Music Festival.

Brian Hardy

And here is another music definition:

Harpsichord – a type of keyboard instrument, a precursor of the piano and cursed ever since.

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Christian Message June 2021

Years ago, during my first few weeks at secondary school I made friends with 4 girls. The 5 of us became close friends . We have written to each other regularly over the years until one died last year. Long term friendship.

I have another long-term friend – Jesus. Some think that the way to becoming a Christian means regular attendance at Church services; signing the electoral roll of a local church or helping to raise money to preserve ancient buildings. Becoming a Christian may lead to some of these things but primarily it is a response to Jesus invitation to follow him.

Jesus calls us to be his friends. In verses 14-17 of chapter 15 of St John's Gospel we read his words, " you are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants.....instead I have called you friends for everything I have learned from my Father I have made known to you." Why not check this out by reading the whole of chapter 15?

And what a friend Jesus is! The lockdown has prevented us visiting each other's homes but St John passes on a special invitation from this friend. "My Father's house has plenty of room. I go to prepare a place for you." This invitation has not been cancelled by the lockdown!

What sort of a friend is Jesus? Well, he is flexible. He willingly changed his plans when he heard that the young of a local leader were very ill. He went to the house and healed her. When he met someone, who was an outcast because he had leprosy he healed him and restored him to society. He forgave and forgives the sins of many. He washed the dirty feet of his disciples and commanded them to wash each other's feet.

I am still in touch with my school friends and I value their friend ship but Jesus is the best friend of all. There is an old song, " ***What a friend we have in Jesus.***" It encourages us to pray and assures us that Jesus is faithful. "***Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?***"

Could there be a better friend? Why not find out more about him? Talk to a Christian and ask questions and don't be afraid. Jesus said: ***I will never turn away anyone who comes to me.*** (John 6:37).

Joan Drury (01622 853766)

Len Valley Benefice June 2021

Everybody is welcome

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint. *Isaiah 40:31*

Sunday 6th June

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.00 am Ulcombe: Informal Service

Sunday 20th June

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

11.00am Harrietsham: Morning Worship

Sunday 13th June

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Evensong

Lenham: Breakfast Church will be joining the market on this day.

Sunday 27th June

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

11.00am Boughton Malherbe: Informal Service

As always, please continue to check notice boards, website and Facebook for updates.



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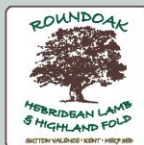
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First Aid Support – when **an ambulance has been called using 999** - Interim emergency support (first aid and AED defibrillator), prior to arrival of paramedics / ambulance, may be available (not 24/7) by calling Chris Wheal on 01622 858100 -this is a voluntary 'good Samaritan' facility for residents. It is hoped a SECAMB (ambulance) community first responder scheme may start in future

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KCC Community Wardens:

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

Fire	01622 692121
<i>General Enquiries</i>	0800 923 7000
<i>Home Safety Visits</i>	01622 858100
<i>KFRS Community Volunteer – Chris Wheal</i>	

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Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Blind	Off	Answer
1	Water	Blind	Off	Colour
2	Weight	Metal	Top	Heavy
3	Ladder	Tow	Guide	Rope
4	Jump	Jet	Resort	Ski
5	Ground	Flash	Lash	Back
6	Flask	Packed	Cleaner	Vacuum
7	Fund	State	Private	Pension
8	March	Leap	Bull	Frog
9	Pudding	Pitch	Magic	Black
10	Story	Private	Sergeant	Detective
11	Horse	Plain	Peg	Clothes
12	Bow	Cup	Pin	Tie
13	Wing	Handed	Luggage	Left
14	Figure	Step	God	Father
15	Address	Order	Vote	Postal
16	Heart	Law	Record	Breaker

	Find the missing word?
1	Coleen Nolan, A regular on 'Loose Women'
2	Linda Robson, Played Tracy Stubbs in 'Birds of a Feather'
3	Gino D'Acampo, Italian Chef
4	Alf Stewart, only original 'Home and Away' actor
5	Sweeney Todd, Fleet Street's fictional character
6	Tess Daly, Presenter on 'Strictly Come Dancing'
7	Elton John, Singer of 'Candle in the Wind'
8	Paddy Ashdown, Leader of The Liberal party from 1988 to 1999
9	June Brown, who retired from 'Eastenders' at the age of 93
10	Goldie Hawn, who played Private Benjamin

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