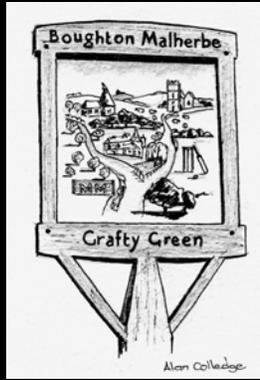


Malherbe Monthly

Free

Number 31

February 2007



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart	890651
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	858348 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Pat Anderson	858350
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
KM Correspondent	Sylvia Close	858919
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Sunday School	Mair Chantler	859672
Yoga	Liz Watts	737321
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Incumbent	Revd Don Irvine (email: revdonirvine@uwclub.net)	859466
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders (email: churchoffice@lenvalleybenefice.org.uk)	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Thursday afternoons at approx. 3.30 by Post Office	
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Chris King	Advertising: Christine.kings@btinternet.com	850711
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mf.hitchins@virgin.net	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts do not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit! Anything for the March edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mf.hitchins@virgin.net) by 15th February

Front cover: Operation Stack on the M20 in December (also in Jan as well!!)

News from St. Nicholas Church

Carol Service

The Carol Service at St. Nicholas on 17th December had a large congregation of over 100 people. The Church was Candle lit with just the spotlights of the new lighting system to help illuminate the Church with the Christmas tree lights. The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was attended by one of our Patrons Lord Cornwallis, who came with Lady Cornwallis and stayed afterwards for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies. A History of the Cornwallis family has recently been published and there are one or two copies in the Parish, it traces the Cornwallis family back to 1200s. If anyone would like to see a copy please contact one of the Churchwardens. Thank you to all those who read a Lesson at the Service and also to the Ladies who made Mince Pies and to Sally for preparing the Mulled Wine and Kenneth for supplying the Wine.

Crib Service

On Christmas Eve we had a Crib Service to bless the Crib. This Service is mostly for Families but anyone can come along, it was well attended with some 70 people, children and adults present during that Service the children were encouraged to buy a Star for the Winston's Wish Charity. This charity supports bereaved Children, and we were able to send £57.00 to them. Thank you to all those who gave on Christmas Eve.

Church Decorating

Thank you to all the people who came along and helped to decorate the church for Christmas. The tree decorated by the Sunday school looked lovely with some of the decorations made by the children themselves. St. Nicholas always looks lovely at Christmas with the Candles and the Evergreens, being small it lends itself to looking really charming and each year the decorations are slightly different, but each year it looks really lovely.

Carol Singing

The Carol Singing went well again this year. With Jack Grace with his Guitar leading us, and with Beverley Hone and Chris King accompanying us we are

well supported with instrumentalists and a good number came along to sing. Thank you to Janie for running a Raffle in the Kings Head and to Audrey and Roy Wickens who entertained us royally in their home and to the Who'd for letting us sing in the Bar. We started near the Tree on the Green and ended in the Kings Head. Thanks also to Ken and Eve for letting us take over the Bar area for the end of the Evening with a roaring fire, it's a lovely start to Christmas. Sadly Doreen and Les Hulm were unable to be with us this year because Les was unwell, we wish him a speedy recovery

Coffee Morning

A Coffee Morning held at Ferndown, Woodcock Lane was most enjoyable and thank you Sylvia for entertaining us on a rather miserable morning. This Event was hastily arranged so wasn't in last month's Magazine but in spite of that we raised £66.00 for church funds.

Lent Lunches

The first Lent Lunch will be on 21st February at the Old Rectory, Boughton Malherbe, the second on 28th at Bowley Farm, Sandway and the third on the 7th March at Foxes Earth, Grafty Green. Further venues will be in next month's Magazine

Joan Davidson

Grafty Green Village Hall

The next scheduled event in the Hall will be a Barn Dance with the Band **Folkal Point** with calling by the experienced and popular Roy Gill to be held on Saturday 24th March 2007 starting at 7.30pm. More information regarding this event will be published in forthcoming issues of this magazine and on posters throughout the parish.

Grafty Green Village Hall Committee

Grafty Green Gardening Club

'The Japanese Garden' by Jean Cockett – This is the topic for the February meeting on Tuesday 6th at Grafty Green Village Hall at 7.30 pm. All welcome – further details from Rosemary Smith 850526 or Sue Burch 850381

PROGRAMME FOR 2007

Date	Topic	Speaker
Jan 9th	AGM - Light up your garden with bulbs	Janet Bryant
Feb 6th	Japanese garden	Jean Cockett
March 6th	Organic Vegetable Gardening	Nick Robinson
April 3rd	Saxon shore way	Chris Wade
May 1st	Evening visit to Hole Park	
May 5th	Plant sale	
First weekend in June	Weekend trip to Worcestershire. Details to be finalised	
June 5th	Evening visit to Torry Hill	
July 3rd	Evening visit to Hall Place	
Aug 5th	Afternoon visit to Stoneacre	
Sept 4th	Autumn Show Talk on Chrysanthemums	John Lawrie
Oct 2nd	Mushrooms and Toadstools	Martin Newcombe
Nov 6th	History of Weather forecasting	Ian Currie
Dec 4th	Port & Stilton	David March

- ☀ New members are always welcome and membership is only £5.
- ☀ We meet in the village hall at 7.30 unless there is an outing.
- ☀ Contact Sue Burch on 850381 for more details.

Monday to Fridays

Service No.	School Days Only		Not School Days	
	59	59	59	59
Maidstone, Pudding Lane, Stop R2	1225	1400	1532	1612
Maidstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	1227	1402	1555	1615
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	1229	1404	1557	1617
Wheatshaf	1236	1411	1604	1624
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1240	1415	1608	1608
Linton Corner	1244	1419	1612	1612
New Line Learning - Cornwalls	1505			
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1249	1424	1617	1617
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1252	1427	1620	1620
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1255	1430	1623	1623
Warmslake Corner	1258	1433	1626	1626
Kingswood, Village Hall	1438			
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	1306	1523	1634	1646
Ucombe, Post Office	1313	1530	1641	1653
Grafty Green, King's Head	1320		1648	1700
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	1535			
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by	1544			

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Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	0745			
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Kingswood, Village Hall	0730	0750	0922	1332
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0735	0755	0927	1337
Warmslake Corner	0738	0757	0929	1339
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0746	0744	0908	1345
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0747	0809	0938	1348
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0742	0750	0811	1351
New Line Learning - Cornwalls	0745	0753	0944	1354
Linton Corner	0820			
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0750	0758	0949	1359
Wheatshaf	0756	0802	0953	1403
Maidstone, King Street	0758	0800	0957	1407
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0810	0814	1005	1415
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0808			
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0817			
	0826			

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Wheatshaf	0847	1250	1534	1804
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0847	1250	1534	1804
Linton Corner	0847	1254	1538	
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Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1306	1550	1820	
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1309	1553	1823	
Warmslake Corner	0859	1312	1556	1826
Kingswood, Village Hall	1804			
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0907	1320		1834
Ucombe, Post Office	0914	1327		1841
Grafty Green, King's Head	0921	1334		1848

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GRAFTY GREEN POST OFFICE AND STORES

You will probably be aware from the media of the discussion involving the Government about the future of the Post Office network and the closure of post offices. There has been talk of the value of a post office in the life of a community, a large part of which cannot be measured financially. As a postmaster I would agree with this! At the moment I have no idea how Grafty Green will be affected.

However I would like to make some points which although relevant to the present debate have been true for years. I think the local community should consider that it is not likely that any government would think every post office should be subsidised to remain open however little trade it does and whatever the cost to the taxpayer.

The shop and Post Office need to be seen as one. The 'wage' paid to a sub postmaster to run a post office depends on the amount of business it does. For an office doing the amount of trade that Grafty Green does it works out at well under the minimum wage. Therefore to make what would generally be regarded as a viable business a flourishing shop or something else needs to be run alongside.

Many of the processes and overheads involved in running a shop take as long and are as expensive in a small shop as a large. In fact some take longer. For example, a shop doing as little trade as we are cannot acquire many of the products we have by normal means i.e. delivered or 'cash and carry'. This is because an individual item is likely to come in a larger quantity than will sell before going 'out of date'. Even when we only get 1 or 2 they may go out of date.

One likes to be able to provide bread from a local bakery and fresh greengrocery in a village shop. However if there is very little sold there are difficulties.

At present this shop and Post Office together would not be seen as viable as a business proposition by most people, let alone either separately.

My attempt to explain the situation may sound rather impersonal so I must add that we enjoy serving the community and are always pleased to see you, however small or large your purchase.

Rob Eastwood

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

The following letter has been received by the Parish Clerk from Maidstone Borough Council concerning Refuse & Recycling Collections.

Important Changes to Refuse & Recycling Collections

We are working with our contractor, SITA UK, to improve our refuse and recycling services. As a result, collection days will be changing for some people from the week commencing Monday 29 January.

People will receive notification on Monday 15 January and an information pack on Monday 22 January.

The information pack will contain a sticker and a recycling calendar. The sticker will have details of peoples' collection day which needs to be put onto their wheeled bins or retained for future reference if on a sack collection. The recycling calendar will have details of the recycling services in the area.

We ask people to put their refuse and recycling at the boundary of their property by 7am, on collections days. There is no limit to the amount of recycling that we'll collect - additional boxes are free on request. Normally we only collect extra bags of rubbish, left beside wheeled bins at Christmas and New Year, but we will collect all extra rubbish for two weeks after the change in collection day.

The rubbish Maidstone Borough Council collect from wheeled bins and sacks is taken to the Energy from Waste facility at Allington to produce electricity, so we ask people **not** to put any of the following items in with their rubbish:

Building materials (e.g. rubble, bricks, concrete, plaster)
Garden waste (for details of the garden waste collection service see below)
Paint tins
Hypodermic needles
Bulky items (e.g. furniture, tyres, and carpets)
Car parts (including batteries)
Hazardous materials (e.g. asbestos)
Unwrapped animal waste

These and other items can be recycled or disposed of in a number of ways:

Bulky Waste Collection - Chargeable service for the collection of large household items such as furniture or bundled garden waste

Weekend Freighter Service — Free weekend ‘bring to’ service for bulky and general household waste, visiting most areas every six weeks

Clinical Waste Collection - Free collection of clinical waste following a medical referral

Garden Waste Collection - Service charged through hire of wheeled bin (£25 per year) or purchased green sacks (£1.95 for five)

Kerbside Recycling - Borough-wide paper collection and glass collection in some areas

Local Recycling Sites - 24 sites across the borough for recycling of different materials including paper, cardboard, cans, textiles, shoes and glass

Household Waste Recycling Centre, Burial Ground Lane, Tovil, Maidstone
Drop off household waste items for recycling. Open Monday to Saturday, 8am to

4.30pm, and Sunday and Bank Holidays, 9am to 4pm

Please could you help us to inform the people living in your area about the changes to this service?

If you would like more information about any of these services or if you have any questions about the change in collection day, please call the cleansing hotline on 01622 602162 and we'll be pleased to help you. Alternatively, you can visit www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Malcolm Wells
Environmental Services Manager

Speed Limit and Liverton Hill

Please find below an e-mail trail that details efforts the Parish Council have been making in getting the Speed Limit in Grafty Green reduced to 30mph and to get improved signage on Liverton Hill in an attempt to slow down traffic on what is a narrow and dangerous hill.

Sent: 17 January 2007 12:49

To: Rowlands, Louise - E&R KHS

Subject: Speed Limit Grafty Green & Liverton Hill

Dear Louise

Back in November when Peter Rosevear was on leave, I contacted you about the Speed Limit changes and additional signing along Liverton Hill. Peter is obviously dealing with the speed change, but at the time you said you would investigate the additional signing and I wondered whether you had done anything? As you can hopefully appreciate, it continues to be an absolute nightmare on the hill and around the bends, people travel far too fast and consequently when 2 vehicles need to pass each other, the drive up on the verges and are steadily eroding the verges away. I would be grateful if you could look into this.

Kind Regards

Pat Anderson

**Parish Clerk to
Boughton Malherbe PC**

Reply:

Dear Pat

A scheme has been drafted for improved signing and lining along Liverton Hill and this has been passed to the Project Delivery Team. The Project Delivery Team are undertaking some detailed design work and checking whether funding is available from the 2006/7 budget.

I am hoping that a response is received from them by the end of next week and I can assure you that I will keep you informed of all progress.

Kind Regards

Louise Rowlands

Transportation Engineer

Kent Highway Services

Mid Kent Division

Tel. 01622 798473

Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)

Maidstone Borough Council has now issued the timetable for this service up to 1st April 2007. Please find below the dates of when the weekend freighter service stops near your home during this period:

Grafty Green

Saturday 10th Mar: 13:30 – 15:15 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Ulcombe

Sunday 25th Feb: 11:15 – 12:15 -: Lodge Gardens

Platts Heath

Sunday 18th Feb: 14:15 – 15:30 -: Green Lane

Family History Group

There will not be our usual monthly meeting in February; this is due to many circumstances. Further info regarding the group may be obtained from Frank Long 01622 850863

Frank Long

A Date for your Diary

There will be a Flower Festival at St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th July 2007, from 10-00am to 5-00pm each day. Further details later, book the date now.

Rita Long

Grafty Garden Cuttings – February

Has anyone seen our birds? Most of them have left our garden, and my bird feeders remain almost untouched. Is it the weather, have they moved north, to where it is colder, or south to find the sun, or has the sparrow hawk eaten them all or frightened them away? We really do not know, but the garden is a sadder and quieter place.

The recent wild winds have been rocking some of my taller trees and shrubs, so I am checking stakes and ties and firming and topping up the soil round the base of their trunks to prevent the roots being water logged or cracked and damaged beyond recall. In worst case scenarios, the tops of plants such as standard roses can be broken off completely, but so far, I have only had to prune down my hardy Abutilon, which was blown on to its side.

I usually prune all my roses and buddleias during March, but with the warmer winters, February maybe a better time, unless it does turn very cold and frosty, when it will be better to wait. Hard frosts can penetrate fresh cuts, which can cause die-back, or even death.

Hellebores should be in bloom now and to appreciate their flowers more, old leaves, especially if brown or blotched, should be removed. I always feel that a few nice green ones, around the base of the clump set the flowers off well, but that is a matter of personal preference and some gardeners like to remove them all. Congested clumps of snowdrops and aconites should be dug now, split up and replanted to the same depth - in the green, as this is known because the bulbs/corms hate drying out are more easily found when in leaf (try finding aconites when not in growth) and can re-establish themselves before summer comes and the ground dries out.

Late flowering clematis, i.e. after June, like the viticella and texensis groups, should be pruned to a pair of green buds and if taken down to varying heights, the problem of bare stems at the base, can be overcome. Early flowering groups (montanas, armandii, macropetala etc) should not be pruned, just trimmed to tidy up straggling stems if necessary, and those that produce two flushes of flowers and all the double varieties, also need no major pruning, apart from the removal of dead or weak growths.

Lastly, I hear it is National Nest Box Week from 14 - 21 February, so if you are lucky enough to still have your birds, or want to attract more, putting up some nest boxes would help them enormously.

Rosemary Smith

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra. Conductor, Brian Wright, will perform on Saturday 24th March 2007 commencing at 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park Maidstone. The programme consists of three works:

- Prokofiev - Lieutenant Kije Suite
- Khachaturian - Violin Concerto, Soloist Barry Wilde Violin
- Tchaikovsky - Symphony No.2 'Little Russian'

Here Russian fireworks abound as MSO's Leader, Barry Wilde, takes an even more centre-stage position than usual to play Khachaturian's effervescent Violin Concerto. Surrounding him are Prokofiev's Lieutenant Kije Suite, a colourfully quirky miscellany, and Tchaikovsky's wonderful evocative "Little Russian" Symphony.

Concert tickets £10, £15 and £20, seats for Children and students with a student card £5, available from Membership Secretaries on 01622 736392, paid for and collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall, or from Mote Hall Box Office 01622 761111 when payment can be made by credit card. This is a Muriel Tassell Memorial Concert.

David Bramley - Maidstone Orchestral Society

Short Monthly Quiz – Answers at the back (don't look first!)

Question 1

The following artists have the best selling UK albums of all time. Can you put the names to the albums: Michael Jackson, Dire Straits, Oasis, Madonna, The Beatles.

1. Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band. (4.5m)
2. (Whats the Story) Morning Glory. (4.2m)
3. Brothers in Arms (3.9m)
4. Bad. (3.9m)
5. The Immaculate Collection. (3.6m)

Question 2

Can you match the following Tea Drinking Nations to the Kilograms of tea drunk per capita per year: U.K Libya, Iraq, Ireland, Qatar.

1. (2.77kg)
- 2.(2.76kg)
- 3.(2.61kg)
4. (2.29kg)
- 5.(2.26kg)

Question 3

Can you match the five largest countries in the world to the areas below: USA, China, Brazil, Russia, Canada.

- 1 (6,592,850 sq miles)
- 2 (3,855,103 sq miles)
- 3 (3,600,948 sq miles)
- 4 (3,539,245 sq miles)
- 5 (3,265,077 sq miles)

Grafty Green Heating Oil Club

Grafty Green has a successful Heating Oil Club. We have to date nearly 100 members all taking advantage of cheaper heating oil when ordered in bulk. To make this club work all members have to have at least the minimum 500 Litres every time we order, that is about 3 to 4 times a year. It makes sense to have a bulk order delivered over 2 to 3 days every 4 months, rather than have tankers clogging up our village every week.

We now cover Harrietsham, Headcorn, Lenham, Liverton Hill, Platts Heath, Sandway Ulcombe and Biddenden. If you would like to join or need some information about the club, email me on europa.13@btinternet.com or 01622 858350. The Oil Club is non-profit making.

Malherbe Monthly Magazine

This magazine can now additionally be viewed on the Internet via the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Web Site. As well as the current edition all back issues for 2006 can be viewed. You even get the front cover in colour!!!

This web site also hosts all the minutes of Parish Council Meetings and give details of up-coming events in the Village Hall. The below link will get you there:

www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Parochial Church Council of Ulcombe Church

Ulcombe Church will be hosting a concert in memory of Jenny Balston on Saturday the 21st of April at 7. 30 pm. We are privileged to have the renowned **Barbican Piano Trio** who will be performing music by Schubert and Beethoven – the Archduke Trio being the main work in the programme.

Tickets will be £10 and available from Sue Balston on 01580 765161 or Molly Poulter on 01622 842988. All profits will be going to the Ulcombe Church Restoration Fund.

Neighbourhood Watch

Police in Mid Kent are asking people to be vigilant after a number of thefts of Kent Peg tiles from church roofs.

The warning comes after three incidents in the Mid Kent area where thieves have climbed up on the roofs of churches in East Sutton, Sutton Valence and Harrietsham, and stolen some of the Kent Peg tiles.

Officers believe the thieves may be getting away with it because people in the area assume they are legitimately working on the church roof. If you are at all suspicious that someone maybe taking tiles, please check with the owner of the building or if this is not possible call the police.

Also, there have been a number of incidences of property taken from sheds and outbuildings. Can I ask that you alert your Neighbours to take a close look at the security of their outbuilding and to mark items with their postcodes. If you do wish any further advice, please contact your Neighbourhood Watch office who can provide marker pens and alarms at a small cost.

Keith Anderson

The Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer is being held at All Saints Church, Ulcombe, on Friday the 2nd of March at 7. 30 pm.

The theme this year is 'United under God's tent', and the Speaker will be Mrs Sally Collins, Authorised Lay Minister in the Len Valley Benefice. The service has been produced by the women of Paraguay.

This service is always very special as we have visitors from the other three churches of the Len Valley Benefice (Harrietsham, Boughton Malherbe and Lenham) as well as from many churches around – Leeds, Hollingbourne and Kingswood. After the service we enjoy fellowship and refreshments.

YOGA

Grafty Green Village Hall

Thursday mornings

9.30 - 11.00

£5 a session

Yoga for stamina, suppleness,
strength and stress relief

Mixed Ability Class

Try a 'taster session' if you're not sure

For further details contact Liz Watts on

01622 737321

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- BALANCING * ENERGISING * DE-STRESSING *
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JULIAN SMITH**

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SPECIAL EXHIBITION PREVIEW**

**on
SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2007
12.00 - 2.00pm**

**at
GOLDSMITHS FINE ART
9 High Street, Lenham, Kent**

**The EXHIBITION will run until
10th March 2007**

Enquiries 01622 850011

Maidstone Borough Council – News **Release**

Release Date: 5th January 2007

Ref No: RJA/070102

Conservation works at Mallards Lake, Downswood

Major conservation works will start in February on the large island at Mallards Lake, Downswood. It won't look like it at first, to the untrained eye, but coppicing of the willow and dogwood trees, which will be cut to knee high, will encourage rapid new growth and provide a haven for nesting birds and other wildlife.

The coppicing is part of a conservation plan recommended by the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership and Kent Wildlife Trust. The cut material from the island trees will be put to good use as backfilling behind a ring of posts surrounding the island. This will be designed to prevent further bank erosion, encourage vegetation and new species of wildlife, and create a larger area for the water birds to use.

The large weeping willow on the island will remain as a decorative standard tree.

Medway Valley Countryside Partnership has appointed a contractor who has many years experience in aquatic engineering solutions to carry out the work at minimal disturbance to visitors and wildlife on the lake. For more information call Debra Collick at Maidstone Borough Council on 01622 602191.

Last year similar works to the smaller island at the western end of the lake caused some concern until the coppiced trees sprang back to life to create an even better show.

ENDS

Maidstone Borough Council – News **Release**

Release Date: 5th January 2007

Ref No: ARL/070111

A place to call home

Helen Eberlain from Maidstone has become the first to benefit from a Maidstone Borough Council grant to help new homeowners onto the property ladder.

Cash grants of up to £10,000 are available to first time buyers looking to purchase a property in the Maidstone borough in council tax bands A or B. The money must be spent on essential repairs such as rewiring, roofing work and damp proofing or installing basic amenities.

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Cllr Chris Garland, said: “This is great for young people looking for their first home as well as ensuring the housing stock in our borough remains desirable and is kept in a good condition. It will mean that people will be able to purchase homes they can afford, even if they require extensive repairs.”

Helen said she would have struggled without the grant: “It would have been very difficult financially to complete the works that needed doing, but thanks to this initiative I now have a home of my own.”

The grant is not means tested; applicants just have to be a first time buyer and prepared to live in the property for three years after receipt of the grant.

For more information about applying for a grant contact Stuart White at Maidstone Borough Council on 01622 602103.

ENDS

Maidstone Borough Council – News **Release**

Release Date: 9th January 2007

Ref No: ARL/070111

Maidstone's gambling policy

Following consultation, Maidstone council has published its gambling policy as required by the Gambling Act 2005, which created a new system of licensing and regulation for commercial gambling in the UK.

The policy, which will be effective from 31st January 2007, aims to:

- prevent gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime;
- ensure that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way; and
- protect children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Licensing Committee Chairman, Cllr Peter Parvin, said: “This document sets out what the Licensing Committee expects from people who offer gambling and we are committed to trying to ensure that gambling only takes place in premises which prevent crime and disorder and in circumstances which protects children and other vulnerable persons. The challenge ahead will be made easier by working with our partner organisations and very importantly with residents to ensure our ambitions for responsible gambling are met.

Among other changes, the Gambling Act gives the council new and extended responsibilities for licensing premises for gambling. In some cases, such as gaming machine arcades, these build on existing responsibilities.

In other major areas, including betting, casino gaming and bingo, they transfer responsibilities to the council from local magistrates.

The Statement of Licensing Principles may be viewed on the council's website — www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk. It may also be inspected at the County Library, Earl Street, Maidstone and at the council's receptions at - London House, 5/11 London Road, 13 Tonbridge Road or Town Hall, High Street, Maidstone, Kent ME16.

Missing Link Word Puzzle

Answers at the back (don't look first!)

I hope you enjoyed last months link word here is another to rack your brains – Paul Neaves

The answer to number 1 has been filled in – can you solve the rest?

	Word 1	Missing Link	Word 3
1	Paper	Round	Robin
2	Bowling		Cat
3	Safety		Phrase
4	Tennis		Grease
5	Bed		Maid
6	Electric		Ready
7	Kitchen		Trust
8	Steam		Coast
9	Soft		Check
10	Easter		Timer

Many thanks to **Paul Neaves** who set both the Quiz and the Missing Link Word Puzzle.

Maidstone Borough Council – News **Release**

Release Date: 5th January 2007

Ref No: ARL/070107

Freefall into the New Year

Young people will be in sporting heaven in 2007!

The annual Freefall program has been revealed for the New Year, and is bursting with sports activities, outings and events for under 20s. Bookings are being taken now, so don't delay!

The ever popular basketball tournament, Night Hoops, held at Maidstone Leisure Centre, is back for another year with a grand final on 14 January, with special guests the Mayor of Maidstone, Cllr Mike FitzGerald and Tom Conners, a World Champion Basketball Freestyler. A new tournament will begin on 18 February. Squads can have up to nine players, cost £2 per person. Spectators can watch for free.

Young people will be able to dance the night away at SNAP dance nights, held throughout the year at Maidstone Leisure Centre, starting on 9 February.

Brand new to 2007, Maidstone Borough Council has organised a trip to the Gillingham Ice Bowl, with return travel from Maidstone Leisure Centre. The coach will leave at 11am on Friday 16 February, returning at 4pm.

There will be the chance to learn basketball skills at the Mote Park Sharks Camp on Wednesday 14 February, open to beginners and those who want to develop their talent.

With dance, drama, athletics, cricket, skateboarding, Chariton Athletic football schemes and much more throughout the year young people will be spoilt for choice.

For more information about any of the above activities, or to request a brochure, contact Maidstone Borough Council's sports and play team on 01622 602222, or email sportsandplay@maidstone.gov.uk.

Anyone interested in joining the Maidstone Youth Forum, where young people can have a say in issues that affect them, should contact Julia Harrison on 01622 602795 or email juliaharrison@maidstone.gov.uk.

ENDS

Family Tree help required

I am currently researching my family tree and was wondering if I could ask your readers if they have any information that may help me.

Although I live in Tonbridge my mother's family comes from Leicestershire. During my research I have found that Henry Jesson Simkins (b 1865) and listed as an agricultural labourer in Hallaton Leics in 1891 had become a Butler for the Ackers Douglas family in Boughton Malherbe by 1901.

I can find no more information on Henry Simkin after this date and wondered if any local historians in the village could throw any light on either himself or the Ackers Douglas household.

Yours
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Most of the courses are run in the evening with one or two daytime subjects. Our rates are extremely reasonable and our facilities are excellent.

Please ring Alison, our Booking Clerk, on 01233 756366—she will be happy to give you full details.

Or call in to our drop-in centre on Saturday mornings between 10am and 12 noon and have a chat with one of our tutors. We are situated in the new Millennium Hall in Egerton in the centre of the village.

****Problem arisen between keyboard and chair***

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Link Word Puzzle

Word 1	Missing Link	Word 3
1	Round	Robin
2	Alley	Cat
3	Catch	Phrase
4	Elbow	Grease
5	Chamber	Maid
6	Oven	Ready
7	Unit	Trust
8	Roller	Coast
9	Spot	Check
10	Egg	Timer

1. Russia. 2. Canada. 3. China. 4. USA. 5. Brazil.

1 (6,592,850 sq miles) 2 (3,855,103 sq miles) 3 (3,600,948 sq miles) 4 (3,539,245 sq miles) 5 (3,265,077 sq miles)

Can you match the five largest countries in the world to the areas below: USA, China, Brazil, Russia, Canada.

1. Iraq. 2. Ireland. 3. Libya. 4. Qatar. 5. UK.

1. (2.77kg) 2.(2.76kg) 3.(2.61kg) 4. (2.29kg) 5.(2.26kg)

Can you match the following Tea Drinking Nations to the Kilograms of tea drunk per capita per year: UK Libya, Iraq, Ireland, Qatar.

1. Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band. (4.5m)
 2. (Whats the Story) Morning Glory. (4.2m)
 3. Brothers in Arms (3.9m)
 4. Bad. (3.9m)
 5. The Immaculate Collection. (3.6m)
The Beatles
Oasis
Dire Straits
Michael Jackson
Madonna.

The following artists have the best selling UK albums of all time. Can you put the names to the albums: Michael Jackson, Dire Straits, Oasis, Madonna, The Beatles.

From the Registers

Wednesday 13th December, at Boughton Malherbe, St Nicholas, funeral of the late Violet Bristow.

Thursday 21st December, at Charing Crematorium, funeral of the late Evelyn Allchin of Ulcombe.

Friday 29th December, at Medway Crematorium, funeral of the late Valerie Longstaffe of Chatham.

Sunday 31st December, at Lenham, St Mary, marriage blessing of Nicholas & Laura Tuffney.

Tailpiece - The Church

A church decided to have four different services every Sunday: one for people new to the faith; one for regular members who like traditional services; one for those who had lost their faith and one for those who had bad experiences of other churches. The four services were called: Finders, Keepers, Losers & Weepers! Anon.

“The Church is the only co-operative society in the world that exists for the benefit of its non-members”! Archbishop William Temple

**Revd Don Irvine
Incumbent**

Harrietsham Bible Study Group

The Harrietsham Bible Study Group is meeting in February on 13th and 27th, February 8pm, at Deans Hill Lodge. We are currently studying The Holy Spirit. Help with transport can be arranged, everyone welcome. For more information, please phone Pamela Cuerden on 01622 859442.

Pamela Cuerden

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services - February 2007

PLEASE NOTE:
*New start time of 11.00 am for Sunday Services in Lenham
and 9.30 am in Boughton Malherbe*

Date	Time/Location	Service
Sun 04 Feb 07 3 rd before Lent	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U 19.00 B'std	BCP HC CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc Taize at Bearsted
Sun 11 Feb 07 2 nd before Lent	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U	BCP HC Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1
Sun 18 Feb 07 Next before Lent	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U 18.30 BM	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 BCP EP
Wed 21 Feb 07 Ash Wednesday	18.30 H	BCP HC (with Imposition of Ash)
Sun 25 Feb 07 1 st of Lent	08.00 L 10.30 U 18.30 H	BCP HC CW 1 (benefice service in Ulcombe; no services in other three churches) Informal

Key

Parishes / Churches

L: Lenham
BM: Boughton Malherbe
H: Harrietsham
U: Ulcombe

Services

BCP HC = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Holy Communion
BCP EP = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Evening Prayer
Fam Svc = Family Service (not Communion)
MS = Morning Service (not Communion)
CW 1 = Common Worship (Order One)
H = Holy Communion
Informal = Informal! (not communion)

Many thanks to Eddie Brooke for printing this magazine - It is very much appreciated

If you would like to advertise in Malherbe Monthly and reach the whole of Boughton Malherbe, Grafty Green, Liverton Street, Platts Heath.

The monthly costs are:

1/8 page	£3.00
1/4	£5.00
1/2	£10.00
Complete page	£20.00

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