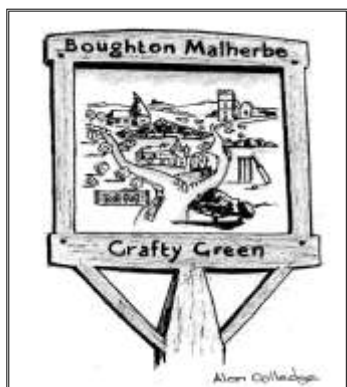


Malherbe Monthly

Number 84
July 2011



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Jenny Whittle	734897
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	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
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Incumbent	Rev: Dick Venn email: dickvenn@gmail.com	858195
Associate Priest	Marian Bond, available Wednesday-Sunday	07966 442181
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Karen Yardley	858208
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20 by Post Office	01580 754300
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
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 **August** edition should be left in
Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on
01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th July**

Front cover: A hungry chick being fed by its parent. Picture courtesy of Jos Wickens

News from St. Nicholas Church

Cream Teas: We will be serving Cream Teas again this summer. They begin on the 3rd July until mid September. We look forward to welcoming old friends and new to enjoy the views of the Weald of Kent whilst eating our delicious cream teas. We begin at 2.00pm and serve until 5.00pm. The price of a tea remains the same at £2.50 per head, but if you feel they are worth more please feel free to give a donation. The money raised will go towards the water, toilet and kitchen projects which are planned as well as general maintenance on the Church building, an ever present need. We are hoping to have second-hand books for sale and would be glad to receive any books that you no longer want, preferably light reading.

Coffee Morning: Our Village Coffee Morning will resume this month on Wednesday 13th July 10.30am-12.00 noon in Grafty Green Village Hall. Coffee or tea will be served with homemade cake and biscuits. Come along and enjoy a chat. we look forward to seeing you.

Gentleman's Breakfast: There is no Gentleman's Breakfast this month, they will resume in September. The Breakfasts have been very much enjoyed by those people who have attended them - please make a note in your diary for the last Saturday in September for the next one.

Ordination of Millie Hart: Millie's Ordination will take place in Canterbury Cathedral on 3rd July at 3.00pm. If you would like to go, ask Michelle at the Church office on 01622 850604 Monday to Thursday 9.00am-12.00pm or Millie herself on 01622 859753.

Marian Bond: Sadly we must say good-bye to Rev: Marian Bond on Sunday 10th July at a Benefice Service to be held 10.00am in St. John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham. Marian, we wish you well and we pray for you as you start your new Ministry in Bredgar and we thank you for all that you have done for us at St. Nicholas. Marian will be licensed at St. John the Baptist, Bredgar on Wednesday 20th July at 7.30pm.

Hog Roast: Harrietsham, St. John the Baptist are holding their Hog Roast on Sunday 10th July partly to celebrate Millie's Ordination and to say good-bye to Marian Bond who is moving on to Bredgar and Tunstall to a House for Duty in that Benefice. As we say good-bye to Marian, we welcome Millie Hart as a fully ordained Priest to work among us in this Benefice. Millie will still be in training, as this goes on for another three years or so, under Dick Venn's guidance. The preacher at this Service will be Caroline Pinchback who is Rural Adviser for the Diocese.

Benefice Service: At the end of July it is our turn to host the Benefice Service on Sunday 31st July at 10.00am. We have a joint service in the Benefice whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month with each Church taking its turn.

Joan Davidson

Notice of Almshouse Vacancy at Douglas Court, Lenham

The Trustees hereby give notice that the following accommodation is available at the almshouses at Douglas Court:-

A one bedroom ground floor flat with sitting room, kitchen and bathroom.

Applicants must be 60 years of age or more, able to look after themselves and have lived in the Parishes of Lenham or Boughton Malherbe for at least two years.

Applications should be made in writing to the Secretary, as below, to reach her no later than 25th July, 2011:-

Mrs. Pat Sutton
18 Headcorn Road,
Platts Heath,
Lenham,
Kent
ME17 2NH

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

	Find the missing word?
1	The London ____, A tourist attraction on the South Bank
2	____ Van Outen, Former host of The Big Brother
3	George ____, Author of Animal Farm
4	____ Lewis, Winner of The X Factor in 2006
5	Born in the ____, A Bruce Springsteen hit
6	____ Warhol, Famous for his paintings of Campbell's Soup Cans
7	Tom ____, Adventuring Mark Twain character
8	____ Palace, London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury
9	Frankie ____, A star of Carry on films & Up Pompeii
10	_ ____ Day's Night, A 60's song by The Beatles

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the Highwayman!



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Children's Room

Beer Garden



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Pet's Corner!

Keeping Tortoises - Part Two Keeping Tortoises

Tortoises are from the family *chelonina*, of which there are over 250 species. The following article will discuss briefly how to keep tortoises which hibernate, i.e. the Horsfield's, Mediterranean Spur-Thighed and Hermann's tortoises.

Housing - The Vivarium

The tortoise owner must create an environment as near to the tortoise's natural one as possible, and this can be done using a vivarium - a wooden, ventilated 'box' with glass sliding front doors. Without the correct temperature they will not eat sufficiently nor digest the food that they do eat, leading to poor growth, ill health and eventually an early death.

A **basking bulb** at one end of the vivarium will provide light and heat (80-85 degrees F under the bulb). A **heat mat** secured to the back of the vivarium will supplement this.

A UVB tube provides the essential 'sunlight' which enables your tortoise to produce vitamin D, and therefore absorb the necessary calcium in its food. The tube should be no higher than 15 inches from your tortoise. All lights should be on for 8-12 hours every day, and switched off at night time. Your tortoise should have somewhere to hide both at the warmer and cooler end of the vivarium. A thermometer at both ends is essential.



On very warm, summer days, your tortoise will greatly enjoy roaming around your garden. However, your garden must be secure! Tortoises can climb and dig, and remember that dogs may attack your tortoise.

Feeding Your Tortoise

Tortoises require a low fat, high fibre, low protein diet. They thrive on dandelions, chickweed, groundsel, plaintain, sow thistle, bindweed and clover. Fed along with spring greens, cabbage, grated carrots and watercress, these foodstuffs should make up 90% of their diet. The remaining 10% can be apples, pears, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, melon, mango, red and green peppers and courgettes. Too much fruit can lead to serious digestive upsets. A vitamin and mineral supplement should be added to the food 2-3 times a week, e.g. *Nutrabal*, and a cuttle fish bone is also appreciated.

Tortoises also need bathing in warm water 3-4 times a week, and will often drink before toileting in the water. This should be done more frequently if unwell, after hibernation or in very hot weather.

Article written by Lesley Still VN, of Petaholics Ltd / www.petaholicsltd.co.uk

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PCSO Report for Headcorn Ward

by Police Community Support Officer Siobhán de Búrca

I have written this report to give you a brief outline about my work during my second year as PCSO for the Headcorn Ward. I have tried to work more closely with the communities that make up the area. As your local PCSO representing Kent Police my goal is to be a familiar, friendly and professional officer.

I have increased my visibility and police presence by supporting Headcorn Primary School giving inputs to the students, attending the school gates and meeting with the headmistress. Visiting local organisations and giving speeches to various clubs is a great way for local people to ask questions and speak to me about issues that concern them. So if you would like me to visit your club don't hesitate to contact me. I have given a speech to Eldercare, met with the members of the Scouts, and discussed local issues with Headcorn Book Club. I gave the local Girl Guides bright pink personal attack alarms and had a chat with them about being safe and smart.

When young people in Headcorn village set up their Youth Forum, they mentioned that they were bored in the evenings so I helped to arrange for a bus to take local Headcorn youths up to Lenham Youth Centre, and escorted them to and from the club.

Headcorn Day was held in August 2010, for this I arranged for a Police Corner where locals could meet the local PC, Firearms officers and the dog handlers gave a demonstration. I took part Summer Fayre in Ulcombe Primary School, which was a great opportunity to engage with locals. I will be attending both events this year so feel free to stop and chat.

As part of my job I offer support and reassurance to victims of crime & Anti Social Behaviour, this involves carrying out numerous home visits to ensure that victims are happy with all police action, answer their questions and when appropriate give them updates & feedback on local NPU action taken to improve their situations. If you ever have any issue that you would like my advise on please contact me on 01622 604390.

Throughout the year, farmers have told me they are worried about poachers and tractor thefts. In order to help tackle the issue of rural crime and to support the farmers I arranged for a meeting of 30+ farmers from all over my ward to have the opportunity to meet a variety of police officers, Smartwater, Mech lock, FarmWatch and the members of the Maidstone Community Safety Unit.

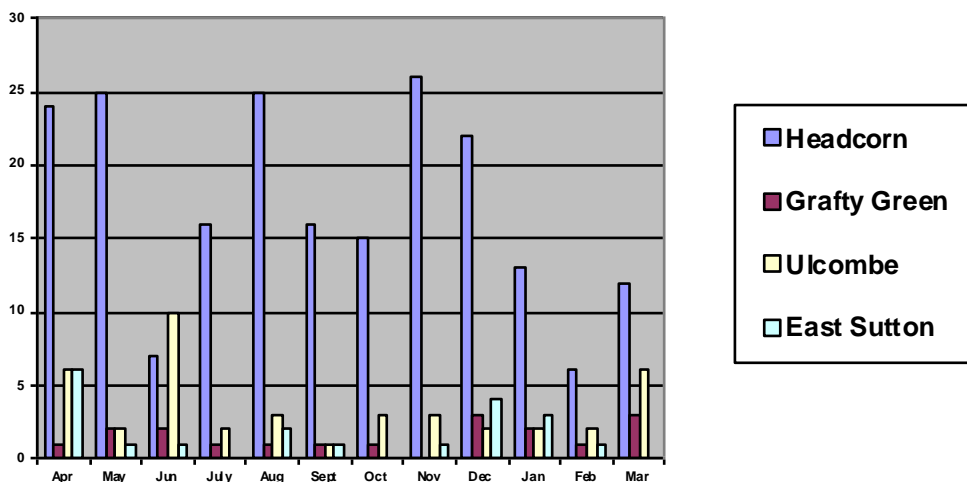
One of the main purposes of the meeting was to establish a solid network of farmers who could assist Kent Police with local intelligence and for us in turn to keep them informed of what the police are up to in our daily business.

Since this meeting there has been a significant increase in Intel from the farmers and during my daily high visibility patrols to the farming community, feedback from them has been very positive. I will continue to expand on this and hope to hold a similar meeting for homeowners. If you would like to get involved contact me on 01622 604390.

I am a strong believer that prevention is better than cure and hope to work with local newsletters editors to start publishing security hints and tips. Keeping the community aware of crime in their area is important and I will work to ensure this information is available.

Finally please come and visit me in Headcorn Library on Tuesday 12th July at 2.00pm to 3.00 pm or alternatively on Tuesday 16th August 2.30pm to 3.30pm in Ulcombe – I will be at the school. I will be there if you want to speak to me about any concerns you have about local policing and to find out what is happening in your village.

Table 1. Parish Council areas crimes figures - April 2010 to March 2011.



Contact Details for Local Police Officers

Your Local Police Officers can be contacted at Maidstone Police Station on 01622 604392, or stop us when you see us patrolling the village !!

PC Paul Kemslet and PCSO Siobhan de Burca

E-Mail: maidstonerural.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk

Roads Around Grafty Green

As you will have read in last month's magazine on 27th May I met with Director of Kent Highways, John Burr, and County Councillor Jenny Whittle to tour some of our local 'hot spots'. I have an interest in highways and transport which has included several years as vice chairman of Ashford Borough Highways Committee. Consequently when dog walking and driving our area daily I observe many anomalies. The KM has reported on 'roads and pot holes' extensively in recent months plus press statements (many defensive) from KCC and the Leader Paul Carter.

To give you the background to the meeting, I have from time to time reported 'pot holes' or problems to Kent Highways and if necessary (i.e. slow, no or poor action) further actioned whatever with Jenny Whittle. I was of the opinion many 'pot hole' repairs were of poor standard and in the case of Lenham Road by Woodsden Hall unrepaired for months, then done so poorly as it remains writing this on 18th June. We have to appreciate money for roads spending is dire and we have to accept standards will probably never again be as good as we would like, consequently this sets a precedent that what money is spent needs to be well spent, this being questionable.

I prepared a detailed report including photographs for the meeting and can give you a small snapshot of the meeting which I believe proved to be invaluable and informative and hopefully will lead to some improvements. If anybody has any queries I would be happy to try and provide an answer.

Our tour focused on two main topics 'pot holes' and Lenham Road. In John Burr's words 'pot holes' should be cut and cleaned out before being filled to a good standard. Occasionally emergency repairs would be done crudely, known as 'splat and pat', but such repairs would be temporary and need proper repair within a few days. We visited several 'splat and pat' repairs of long standing (those near the bottom of Liverton Hill for example). We then visited Eastwood Road between Pye Corner and Ulcombe Hill where there are more filled pot holes than original road where two gangs recently spent ten days filling even more pot holes ~ surely a section of road way beyond any economic repair and a section which was mysteriously omitted from the major re-surfacing of the rest, and seemingly much better condition of Eastwood Road about two years ago.

Lenham Road, most I am sure will recall, was resurfaced between Crumps Lane (Garden Centre) and Headcorn, a three mile stretch, at a cost approaching £500,000 last September. Within weeks the patch opposite Woodsden Hall broke up - a state it remained in for many more weeks before having some very crude patching 'big splats and even bigger pats!' which has remained for months since. Many other defects became evident ranging from varying size cracks, crazing and a host of cracks ~ walking the road you get a true perspective of the extent of problems, there are many. There can be no doubt the 'life expectancy' of the resurfacing is much diminished and who foots the bill? Other issues of a safety nature are prevalent

whereby the bad deep cambers have been eliminated but in places caused the surface to be many inches higher than the verges, very narrow verges in places edging deep ditches and with the road being narrow a big risk if you get forced to the carriageway edge by an on-coming vehicle. Then there is the question why about a third of the road has a centre white line and the remainder does not. Then there are the dilapidated edge marker post and bend arrows, and places with nothing where surely there should be.

John Burr will be looking into a number of issues whilst on others he was sympathetic to our viewpoints, 'official' stance or statistics proved otherwise or practical resolution was not economically viable i.e. eliminating the edge dangers with the surface being higher than the verge. On Lenham Road the surface laid was SMA (stone mastic asphalt), a very cost effective 'thin coat' surfacing which is very hard and durable (lot of information on the web) but one which is not 'flexible' like previous methods thus has to be laid on a very solid and stable foundation (narrow verges, ditches, clay, narrow lanes subject to HGV's necessarily travelling on the carriageway edge) does this provides a layman's answer?

We can do no more now than monitor our roads and hopefully witness some improvements. In this connection I am intending to keep a 'map' covering the Lenham, Headcorn, Chegworth (A20) triangle, noting road defects, safety issues, accidents etc irrespective of it covering three Parishes and would appreciate any information as a 'duplicate' of what you may do elsewhere, e.g. notifying Kent Highways, a Parish Clerk etc. I have been appalled at the hitherto complacency regarding Lenham Road and believe an independent form of scrutiny such as proposed is necessary. I finish with some questions posed in my report and thank John Burr and Jenny Whittle sincerely for their time and commitment and usefulness of our meeting.

Are highways inspectors doing a meticulous job in recognising necessary work?

Are works properly scrutinised and checked on completion?

Are inspector's reports given due consideration and action by management?

Are managers active in the field or computer and desk bound?

Is there careful consideration of short term / longer term cost implications?

Is there proper evaluation of technical criteria and subjective usage?

Is there evaluation of safety criteria?

Please let me have any information regarding our roads whenever it occurs be it in the next few days or in the months ahead.

***Chris Wheal 01622 858100 e-mail cwcancare@aol.com
Wren's Nest Headcorn Road***

BUS SERVICE 59

Grafty Green – Maidstone via Ulcombe and Kingswood

Shown below is the revised Monday to Friday timetable which Arriva which is introducing from 11th April 2011. The only change from the outline times shown in March's magazine is that the proposed 1550 departure from Maidstone will now leave at 1600.

A new timetable leaflet is awaited

Please note that there are no changes being made to the Service 59 Saturday timetable operated by NuVenture, nor to the Schooldays only Service 66 timetable, also operated by NuVenture.

Service 59 Timetable - Mondays to Fridays from 11th April 2011

	Sch	NSch		NSch	Sch
Grafty Green, Kings Head	0710	0721	0930	-	-
Ulcombe Post Office	0717	0729	0937	-	-
Kingswood Village Hall	0722	0733	0942	1430	1430
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0725	0736	0944	1432	1432
Warmlake Corner	0731	0742	0950	1438	1438
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0735	0745	0953	1441	1441
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0738	0749	0956	1444	1444
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0741	0751	0958	1446	1447
Linton Corner	0746	0756	1003	1451	1506
Loose Road / Old Loose Hill	0750	0800	1006	1454	1509
Wheatshaf	0756	0806	1012	1500	1515
Maidstone, King Street, Stop L2	-	0814	1020	1508	1523
Maidstone Chequers	0808				
Somerfield Hospital	0817				
Tonbridge Road, Oakwood Park	0826				

Sch - Schooldays

NSch - Not Schooldays

On Schooldays the 1430 from Kingswood runs via Cornwallis Academy (arr 1457/dep 1506)

Maidstone, King Street, Stop L2	1220	1350	1600	1715
Maidstone Chequers, Stop J4	1222	1352	1602	1717
Wheatshaf	1229	1359	1609	1724
Loose Road / Old Loose Hill	1233	1403	1613	1728
Linton Corner	1237	1407	1617	1732
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1242	1412	1622	1737
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1245	1415	1625	1740
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1248	1418	1628	1743
Warmlake Corner	1251	1421	1631	1746
Kingswood Village Hall	-	1426	-	-
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	1259	-	1639	1754
Ulcombe Post Office	1306	-	1646	1801
Grafty Green, Kings Head	1313	-	1653	1808

The Grafty Gourmet

I love eating alfresco, with a good bottle of wine. It makes you feel like you are on holiday. So for a taste of summer I thought I would do a tasty salad this month. You do not have to be a salad lover to enjoy this. The flavours are delicious and it is great served with most things, including jacket potatoes, chips or just on its own with some fresh bread. All you chicken lovers should try it.

Chicken Salad with Walnuts & Pecans - Serves 2

2 chicken breasts. with skin on
1 ½ Tablespoons of Olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1/2 cup pecan halves
1/2 cup walnuts halves
1/2 cup good mayonnaise
1/2 cup sour cream

1 tablespoon chopped fresh tarragon
leaves. divided into 2 portions
1 cup green grapes, cut in halves
Lettuce leaves, for serving

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees C.
2. Place the chicken breasts, skin side up, on a baking sheet and rub them with olive oil. Sprinkle with salt and black pepper. Roast for 30 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through. Set aside until cool.
3. When the chicken is cool, remove the skin. Cut the chicken into a 3/4-inch pieces. Place the pecans and walnuts on a separate sheet or tray and toast in the oven for 7 to 8 minutes until golden. Set aside to cool.
4. For the dressing, mix together the mayonnaise, sour cream, add salt and black pepper to taste. Fold in half of the chopped tarragon leaves.
5. Place the diced chicken in a bowl, add the pecans, walnuts and grapes. Pour the dressing over the chicken and mix well. Serve on a bed of lettuce leaves and sprinkle the remaining chopped tarragon on top.

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in Grafty Green Village Hall on 16th August at 7.30pm. The meeting is open to the public and there will be time set aside for public representations to be made.

News from Ulcombe's Village School

Sports Day and Summer Fayre

The summer is well and truly upon us now, even if the weather is trying to persuade us otherwise. The Sports Day and the Summer Fayre took place in amongst the showers on Saturday 18th June. Huge congratulations go to Sapphire House who won the Sports Day Cup with an amazing 106 points!

Even more congratulations must go to the Friends of Ulcombe School, who worked tirelessly throughout the morning and afternoon to ensure that we were all fed and watered as well as having some great games and activities to take part in. Thanks go to all of the volunteers and staff who did such a great job in making sure this event went as well as it could, with the rain rolling through.

Thank you to everyone who came along on the day. We hope you enjoyed it as much as us. Thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard to make our Sports Day such an enjoyable event for participants and spectators! Also many thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help make the Summer Fayre such a great success again this year, with special thanks to all those who have helped with preparations or running stalls today.

Congratulations to everyone who won a prize. Our grateful thanks also go to Leeds Castle (tickets), Wents garage (MOT), Lisa Arundel (Phoenix voucher), 'Supercamp' for a day voucher and Harrington Foods along with Biddenden Vineyard for their contributions towards the hamper, all of whom have donated raffle prizes. Thank you also to the Roe family for their fantastic cakes and the Weeks family who grew and picked all the lovely strawberries.

Final Friends' Dinner of the Year

Before that, on Wednesday 15th June, we had our last Ulcombe School Friends' Dinner of this school year and our Fathers' Day Celebration. This was very much enjoyed, as ever, by those who came, with our School Cook serving up a roast dinner, with children from our oldest class working as waiters and waitresses. After dinner the children entertained us by showing off some of their recent work, as well as celebrating everything that fathers, Grandfathers, uncles, brothers and more do for us. It was amazing to see what superheroes some of the children thought their dad's could be! Look out for the next Friends' Dinner in the autumn.

And Still to come

During July we have a trip to see The Jungle Book at the assembly Halls in Tunbridge Wells, Parent-Teacher Consultations and end of year celebrations. Our end of year production promises to be another fantastic show, full of funny moments and super singing. If you would like to come along to the Dress Rehearsal (Friday 15th July) or

either of the performances (Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th July), you will need to contact the School Office.

Thursday 21st July will be the day of our end of year disco and Leavers' barbecue. Our Leavers' Service, when Year 6 share their many memories of their time here at Ulcombe CE Primary School, and others reflect on the year that has passed, will be on Friday 22nd July at 9.15am. This will take place at All Saints Church. It would be wonderful to see some of you, our friends, sharing this special time with us.

Cars (and not the film!)

We would be very grateful if all drivers could remember not to park blocking the entrance to the school AT ANY TIME. Staff often need to come into school at weekends and in the holidays. It would be very helpful if drivers could avoid parking in the lay-by and opposite the zigzag lines. This will help our RCPO's have a clear line of sight, as well as those of us trying to pull out of the car park. Your co-operation is very much appreciated.

Adventures!

Many of our Tawny Owls had a wonderful time in Dorset over the Bank Holiday weekend. They went to PGL Osmington Bay on a Joint Schools' Residential Adventure. The children took part in a variety of activities including archery, climbing, problem solving and a disco! All of the children had a great time.

Our thanks go to all of the adults who helped make this trip such a success, including those who worked 'behind the scenes' back at school. We are already discussing next year's trip, which we are very much looking forward to!

Supermarket Sweep

Finally, please bring in any Tesco and Sainsbury's tokens as soon as possible, so that we can include them in our total for this year. Thank you to everyone who has brought tokens in already.

Thanks, again, to everyone who supported our Summer Fayre and at other events during the year. We hope to see you all at one of our end of term events.

Mr V Hampton *Head Teacher*

Grafty Geeks - Computer Tip of the Month



Compressed Files (WinZip) by request

About Compressed Files (zip files)

Compressed files take up less storage space and can be transferred to other computers more quickly than uncompressed files. You can work with compressed files and folders in the same way that you work with uncompressed files and folders. You can also combine several files into a single compressed folder. This makes it easier to share a group of files.

To compress (or zip) a file or folder

- Locate the file(s) or folder(s) that you want to compress.
- Right-click the file or folder, point to Send to, and then click Compressed (zipped) folder.
- A new compressed folder is created in the same location.
- To rename it, right-click the folder, click Rename, and then type the new name.

To extract (or unzip) files or folders from a compressed folder

- Locate the compressed folder that you want to extract files or folders from (this may be a saved document you have received in an email)

Do one of the following:

- To extract a single file or folder, double-click the compressed folder to open it. Then, drag the file or folder from the compressed folder to a new location.
- To extract the entire contents of the compressed folder, right-click the folder, click Extract All, and then follow the instructions.

When do I use Compressed Files?

Apart from the reasons already mentioned there are other times when you will need to know about Compressed Files for example:

- When you receive an email from someone that is zipped
- When you download more than one file from an email (in some cases they will become automatically compressed (zipped))
- When you download documents or applications from a website

(There are other times when compressed files are used, but at least you now know how to extract them)

Notes:

- If you add encrypted files to a compressed folder, the files will be unencrypted when extracted, which might result in unintentional disclosure of personal or sensitive information. For that reason, you should avoid compressing encrypted files.

- Some types of files, like JPEG pictures, are already highly compressed. If you compress several JPEG pictures into a folder, the total size of the folder will be about the same as the original collection of pictures.

About WinZip

Most computers come with an in-built File Compressor now, however if your computer doesn't, it may use an Application called WinZip©. This application works exactly the same as the compressed file function shown above, BUT you may be asked to agree to a licence, this is because you have not purchased this application. It offers you a 30 day trail which will then mean you can extract (unzip) any files you have been sent in the zipped format. The Icon that will appear in your emails will look like this.



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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Barge	Vault	Axe	Pole
2	Black	Gold	Gun	
3	Green	Work	Full	
4	Savings	Joint	Bank	
5	Cast	Board	Sticking	
6	Soldier	Poodle	Soft	
7	Horse	Room	Chocolate	
8	Paste	Sweet	Milk	
9	Olive	Special	Manager	
10	Car	Housing	Industrial	
11	Story	Love	Life	
12	Teaser	Child	Wave	
13	Monger	Age	Lung	
14	Natural	Mask	Tear	
15	Business	Current	Foreign	
16	Acquired	After	Poor	

Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)

Maidstone Borough Council have issued the timetable for the Weekend Freighter Service up to 15th October 2011.

Grafty Green

Saturday 30th July 15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd
Saturday 8th October 15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

Platts Heath

Saturday 30th July 14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane
Saturday 8th October 14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane

Ulcombe

Saturday 6th August 09:25 - 09:55 -: Lodge Gardens
Saturday 15th October 09:25 - 09:55 -: Lodge Gardens



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Exterior works: Drainage unblocking, drainage digging and laying (not within the Highways or Local Authority land). Guttering and water drainage, re-pointing walls and patio, exterior painting and decorating, garden walls, pathways and steps, fencing, decking, patio laying, block paving and turf laying/lawn seeding.

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Update on Lenham Valley Business Association

The Weald of Kent Gold Club hosted the first ever combined networking meeting for Lenham Valley with South Maidstone. Both associations were created to help make networking for new business an easier, gentler and more friendly experience, especially for first timers. Founder Alan Reading said "There are thoughtfully run and carefully organised networking events, but these days there are quite a few dictatorial shambolic events without follow through and regular assistance, so when these two were set up they were created with boosting the rural economy for all businesses very much in mind. There's a strong feeling of caring and sharing together in local environments in most villages in Kent (of course there are exceptions as well), and so far Lenham Valley area including Boughton Malherbe (Google Boughton Malherbe Business), has greatly benefitted from the existence of a properly run local business association. Without doubt the benefits have had far reaching results. South Maidstone is new but it is moving forward."

Speakers at the combined event were Chris Garland, Leader of Maidstone Borough Council and Karen Burns, Advice Team Officer at HMRC. As always, the networking was lively, with more first timers than ever before. New business is the aim and that was obviously happening in every corner of the room! Organiser and presenter, Alan Reading, founder of both associations, showed the 45+ attendees some unusual mini brochure business card ideas that many people had not seen before, you can call CMR on 01622 820841 for more marketing info.

For more information on the LVBA enter www.lenhambusiness.co.uk and see openly visible member lists, business articles, local news, photos, online joining applications and further information or call 01622 820841. The next meetings for LVBA are 5 July in The White Horse, Sandway; 2 August The Harrow Hotel; 6 September The Dog and Bear.

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Alan Reading



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Grafty Green Gardening Club

Grafty Green Gardening Club programme for 2011. Membership is £5 for the year. Visitors are welcome at any of the meetings. Further information from Sue Burch 850381

Date	Topic	Speaker
July 2	Coach outing to Salutation Garden in Sandwich	£12 Plus entry fee
August 2	Outing Knowle Hill Farm, Elizabeth Cairns	6.30 pm
Sept 6	Autumn Show - Sue Scrivens	Saltwood Foxglove
Sept 24/25	Weekend to Malvern, Worcestershire, Bank House hotel and Country Club.	Three Counties Autumn show
Oct 4	Brogdale National Fruit Collection	Tasting Apples and Pears
Nov 1	Alison Sollis	Composting
Dec 6	Social	

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Grafty Green Gardening Club

There is a change of date for the coach outing to The Secret or Salutation Garden in Sandwich; this is scheduled for Saturday 2nd July NOT the 5th. It is intended that we arrive in Sandwich by about 11am and return to Grafty Green at 6.30. The cost of the coach is £12 and entry is £6. Lutyens devised the three-and-a-half acres of

ornamental gardens with the help of Gertrude Jekyll. After lying neglected for 25 years, The Secret Gardens has undergone a remarkable transformation in the last four years; now restored to its original beauty. If you wish to book seats please contact Carole on 757536; we would like a deposit of £6 to be paid on booking and the balance (£6) to be paid by 25th June.

The weekend to Three Counties Show September 23rd to 25th: there are a couple of places left on this trip £148 per person sharing a twin and £178 for a single, again contact Carole to book. If you have got your name down we would like a deposit of £20 and final payment by September 6. During the weekend we will be visiting Slimbridge Wild Fowl and Wetlands Trust and also Charlecote Manor; plenty to see and do. Bank House Hotel and Country Club is where we stay, dinner bed and breakfast. Enjoy your garden,

Sue Burch

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Staff from the Citizens Advice Bureau are available for consultation in Headcorn Library on the third Friday of each month from 10am until noon.

News from Maidstone Council

Tackle Nuisance Noise

Maidstone Borough Council received 779 neighbour related noise complaints last year. Complaints received included loud music (50%) and barking dogs (44%).

Maidstone Borough Council and its partners will help with unwanted noise, but sometimes there are a few steps you should try first.

Building up a relationship with your neighbour followed by a quiet word about the problem can help. Failing this, explaining the noise's impact upon yourself and your family may bring the point home to them.

Noise in a housing association property should first be reported to that particular association's housing officers as tenants of these properties may have signed a tenancy agreement which they are breaching if they cause nuisance to neighbouring tenants. This applies to privately rented properties as well.

The next thing you might consider in the use of Maidstone Mediation services, Tel. 01622 692843.

As a last resort or for further advice you can contact Maidstone Borough Council noise team on 01622 602202.

To make a valid complaint, the noise must be affecting you at home or work. It must happen quite frequently or be very disruptive. For example, if you're woken by loud music late at night, or being disrupted by loud music throughout the day. Investigations can be made at homes and work places.

However, hearing sound in your home does not automatically make it a nuisance. Authorities cannot investigate noisy children playing or crying or people's day to day living noise like walking about in their homes, entering and leaving their home, flushing the toilet or arguments, and if you suspect domestic abuse is occurring you should tell the police.

Environmental Protection UK and the Noise Abatement Society asks everybody to:

- Consider the noise they make and the effect it has on others.
- Consider the noises that disturb them.
- Use practical solutions to everyday noise problems.

The July Night Sky

The **Sun** is in the constellation of Gemini at beginning of July, and moves into Cancer on the 21st. On Monday 4th July, the Earth is at **aphelion** (its furthest distance from the Sun). We are approximately 2.5 million miles further from the Sun than we are when the Earth is at **perihelion** in early January. This makes very little difference owing to the longer sunlight hours and the higher altitude.

New Moon occurs on Friday 1st July, and is **New** again on Saturday 30th July. **Full Moon** is on Friday 15th July, in the constellation of Sagittarius.

Mercury appears very low on the horizon, so again it is unlikely we will be able to see this elusive planet this month.

Venus is also rising less than an hour before sunrise, so the "Morning Star" will again be almost impossible to see this month.

Mars is rising in the northeast in the early hours of the morning. It is still very difficult to see as it is on the far side of its orbit.

Jupiter rises in the east in the early hours of the morning, and by the end of the month it rises just before midnight, and is high in the eastern sky at dawn. You may be able to see some of Jupiter's four major moons through a telescope or binoculars.

Saturn is in the western sky at dusk, and sets around midnight. Relative to the stars it is moving very slowly south-eastwards in the constellation of Virgo. It is much brighter than the stars and shines with a steadier light. Its famous rings can only be seen through a telescope.

It has been reported that, at the Alpha facility at Cern, the European particle physics laboratory in Geneva, scientists have created and stored 300 atoms of "antihydrogen" (Antimatter) in a magnetic trap for more than a quarter of an hour.

Antimatter is an opposite of normal matter, with a negative proton and a positive electron, and being able to store antimatter for so long will enable scientist to find out whether it obeys the same laws of physics as normal matter. It may also get them nearer to solving one of the key problems of modern physics, i.e., what happened to all the original antimatter which they think was formed at the time of the Big Bang?

John Maunder

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Ghost Walks

I have started a new monthly ghost walk around Blue Bell Hill, www.bluebellhillghostwalk.blogspot.com all the details are on the site, but basically it runs from 2 - 4pm, on the second Sunday of every month, 10th July, 14th August, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November, 11th December. Meet in the car park of the Lower Bell public house, £5.00 each (pay on arrival), more information 07851602853

I also have a new book out covering the Blue Bell Hill ghosts as well as stories from Grafty Green and Boughton Malherbe called Haunted Maidstone and I will be doing a book signing at WH Smith in Maidstone High Street on Saturday June 25th. 11 am. The book is available from all good bookshops, or signed copies from me, again, on 07851602853

Neil Arnold

Promise Time

Wednesday May 18th was a red letter day in the Len Valley Benefice. St John the Baptist church in Harrietsham hosted a confirmation service during which the Bishop of Dover, Rt Rev Trevor Willmott, confirmed three young people and five adults.

The young people, Philippa, Vicky and Callum are members of the Len Valley youth group. Sessions entitled 'Growing in Faith' led to their decision, while taking part in the Easter Monday pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral, to ask to be confirmed. Helen Venn (01622 858195) leads the youth group. The adults confirmed were Amy and Merrhis from Harrietsham, Katrina from Lenham and Elizabeth and Gavin from Hollingbourne. Sue, an adult from Harrietsham, renewed her baptismal vows.

Another confirmation course has begun in the church room at Harrietsham village hall on Mondays at 6.30pm. The current programme consists of six sessions and a further six will be held after the summer holidays. Enquiries about joining this group should be made to the church office on 01622 850604.

Joan Drury

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Christian Message July 2011

"Go on, then, prove it!"

How often these words are spoken in an attempt to put us on the spot! Sometimes it is easy to answer the challenge with simple facts and an answer quickly silences the interrogator. At others the way in which it is asked provokes a sense of frustration and exasperation with the questioner's smug belief that they think it is not possible to provide the evidence that would convince them. It might even challenge our belief because it simply isn't in our power (for whatever reason) to express why we hold an opinion or belief. The evidence of sightings of the risen Christ amount to over 500 people but there is one which is so powerful that it is at the centre of my faith.

The author of the [Gospel of Luke](#), at [Luke 24:13-27](#), writes that [Jesus](#) appeared to two disciples who were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, (about 7 miles or 12 km), after his resurrection. The word 'Emmaus' means 'warm spring' in Hebrew.

[Luke](#) places the story on the evening of the day of Jesus' resurrection. The two disciples have heard the tomb of Jesus was found empty earlier that day. They are discussing the events of the past few days when a stranger asks them what they are discussing. "Their eyes were kept from recognizing him." He soon rebukes them for their unbelief and gives them a Bible study on prophecies about the Messiah. On reaching Emmaus, they ask the stranger to join them for the evening meal. When he breaks the bread "their eyes were opened" and they recognize him as the resurrected Jesus. Jesus immediately vanishes. They then hasten back to Jerusalem to carry the news to the other disciples, and arrive in time to proclaim to the eleven who were gathered together with others that Jesus truly is alive.

This account has many messages for us today. In joining the two men who are discussing the events of the recent past in an animated way Christ mirrors our busy existence. So often we are concerned with the here and now, the urgent rather than the important that we do not take the time to see that Christ is in our lives if only we look for him. Next, as they reach their destination they ask Him to eat with them. In accepting their invitation He teaches us that to ask is all that is required – and He will be at our table. It is during the meal, just as in the Upper Room, when Christ breaks the bread that they recognise him. This reminds us that whenever we celebrate Holy Communion that He is with us again – and again! At the end of the meal, the disciples [run](#) back to Jerusalem to tell the others that they have seen the risen Lord! What clearer message could there be for us to spread the news of His presence in our lives?

There is so much more – the journey of the men replicates a journey to faith – at first not knowing or accepting but reaching faith in the end; sudden revelation and gradual dawning are both contained as ways of accepting Jesus. Even those who do not look for Him find him on their journey through life. Finally, there is the clear testament that, whichever road we travel, however preoccupied or unseeing we are – that Christ is walking with us. All we have to do is look!

Ian Collins

philip jarvis

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Music Notes - July

There is still plenty of local music in July, including a whole raft of music at the Egerton Music Festival (1st - 10th July) and more items from the 19th International Maidstone Music and Dance Festival. As usual, here is my selection:

- Every Wednesday in July, 1.00pm at Maidstone United Reformed Church, Week Street, free concerts, with retiring collection in aid of Heart of Kent Hospice. Coffee available.
- Every Thursday, 1.05 pm at All Saints' Church, Maidstone, free lunchtime concerts, with retiring collection in aid of a charity nominated by the performers. Those attending are invited to bring their lunch-time sandwiches!. Drinks available.
- Friday, 1st July, 8.00pm Brittain's *Albert Herring* performed by the Shadwell Opera (6.00pm pre-opera talk) at Millennium Hall, Egerton. Tickets tel 07717 410798
- Monday 4th July 7.30pm at Millennium Hall Egerton, Close Harmony with Collegeum Regale (singers from Kings College Cambridge). Tickets tel 07717 410798
- Friday 8th July, 7.30pm at St. Mary's Church, Northumberland Avenue, Maidstone, the annual concert put on by all the Maidstone area choirs. This is part of the music festival; tickets £5 at the door.
- Sunday 10th July, 7pm at St. James's Church, Egerton. Sutton Valence Choral Society, Summer Concert of Choral Favourites, and part of the last night extravaganza for the Egerton Festival. Tel 07717 410798 for tickets.

Brian Hardy

Quote of the month

Extract from church notices in a large town church:

The "Low Self Esteem Group" will meet on Thursday at 7.00pm. Please use the back door.

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – July 2011

3rd July - 2nd Sunday after Trinity (Thomas the Apostle)

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
8am Harrietsham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Family Worship
9.30am Boughton Holy Communion
11am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Family Worship

10th July - 3rd Sunday after Trinity

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
10.00am Harrietsham Benefice Service
6.30pm Boughton – Choral Evensong

17th July - 4th Sunday after Trinity

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Morning Worship
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Holy Communion
11am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Morning Worship

24th July - 5th Sunday after Trinity

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Family Holy Communion
9.30am Boughton Family Worship
11am Lenham Family Worship
11.15am Ulcombe Family Holy Communion

31st July - 6th Sunday after Trinity

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
10.00am Boughton Benefice Service
6.30pm Harrietsham Informal Service

Farewell, thank you, God bless you and God-speed to Marian and Andrew Bond

As many of you will know, Rev. Marian Bond has accepted the offer of house-for-duty priest with the Tunstall and Bredgar Group, which means she will be leaving the Len Valley Benefice and moving, with Andrew, to a new role and a new home in Bredgar. Marian had a powerful experience of God some years ago when involved in an Alpha course and it was this that encouraged her first to become a Lay Reader in Harrietsham, and then to explore the ordained ministry. After training, she was a curate in Marden and then, to everyone's delight, returned here to work as a self-supporting Associate Priest with the Len Valley Benefice – Boughton Malherbe, Harrietsham, Lenham and Ulcombe. We are most grateful for her ministry with us over the last two years, working across the benefice and immersing herself in all aspects of the work, as well in wider diocesan matters. And of course Andrew has been alongside, not just *there*, but actively involved with bell-ringing, Friends of St. Johns and so many other facets of church and village life.

Now Marian has felt God's call to move on to new challenges. We all wish her and Andrew well in their new setting and ministry. May God bless them and the family richly in their future ministry in the Tunstall and Bredgar Group.

Marian writes:

"It is with much sadness that I am approaching the time when I leave the Len Valley Benefice on 10th July. It has been such a great thrill for me to be able to be part of the leadership team in the churches here. I have got to know some wonderful people and have become very close to many of you, so my coming departure is quite heart wrenching. However, I am not going far away, only 'over the hill' to Bredgar, where I am to have some pastoral responsibility for Bredgar and the adjoining villages, working with the Priest-in-charge at Tunstall.

Both Andrew and I will keep you in our thoughts and prayers and hope we may continue to keep in touch. Come and see us over at Bredgar once we have settled in!"

Marian's last official Sunday in the Benefice will be July 10th: there will be a joint Benefice service at 10am in St. John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham, when we not only say farewell to Marian, but welcome Millie Hart as priest – she will lead a service of holy communion for the first time. This will be followed by a hog-roast. Call the church office (850604) for further details.

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Barge	Vault	Axe	Pole
2	Black	Gold	Gun	Smith
3	Green	Work	Full	House
4	Savings	Joint	Bank	Account
5	Cast	Board	Sticking	Plaster
6	Soldier	Poodle	Soft	Toy
7	Horse	Room	Chocolate	Dark
8	Paste	Sweet	Milk	Tooth
9	Olive	Special	Manager	Branch
10	Car	Housing	Industrial	Estate
11	Story	Love	Life	True
12	Tenor	Child	Wave	Brain
13	Monger	Age	Lung	Iron
14	Natural	Mask	Tear	Gas
15	Business	Current	Foreign	Affairs
16	Acquired	After	Poor	Taste

Find the missing word?	
1	The London Eye, A tourist attraction on the South Bank
2	Denise Van Outen, Former host of The Big Brother
3	George Orwell, Author of Animal Farm
4	Leona Lewis, Winner of The X Factor in 2006
5	Born in the USA, A Bruce Springsteen hit
6	Andy Warhol, Famous for his paintings of Campbell's Soup Cans
7	Tom Sawyer, Adventuring Mark Twain character
8	Lambeth Palace, London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury
9	Frankie Howard, A star of Carry on films & Up Pompeii
10	A Hard Day's Night, A 60's song by The Beatles

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