

The Lenham Focus

MARCH 2026 issue



Free draw for annual tickets to the
Historic Dockyard, Chatham *p4-5*
Treatment for chronic headaches *p6*

FOCUS donation to Lenham Primary
school *p13*

Lenham Parish Council and Panattoni
p36-37

FOCUS is also online at
www.lenhamparish.org.uk
 (Click on 'Lenham Focus')

Editorial

Another month and another offer of FREE tickets.

An exclusive opportunity from your *FOCUS* magazine.

This time, you can enter into a **FREE DRAW** for a family ticket (*for 2 adults and up to 3 children*) worth up to **£70** for the Historic Dockyard, Chatham. The ticket will be valid for a **FULL YEAR** from the date of first entry.

It includes **FREE** entry to their exhibition showcasing 116 award-winning photographs, bringing together the very best in ocean, wildlife and underwater photography from around the world.



TO ENTER INTO THE DRAW, SIMPLY EMAIL YOUR NAME AND CONTACT

NUMBER TO THE EDITOR AT editorialsf@outlook.com **or send a text with your name to 07714 311008.**

The winner will be selected at random and will be notified direct. More details inside.

Also inside, you can read about the latest donation made by the *Focus* team. This was to **Lenham Primary School** to help buy IT equipment called 'Chromebooks' for their pupils. The donation was sufficient to source 7 of the Chromebooks they need and they have been put to use right away.

In case you missed it, read the review of the recent **HAMS panto.**

Also articles about cycling for health and enjoyment and the impact of AI on services provided by solicitors.

David Jackson | Editor

Email the editor if you have an entry for next month's 'What's On' page...

Volume 33 Edition 3 (March 2026)

Circulation 2,300 to Lenham Village (plus shops, library, pubs etc.), Lenham Heath, Platts Heath, Sandway, West Street, Woodside Green, Warren Street and to various Harrietsham, Grafty Green and Boughton Malherbe outlets.

Copy Deadline:

By 1st of the preceding month to editorialsf@outlook.com or by phone/text on **07714 311008**. Photos of the village and local events are welcome.

Published by Lenham Focus

The Lenham *Focus* is published by Lenham *Focus*, a Company Limited by Guarantee, Reg No. 10870314.

Opinions expressed are those of the contributors, not the publishers; the publishers accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions; the publication of advertisements does not constitute an endorsement.

Authors of articles and advertisements are responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions. The *Focus* may forward comments or complaints directly to an author of any article and seek a response. Readers have the opportunity to a 'right of reply' in the *Focus* provided they are fully identified.

Advertising Rates and Sizes (H x W)

(*approx including borders*). *PDF format (300dpi) preferred.*

1/8 Page (45x61mm) <i>Landscape</i>	£13
1/4 Page (92x61mm) <i>Portrait</i>	£21
1/2 Page (92x123mm) <i>Landscape</i>	£38
Full Page (185x123mm) <i>Portrait</i>	£69
Special requests/inserted leaflets	POA

Editorial and Advertising: David Jackson
editorialsf@outlook.com or 07714 311008

Finance: Sue Summers
lenhamfocusinvoices@gmail.com

Proofing: Jayne Hewish

Special Interests: Danny Coorsh

Distribution: Jon Snapp 07971 249137

Designed & Printed by: fuzzmedia.co.uk

We welcome your input and comments please email me at editorialsf@outlook.com

WHAT'S ON

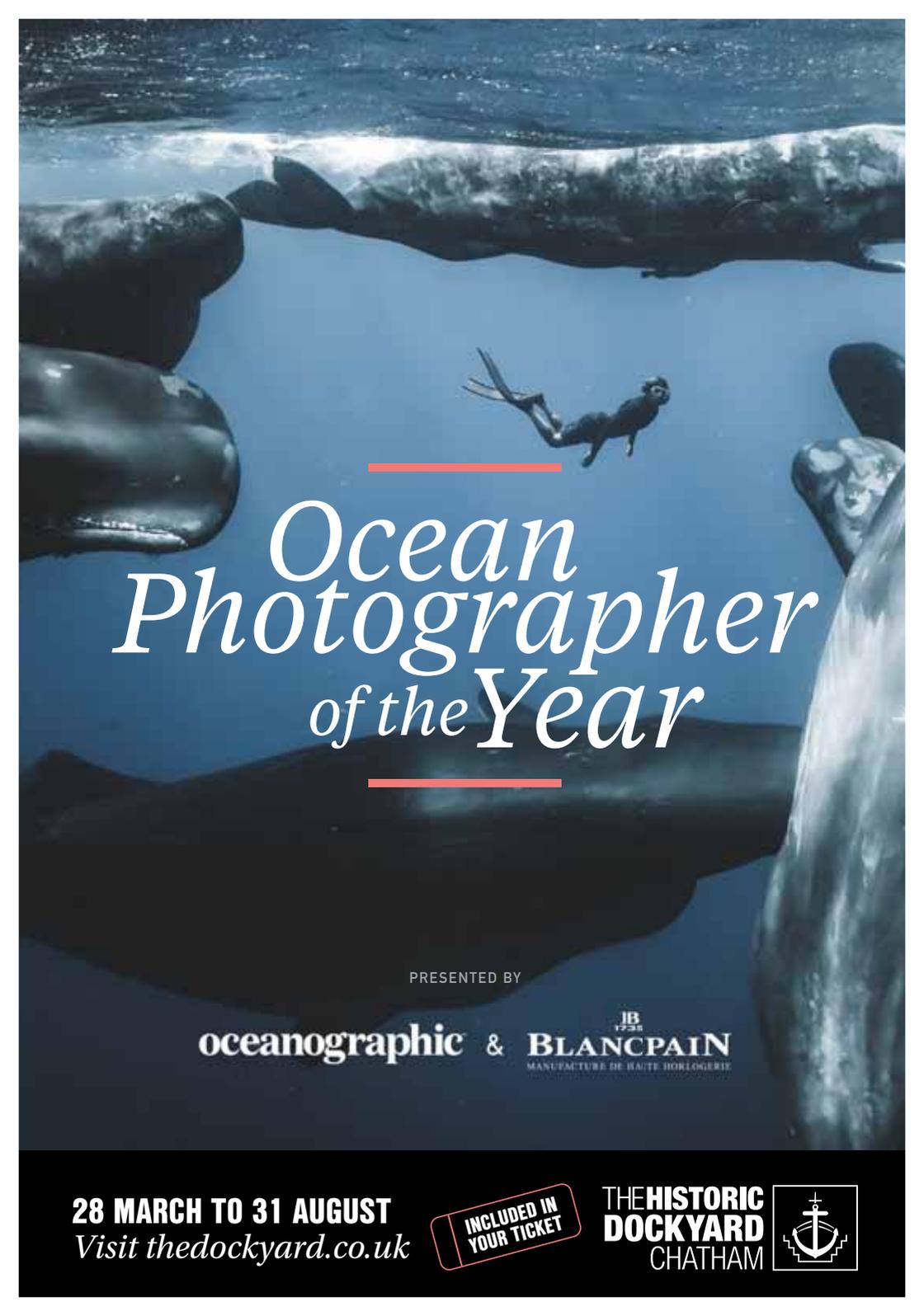
The Lenham Focus



Here's a quick look at the events around Lenham in the coming month. There may be more information inside.....

Got an event you'd like included next month? Send an email to the Editor.

- **Friday 27th February 2pm – 7pm:** *Panattoni public exhibition.* Introduction to the company, the 'Marley' site, and history. **Venue:** Function room, Dog & Bear, Lenham. **Cost:** Free. See also www.panattoni-marleyworks.co.uk
- **Every Fri/Saturday 11am-5pm:** *Tours and tastings.* Glass/bottle of wine, toasties & locally sourced meat and charcuterie plates. **Venue:** Westwell winery. **Cost:** Visit: www.westwellwines.com. *Focus* readers – 10% off using code: **TOURSTEN**.
- **Friday 5th & Sat 6th March:** *Tour of Ledian Gardens and show homes + prosecco and pastries.* **Venue:** Ledian Gardens, Leeds. **Cost:** Free. Ring: **01622-393826** to book.
- **Friday 6th March:** *Karaoke.* **Venue:** Lenham Social Club; **Cost:** Members free
- **Wednesday 11th March 2pm:** *Art Society Egerton – Visual Proverbs – Dutch Genre in 17th Century.* **Venue:** Egerton Millennium Hall. **Cost:** Members free; Visitors £8
- **Friday 13th March 7pm:** *Lenham Film Club – Downton Abbey – The Grand Finale.* **Venue:** Community Centre. **Cost:** Adults £5, under 16's £2
- **Saturday 14th March 1pm – 3pm:** *Clarins Afternoon Tea, Mother's Day experience.* Tea & Clarins skincare demonstrations with £15 off towards Clarins products. **Venue:** Chilston Park Hotel. **Cost:** £50 per person. Book at: chilstonpark@handpicked.co.uk or **01622-859803**.
- **Friday 13th – Sunday 15th March:** *Mother's Day Tour, tasting and sparkling afternoon tea.* **Venue:** Wildshark Vineyard. Details at: www.wildshark.co.uk/event/mothers-day-tour-tasting-sparking-afternoon-tea/
- **Thursday 19th March 1:30-3:30pm:** *Hi-Kent Hearing session.* **Venue:** Community Centre. **Cost:** Free.
- **Friday 20th March 8:30pm:** *'Cher' concert.* **Venue:** Lenham Social Club. **Cost:** Members £5; Non-members £10.
- **Thursday 26th March 8pm:** *Quiz night.* **Venue:** Lenham Social Club. **Cost:** Members free
- **Saturday 28th March, 7pm:** *Bingo.* **Venue:** Lenham Social Club. **Cost:** Members free
- **Saturday 28th March:** *Supper club with Japanese cuisine from 'Table in the stable'.* **Venue:** Westwell winery. **Cost:** Details at: www.westwellwines.com

An underwater photograph showing a diver in the center, surrounded by several large whales. The water is clear and blue. Two horizontal red lines are positioned above and below the main title.

Ocean Photographer of the Year

PRESENTED BY

oceanographic & **BLANCPAIN**
MANUFACTURE DE HAUTE HORLOGERIE

28 MARCH TO 31 AUGUST
Visit thedockyard.co.uk

**INCLUDED IN
YOUR TICKET**

**THE HISTORIC
DOCKYARD**
CHATHAM



The *FOCUS* FREE DRAW for an annual ticket at The Historic Dockyard Chatham

Valid for 12 months from date of first entry for up to 2 adults and 3 children*

The popular *FOCUS* FREE DRAW for tickets to The Historic Dockyard Chatham is back! Entry is simple – just email *FOCUS* at 'editorialsf@outlook.com' or send a text to 07714 311008 with your name and phone number.

One lucky winner, picked at random, will win a family ticket, worth up to £70, valid for a full year (terms & conditions are below).

One of the great attractions at the Dockyard this year is an exhibition showcasing 116 award-winning photographs, bringing together the very best in ocean, wildlife and underwater photography from around the world.

Selected from more than 15,000 entries, the images range from intricate portraits of tiny marine life to sweeping seascapes and powerful human stories, each one sparking fresh conversations about the beauty of our blue planet and the urgent need to protect it.

A window into the ocean

Step into a world of colour, movement and life beneath the waves. Meet drooling dragons, playful penguins, and a puffin desperately trying to evade a thief. Marvel at ethereal stingrays drifting through sand clouds and a candy crab ruling over its pink wonderland.

Highlights include Indonesia-based photographer Yury Ivanov's overall winning shot of two synchronised amphipods, known as the "ladybugs of the sea," and the Female Fifty Fathoms Award winner Jailing Cai, recognised for her inspiring body of work.

The exhibition is perfect for nature lovers, photography fans and families. Don't miss your only chance to experience one of the world's most prestigious ocean photography exhibitions in the northern hemisphere.



*Terms and conditions:

- Prize is for 1 x family annual ticket is valid for 2 adults and 3 children only.
- Prize must be redeemed by 15 November 2026.
- Ticket is valid for 12 months from the date of first entry.

- Ticket does not include entry to event days or separately ticketed events and experiences, such as 'Call The Midwife Official Location Tours' and 'Mission Christmas.'
- Tickets cannot be exchanged or transferred.
- See the ocean like never before at the UK debut of the Ocean Photographer of the Year exhibition.

A day in the Osteopath Clinic

With Chris Tempest “The Lenham Osteopath”

No.28 High Street, Lenham ME17 2QD

www.thelenhamosteopath.co.uk



Welcome to this edition of ‘a day in the clinic with the Lenham

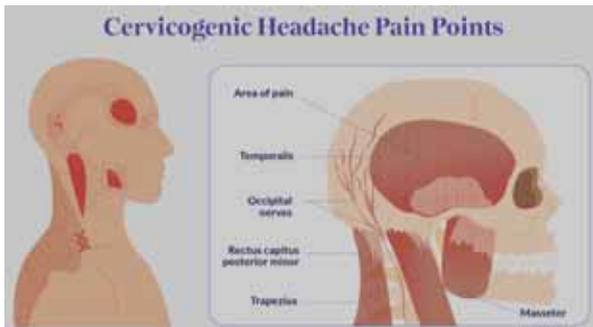
Osteopath’. It’s been a few weeks since I last spoke to you all about various health issues and this month I have a new one for you. As we look out at the current weather pattern in the UK, the rain seems to be getting the upper hand with a lot of patients presenting with headaches, from the dull depressing drizzle. Coincidentally it leads me in to talk about...

Cervicogenic Headaches

A cervicogenic headache (CGH) presents as unilateral pain that starts in the neck and is referred from bony structures or soft tissues of the neck. It is a common, chronic and recurrent headache that usually starts after neck movement. It usually accompanies a reduced range of motion (ROM) of the neck.

What causes CGH?

A cervicogenic headache is thought to be referred pain arising from irritation caused by cervical structures innervated by spinal nerves C1, C2, and C3 (upper part of the neck). Therefore, any structure innervated by the C1–C3 spinal nerves could be the source for a cervicogenic headache. In English, the upper neck muscles can squeeze a nerve in the neck called the “Greater Occipital” nerve. This supplies sensation to the skull



in a Mohawk style pattern, across the scalp and into the forehead muscle- occipito-frontalis. When it becomes compromised it affects the sensory distribution, thus resulting in a CGH. I feel it’s also important to note there are various contributing factors; poor posture, arthritis in the cervical spine, hours upon hours of scrolling the i-Phone or staring at the work screen!

How long can it last?

A “cervicogenic episode” can last from one hour to one week. Pain typically is on one side of the head, although it can be bilateral; often correlating with the side of the neck where there is increased tightness. Almost certainly, range of motion will be compromised.

How can it be treated?

There are various techniques in practice that we use to resolve and decrease the recurrence of CGH. The main one is manual

therapy, followed by and complimented with exercises, non-steroidal anti inflammatory drugs and painkillers if needed.

Medical acupuncture can also really excel in this condition - we’ve had some incredible results in practice using this method. All of the above aim to reduce inflammation and improve mobility of the Cervical Spine. We also can offer Botulinum toxin (Botox) in severe cases. This can help when administered into certain cervical muscles of the head and neck, and we will touch on this in later articles here...

What about long term effects?

Most patients will make a full recovery within days/weeks. There is also an argument to have ongoing regular maintenance treatments to keep the cervical spine flexibility, & general upper body posture in its best state, thus decreasing the likelihood of recurring CGH.

For more help or to book a consultation

Call 07749980096

@christempestosteopath

www.chris-tempest.com

CLARINS

ASK THE TEAM FOR BOOKING DETAILS & SECURE YOUR SPACE

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

JOIN US FOR A TRULY ENCHANTING
MOTHER'S DAY EXPERIENCE AT
CHILSTON PARK HOTEL.

OUR CLARINS AFTERNOON TEA
OFFERS A PERFECT BLEND OF
INDULGENCE AND
SOPHISTICATION, WHERE
TRADITIONAL AFTERNOON TEA
DELIGHTS ARE COMPLEMENTED BY
EXPERT CLARINS SKINCARE
DEMONSTRATIONS AND EXCLUSIVE
PRODUCT OFFERS.

SANDWAY, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT ME17 2BE

01622 859803 CHILSTONPARK@HANDPICKED.CO.UK
HANDPICKEDHOTELS.CO.UK/CHILSTONPARK

HandPICKED HOTELS



@CHILSTONPARKHOTEL

**YOUR LOCAL, FAMILY RUN BUILDERS MERCHANTS
OPEN TO TRADE AND DIY - EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

- ✓ BRICKS/
BLOCKS
- ✓ DECORATIVE
AGGREGATES
- ✓ HARD
LANDSCAPING
- ✓ ELECTRICAL
- ✓ DECORATING
- ✓ COMPOST
- ✓ GARDENING
- ✓ PLUMBING
- ✓ AGGREGATES
- ✓ GAS
- ✓ TIMBER
- ✓ FIXINGS

PLUS AN IN STORE PAINT MIXING SERVICE & MUCH MORE!

WWW.BSBUILDINGSUPPLIES.CO.UK



Update from Len Valley Practice

'Jess's Rule' – from Georgia Lane, Operations Manager

In recent weeks, you may have seen new posters in our waiting room and clinical rooms about Jess's Rule, which is an NHS patient safety initiative sometimes described as "three times and rethink". In simple terms, it encourages clinical staff to pause and review a patient's care if someone has contacted or attended services three times with the same or worsening problem, to make sure nothing is being missed and that the right action is being taken.

You may also have noticed reminders about how the surgery works and our zero tolerance policy towards abuse of staff, which helps us keep the practice a safe and respectful place for everyone.

Following on from last month's message, please do make sure your contact details and contact preferences are up to date, as this really helps us get the right information to you at the right time and avoids important messages being missed.



Finally, a quick note on missed appointments: in January alone, **154 appointments were not attended**. That's a large number of appointments that could have been used to help other patients in our community. We know life happens and plans change, but if you can't make your appointment, letting us know in advance really does make a difference and helps us make the best use of our limited appointments for everyone in Lenham.

Lenham Dance Studio is OPEN
Beginners. Medallist. Competitive. Wedding. Social.

Dance like 'Strictly'
Ballroom & Latin Lessons for ALL
Following all current Guidelines
PRIVATE LESSONS
GROUP LESSONS
Must be booked in advance



www.gdcschoolofdancing.co.uk
01622 850800

SR Interiors
Painting & Decorating Services

- Internal and external decorating
- Professional decorating at a competitive price
- Dulux approved, over 30 years experience
- Fully insured

Mobile: 07816 149502
Email: info@sr-interiors.com
Web: www.sr-interiors.com

Accredited member
20+
Years

NEC **ELECTRICIAN**

MGI Electrical
Installation and maintenance
Advice and Design
For domestic and industrial needs

07740 783646 or 01622 850055

Anglo Builders

A message from Managing Director, Simon Bennett

Based in Lenham, Anglo Builders have been improving outdoor spaces across the Len Valley area for the past 10 years and are able to provide a wide variety of different garden structures ranging from offices and sheds to saunas and yurts.

Choosing a garden room adds versatile, year-round and often planning-permission-free extra space, serving as an ideal home office, studio or gym.

These structures, such as those from **Anglo Builders**, provide a quick-to-install, cost-effective alternative to extensions that increases property value by 5-15% while improving lifestyle. They offer:

- **Versatility:** Garden rooms can be used as home offices, guest rooms, gyms, treatment rooms, or hobby spaces.
- **Cost-Effective Space:** They are a cheaper alternative to traditional home extensions or loft conversions, often built in a few weeks.
- **No Planning Permission:** Most garden rooms fall under “permitted development” rules, avoiding the need for planning permission if they meet specific height and location requirements.



- **Increased Property Value:** A high-quality, insulated garden room can add 5% to 15% to a property’s value.
- **Year-Round Usability:** Unlike sheds or summerhouses, fully insulated garden rooms are designed for use in all weather conditions.
- **Privacy & Separation:** Situated away from the main house, they offer a quiet, distraction-free environment for working or relaxing.
- **Quick Installation:** These structures can be installed quickly with minimal disruption to your daily life.
- **Longevity:** High-quality garden rooms can last 30 years or more with proper maintenance.
- **Increased Property Appeal:** They make homes more desirable to buyers, broadening your potential buyer pool.

If you want increase your living space but don’t want the hassle, fuss and upheaval of a traditional extension then contact **Anglo Builders** today on **07405-881368** or email: **info@anglobuilders.co.uk** for a no obligation quote. *See also our advert on the next page.*



*Kent's premier
garden room installer.*

ANGLO BUILDERS

GARDEN ROOMS



Explore innovative solutions and expert
guidance to optimise garden space



- Sheds & Shelters
- Gyms & Saunas
- Log Cabins
- Garden Offices
- Pods & Yurts
- Summer Houses
- Play Rooms

TEL: 07405881368

CALL US!



**VISIT US:
WWW.ANGLOBUILDERS.CO.UK**



Quality installers of aluminium bi-fold & sliding doors, roof lanterns, PVC & sliding sash windows & composite doors throughout Kent

Visit our showroom:

Let us help enhance your home, visit our new bespoke showroom which displays some of our top quality Home Improvement products. We can help you decide what would be best for your home, or come along and try out the products without feeling pressured.



Opening Hours:

Monday to Thursday: 9am to 5pm

Friday: 9am to 4pm

Saturday: By appointment only




ksehome.co.uk

KSE Home Improvements 4 Ashmill Business Park,
Ashford Road (A20) Lenham ME17 2GQ. Tel: 01622 851400 email: info@ksehome.uk

A Busy Start to the Year at Lenham Primary School



When I last wrote for The Lenham Focus, it was just after Christmas. Since then, school life has very much returned to being busy – and wonderfully so!

We have recently finished our tours for families who are considering joining Lenham Primary in September 2026. I always really enjoy these visits as they give me the opportunity to meet prospective parents and share all the things that make us proud of our school; from flexible seating in Year 6, to the fantastic resources funded

by *Focus* – including wobble stools, standing desks and ear defenders. There is so much positive learning taking place every day. Visitors are always impressed by our focused, hardworking children, our engaging curriculum, our dedicated staff, our beautiful grounds and the wider Lenham Primary offerings, including sports, trips and the ever-supportive PTA.

So far this term, Year 1 has confidently shared learning in a wonderful class assembly. We have taken part in Internet Safety Day, sung our hearts out at Young Voices at the O2 and enjoyed coming to school wearing clothes we love! Looking ahead to next term, we have a busy calendar including Parents' Evenings, Science Day, World Book Day, Comic Relief and our ever-popular Easter Bingo.

In my last article, I also shared the fantastic work our PTA have been doing to raise money for a new sandpit and 30 Chromebooks for the school. I am delighted to announce that they



The Lenham Focus has kindly offered to fund seven Chromebooks.

successfully secured match funding from the Parish Council, meaning the sandpit has now been ordered and will be installed in Term 4.

The PTA members are still

working hard to raise the remaining funds needed for the Chromebooks, and we have been incredibly fortunate that The *Lenham Focus* has kindly offered to fund seven of them. Thank you so much for your generosity!

(Only 5 Chromebooks are in the picture above because two children got very excited and started work on them straight away!)

We have also been very lucky to receive support from The Hatch Charity, which has helped us further enhance our outdoor learning provision with a new storage container. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who continues to support the school. Without becoming political, it's no secret that school budgets are becoming tighter, increasing expectations to do more with less.

The kindness and support of our local community really does make a difference, enabling us to continue providing our children with the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.



- **Limited memberships available**
- **Brand new fitness facility**
- **Fully equipped and air conditioned**
- **Expert personal trainers**
- **Community support and motivation**



DRIVE HEALTH & FITNESS
THE RIDGE GOLF CLUB
CHARTWAY STREET
ME17 3JB



01622 234235

contact@drivehealthandfitness.com



All this from one plumber!

Bathroom Installations	Tiling
Drains & toilets serviced	Painting
General domestic plumbing	Decorating
Leaking pipes	Odd jobs
Replacement taps	No job too small
Kitchen installations	Fully insured
Repairs and installation	FREE quotes
Power Flushing	No call out cost

and friendly professional advice



T: 01622 851186 M: 0791 438 0521
info@allfixplumbing.co.uk
www.allfixplumbing.co.uk

Web Design



Arpent Design

07572 797531

pete@arpent.co.uk

Local Company  Family Owned

Lakelands LAWN Care

Easy way to a great lawn

Affordable lawn care
Moss Control
Scarification
Weed Control
Fertilisation

18 yrs Experience
Cheaper than DIY

All year round lawn care
PAYG no contract



From as little as £20.00 per treatment

Call for a free no obligation quote

0781 087 6440

Email: lakelandsllc@gmail.com



Scion Financial
Wealth Management and Financial
Planners



Investment
Advice



Regular
Savings



Inheritance
Tax Planning *



Retirement
Planning

Guiding you through your financial
journey

For both individuals and business clients

*Estate Planning, Inheritance Tax Planning and Tax Planning are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Arrange a free consultation, we're here to

01622 633 035 help



Info@scionfinancial.co.uk



www.scionfinancial.co.uk

Scion Financial Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Blacktower Financial Management Limited and a member of the FCA's Financial Services Register which is a trading name of Blacktower Financial Management Limited who are authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority, registered number 108617

The benefits of biking – is it time for YOU to get on your bike?

Did you know that at around 42% of all journeys are less than two miles – a distance that even a novice could cycle in 10 minutes? Yet only 2% are done on a bike, even though one in three people have one.

There are so many benefits arising from cycling, both for our health and for the environment:

- Cycling is an excellent means of improving your physical health and wellbeing. A study by the YMCA showed that those with a physically active lifestyle had a wellbeing score 32% higher than those inactive.
- It's great aerobic and cardiovascular exercise, which reduces the risk of obesity, heart disease, stroke, cancer and other life-threatening conditions
- It fits into daily routines, because you can combine exercise with travel
- It saves money – on petrol, parking and gym memberships
- It helps develop new friendships – there is no shortage of clubs and cycling groups you can join, whether for occasional riding or even trips away
- It's non-polluting, so keeps the air cleaner.

However, cycling is not only good for our physical wellbeing. Being outdoors and reconnecting with nature also helps our mental and emotional health, and many people find that exercise helps them unwind and sort out their thoughts.



Think it sounds like hard work?

It doesn't have to be too strenuous as there are now many options to take the strain away whilst still leaving plenty of scope for meaningful exercise (and fun!).

E-Bikes

An e-bike offers electric motor assistance for easier riding, longer distances and less effort, making it ideal for hills and commuting, while a regular bike is lighter, simpler, and more affordable. Key differences include the higher cost and weight of e-bikes versus the lower price and simpler maintenance of traditional bikes. Both still provide exercise, but e-bike riders often ride longer distances overall, leading to significant energy expenditure.

How do I find out more about e-bikes?

There are many retail cycling shops around who will help you look at the options and costs of push-bikes and e-bikes. One such supplier, is Rebellion Bikes – a regular advertiser in *FOCUS*

(see their advert right) who specialise in supplying e-bikes and repairs.

Tom Humphrey, from Rebellion Bikes, says: "Electric bikes enable you to not only get around for leisure reasons, but they can also replace many of your car journeys. They are really fun to ride and enable routes the average person would either not be able to achieve or be unwilling to try on a normal bike.

Hills, headwinds, and larger distances are no longer an issue. I take a different approach to the supply of electric bikes, as I build individual e-bikes to meet the needs of the rider.

I specialise in converting normal bikes into electric bikes, which not only enables the total cost of the bike to be far less than 'off-the-shelf' models, but the specification of the bike, both electrically and mechanically is far better than comparable priced mass-produced bikes.

Also, an e-bike built in this manner is far more sustainable, with a far lower carbon footprint than a brand-new, complete electric bike.

Whether you are looking for an electric bike for leisure purposes, commuting, carrying kids on the school run or cargo bikes able to replace a van, I can help. I also provide a bike repair service for all bikes, whether electric or not.

If it has pedals, I will repair it! I include a free collection and delivery service of your bike, using, you guessed-it, a cargo bike, rather than a van. Do not hesitate to get in touch with your questions and queries."

...there are so many benefits arising from cycling, both for our health and for the environment...



REBELLION BIKE

CYCLE REPAIRS
PRICES FROM £30

PRICES INCLUDE
COLLECTION &
RETURN OF YOUR
BIKE IN ANY OF
THESE LOCATIONS



rebellion.bike/bike-repairs
07356001291 (WHATSAPP OK!)
TOM@REBELLION.BIKE

FOR ELECTRIC BIKE CONVERSION KITS,
PARTS & CUSTOM E-BIKES
CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE
REBELLION.BIKE




Tai Chi and Qigong

Lenham Community Centre
Monday 9:30-10:30am ~ Tai Chi
Monday 10:45-11:45am ~ Qigong

Come along and join us –
First class free!

For further information and to check availability, please contact Rhonda
07985 001782

Email: bex.taichi@yahoo.co.uk
www.abundantenergy.uk



TRIBUTE NIGHT

QUEEN RHAPSODY

SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2026

TICKETS: £30PP*

8.30PM - LATE

BOOK TICKETS AT ELITEPUBS.COM

*TICKET INCLUDES SHOW & DJ. 3 COURSE SET MENU ONLY AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT.

O.G PLANTS & PRODUCE



**FRESH SPRAY FREE
PRODUCE, EGGS
AND PLANTS**

**IN THE RED LION PUB GARDEN
EVERY WEDNESDAY
10:00 – 14:00
STARTING IN MARCH**



MARCH 2026



The Lightest & Most Compact Fire Extinguisher

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN



TECHNIQ MAINTENANCE KIT

WIN 1 OF 3 CAR MAINTENANCE KIT WORTH OVER £95.00

- Compact
- Lightweight
- Multi-Purpose
- No Corrosive Mess
- No Annual Servicing
- Long Shelf Life
- Long Discharge Time
- Safe to Breathe
- Environmentally Friendly
- Recyclable



up to 100,000 writes

FROM

£61.50

EXCL VAT



CHARING TN27 0NL TEL - 0333 404 7777

OPEN: MON-FRI 6.45-6.00, SAT 8.00-5.00

ICON ROOFING

Refurbishment & Repair Specialist

— A Family Run Business Established 1979 —

Fascias • Soffits & Guttering • Lead Work • Roof Cleaning • Small Repairs, Strip & Re-Tile • Moss Removal Felt Roofing & 3 Layer System Clear & Coloured Coatings

- Chimneys Moss Replant
- Kent Peg Clay Tiles

Ridges Repointed & Rebedded
Lead Work & Valleys

FREE ESTIMATES



IconRoofing27@gmail.com
07304 114603

Checkatrade.com

An update from your local MP, Helen Whately

Water outages

South East Water's response to the water outages after Christmas was abysmal. Thousands of people were without water for days, forced to buy water from supermarkets or drive all the way to Headcorn. Many elderly or vulnerable people – who should get bottled water deliveries to their doors – were forgotten or ignored by South East Water. Others were given the wrong information about supplies. Businesses were left in the lurch, schools had to close and the emergency water supply for livestock was grossly negligent, yet again.

Last July, South East Water left people in East Kent without water for up to 8 days and I went through the long list of failures in the company's emergency response then. The Chief Executive committed to my face that he would fix their failures. What a lie. If anything, it was worse this time.

I got together with local MPs to write to the Chairman of South East Water to tell him the Chief Executive has to go. And then I went and met him to tell him so in person. I didn't do that lightly. But the fact is, he is in charge of South East Water's crisis response. It failed in the summer and his promises to fix the problems amounted to nothing. Now there is no public confidence in him or South East Water. To add insult to injury, he gets paid around £500,000 a year including a £100,000 long service bonus. His time is up.

'The Chief Executive committed to my face that he would fix their failures. What a lie.'

Photo - after my meeting with the Chairman of South East Water when I called on him to remove the Chief Executive.



I know this problem is bigger than South East Water. We need a secure water supply. So, I will also keep pressing the Government and Ofwat to do more to prevent outages and ensure there is a much better response if there is another emergency.

These water outages raise another issue too. The basic problem is that we don't have enough water for our population in Kent. What's going to happen when we have 20,000 more houses in Faversham and Mid Kent? There's a new reservoir on the way but that won't be operational until the 2030s. It doesn't stack up. There's another letter on the way to the Housing Secretary making exactly this point. The Government needs to think again.

To keep up-to-date with my progress please follow me on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/HelenWhatelyMP/**

As ever, if there is anything I can do to help you please contact me.

Best wishes,

Helen

e: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

t: 0207 219 6472

The Canterbury Auction Galleries

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS SINCE 1911

Auctioneers of the rare, the collectible and the exceptional



2026 AUCTION DATES

**13th & 14th
February**

Consignment deadline
19th December 2025

**10th & 11th
April**

Consignment deadline
6th March

**5th & 6th
June**

Consignment deadline
1st May

**31st July &
1st August**

Consignment deadline
26th June

**2nd & 3rd
October**

Consignment deadline
28th August

**27th & 28th
November**

Consignment deadline
23rd October

Have something to sell?

From watches, jewellery, cameras, art and antiques to 20th Century collectibles, we have a strong track record in achieving international saleroom prices.

Contact us today for a free valuation:

Telephone **01227 763337** Email general@tcag.co.uk Visit thecanterburyauctiongalleries.com



COUNTRY CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES

Come and visit us in store for a warm, friendly welcome,
stocking all your needs for outdoor pursuits



Our store is open 5 days a week visit us at
Ashford Road, Badlesmere, Kent ME13 0NX
Wednesday - Sunday 10am - 4pm | 01233 742700
info@inthecountry.co.uk www.inthecountry.co.uk



MAIDSTONE LANDSCAPES & PROPERTY SERVICES Ltd

Less 15% discount
with advert* and 20%
over 35% cannot be
used with other offers
*and must be mentioned at
time of estimate

LANDSCAPING- Drives, Patios, Pathways, Brick/Stone Walls, Block/Stone Paving, Tarmac, Decking, Fencing, Turfing, Ponds, Water Features, Garden Clearance, Sheds/Summer & Play House Bases, Tree Surgery etc.

BUILDING WORKS- Extensions, Porches, Conservatories, Garages, Groundworks, Roofing, PVC Windows, Doors, Soffits, Fascias, Floor/Wall Tiling, Decorating etc

FULLY INSURED/WORK GUARANTEED. VERY PROFESSIONAL/FRIENDLY SERVICE
Top Quality Materials/Workmanship from design to completion - FREE ESTIMATES

www.maidstonelandscapes.com

T: 01622 851222 **M:** 07786 07 01 07 **E:** maidstonelandscapes2009@live.co.uk



LOOK: Please check our reviews and other companies you may use at www.uktc.org



Established: 1990 - Director: M. Potter



KENTBESPOKESHUTTERS.
YOUR LOCAL SHUTTER SPECIALISTS



Ready to talk Shutters?

kentbespokeshutters.co.uk



01622 933559



HOME DESIGN VISITS – EXPERT ADVICE – UNRIVALLED PRODUCT QUALITY



**LENHAM
FILM CLUB**

at Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale

Friday MARCH 13TH

**Performance begins 19.30,
doors open 19.00**

**Running time 2 hr 3 mins
Director Simon Curtis**

This last affectionate visit to the world of Downton Abbey sees the Crawley family facing the challenges of the 1930s. **Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale** (PG, 2025) grapples not only with Downton's financial troubles but with social scandals which have Hugh Bonneville as Lord Grantham and Michelle Dockery as his daughter Mary at their centre. The future looks dark as both the family and the downstairs staff struggle with their personal problems. The past is lovingly represented as familiar faces return to

make another appearance. What of the future, however? The time for the grand houses of the past is surely over, but will Downton be an exception? Can it fight its way onwards? Only with change – and that must see the next generation leading Downton Abbey forward. Come along to the Community Centre on Friday March 13th and cheer it into the future.

As well as showing a great film on March 13th, we'll also be revealing the fabulous line up of films that we'll be showing as part of our Spring and Summer 2026 programme. There'll be more about our future films in the April issue of *Focus*. Please get in touch for more information or to join our mailing list.

Admission: Adults £5, under 16s £2;
cash only, card payments **not** accepted.



lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com



www.lenhamfilmclub.org



@lenhamfilmclub

Tel: 01622 851542



STONEBRIDGE ASSOCIATES

Accountancy and Business Services

FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND SMALL BUSINESS

FIND YOUR DREAM HOME

at Morella Woods, Lenham



Show
homes
open!

An exciting new development in Lenham - Offering a range of 1-5 bedroom homes, ideal for first time buyers, growing families, and downsizers.



**MORELLA
WOODS**

Off Old Ham Lane
ME17 2LR

01622 534 491

Scan me



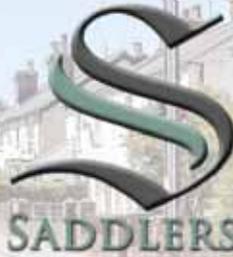
COUNTRYSIDE
Homes



Kentish WARM ROOF

Ring: Kentish Warm Roofs on 01634 789025
The granary, Greenway Court Road, Hollingbourne ME17 1QD

Looking To Sell or Let Your Property? Experts with Experience of Selling Your Home



Your local Estate Agent is close at hand
in Our Charing Village Office

rightmove

01233 713127

ZOOPLA

PrimeLocation



saddlersresidential.co.uk



Thorneloe & Co

Solicitors

Now part of Hallett & Co



Based in Lenham, we are an independent family practice providing a friendly, high quality, personal service tailored to your specific needs.

For you and your family.....

- Wills, Probate and Tax Planning
- Trusts and Estate Administration
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Family Law and Employment Law
- Buying and Selling Your Home
- Court of Protection
- Dispute Resolution / Property Litigation
- Personal Injury

For you and your business....

- Agriculture
- Commercial Property
- Buying or Selling a Business
- Business Contracts / Finance
- Employment Law
- Dispute Resolution / Property Litigation

01622 859 416

Lenham@Hallettandco.co.uk

www.hallettandco.co.uk

St Mary's House The Square Lenham Kent ME17 2PH

Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Registered Number 50485



Welcome to Tivoli Blinds

We are a small family run business based in Kent. We offer a **FREE** home measuring service and bespoke made-to-measure blinds for your home or office.

Our prices include fitting as standard by our expert installation team. Whether you're looking for something traditional, stylish or bold, you'll find exactly what you are looking for with us.

With free samples available on request and low prices guaranteed, there really is no need to go anywhere else than Tivoli Blinds!

Contact us:

Email: info@tivoli-blinds.co.uk

Tel: 07906 794273

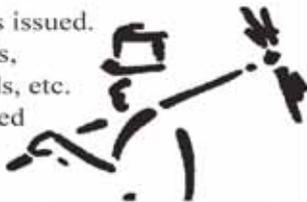
Visit: www.tivoli-blinds.co.uk

**QUOTE FOCUS FOR 5% OFF
ENTIRE ORDER**

INVICTA CHIMNEY SWEEPS

YOUR LOCAL SWEEP

Certificates issued.
Pots, Cows,
Bird Guards, etc.
Fully insured



NO MESS NO DUST NO FUSS



TEL: 01622 632641

www.invictachimneysweeps.co.uk

GUILD OF MASTER SWEEPS MEMBER

Mick Claydon Carpentry

carpentry

kitchen design

installation

garden rooms & decking

timber & laminate flooring

painting & decorating

shopfitting

general maintenance

FREE ESTIMATES



m.claydon@btinternet.com

07565 036013

Lenham Gardening Society

From Margaret Baines

This month's meeting will be on **19th March at 7.30pm** in the Community Centre when our talk will be **'Scentsational Gardens'** by **Caroline Halfpenny**.

The competition will be for 5 dwarf Daffodils and/or 1 edible Easter Nest.

All are welcome to the meetings except in February, July and November, which are for members only. Members pay £1 entrance with non-members paying £1.50. Annual subscription is £8 per person.



Tea/coffee and biscuits are available in the interval and a raffle held before the evenings close.

For further information: Email: gardenlenham@gmail.com or Tel: 07917401228

PLOT OR NOT?

If you think your land or property has development potential, why not give us a call without obligation and in confidence.



WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LAND AND PROPERTY WITH DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

Many of our clients retain our services and, in the majority of cases, pay our fees saving property owners significant costs. Commercial buildings for residential conversion, former public houses, redundant buildings for redevelopment, buildings for conversion or replacement, houses for improvement, large sites on the edge of town, barn conversions, large gardens in residential areas and major regeneration projects.

Contact Stephen Donnelly on **07739 514350** or **01892 579937**
website: sjd-projects.com
email: steve@sjd-projects.com

For regular updates, visit us at
twitter.com/projects





HAMS Productions – aftershow review

By Vladimir Barkanov

Another pantomime is behind us, and it is time to reflect on this wonderful experience. First of all, it was made wonderful by you – our audience. The joy of the people who come to see us is the very reason HAMS Productions exists. **Once again, you have shown your generosity through your donations to The Heart of Kent Hospice, which this year amounted to £850.**

This panto was also made special by the hard work of the cast. The dedication of our director, Margaret, and the committed efforts of the stagehands, tech team and front of house, together with the passion and determination of the actors, created something memorable for everyone.

We saw growth and improvement in each other – younger and older performers alike, experienced actors and complete novices – all pushing themselves and contributing to a wonderful atmosphere of mutual support and deep

friendship backstage. I must also mention the little shining stars from Shine Dance School, who brought extra joy both on stage and behind the scenes.

We are already excited to begin working on our next project for you. HAMS Productions always welcomes new people. If you have ever toyed with the idea of treading the boards, you will find that HAMS is a safe and encouraging place to give it a try. Don't hesitate – come along and you'll discover that we are a friendly bunch.

If, on the other hand, you cannot imagine yourself on stage, there are many other ways to be part of the theatrical fun and madness. We are always looking for people to help behind the scenes: tech support, stagehands,

front of house, prop makers, and those who can assist with staging. There are countless ways to help create a little magic.

Contact:
chair.hams2016@gmail.com
or 07909946885.





TRY OUR

**ENGLISH BREAKFAST
ROLLS & SANDWICHES
COFFEE & TEA**

BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY

FROM 8AM - 1:30PM

EAT-IN, ENJOY OUR TERRACE OR TAKEAWAY

FRESHLY COOKED TO ORDER • ORDER ONLINE AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE • WWW.CHEQUERSFISHBAR.CO.UK

Tèlìsà
 特里
 里 Tai
 萨 Chi
Optimal Fitness Lifestyle

**Strengthen your body;
 find Inner Peace.**

**Tai Chi class at
 Lenham Community Centre.
 Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm.
 All welcome.**

Classes also available in Maidstone.
 Workshops and private tuition also
 available in my Studio in Biddenden.

For more information contact
Theresa 07734 108683
telisataichi@gmail.com
www.telisataichi.co.uk



K D S | **KENT DESIGN STUDIO**
 ARCHITECTURE | PLANNING
WWW.KENTDESIGNSTUDIO.CO.UK 01580 230413 INFO@KENTDESIGNSTUDIO.CO.UK

EXTENSIONS	MULTI - UNIT SCHEMES	COMMERCIAL PROJECTS
LISTED BUILDINGS	EQUESTRIAN FACILITIES	BUILDING REGULATIONS
BESPOKE DWELLINGS	AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS	CONSTRUCTION

**Professional Jet Washing
 & Exterior Cleaning**

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

PATIO'S, DRIVEWAYS, ROOFS, GUTTERS, AND MORE

CALL US TODAY! 07989382986

Kentkerbappeal@gmail.com

**Fresh Local Produce Sold
 Direct by the Producer**

**Lenham Country
 Market**

MORE CHOICE*MORE STALLS

MORE QUALITY

Lenham Square 9 am – 1 pm

**NEXT MARKET
 Sunday 8 March 2026**

MARKET MANAGER

Sandra Woodfall

07775 736116

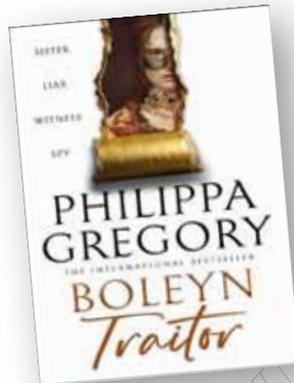
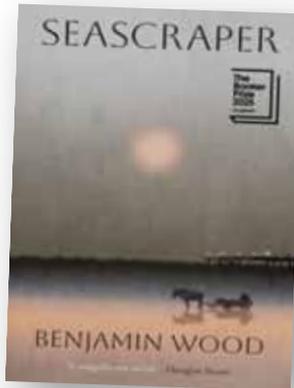
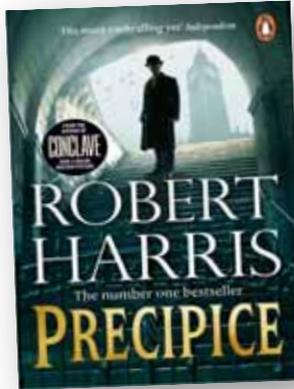
E: lenhamcountrymarket@gmail.com

Book Reviews from the Lenham Library

Three more novels this month - beginning with **'Precipice'** by **Robert Harris**.

It tells the story of the obsessive relationship Prime Minister Asquith had with a young socialite Venetia Stanley in 1914, just before and during World War 1. Asquith wrote every day, sometimes three times a day; different postal system in those days. Harris uses the actual letters from Asquith though has to invent Venetia's replies. The extremely sensitive information he shared with her is mind-blowing. Harris has a fictional detective involved in trying to trace the leaks and source of top secret telegrams found blowing about the countryside. That this actually happened is almost beyond belief. Harris makes a riveting novel out of the facts and the relationship between the two is, I think, brilliantly portrayed.

A much shorter, somewhat melancholy novel is **'Seascraper'** by **Benjamin Wood**. Thomas lives a hard, lonely life with his mother in Longferry taking his horse and cart to the grey, gloomy beach to scrape for shrimp; spending the rest of the day selling his wares, trying to wash away the salt and scum,



pinning for neighbour Joan Wyeth and rehearsing songs on his guitar.

At heart, he is a folk musician, but it remains a private dream. When a visitor turns up, bringing the promise of Hollywood glamour, Thomas is shaken from the drudgery of his days and begins to see a different future. I won't give away the ending. This is a really atmospheric, enthralling tale.

Lastly, I thoroughly enjoyed **'The Boleyn Traitor'** by **Philippa Gregory**. I was not sure that we needed yet another novel about Henry VIII and his wives but, astonishingly, Gregory manages a fresh slant and the book is full of tension despite us all knowing the story.

She makes the tyranny of Henry very relevant to today's world with warnings of how pandering to despots leads to danger for society. Impressively researched as ever.

Just a quick plea to finish. We would love to restart our **Baby Rhyme Time** in the library. Is there anyone out there who could spare an hour a week for this worthwhile endeavour?



You will see regular updates on all the parish council's activities in the *Focus*, www.lenhamparish.org.uk and social media.

Welcome to spring!

The former Marley site

The former site occupied for many years by Marley and more recently by Aliaxis has now changed ownership and is in the hands of **Panattoni**. If this name is unfamiliar to you that's possibly no surprise. However Panattoni is one of the larger construction companies in the UK and recently brought the former Aylesford Newsprint site back into operation by completely rethinking the usage. It is now turning attention to the largely redundant former Marley Works.

At the end of January representatives from the parish, borough and county councils were invited to meet with representatives from Panattoni and hear the outline ideas for redeveloping the site, along the lines of the successful redevelopment of the former Newsprint site, in Aylesford.

While we understand that initial conversations were held with the borough council as early as summer 2025, Panattoni assures us local input to the emerging ideas for the site will be undertaken. Ongoing discussions with Panattoni are being planned and an outline planning application with more details is expected to be submitted to Maidstone Borough Council.

And www.Panattoni-MarleyWorks.co.uk will provide you with an introduction to the company, the site

and its history. Further information will be added to the website ahead of the public exhibition.

CCTV rollout

The rollout of the upgraded CCTV will move forward once we have received final permission from KCC that the cameras can be mounted on various streetlights. Once that process is complete the first stage of the installation of the new CCTV cameras will be finished. At the same time the old, redundant units will be removed.

Upcoming Events

Easter Egg hunt: the parish council will be staging an Easter Egg hunt again this year, on Tuesday 7th April. Look out for further information in local social media and on the parish notice boards.

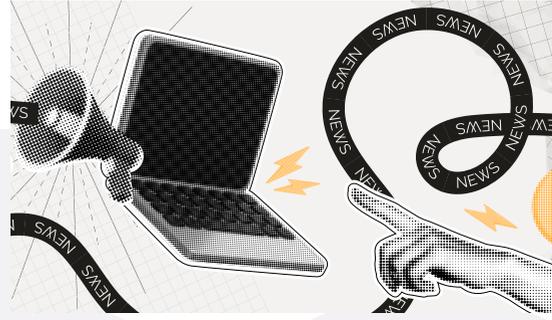
Annual Parish Meeting: this will take place on 29th April at the Community Centre. While all parish meetings are open to the public, the parish council is required to hold an annual parish meeting as a vehicle to gather views from people and share plans for the year ahead.

If you are involved in a **local group** and would like to tell more people about what you do, please contact the Parish Clerk to learn more about how to get involved.

New cycle racks: the parish council will be replacing the cycle racks in the village this month (contractor scheduling allowing). This may cause some minor disruption to parking in the Square during the installation, please bear with us.

... and finally

Now the new storage facility at the revamped public toilets is up and running, the “parish lock up” is clear and the Tourism Group will be looking for ideas about how to use this unusual building, in the heart of the village, to better effect. Look out for posts on local social media about how to share your ideas.



Scholars to investigate Japan's Culture



Pupils from Highworth School, Ashford came to our meeting to tell us about their project to visit Japan to learn about the culture there by joining a school and taking excursions to various locations of interest.

They are pictured with Sarah Ferris, Director of International Programmes, and President Val.

We have invited them back after their trip to tell us about their experience in Japan.

WE ARE A GROWING CLUB AND MORE MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

For more information search for 'The Rotary Club of Ashford'.

Rotary International is one of the largest service organisations in the



world with over 1.4 million members whose motto is “Service before Self”

If you would like to be involved in support of good causes locally and internationally, search for our website

www.ashford-kent-rotary.club
Contact email: **ashford.rotary.1120@gmail.com**



MASTER FLOORS

CARPET

VINYL

LUXURY VINYL TILES

LAMINATE

ENGINEERED WOOD

Telephone: 01233 22 11 66 Mobile: 07974 227690



Family run business

25 years experience

www.masterfloors.co.uk

Countryways Quilters and Stitchers

From Pamela Gillard



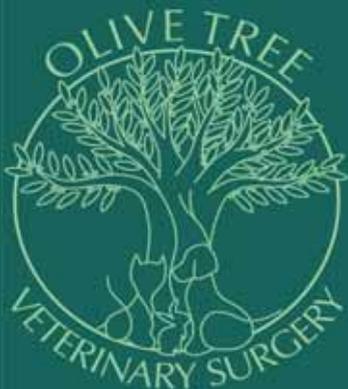
Our year has started out with a bang as we have lots going on. In March we will be making appliquéd Manhole covers. They can be used on a wholecloth quilt, a quilted oriental jacket or a cushion. If you are wondering what a Manhole cover is, or a wholecloth quilt for that matter, then maybe you should drop in and introduce yourself.

I hope you'll come join us and try your hand at something new or just enjoy the company, have a chat and a cup of tea. It's an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon.



Our meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of every month except December, we'd love to see you. We meet in the Osborne room in the Lenham Community Centre 1:30 to 4:30pm. Sometimes we move location, please contact me, Pamela Gillard at 07914 809946 or email moonbeamspinner@gmail.com if you plan to drop in, for more information on the group or a copy of our 2026 programme.

INDEPENDENT VETS IN CHARING



OLIVE TREE VETERINARY SURGERY
YOUR PETS, OUR PASSION

TAKING NEW REGISTRATIONS NOW

01233 223400

INFO@OLIVETREEVETS.COM

WWW.OLIVETREEVETS.COM



Contact Details For Local Groups

Badminton	Alan Williamson	01622-858763
Badminton Club Feathers	Robert Day	07984-948524
Borough Councillor	Chris Houliham	chrishouliham@maidstone.gov.uk
Bowling Club	Lyn Fuller	01622-851538
Bridge Club	Keith Rylands	01622-891964
Brownies (2 nd Lenham)	Andrea French	01622-851646
Cat Protection	Mid-Kent Branch	0345-3712758
Church Office	Sarah Hills	01622-850604
Dog Warden (Louise Duke)	Community Protec'n	01622-602117
Drama	Gail Kelly	01622-850671
Fitter / Stronger classes	Paula Hickford	07759-446214
Friends of St Mary's Church	Andrew Barr	enquiries@friendsofstmaryslenham.org
Gardening Society	Margaret Baines	01622-431649
Guides (1 st Lenham)	Jo Homes	07887-877814
Ham Lane Allotment Association	Doug Matthews	01622-297692
HAMS Productions	David Penny	07731-455677
Harrietsham & Lenham Beavers	Duncan Keenan	07768-926654
Harrietsham & Lenham Cubs	Mrs A Seales	01622-859829
Hub Club	Nina Kent	01622-851970
KCC for Maidstone Rural East	Sarah Emberson	sarah.emberson@kent.gov.uk
Kent Highway Services	Roads, paths etc.	03000-418181
Kent Wildlife Trust		01622-662012
Lenham Ballet School	Erica McCabe	07866-316056
Lenham Country Market	Sandra Woodfall	07775-736116
Lenham Community Centre	Carol Higgins	01622-853800 (am)
Lenham Cricket Club	Alex Gray	07760-132803
Lenham Film Club	Danny Coorsh	lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com
Lenham Heath Memorial Hall	Rosemarie Pomeroy	07572-911396
Lenham Heritage Society	Henny Shotter	01622-851355
Lenham Lifts scheme	Phil Hollier	01622-859154 / 07542 625277
Lenham Meadows Trust	Danny Matthews	enquiries@lenhammeadowstrust.org
Lenham Nursery	Sarah Siddens	07967 128056
Lenham Parish Council	Lisa Westcott	01622-829034 (Tues-Thurs 10am-1pm) clerk@lenhamparishcouncil.org.uk
Lenham Quilters & Stitchers	Pamela Gillard	01233-879507
Lenham Social Club	Sue Neaves	01622-532409
Lenham Toddlers Group	Irene Hine	01622-858919
Lenham Wanderers FC	Anna Russell	07747-844785
Len Valley Health Walks	Jan Enever	01622-851623
Len Valley Practice	GP surgery	01622-858341 / 859204
Member of Parliament	Helen Whately	helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk
Mothers' Union	Mrs J Thomsett	01622-947938
Patient Participation Group	Teresa New	01622-858341
Pilates Classes	Vivien Elcomb	01622-853887
Redback Explorer Scouts	Mark Horlock	redbackesu@hotmail.com
St Edmunds; Platts Heath	Kate Stansfield	07500-895831
Save Our Heathlands (SOHL)	Kate Hammond	07925-606236
Sing & Shake / Make & Shake	Steph Richardson	07894-160906
Sittingbourne Valley FC	Paul Hewish	07795-324062
Vicar	Vacancy	churchoffice@lvb.org.uk
Wellbeing Community Group	Ellie Stevens	07952-594655 / (Vladimir 07877-143088)
Women's Institute	Chris Godden	01622-858658

Lenham Community Centre - Regular Clubs/Classes/Societies - March 2026

ACTIVITY	WHEN HELD	Time	CONTACT NO
Abundant Energy Tai Chi	Weekly Monday	0930-1030	07985 001782
Abundant Energy Qigong	Weekly Monday	1045-1145	07985 001782
Country Ways Quilting	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday	1330-1630	01233 879507
Country Ways Rugmaking and quilting	2nd & last Wednesday	0900-1300	07784 892160
Feathers Badminton	Weekly Monday	2000-2200	07984 948524
Gardening Society	3rd Thursday	1845-2200	01622 430649
Hatha Yoga	Weekly Monday	1815-1945	07850 355918
Kent School of Bridge	Weekly Thursday	1330-1730	01622 891964
LenARA Bowling	Weekly Tuesday	1330-1700	01622 858439
LenARA Line Dancing	Weekly Wednesday	1845-2115	01622 859725
LenARA Members	4 th Wednesday	1230-1700	01622 851763
LenARA Petanque	Thursday if weather permits	0900-1300	01622 858439
LenARA Zumba Gold	Weekly Wednesday	0900-1030	01622 850468
Lenham Art Group	Weekly Thursday	1000-1300	01622 858238
Lenham Badminton	Weekly Tuesday	2000-2200	01622 858561
Lenham Ballet School	Monday / Tuesday	1700-2030	07866 316056
Lenham Ballet School	Thursday	1630-2100	07866 316056
Lenham Ballet School	Weekly Saturday	0900-1530	07866 316056
Lenham Heritage	4 th Thursday	1900-2130	01622 850228
Lenham Toddlers pre-school	Weekly Tuesday	0930-1130	01622 858919
Lenham Meadows Trust	3 rd Thursday	1900-2100	07831 308267
Lenham Toddlers Pre-school	Weekly Tuesday	0930-1130	01622 858919
Lenham WI	2 nd Thursday	1845-2200	01622 858658
Parish Council	1st Wednesday	1930-2200	01622 829034
Parish Council F & G P	4 th Monday	1930-2200	01622 829034
Parish Council Planning (P&I)	3rd Wednesday	1930-2200	01622 829034
Pathways Church	Weekly Sunday	1030-1200	07708 754672
Telisa Tai Chi	Weekly Wednesday	1730-1830	07734 108683
Zumba with Rosie	Weekly Tuesday	1830-1930	07809 490982

PLEASE CONTACT ORGANISERS DIRECT FOR UP-TO-DATE TIMES/DATES AND INFORMATION



The Friends of
St Mary's Church, Lenham

LATEST WORK AT ST MARY'S AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

It's certainly been a busy start to the year in terms of work on our church building. The ongoing work is Phase 1 of The Lenham Village Hub project; the Hub team are working to redevelop the internal rear of the church, turning it into a wonderful multi-purpose space for our village. It's very exciting to see this work begin. The 1st stage includes a new commercial kitchen, new emergency exit, wider kitchen doorway and a new cesspool in the churchyard with associated drains! This is great news and is being funded with moneys raised from individuals, charities and the Diocese via the Hub Committee. The Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) have not committed funds towards this phase of the Village Hub project. Importantly though, the support of the Friends and the fact that we have paid for so many essential repairs over the years, has helped the Hub Committee demonstrate to potential funders that there is widespread support in the community for our church building.

Whilst the purpose of the FOSM remains the

maintenance of the church building and the focus of the Village Hub project is the renewal of the rear of the church, the two organisations are united in wanting to see our beautiful St Mary's shine at the heart of Lenham. To this end, The Friends are making a significant contribution towards the 2nd Phase of the Hub project, specifically for a new floor at the back of the Nave.

The Friends consolidated funds during 2025 ahead of major repair works planned for the tower roof. The need for a full refurbishment was highlighted in our last Quinquennial (every five years) Inspection. We will use our own charity funds for the majority of the considerable costs but have been awarded grants by The Friends of Kent Churches, the Benefact Trust and also the local Hatch Charity to assist with funding the repair – we're very grateful for their support.

The work to the tower is scheduled for March and so as you read this, it may well have begun already. Work needs to be completed by the end of March in order to avoid any impact on bats as they

emerge from hibernation. The work will mean that scaffolding is required on the tower; we're planning on assessing potential maintenance work to the tower clock also whilst the scaffolding is in place. We're grateful for all the support we've received from the village community which has helped us fund yet another significant repair to the wonderful and important building that is St. Mary's, Lenham.

We're looking forward to a positive year ahead and are already planning fun events. We're looking to hold a **children's Treasure Hunt on June 14th** and *save the date* for the fabulous **Annual Village Barn Dance**, which takes place on **September 19th**. More details to come on both of these events nearer the time.

The funds we raise are used solely to pay for the repair and renovation of the building and never for the day to day running costs of the church. Email us to sign up to receive regular updates about our work or if you'd like to become a member. You'll find the membership application form on our website.



www.friendsofstmarylensham.org



@FriendsofStMarysLenham



enquiries@friendsofstmarylensham.org

STORAGE AVAILABLE

20ft
Shipping Containers

Secure Location

Hollingbourne Area

Contact
07922 423286

PBA ELECTRICAL &
RENEWABLES LTD

www.pbaelectrical.com

EV Charger specialist

- Solar PV design and installation
 - Battery storage
 - Electrical installation
 - Rewires
- Testing and Inspection

Commercial and Domestic electrical contractor
Fully insured and NICEIC Approved

Contact our friendly team today to
discuss your requirements.

T: 01732 247237

E: info@pbaelectrical.com



The Council meet on the first Wednesday of
each month.

Our committees also meet once a month.

These are:-

*Finance & General Purposes
Planning & Implementation*

Please see the notice boards and website for
the dates of these.

All meetings are held at the Lenham Community
Centre at 7:30pm.

Parishioners may attend all meetings.

Contact details: Lisa Westcott

(Clerk) 01622 829034

clerk@lenhamparishcouncil.org.uk

www.lenhamparish.org.uk

OSTEOPATH



Helping relieve the symptoms of:

- Sciatica
- Arthritis
- Frozen shoulder
- Headaches
- Back/Hip/neck pain
- Fibromyalgia
- Acute pain
- Chronic pain
- Nerve compression & more...

MR C.R. TEMPEST

D.O. M.Ost GOsC. Cert MA -
Registered Osteopath & Medical Acupuncturist

Appointments available until 8pm mid week
No.28 High Street, Lenham, ME17 2QD

07749 980096 www.chris-tempest.com or
www.thelenhamosteopath.co.uk



HOP ON OVER FOR OUR

Easter Trail

Join us on
April 7th from 11am - 2pm

FOR SOME EGG-CITING FUN!

HEAD TO THE PARISH OFFICE AND ALL INFORMATION WILL BE EXPLAINED.



Register your interest on the Parish
Council's Website or scan the QR Code.

www.lenhamparish.org.uk

Alternatively call 01622 829034

This is a FREE Event - Funded by
Lenham Parish Council

Lee Davey

CARAVANS LTD

Kent's leading supplier of premium caravans since 1948

Situated in the heart of Kent, we stock the very best new and recent used touring caravans. Whether you are looking to buy a new Bailey or Coachman, or one of our immaculately prepared and warranted pre-owned caravans, we are confident we offer a service that is second to none.



Visit our premises and you will find a large showroom, extensive outdoor display area and a well-stocked leisure shop. In conjunction with our industry scheme approved and factory trained workshop, we offer all you might need to get away on your caravan journey.



East Street, Harrietsham, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1HN

Call: 01622 859301 **E-mail:** enquiries@leedaveycaravans.co.uk

Or visit our new website: www.leedaveycaravans.co.uk



GOWERS GARAGE



Servicing and Repairs
To most makes and models of Cars and Vans

Free Local Collection And Return Service Available

**Tyres, Exhausts, Welding, Batteries
MOTs Arranged**

**Tel: 01622 858210
92 High Street Lenham
Maidstone Kent ME17 2LB**



Helen Whately MP

Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent



I work for you. If you have a problem you think I can help you with, please contact me.



House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
0207 7219 6472
helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

 **helenwhately.org.uk**



Hi Kent

Sound Support for People Living with Hearing Loss

Reg. Charity No. 1052036



NEXT SESSION 19 March (1:30–3pm) Lenham Community Centre

FEEDBACK FOR HI KENT - YOUR LOCAL CHARITY FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HEARING LOSS

Hearing about your experiences of using our services is very important to us - we'd love to hear from you, good or bad! Feedback helps us put right the things we could do better or be happy that we are making a difference.

You can either email to enquiries@hikent.org.uk or write to us at 18 Brewer Street, Maidstone ME4 1RU or 46 Northgate, Canterbury CT1 1BE. You can also leave feedback on Trustpilot - www.trustpilot.com or on our Facebook, X or Instagram pages.

Contact enquiries@hikent.org.uk or 01622 691151 for dates and times.

N B CARPENTRY

Specialists in bespoke storage solutions and custom garden structures



Crafted with precision and care, we bring your ideas to life with expert woodwork for both style and function.

GET IN TOUCH TODAY!

07734 411600

nbcarpentry2000@outlook.com



The Arts Society Egerton

The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts



WEDNESDAY 11th March at 2.30 pm (doors open from 2.00pm)

at Egerton Millennium Hall, Elm Close TN27 9DS

VISUAL PROVERBS: DUTCH GENRE IN THE 17TH CENTURY

Presented by **Hilary Williams**, *Art History Education Officer* at the **British Museum**.

Visitors are always very welcome at £8 (just turn up and pay on the door), refunded if you join.



To find out more please visit: www.theartssocietyegerton.org.uk or contact our Membership Secretary, Christine on cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377

Join our classes
for pregnancy,
baby and beyond

Basking
Babies®

Find your village, have fun & bond with your baby

Friendly, relaxed & informative classes,
beneficial for both adult & baby.

During pregnancy

- 🐰 Mama-to-be sharing & support circles
- 🐰 Pregnancy relaxation
- 🐰 Intro to baby massage

With baby

- 🐰 Baby massage, reflexology and colic alleviation (birth-crawling)
- 🐰 Mama sharing & support circles
- 🐰 Baby yoga (3 months to pre-school)

Events

- 🐰 Parties
- 🐰 Coffee mornings

AWARD
WINNING
CLASSES

Join Gemma's classes in Weald of Kent:

Gemma Debnam

Qualified Basking Babies Instructor

07305 882 972

gemmadebnam@baskingbabies.co.uk

baskingbabies.co.uk/wealdofkent



We thoroughly enjoyed our Basking Babies 'Nurture Me' course. It was great to learn massage and reflexology techniques to help with common complaints such as teething and colds. Me and my baby were so relaxed after each session. It was lovely to get to meet other mums and babies, and be able to chat over a cup of tea each week.



AJ & NM CARR LTD

GUIDED TOUR of LULLINGSTONE CASTLE & THE WORLD GARDEN with LUNCH



Wednesday 15th April 2026

Lullingstone Manor House and Gatehouse overlooks a stunning 15 acre lake where Henry VIII & Queen Anne were regular visitors. Lullingstone was home to the famous silk farm which produced silk for Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation robes & wedding dress.

On arrival we have tea or coffee & biscuits included before we start a Guided Tour of the Manor House along with St Botolph's Parish Church in it's grounds which contains some of the oldest stained glass in England.

Time for lunch in the tearoom (sandwiches, crisps, tray bake cake, tea or coffee included).

After lunch we have our very own dedicated World Garden Tour, guiding us round Tom Hart Dyke's World Garden of Plants. His garden pays homage to the amazing achievements of Victorian & Edwardian plant hunters who bought back, from around The world, the plants & flowers we now cherish & grow in our gardens in the UK. Don't forget to visit the Gift shop & walled garden nursery.

£54 per person includes tea or coffee & biscuits on arrival and Lunch (sandwiches, crisps, tray bake cake, tea or coffee)

Pick ups: 09.00 Carrs Yard, 09.15 Dog & Bear Lenham 09.30 The Rose, Bearsted

BOOKING FORM—LULLINGSTONE—WEDS 15th APRIL

Name:..... Tel:

Address:.....

.....

Email:..... No. of seats:.....@ £54 each

Pick up point:.....

Pivington Works, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent. TN27 0PG
Tel: 01233 840651 e-mail: office@carrscoaches.co.uk



Will AI Replace Lawyers? George Dimmock of Hallett and co., solicitors gives his view

As is the case across many professions, the question “will AI one day replace my role” is being raised within the legal landscape. It now feels impossible to traverse a week without hearing of AI’s impact on modern working life, most notably being Amazon’s recent 14,000 job cuts to make way for an AI fuelled workforce.

With a legal hat on, AI is already changing parts of how we practice at Hallett & Co, but I feel it unlikely to ever take over the role of a solicitor. Instead, it is much more prudent to state that it will help us work more efficiently as I will explore the minutiae of this claim over the course of this article.

Within my role at Hallett & Co, I am grateful for the wonders of AI in that it assists with a fundamental part of my day-to-day work – legal research. I am able to utilise AI tools to swiftly search through large databases of cases, legislation and commentary, finding relevant information in seconds that might have taken hours to locate manually.

As an aspiring solicitor, I find this feature to be of vast importance as it allows more time to focus on understanding the law and applying it to the client’s situation. This highlights my key argument; human judgement is still required for the interpretation of information before deciding exactly how it applies to a client.

Issues can begin to arise when legal professionals allow AI to make this human judgement on their behalf; this was exemplified in the United States through the case *State v Loomis*. Here, a risk assessment algorithm called COMPAS was



used to decide a defendant’s sentence. On paper, this may appear to increase the efficiency of the sentencing process.

However, the problem was that no one fully understood how the system worked or reached its conclusions. You would expect a human barrister to explain their reasoning behind a sentence - in fact they would be ridiculed should they not explain their reasoning. It is this lack of openness that causes real concerns about fairness and accountability; without transparency we risk placing too much trust in technology that may have hidden biases or errors. Therefore, if an algorithm can produce legal advice or even predict case outcomes, how can we be sure that the reasoning is both fair and accurate?

For anyone interested in this topic further, I would recommend the recent Channel 4 documentary titled: “Dispatches, Will AI Take My Job?” Here, a regulated AI law firm is pitted against a trainee solicitor to draft court documents in a small-claims

dispute. The AI produced a document in minutes, whilst the human solicitor took a few hours.

Upon judging, the trainee's work was rated stronger due to its depth of detail. Therefore, AI can perform process-driven tasks efficiently, but it cannot yet replace humans in areas requiring that more nuanced judgement.

Following on from the above, Richard Susskind may be right in capturing the future of the legal profession as noting that AI will not replace lawyers, but lawyers who use AI will replace those who don't.

To further explore this viewpoint, I would recommend "Tomorrow's Lawyer" by Richard Susskind.

Far from signalling the end of the profession, at Hallett & Co, I envisage AI offering an opportunity, the opportunity



to deliver faster, more transparent service – without sacrificing the human touch. AI could mark the beginning of a smarter, more client-focused era in law.

If you would like any information, please email us on lenham@hallettandco.co.uk or call us on **01622 859416**.

35 YEARS
EXPERIENCE



L & L

Land & Landscaping

SMALL
PROJECTS
CATERED
FOR

f

YOUR GARDEN TRANSFORMATION COMPANY

Landscape and Garden Contractors







- Full landscape and design service
- Pond and lake construction
- Hedge cutting
- Winter tidy ups
- Garden, scrub and woodland clearance
- Decking and pergolas
- Turfing
- Seeding
- All types of fencing
- Paddock maintenance
- Driveways
- Full maintenance and grass cutting
- Paths
- Jet Washing
- Retaining walls
- Chipper hire (with operator)
- Specialists in post and rail installation
- Land based contractors

- PRUNING & FELLING
- CROWN LIFTING & THINNING
- AWKWARD ACCESS

- STUMP GRINDING
- DEAD & DANGEROUS TREES
- TALL HEDGE REDUCTIONS

- COMMERCIAL GRASS CUTTING
- ALL TYPES OF IVY REMOVAL
- ASH DIEBACK

Call us today on 01795 899246

email: landandlandscaping@gmail.com

www.landandlandscaping.co.uk

24/7
CALL OUT

Marley... History of a Site

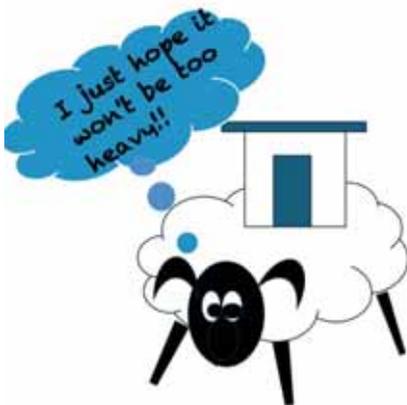
By Henny Shotter

When Aliaxis, the successor company of Marley in Lenham, closed its doors in 2025 for good, many former employees felt almost bereft. In some families two generations had worked for the company, which was started by Owen Aisher in the 1920s.

Marley was, like Lenham Storage still is, a proper local company not only founded locally, but also socially and personally (through marriage) connected. Much of Lenham's and Harrietsham's identity is made up by companies like this.

'Lenham Storage' lorries carry the name of our village all over the country. It is very similar with the name 'Marley'. Owen Aisher named his company after the **Manor of Marley**, which was stretched right across the border of Lenham and Harrietsham. You can find an excellent article about the history of Marley on our website: www.heritagelenham.co.uk/businesses.

The first mention of Marley is in the Domesday Book. Its name is entered, but



oddly, the description is identical with that of Bowley. It mentions a mill and two churches. The manor was part of the land, which was given to Odo of Bayeux, the later disgraced brother of William the Conqueror. After his disgrace, it changed hands very frequently through letting and subletting and was also in the 'hands' of religious institutions and at times it was in

the hands of the then owner of the Manor of Harrietsham.

An account book by Thomas Wotton¹ of Boughton Malherbe of 1580 gives us some information about the manor. Thomas held 210 acres, one roode or yard and 35 perches of arable and pastureland plus 44 acres, 36 perches of woodland which was all part of the Manor of Marley. Some of the land he rented out, and he received rent in form of wheat, oats or sheep. The quality of the goods given in lieu of money was very clearly defined; for example, the sheep had to be: *40 'Wethers² being of the age of 3 years at the best and not above the age of 4 years at the most and fair large healthy and for this year unshorn'*.

For two fields named Marleye Croft and Snagbolde, which were also part of the manorial estate of Marley, he had to pay rent to Thomas Wilford, Lord of the Manor of Lenham.

References:

1. Doc U23/24 Kent Archive.
2. A wether is a neutered male sheep.

Edward VI had given the manor to Sir Edward Wotton (1489–1551) of Boughton Malherbe ‘in capite’ and it was eventually sold by the last of the Boughton Malherbe line, Philip-Dormer Stanhope to Galfridus Mann in 1750.

Most manors had a house for the owners or the steward who ran the estate, which was considerably more comfortable than poorer people’s places, but they were again, in most cases, no palaces. It is likely that, what is today the Grade II-listed ‘Marley Court’ on the Pilgrims Way is the location where once the Manor House stood.

The building date of the current house is given at 18th century, which could coincide with the house being built in the ownership of Galfridus Mann.

In 1838, at the time of the Tithe Awards, the land was owned by William Baldwin, who also owned Stede Hill. He sold all his lands, including the land west of Ham Lane in 1900.

Panattoni, a large developer and logistics company, recently bought the former Marley site at the foot of the Kent Downs. The future will show if this heralds much needed employment opportunities for Lenham. More on the company you can read on their website here **www.panattoni-marleyworks.co.uk** – and see the separate article inside the February issue of *FOCUS*.

Pluckley: The making and faking of a Ghost Story

An illustrated talk by Ed Adams on March 26th

@ Lenham Community Centre, 12 Groom Way, Lenham ME17 2QT

Doors open at 7pm, 7.30pm will be a short Annual Meeting, followed by the talk.

Entrance: £5.00 – Non-members, Free – Members/Children

Refreshments will be available

K R S Building & Decorating Services

Internal and external decorating

All aspects of building work

from design to build

Kitchen and bathroom installations

Reliable service • Fully insured • Free estimates

Tel: 01622 851126 or 07801 544547



A.W.COURT
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PROUD TO BE SERVING
THE COMMUNITY
SINCE 1965



Your fully independent, family owned, Funeral Directors, serving the local community with compassion and the highest standards of service and professionalism.

With our 24-hour emergency service, we are only a telephone call away.

At the earliest stage possible, you will speak directly with one of our experienced Funeral Directors, who will be there to help, support and guide you through the whole of the funeral process.

GOLDEN CHARTER
FUNERAL PLANS 

A.W. Court Funeral Directors

Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2AP
Telephone: 01622 850840

Email: enquiries@awcourt.com Website: www.awcourt.com

A.W. Court is a Trading Division of West & Coe Limited.
602 Rainham Road South, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8YP.

SAIF
INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS



BENEFIT FROM A NEW MEMBERSHIP

Become a member at Leeds Castle Golf Club and receive a voucher for 50% off your first golf lesson with our PGA professionals!*

Other benefits include:

A complimentary ticket to Leeds Castle**

14 day priority booking

Entry into club competitions

Discounted green fee rates for your guests

Promotional discounts in the Club Pro Shop

Opportunity to obtain a WHS Handicap and apply for a Kent County Card, providing access to discounts at other affiliated golf courses

Come and join us today!

☎ 01622 767828 🌐 leeds-castle.com/golf

✉ golfmembership@leeds-castle.co.uk



LEEDS CASTLE
GOLF CLUB

*Valid only for up to a maximum 1-hour lesson and cannot be used with any other promotions

**Complimentary admission ticket to Leeds Castle ticket is available for the duration of the current membership

SPARKLES

**Domestic & Commercial
Window cleaning**

**Pure Hot Water
Fed Pole Technology**

- Conservatory Cleaning
- Fascia/Cladding Cleaning
- Solar Panels
- Gutter Cleaning System

Tel: 07856 110682

Web: www.sparkles-kent.co.uk

www.facebook.com/sparkleskent

Afsaneh's Foot Clinic

Registered Member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals
Afsaneh Smith MCFHP MAFHP

- Ingrowing Toe Nails
- Fungal Treatment
- Corns, Callouses & Hard Skin Removal
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Verruca Treatment

Telephone: 07506 376 264 / 01622 853 640

Email: afsaneh_motamedi@yahoo.com

Hubbard's Farm, Lenham Heath, Maidstone ME 17 2BX

IRELAND LANDSCAPES



All types of Hard & Soft Landscapes
Patios and Paving Roads and Drives
Concrete bases Stable bases
Fencing and Gates Turfing
Jungles cleared

**RING PAUL ON 01622 844605
or 07767 683747 for free estimate**


WISETECH
SECURITY SYSTEMS

CCTV Systems
Burglar Alarm Systems
WIFI Solutions

5 Star Google Ratings
Local, Reliable & Professional

Reach us on 01634 944161
Or Visit

www.wisetechsecurity.co.uk



LENHAM BALLET SCHOOL

RAD ballet
ISTD tap
ISTD modern
Baby Ballet
Street Dance
Adult Ballet



www.lenhamballetschoolanddance.co.uk

lenhamballetschoolanddance@gmail.com

07906 316056

[LenhamBalletSchool](https://www.facebook.com/LenhamBalletSchool/)



Lenham Meadows Trust

Countryside and community

Information at your fingertips

If you ever wonder ‘*what that plant is*’, or ‘*what was that bird*’, there are mobile apps that can help you.

Whilst these might not be as good as ID books, they continually improve and can all be downloaded to your phone, which is a lot easier than carrying around a book or two!

Search for ‘**INaturalist**’ (*free*) and ‘**PictureThis – Plant Identifier**’ (*paid for*). They are both excellent apps that will identify plants from a photo on your mobile phone, and will also give details about the plants.

‘**Merlin Bird ID**’ by Cornell Lab and ‘**BirdNET**’ (*two free apps*) both record and identify the birds from their bird song and ‘BirdNET’ will also allow you to upload a photo for ID.

These and other apps can be used to help you take part in citizen science projects that use people power to gather information on many species, helping scientists and also helping you connect with the nature around you. A small selection of these include:

- **The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) New Year’s Plant Hunt**, where you record what plants you find in flower whilst you are out and about.

- Each January, the **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)** runs an annual ‘**Big Garden Bird Watch**’ where you record all the birds you spot in an hour (see January’s *Focus*).
- The **BSBI** has just launched their ‘**100 Plants in 2026 Challenge**’, asking you to record the first 100 wild plants you find during the year.
- **Kent Wildlife Trust** and **Bugs Matter**, are insect surveys, counting the insects that get splattered on your number plate over the summer.



A list and links for these and more projects you can get involved in can be found on our website below.

Please email us if you’d like to know more about the Trust or to join our mailing list. Follow us on social media for the latest news, details of events and photos of our projects



40 Years in IT

- Troubleshooting, repair, malware & virus removal, Wi-Fi, networking
- Device setup, data transfer, SSD upgrade, supply new & refurb kit
- PC & Mac, upgrades, maintenance, mobile & tablet Setup + much more

Slow PC or laptop? Why not give your old device a boost by upgrading it with a Solid State Drive (SSD)? Give me a call for a quote.

Lenham Based, I come to you, or drop it off to me
Fast & Friendly Service, No Call-Out Fee

£25 per ½ hour
(min charge 1 hour)

Call Mark on **07867 90 55 22**
Email: mark@mscompserv.com



LENHAMCLOCKS

Repairs of Antique and Vintage Clocks
Clocks Bought and Sold



- Clocks bought, sold and repaired
- Watch batteries fitted
- Friendly advice about your clock
- Free estimates
- Insurance quotes

OPEN THURSDAY to SATURDAY 9:30am – 5pm

Contact **Simon Wood** on
07535 417533
or email:
lenhamclocks@gmail.com



Uncomplicated, trustworthy and confidential advice if you are selling or letting ■

Ashford: **01233 506260** Tenterden: **01580 766766**
www.hobbsparker.co.uk



Lenham local & trusted locksmith

- Emergency locksmith services
- UPVC window & door repair specialist
- Lock changes and security upgrades
- Emergency burglary repairs
- Misted window replacement
- Doors and windows that won't open or close

Contact us today for a free no obligation quote

 **T: 07726 776600**

 mike.wright@lockfit.co.uk

We call out free FIVE   

TOP PRICES PAID for all types of *SILVER* and *GOLD*

We are now doing home visits
across the South East
or you can visit our shop.

For more information visit
www.scrapgoldkent.com

Or pop down to *5 Mangravet Avenue,*
Maidstone ME15 9BQ - 01622 664140



Lenham WI

The latest news from Chris Godden

As I write this we are having a wet and mild February. I am sure we will have some more cold weather to come so please take care and stay safe. It's lovely to see the spring flowers brightening up our gardens.

This year we have some exciting speakers – in March we have Margot Clarkson-Bennett talking to us about “Makeup for the Mature Woman”. We all need some tips on that subject.

We will also be attending the Federation Annual General Meeting in Gravesend where the speakers are Melissa Green, CEO of National Federation of WI, and Judith Holder speaking about her career-making peak time entertainment programmes working with the likes of Victoria Wood, Lenny Henry, Dame Edna and Clive James.

Judith recently spent a year as Visiting Research Fellow at Oxford University's Institute of Population Ageing where she looked at the phenomenon of later middle age and spent a lot of time in the Bodleian pretending to be 18 again.

This does not mean the WI is for the more mature woman. We are always pleased to welcome new members who can give a different look on life and society.

Every year we short list some of the resolutions put forward by WIs to vote on at our Annual Meeting in June. The

Resolutions this year are – Accessible Public Toilet Facilities to Promote Dignity; Health and Social Inclusion; Action on Women's Homelessness; Nearer to Nature; Love your Vulva – Self Checking is your best defence against Vulval Cancer; and Every Child Needs a Friend.

The resolution that has the most votes will be put forward to Government and campaigned on over the coming years.

In April, Lucy Allen – Stunt Woman – will come and talk about her career as a stunt

woman over 15 years and has developed other talks along the way.

Being a professional performer means she likes to add a bit of drama and excitement into her talks and keep them as lively and interesting as possible. Lucy is a bundle of energy so will entertain us all.

If you would like to come along and see what we get up to, we meet at Lenham Community Centre on the second Thursday of every month at 7.30pm.

You can come first as a visitor to see if you enjoy it and hopefully make some new friends along the way.



If you want to join us, we meet at Lenham Community Centre on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Please come along and see what we get up to.

To find out more please contact rgodden@btinternet.com



Who'd A Thought It.

Champagne & Oyster Bar & Rooms

The 'Who'd A Thought It'....

is full of surprises. Tucked away in the sleepy Kent countryside, our boutique hotel is a hive of character, quirkiness and outrageous unconventionality.



NEW GARDEN ROOM NOW OPEN FOR EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

Our luxurious AA 5* hotel, restaurant and champagne bar welcomes you to have a truly unique and memorable experience, whether you join us for a night, a meal or simply a drink.

We offer classic English dishes, carefully prepared with local ingredients with plenty of attention to detail. Browse our website at www.whodathoughtit.com to see the menus and our charming selection of bedrooms, should you wish to stay overnight with us.

**Special celebration meals and functions are our speciality
and you can be assured of a great time and top-class service.**

Live music on our terrace

Call or email us NOW, or use the website for online booking.

Tel: +44 (0) 1622 858 951

Email: joe@whodathoughtit.com

Address: Headcorn Road, Grafty Green,
Nr Lenham, Kent, ME17 2AR



Fast, reliable, efficient service
 Collect/delivery or in-house
 Call: 07359-786422 for a quote or
 email: jojeffrey20@gmail.com

Registered Surgical Chiropodist / Podiatrist
 Established for Over 25 Years
 Member of The Association of Chiropodists & Podiatrists
 HCPC Registered G.C.S.Ch., M.Inst.Ch.P., M.F.S.Ch.



- Treatments & Consultations
- Children's Chiropody
- Corns, Callouses & Hard Skin Removal
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Fungal Treatment
- Ingrowing Toe Nails / Toe Nail Problems
- Verruca Treatment

M: 07595 497348

T: 01622 850376

www.heatherschiropody.co.uk
 retreat@heatherschiropody.co.uk

Heather's Chiropody & Podiatry

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

PETER HUMPHRIES
CARPENTER & BUILDER

Reliable, Good quality work
 Over 25 years experience
 Based in Lenham
 Please call;



Home 01622 858719
 Mobile 07753162407

ChloeB
 photography



Get in touch

- Facebook: **ChloeB photography**
- Instagram: **chloe._.photography**
- Email: **chloe.brett.photography@gmail.com**
- Website: **www.chloeB-photography.co.uk**



NORTHDOWNS
COSMETIC
CLINIC

Wrinkle reduction facial injections

Dermal filler treatment

Excessive armpit sweating treatments

By Local GP - Dr Andrew Reed
 BSc (Hons), MB BS, FRCGP,
 DRCOG, DFFP, RCPATHME

Consultations and treatments within
 Len Valley Practice following
 15 years of experience

See **www.northdownsclinic.co.uk**
 for further details or email on
enquiries@northdownsclinic.co.uk



philip INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENT
Jarvis



VILLAGE & COUNTRY HOMES

RESIDENTIAL SALES & LETTINGS

- Local knowledge
- Wealth of experience

BOOK NOW FOR YOUR
FREE MARKETING CONSULTATION

☎ 01622 858241

✉ homes@philipjarvis.co.uk

📍 1 The Square, Lenham, Kent ME17 2PH

🌐 philipjarvis.co.uk




Eat in or take away
Traditional Fish and Chips
Pies Chicken Southern Fried Chicken Kebabs
Kids Meals Burgers Savories Sauces Drinks

Breakfast & fresh ground coffee from 8.00 am
Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 2.30 pm
and 4.30 pm - 10.30 pm
Saturday 8.00 am - 10.30 pm
Sunday 11.00 am - 9.00 pm

The
CHEQUERS

The Square Lenham Kent ME17 2PH
Telephone: 01622 859 878



Piano Lessons

PianoLessonsByRob.co.uk

100% 5 Star Google Ratings
40 Plus years' experience
ABRSM & Trinity Exam Prep

Free Trial Lesson (Beginners Welcome)
1 The Paddocks, Lenham
07504 515610

MERCURE

MAIDSTONE GREAT DANES HOTEL

Looking for a venue for your next meeting or event?

Contact a member of the team to explore our tailored package options and start planning your next event.

GREAT VALUE PACKAGES



Award Ceremonies



Meetings & Conferences



Weddings



Birthday Parties



Summer BBQ Events



Masonic Events



Charity Fundraisers



Team Building Events



School Proms



Christmas Parties



Anniversary Celebrations



Networking Events



Family Occasions



Exhibitions



Accommodation Offers

Christmas

PARTY NIGHTS FROM
£19.99 PER PERSON

Celebrate the festive season at our venue, whether it's with colleagues, friends, or family, we've got the ultimate Christmas party for you!



Sunday Carvery

FROM £19.95
PER PERSON

Indulge in a Sunday tradition like no other at Mercure Maidstone's renowned carvery experience. Available first Sunday of every month: 12pm - 3pm.



Happy hour

DAILY FROM 4PM TO 5PM
AT THE BRASSERIE

Enjoy 20% off selected beverages in a relaxed and friendly setting.
T&C's: Not valid with other discounts or promotions.



Weddings

YOUR
WAY

It's your big day, which is why we'll work with you to ensure your day surpasses your expectations. Your celebrations can be as flexible as you wish from the timings to the food.



Dip & Dine

£25 PER
PERSON

Relax and refuel with this exclusive leisure & lunch, experience.
Available daily 11am - 5pm.



Events

HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT
AT MERCURE MAIDSTONE

Entertain within one of our private dining rooms, bars, and banqueting areas, where our dedicated events team will meticulously handle every detail.



Afternoon Tea

FROM £18.95
PER PERSON

Perfect for a relaxing afternoon with friends in a warm, welcoming atmosphere.
Subject to availability.



Meeting Packages

FROM £33
PER PERSON

Mercure has flexible meeting spaces from £25 per hour.
Subject to T&C's. Quote Localmte.



Mercure Maidstone Great Danes Hotel, Ashford Road, Hollingbourne, Kent, ME171RE

mercuremaidstone.co.uk | 01622 528565

events@mercuremaidstone.co.uk



An update from Sarah Emberson

Kent County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East

As if by magic, we're now in March! But on the upside, the snow drops are in bloom and the daffodils either have or are about to burst on the scene. This month will not just see the appearance of all this beautiful flora, it will also see the Reform UK's first budget at Kent County Council (KCC).

Despite a very challenging inheritance, we have managed to deliver £100m of savings, reprofiled £39.5m of future spend and reduced debt by £67m. The Reform UK administration has stabilised the finances of the authority through a common-sense approach and greater commercial focus on value for money.

We have devised a balanced budget with a proposed increase in council tax of 3.99%. We believe this will be below the rate of a vast majority of authorities. In fact, the level of 3.99% is likely to be one of the lowest in England. The budget aims to provide funding for our residents' immediate and future priorities and follows KCC's largest ever public consultation of the budget (we listened to the public's priorities and responded). The budget is set to enable the continued delivery of high-quality services, both discretionary and statutory.

In other news, we are working on an updated Kent-wide energy policy. The energy policy we inherited dated back to 2014 and was widely acknowledged to be out of step with both technological change and current planning pressures. Our policy is founded on an opposition to large-scale solar development on greenfield and high-grade agricultural land while actively supporting roof-top solar and brownfield installations. This



has been formalised with an emerging county-wide energy framework.

The emphasis of our new policy is on energy security, land protection and economic impact. Central to this approach is support for new nuclear development at Dungeness. Nuclear power provides low-carbon electricity on a continuous, 24-hour basis — a critical consideration during periods when solar and wind generation is limited.

Alongside generation, our team has advanced proposals for a nuclear decommissioning and energy skills centre in Kent. Such a facility would focus on apprenticeships and specialist training in decommissioning, safety and advanced energy engineering — areas where the UK faces a growing skills gap. The intention is to position Kent as a national centre of excellence for highly specialised energy skills, ensuring local people benefit directly from future investment.

While we acknowledge the capital cost of nuclear investment, our policy frames it as a long-term economic game changer. New nuclear development would inject hundreds of millions of pounds into the Kent economy, supporting skilled employment, supply chains, infrastructure upgrades and associated service industries for years to come...

WALL TILES **FLOOR TILES**
FLOOR TILES **WALL TILES**



THE STONE TILE COLLECTION
ASHFORD ROAD LENHAM ME17 2DL

 **MOLEY AND BOO**

ANTIQUES, VINTAGE, RETRO, COLLECTABLES, GIFTS



OPEN 7 DAYS

ASHFORD ROAD, LENHAM, ME17 2GQ

01622 231399

WWW.MOLEYANDBOO.COM

FREE PARKING ON SITE

OUTDOOR LIVING

LENHAM

OPEN 7 DAYS



PERGOLA **SALE** UP TO £1000 OFF PERGOLAS

Pergolas, Gazebos, Garden Buildings | Garden Furniture to include Dining Sets, Lounge Sets, Benches, Bistro Sets, Garden Kitchens, BBQ's, Fire Pits, Outdoor Mirrors, Ornaments, Pots and so much more!

Unit 2, Ashmill Business Park, Ashford Road, Lenham ME17 2GQ info@outdoorlivinglenham.co.uk

www.outdoorlivinglenham.co.uk 01622 231399

THE PATIO > WAREHOUSE



UNIT 3, ASHMILL BUSINESS PARK, ASHFORD RD, LENHAM, ME17 2GQ. TEL: 01622 231399

W. WWW.THEPATIOWAREHOUSE.CO.UK E. INFO@THEPATIOWAREHOUSE.CO.UK F. [INTHEPATIOWAREHOUSE](https://www.instagram.com/inthepatiowarehouse)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND TRADE 7 DAYS A WEEK

Remember

Come for Coffee



All welcome

11am on the 3rd Thursdays of each month
Charing Heath & Lenham Heath Memorial Hall



Do come along
and
meet friends and neighbours – new and old

No need to book but for transport or further details ring Peta Maidment on A. 713495

Also available – details of organisations that may be useful if you are struggling at home.

No charge although donations to help cover costs would be appreciated.

Future 2026 dates & planned events:

Feb 19th, March 19th Quiz, April 16th Thorne Hedgehog Rescue,
May 21st Plant Swap, June 18th Fish & Chips, July 16th,
Aug 20th Cream teas, Sept 17th Macmillan Coffee morning,
Oct 15th, Nov 19th Craft fair



PHOENIX PAINT SOLUTIONS LTD

Water Lane Farm, Harrietsham, Maidstone, ME17 1DE

T: 01622 535538 M: 07830 323233



FREE ESTIMATING, INSURANCE WARRANTY REPAIRS,
END OF LEASE ADVICE AND QUOTES, COLOUR CODING.
WHEEL REFURBISHMENTS AND EXPERT GUIDE FOR ANY REPAIRS.
COLLECTION / DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE
OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 5PM MONDAY - FRIDAY
EMAIL: OFFICE@PHOENIXPAINTSOLUTIONS.CO.UK
WEB: WWW.PHOENIXPAINTSOLUTIONS.CO.UK



Local Painter Decorator

Top quality workmanship and competitive rates for all your interior and exterior painting and decorating. Dependable service from a mature and reliable local tradesman. Minimum fuss and disruption. Work fully costed and quoted upfront with Prices Guaranteed. Based in Lenham Village. Text or call **Russel** on **07961 580 074** Landline: 01622 859259. Email: decorator.russel@gmail.com



Decked out in style!

At **Andrew French Fencing** we build high quality decks, fences, gates, pergolas and more.

Offering competitive pricing and bespoke solutions so you can relax in the outdoor space of your dreams.

With more than 22 years' experience in the gate manufacture and fencing trade I have a proven track record of delivering quality results for my customers.

From close board or picket to chain link or railings you can be sure your garden will be secure and looking great.

Decking or a new patio can transform your garden giving you the perfect outdoor space for entertaining or relaxing.

I use quality treated deck boards and natural Indian sandstone to give that extra special look. Gates and pergolas can be functional or statement pieces in your garden. Made to measure and customised to your requirements.



**Contact me today for a FREE quote.
Appointments are made to fit your schedule.**

Call 07788 971584 | Email frenchandrewp@live.com | www.andrewfrenchfencing.com

LENHAM DENTAL

Begin your smile journey in our newly transformed clinic
How we can help

General Dentistry
Dental Implants
Whitening
Invisalign
Facial Aesthetics
Sedation

BOOK NOW
01622 858204
www.lenhamdental.co.uk

© LENHAM_DENTAL

It's approaching Easter, so here's a brief history of the Rabbit

Rabbits have been quietly shaping the world far longer than most people imagine. Their story stretches from prehistoric forests to medieval monasteries and finally into our modern living rooms.

Origins: Tiny Survivors in an Ancient World

Around 50 million years ago, the ancestors of today's rabbits scurried beneath the feet of giant mammals. These early lagomorphs weren't quite rabbits yet — more like small, nimble creatures with sharp senses and a talent for staying alive. Their survival strategy was simple: stay small, stay fast, and stay hidden.

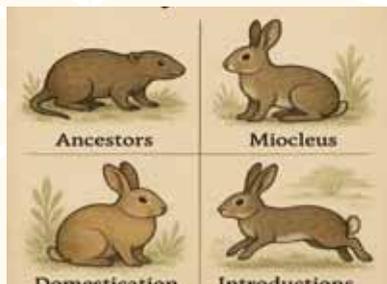
The Rise of the True Rabbit

By the Miocene epoch, roughly 20 million years ago, rabbits began to look recognizably rabbit-like. Long ears evolved as natural “radar dishes,” helping them detect predators. Their powerful hind legs became the spring-loaded engines we know today. These adaptations turned rabbits into some of the most efficient escape artists in the animal kingdom.

Rabbits and Humans: A Medieval Partnership

Rabbits entered human history in earnest when monks in medieval Europe began domesticating them. Why monks? Because rabbit meat was classified as “not quite meat” and therefore allowed during Lent. Clever loophole.

From there, rabbits spread across Europe as a source of food, fur, and eventually companionship. Selective breeding produced the first domestic varieties —



some bred for size, others for softness, and some simply because they were charming.

The Great Rabbit Diaspora

Humans carried rabbits everywhere they travelled. Sometimes this went well. Sometimes... not so much. When rabbits were introduced to Australia in the 19th century, they multiplied with astonishing speed. With no natural predators and endless grasslands, they became one of the most destructive invasive species in history. A single pair can produce dozens of offspring in a year — and Australia imported 24 of them. You can imagine the rest.

Modern Rabbits: From Burrows to Bedrooms

Today, rabbits are beloved pets, agricultural animals, and ecological engineers. Wild rabbits shape landscapes by digging burrows that shelter countless other species. Domestic rabbits, meanwhile, have become fluffy ambassadors of gentleness and curiosity.

They remain symbols of fertility, luck, mischief, and magic — from the Easter Bunny to the White Rabbit of Wonderland.

Recipe of the Month

Oeufs En Surprise

Perfect for teenage suppers and hungry school children!

Ingredients:

- 6 hard-boiled eggs
- 453g boiled potatoes
- 1 small onion, grated
- 28g butter
- 1 tspn parsley, chopped
- Salt & pepper
- Breadcrumbs
- Flour
- 1 egg, beaten

Method:

Mash the potatoes, add the grated onion, butter and parsley. Season with salt & pepper. Mix until completely smooth, shape it round



the hard-boiled eggs and leave to get cold. Into separate bowls put the egg, flour and breadcrumbs.

Roll the balls into the flour, egg then breadcrumbs and fry until golden in deep fat. These should be eaten hot and served with a tomato sauce.

Harrietsham Computers

I come to you when it suits you
No call-out charge

Computer problems, virus attack?
Need an upgrade, repair, or new machine?
Want help with networking, wireless networks, or broadband? Machine running slowly?
... or just want some extra tuition?

For local friendly, experienced help and advice
call Mike Cuerden on 01622 859442 or 07963 020092

MEMBER

MOWER PLANT SERVICES LTD.

Sunpatch Farm, Headcorn Rd,
Swarden, TN27 8PJ
Tel: 01622 890046

Sales, Service, Repairs & Parts
Main Dealers for Honda, Mountfield, Stiga & Husqvarna

Open Mon-Fri 8.30am – 5.30pm
Sat 8.30am – 1pm

www.mowerplantservices.co.uk



A message from our Maidstone BC Councillors;

**Cllr Chris Houlihan, Cllr Steve Povey, and
Cllr Mariela Nedelcheva**



In early January we visited and were given a tour at Maidstone Council Depot at Parkwood Industrial Estate which we found interesting and insightful (see photo below).

Although the visit there was enjoyable and useful, it was there where we first found out and realised there is a massive problem with water supply in the area.

Throughout the water shortage period we as Councillors tried our best to keep every Parish Council in our Ward up to date with latest information provided by water companies, Maidstone Borough Council and residents.

On some occasions we personally delivered bottled water to residents. We also asked uncomfortable questions contributing to holding into account South East Water for their negligence and lack of communication.

Following various lengthy discussions with a senior officer at Maidstone Borough Council, we managed to arrange actions on an issue

that has been going on for a number of years. **The Harrow Inn at Warren Street** has been neglected by its owner and local residents were concerned about their safety because of criminal activity, fire risk and illegal occupation there. After our intervention the property was secured and a notice was served to the owner.

On one occasion we assisted to residents where the developer of a new housing estate stopped the development due to planning issues and have not put a street name-sign up. This was proving to be very much an issue for people living on that estate. Shortly after contacting us, two street nameplates were installed.

Our position on the Heathlands Garden Settlement remains steadfast. We feel there is a lot of improvement needs to be done on the Supplementary Planning Document before the project could go ahead. There is a Policy Advisory Committee meeting at Maidstone Borough Council on 4th of February and we will be attending that.

We will continue to report progress here and to keep you informed of some of the issued we work on.



Window Fix Direct Kent

The Caring Company Working For Quality



The WFD Group

Window Fix Direct Kent - Kentish Warm Roofs - Warmer Roofs Direct - Window Fit Direct

Double glazing repairs and installations

Window and door locks

Glass unit

Window and door handles

Window and door hinges

Gaskets

Cat/dog flaps

Letterboxes

Security upgrades

Conservatory roof repairs/replacements

Conservatory Warm tiled roofs

For Free Quotes & Advice Please Call

01634 789025

Email: paul@windowfixdirectkent.co.uk Web: www.windowfixdirect.co.uk

Address: The Granary, Greenway Court Road, Hollingbourne, ME17 1QD

INSTALLsure
installer insurance, sorted



FENSA
Approved
Member Since 2001



WarmerRoof



FCA

Trustpilot



We are looking for **Volunteers** to help run our Village Magazine:

- Editorial Assistance
- Advertising Co-Ordination
- Distribution Co-Ordinator

If you can assist with any of these roles, call Dave on 07714 311008 or email editorialsf@outlook.com



Christian Message

From Reverend Richard Birch

This year all of March is contained within Lent, the longest of the Christian seasons.

It began on Ash Wednesday, after we had enjoyed Shrove Tuesday and eaten our pancakes. Lent consists of forty days to remember the forty days that Jesus faced temptations in the wilderness. The final week is called “Holy Week” and we remember Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem to loud shouts of acclaim on Palm Sunday, then events during that week leading to Jesus’ trial and crucifixion on the first “Good Friday”.

By the time we reach Easter and resurrection it will be April and whomever is contributing for that month may write about that.

Traditionally people would have a kind of fast during Lent and they would not eat meat. Many Christians today will give up something for Lent, often a luxury item such as chocolate or alcohol.

The purpose of this is that every time you are tempted to eat chocolate, or we are offered a drink, it reminds you that the season is Lent and it is a good time to learn self-control and what is really necessary for a good life.

My interpretation of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness is that he spent the time planning his ministry, thinking of how he would operate, how many close companions he would need, and maybe who would be some of them.

He knew the final stage of his life would be desperately painful and he prepared his mind for that. During this time there were temptations to use his power for his own aggrandisement and satisfaction, but he had the strength to overcome them and remain true to his calling.

Lent can be a time for us for contemplation and self-examination. It is a good period to reflect on what drives us, what do we wish from life, what can we contribute? And then, what knocks us off our course, what are the temptations around us? When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, he remained willing to confront his temptations, confident of his purpose, and trusting and faithful to God.

If we use Lent well, Jesus can help us to work out what is important to us and develop a strategy to overcome problems and temptations that stand in the way. He will always be alongside us, with his love, to help us to be the best person that we can be.

Len Valley Benefice **Everybody is welcome**

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.
1 John 4 v7 (part)

Sunday 1 March

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Wednesday 4 March

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 8 March

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 15 March – Mothering Sunday

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

Sunday 22 March – Passion Sunday

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at All Saints, Ulcombe

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

11.00am Benefice Taizé Service at St Mary's, Lenham

Check local notice boards for more details

Please note that during March some services may need to be altered or cancelled at short notice due to circumstances beyond our control.



Paul **TANN** Ltd

All aspects of groundwork undertaken

Driveway renovation including Resin

Patio's and Paving

Foundations

Drainage

Fencing

Stonework

No obligation free estimates

Marshall's approved contractor

Call t: **01795 890292** m: **07873 965231**



paultann.co.uk

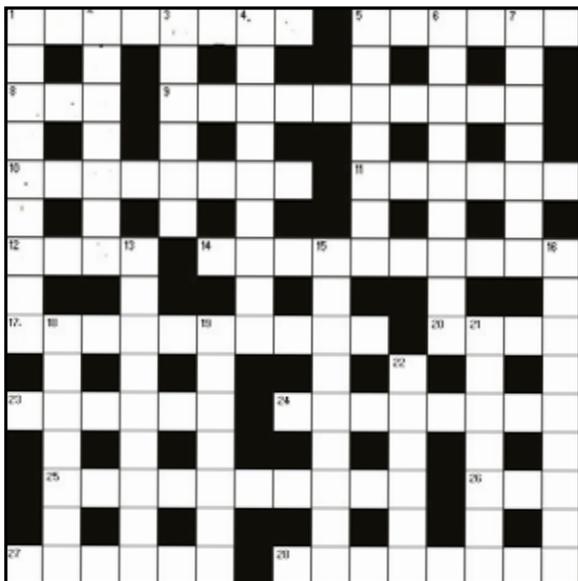


[paultannltd](https://www.facebook.com/paultannltd)



Focus PRIZE Crossword March 2026

The winner of the January crossword is Michael Sharpe of Ashford. Well done!



Across clues

1. Unbroken view. (8)
5. Chess piece in each corner. (6)
8. The side which a batter may face at the crease. (3)
9. Lewis Carroll fictional character, or a kind of soup. (4,6)
10. More courageous. (8)
11. Catastrophic. (6)
12. Sweet. (4)
14. The processes of leaving. (10)
17. It forms when a wound is healing. (4,6)
20. The Great Crested is one. (4)
23. Medical term for the common cold. (6)
24. What someone who starts anything is called. (8)
25. Soon passing out of sight. (10)
26. However. (3)
27. Pacific Airline. (6)
28. "Don't move now! (4,4)

Down clues

1. The chances of things happening. (9)
2. Possible verdict in a divorce case. (2,5)
3. Construct something again. (6)
4. The fishes making up shoals. (9)
5. A disc used in tiddlywinks. (7)
6. What may be advertised as 'Vacant'. (9)
7. Displaying a cynical expression. (7)
13. What Eddie Waring Suggested fouling rugby players might go for. (5,4)
15. Arcade you might find funny. (9)
16. Really wet. (9)
18. Often fatal waterborne disease. (7)
19. Symbolism. (7)
21. Give someone a title. (7)
22. Circus roof. (3,3)

Answers for February 2026 *Focus* Crossword



A **£10 voucher**, donated by your crossword compiler, will go to the first correctly completed crossword picked from your entries. Please complete the box below and hand your entries into the Lenham Parish Council offices at 1a High Street Lenham or into the Lenham library by **no later than 22 March** where they'll be placed in an envelope. The winner will be notified direct and announced in a future issue of *Focus*.

Name Phone No

Address



**Ledian
Gardens**
Inspired in Kent

“It’s just *great fun* being here”

Jean, Inspired Villages Resident

Ledian gardens retirement village gives you the opportunity to become part of something truly unique – a vibrant community where people who want to get the most out of life, do it together.

Make new friends, discover new hobbies, spend time enjoying the exceptional facilities and explore the world around you.



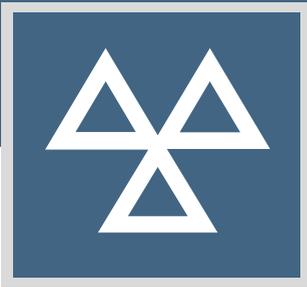
Join us on **Friday 6th and Saturday 7th March** to tour our beautiful show homes, with complimentary prosecco and pastries during your visit.

**Call us to book your tour of Ledian Gardens
and explore our show homes**

01622 393 826 | lediangardens.co.uk

Kings Square, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1WL





Harrietsham
GARAGE & MOT

Harrietsham Garage & MOT offers annual servicing, cambelt, clutch, brake, battery replacements, diagnostics, MOT testing, air-con re-gas, tyres and mechanical repairs. All costs are agreed before work begins, and every service includes a 12-month warranty.

MOTs

Located next to Harrietsham Train Station, we provide customer parking and an MOT viewing area with complimentary coffee. We look forward to welcoming you and taking care of your vehicle.



Repairs



Tyres



Diagnostics



Servicing



Brakes



Wet Belts



01622 859 580

www.harrietshamgarage.co.uk

Unit 4, Station Road Industrial Estate, Harrietsham, ME17 1JA

Monday	8am - 5pm
Tuesday	8am - 5pm
Wednesday	8am - 5pm
Thursday	8am - 5pm
Friday	8am - 4pm
Sat/Sun	Closed