

## Malherbe Monthly

Number 228 July 2023



Over 50 people viewed Sue's garden, enjoyed tea and cake and raised just over £500 for Kent Wildlife Trust. More pictures inside magazine. Pictures courtesy of Richard Pilborough

### Useful contact names and telephone Nos.

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Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
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The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit!

Anything for the **August** edition should be left in Grafty Green Telephone Box, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20**th **July** 

### News from St. Nicholas Church – July 2023

Summer is racing away. Hardly time to be thankful that the cold winds had died down, than the 'powers that be' decided that we needed a hosepipe ban! Last evening was a continual trek to the standpipe with a wheelbarrow to carry watering cans back to the suffering plants. Some of the plants I had held back until the cold wind had gone, not sure if this was right, you experienced gardeners might know? Hopefully Nell, the spaniel, will not dig them up!

Glad to have had the energy after a lovely benefice service at St. Nicolas on Sunday 25th June. Too hot to be outside for it, but everyone seemed happy to linger for coffee and cakes in the sunshine to follow. So good to catch up with friends from the other churches on these monthly services together. We shall miss Charlotte, our curate, as this was the last service she will take here before leaving to go to her parish in Ashford in July.

#### **Usual reminders**

**The church porch** is always open. Do make use of the refreshment table for hot/cold drinks, the seating to keep cool/warm and relax and the mini food bank if you are in need. There is a larger food bank in St. Mary's church, open daily 10-4pm.

The main church building is only open for services, cleaning etc. A key is available from the churchwardens at other times. Their contact details are on the opposite page in the magazine.

**Celtic Morning Prayer** is said in the side chapel each Monday morning 9-9.30am. Please contact Rev.John Huggins or the churchwardens if you have any prayer requests. Prayers will be said at morning prayer time or in private if you wish.

#### Information

Village Coffee Morning is held every Tuesday 11.30-2pm in the Village Hall, Grafty Green. The Post Office opens there 12.45-2.15pm and there are various stalls most weeks. It is well worth a visit; the cakes are great and the company even better! If you want to know what and where things are happening in the village, this is the place to be!

As usual all proceeds from donations are shared equally between the church and a charity chosen by those at the coffee mornings. Last month £100 was sent to Demelza House for their wonderful hospice work for children and their families. Join us to make a difference too.

Cream teas are coming back to St. Nicolas, by popular demand!

The dates are now confirmed: Sunday 16th July Sunday 30th July

Sunday 6th August all at 2.30-5pm.

Future Dates
Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup> 'Farewell to Charlotte'
Benefice Service at St. Nicolas at 11.30am followed by Lunch, cream teas and fun at 12.15pm

Harvest Supper on Saturday October 7th in Grafty Green Village Hall
Harvest Festival on Sunday October 8th, 3.30 pm followed by auction of produce

Church cleaning and flowers. A big thank you to all those who are keeping the church looking better than ever over the last months. It has been quite hard during and after the covid setbacks to maintain standards as we would all have liked. Now it is really showing its beauty and welcoming feel again, though we know with such an ancient building there is always much to be done and we cannot be complacent. The amazing recently discovered tomb of Sir Edward and Lady Margaret Wotton must be restored and displayed as is appropriate as soon as we can. That will need as much support as we can get to make this happen. They are a part of the history of this community as a whole.

**Craft Group.** We have been concerned to learn from sheep farmers that they cannot sell their wonderful fleeces, and are driven to disposing of them. Our gardeners are happy to use them to benefit their gardens. Spinners and weavers can use them, as can insulation manufacturers, carpet and rug makers. Where are the clothes manufacturers and why are they continuing to make and use harmful man-made fibres, instead of using this amazing sustainable first-class natural product? How can we all publicise this terrible waste?

**Funeral.** Our condolences, prayers and thoughts go to Vickie Ford and her family on the death of both her father and mother, with their combined funeral taking place in Ulcombe on June 26th. Vickie works hard for this community in her role as Parish Council Clerk and her contribution to the life of the church benefice.

**Finale** so much to look forward to this summer. Have just seen, for the first time in many years, a much-endangered water vole along our stretch of the River Stour. I panicked when the spaniel and Norfolk terrier swam after the vole!! Need not have worried, the vole could swim faster and knew his/her way into the well covered river bank. Such good news and shows the benefits of our farmers' conservation methods that are paying off so well. Country walks are a real eyeopener to the thriving wildlife around us every day now.

### Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Contact Details

### Ron Galton, Chairman

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### **Robert Turner**

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### **Nick Eastwood**

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### Vickie Ford, Parish Clerk

- Tel: 07791 135248

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### **Helen Whately**

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

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London, SW1A 0AA

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Pictures from Sue's garden event to raise money for Kent Wildlife Trust



### Village Hall - July Newsletter

We have agreed the dates for the late summer, autumn and winter events at the hall as follows:-

### Summer Fair Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 12 noon until 4pm

We will be holding our annual summer fair on the fete field, there will be entertainment for all, (more details later), a craft marquee, a wide selection of food and refreshments available on the day so please save the date in your diaries it is sure to be a fun afternoon.

### Harvest Supper Saturday 7th October 7pm for 7.30pm

The village hall is pleased to be hosting the first Harvest Supper after lockdown on behalf of the Church who will be organising the event. Tickets which will be £10 per person can be obtained from Sally Alexander who will provide further details of the event elsewhere in this magazine. There will be a pay bar.

### Scarecrow Festival Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 10 am to 2pm

Following the success of last year's event we will be hosting the annual Grafty Green Scarecrow Festival. Please get busy designing your scarecrows ready for the event. Scarecrows can be displayed either on the village green or in your front gardens. Resources such as timber, straw or assistance with construction can be provided if needed. Everyone is welcome at the Hall which will be open on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October for light refreshments, (tea coffee cake etc.), there will be activities for the children and a map providing the locations of all the scarecrows in the village can be obtained for you to visit and vote on your favourite. Scarecrows can be displayed at the Summer Fair or anytime from September onwards. Please let me have details of your scarecrow once constructed by Friday 13th October so that they can be included in the scarecrow location map.

### Winter Craft Fair Sunday 19th November 10 am to 2pm

Our Winter Craft Fair will be held at the hall on Sunday 19th of November from 10 am to 2pm where you can browse handmade jewellery, cards, wooden planters, resin gifts, wax melts, other craft items. Have a chat with friends and enjoy a cup of tea and some cake. Providing you with gift ideas for some unique and individual Christmas presents produced by local craftspeople. Hopefully we will be able to have carol singers so the event should have a lovely festive feel to get us all ready for Christmas.

### Christmas Quiz Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Richard ably assisted by his elves will be hosting his very popular annual Christmas Quiz again this year - the format will be the usual teams of eight, a pay bar, supper, lots of unwarranted heckling and insubordination usually caused by inebriation. Please save the date, dust off those Christmas jumpers and organise your teams. For those of you like me who don't have any friends don't worry we can find you a team on the night! Tickets from myself on 07932 112730.

### Jon Thompson Hall Committee Chairman

<u>bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk</u> <u>www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk</u> Facebook – graftygreenvillage

### **Helen Whately MP**

As anyone who lives rurally will know, a big part of feeling safe is about help being there when you need it. When it's not you can feel completely isolated, and that makes instances of theft, vandalism and intimidation all the more frightening.

That's certainly been the case for some of our local farmers around Maidstone recently, with 101 calls going unanswered and police response times well above what they should be.

That's why back in January I <u>hosted a joint roundtable</u> with my fellow Maidstone MP, Helen Grant, to put these concerns to local police. After listening to residents' stories, the police agreed to a number of steps to improve the situation - and we agreed to meet up again in six months to see how things have changed.

Fast forward to last Friday, and Helen and I were joined by farmers, councillors, the NFU, local police, and our Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott at Sutton Road Police Station in Maidstone to hear an update.

Firstly, it was great to hear that rural crime has been added to Kent Police's Control Strategy for the first time. This sets out their operational priorities for prevention, intelligence and enforcement, and the decision shows a real willingness to make things better.

I was also really encouraged to hear that every ward in the county will now be given its own named officer. This neighbourhood policing model should be up and running by the start of next year, and will mean local communities always having someone they can call on if needed.

The Rural Crime Taskforce has also been expanded, 101 call are being answered faster, and Kent Police have hired 300 more officers to local policing teams.

Part of the reason they've been able to do this is because of the 20,000 more officers on our streets since 2019 - a manifesto commitment the Government hit back in March. Here in Kent, we've exceeded that target, with 4,200 officers on the beat - the most in our history.

Amazingly in the UK as a whole crime is down 50% since 2010 - a huge success but something we can improve on even further with all these new officers.

Helen and I have also agreed to do our bit here in Westminster too. We're going to meet with the Home Office to discuss reclassifying catapults as offensive weapons, and the Farming Minister to talk about the impact of rural crime more broadly. This is on the back of <a href="https://historycommons.org/linearing-new-the-back-new

Taken together this is a huge amount of action, and a big win for our rural communities. They deserve to feel safe and supported, and I'm going to keep working to make sure they do.

### **Boughton Malherbe Parish Council**

"The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 3rd July at 7:30 pm** in the Village Hall.

Everyone welcome."

### Grafty Green Village Hall

Bookings Clerk (Janis Carter) 01622 850898

### Regular Weekly Events

Yoga – mixed ability Susan Burch 01622 850381 Mondays and Thursdays 9.30 – 11am

Wednesdays 7 - 8.30pm

Dazzle Youth Drama Group Gail Kelly 01622 850671

Mondays 5 - 6pm

Pilates

Cheryl Stubbs 07852 602639

Tuesdays 9.30 - 10.30 am

Post Office

Tuesdays 12.45 - 2.15pm

Coffee & Chat

Sally Alexander 07469 175290

Tuesdays 11.00 – 2.00pm

**Short Mat Bowls** 

Chris Wheal 01622 850100

Tuesdays 2.30 - 5.30pm

**Dance Fit** 

Sharon Harris 01622 890170

Wednesdays 11am - 12.30pm

Craft Group

Janis Carter 01622 850898

Fridays 10am -12.00pm

**Art Class** 

Cathy Hill 07927054708

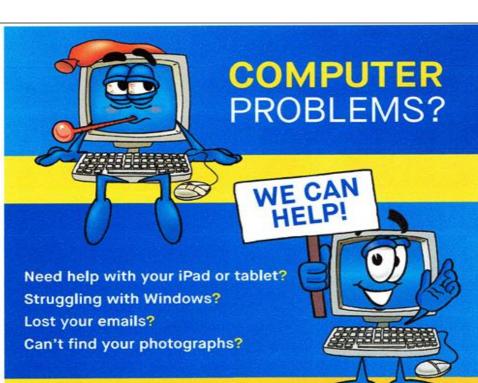
Alternate Wednesdays 1 - 3.30pm

### Regular Monthly Events

**Gardening Club** 

First Tuesday of the month 7.30pm

Doreen 01622 850287



our popular Saturday morning clinic between 10am and 12 noon at

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THE MILLENNIUM HALL



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### **Grafty Gourmet**

This is a great summer dessert for all those lovers of chocolate.

### Frozen Chocolate & Cherry Trifle

1 tin of black cherries in syrup (about 400g)
150ml whipping cream
80g of chocolate brownies
200g of dark chocolate chopped
150g of mascarpone cheese
2 tablespoons of icing sugar

- 1. Line a 900g loaf tin or terrine with baking parchment. Tip the cherries into a sieve over a saucepan and drain off the syrup. Bring the syrup to a boil and simmer until it thickens and is reduced by half, about 5 mins, and stir back in the cherries. Spoon the cherries and syrup into the base of the tin and leave to cool.
- 2. Whip half of the cream until it thickens but is not stiff, spoon this in a layer over the cherries. Cut the brownies into pieces and make a layer on top of the cream. Melt 100g chocolate carefully in a small pan and leave to cool a little.
- 3. Tip the mascarpone cheese into a bowl and add the remaining cream and the icing sugar, whisk together with electric whisk until they are just combined and the mixture is thick, stir in the melted chocolate. Spoon the chocolate mixture on top and smooth the surface. Put the trifle into the fridge for 30 mins.
- 4. Melt the remaining chocolate in the same way, leaving to cool a little and pour it onto the trifle, tip the loaf tin back and forth to make a thin, even layer. Wait for the chocolate to set and then cover the tin or terrine and put it into the freezer. Freeze for up to 1 week.
- 5. To serve, take the tin or terrine out of the freezer and leave it to sit for 10 mins, then tip it out onto a serving plate. The syrup from the cherries will run down the sides a little, leave the trifle to sit for another 20 mins before cutting into slices to serve.

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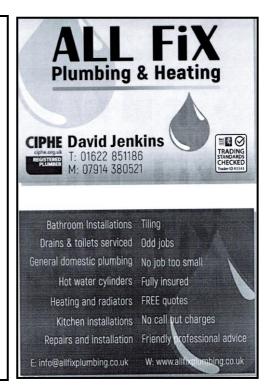
### Contact

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# Ken and Eve Sweet extend a warm welcome to The Kings Head Grafty Green

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Beer Garden



### **Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way**

### A Man Called Otto

### Friday 14th July

### Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00

Tom Hanks playing a grumpy cynical old man? Hard to believe? Come along on July 14th to comedy-drama **A Man Called Otto** (15, 2022) and you'll rapidly change your mind. Otto's beloved wife Sonya died six months previously, life seems over and he is ready to call it a day. But despite all his attempts, suicide isn't the answer. Even grumpier, he takes it out on his new neighbours, a young couple with two children. However, he hasn't reckoned with the lively, quick-witted Marisol, who challenges him to see life differently, leading to an unlikely friendship that turns his world around. A Tom Hanks film is always a special, and directed by Marc Forster, **A Man Called Otto** is a must.

(Running time, 2hrs 6 mins)

And for something very special, save the date - Friday 11th August – for **Matilda the Musical**, a new 2022 adaptation of the Tony and Olivier award-winning musical. Doors will open at the earlier time of 15.30, the film will begin at 16.30 and there will be plenty of chocolate cakes on sale, as well as our usual refreshments. We'll be holding a great raffle too. All proceeds from the afternoon will be donated to the Lenham Nursery School Big Build Project, in memory of the late Jim Myers. Matilda, here we all come!

Please get in touch for more information, to join our mailing list or to become a member. **Admission:** members £4, non-members £5 **Annual membership**: £6 (over 16's only)



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### Music Notes for July 2023 - B Hardy

Quite a lot of music this month, but all in the first half of the month, with multiple overlaps as a result. I would draw your attention to the concert being organised by Maidstone Winds on 15<sup>th</sup> in the memory of the late Dan Daley – details are not fully available yet but it looks like being special, so look in the press nearer the date (that includes checking the venue!). Then my list is:

- \*Saturday 1st July, 7.30pm at All Saints' Church, Mill Street, Maidstone ME15 6YE, Maidstone Choral Union's newly appointed music director of MCU, Ciara Considine, will share conducting duties with Tobias van de Locht who brings the Witten Symphony Orchestra from Germany to join MCU in a miscellany of choral and orchestral pieces to enjoy on an evening in high summer. Tickets (under19's free) at the door or from <a href="mailto:mcuconcertmanager@gmail.com">mcuconcertmanager@gmail.com</a>
- \*Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30 pm at Sutton Valance School, Sutton Valence Choral Society give their Summer Concert of show songs, traditional favourites and classical repertoire. Tickets 01622 861313 or at the door.
- \*and not to be forgotten, also **Saturday 8**<sup>th</sup> **July** at 4.00pm the Annual Leeds Castle concert starts. As usual it is led by The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra with many soloists. Tickets: https://www.leedscastleconcert.co.uk/buy-tickets/
- **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July,** 7.30pm at All Saints' Church, Mill Street, Maidstone ME15 6YE, Maidstone Wind Symphony will join forces with other local groups for a special evening of music celebrating the life of their President and supporter of local music, Dan Daley, who sadly passed away earlier this year. As we go to press details of this event are still being prepared. Look out for press notices or keep an eye on https://www.maidstonewindsymphony.org/
- \*Also on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July,** 7.30pm at Rochester Cathedral, Garth House, ME1 1SX, you are invited to a concert by the Kent Police choir. Tickets at the door.
- \*And **again on 15**<sup>th</sup> **July** , 7.30pm at St. John the Baptist Church, Marley Rd., Harrietsham ME14 4EE, Bearsted Choral Society's concert is entitled "Music & Anthems for Coronations". Tickets 01622 734908

### **Anniversary**

My anniversary this month is  $4^{th}$  July, the  $400^{th}$  anniversary of the death of William Byrd. William Byrd (c. 1540-4 July 1623) who was an English composer of late Renaissance music. Considered among the greatest composers of the Renaissance, he had a profound influence on composers both from his native England and on the continent. He is often coupled with John Dunstable and Henry Purcell as England's most important early music composers.

He wrote in many of the forms current in England at the time, including various types of sacred and secular polyphony, keyboard (the so-called Virginalist school), and consort music. Although he produced sacred music for Anglican services, sometime during the 1570s he became a Roman Catholic and wrote Catholic sacred music later in his life.

Byrd was born into a musical and relatively wealthy family. He had two older brothers, Symond and John, who became London merchants and active members of their respective livery companies. One of his four sisters, Barbara was married to a maker of musical instruments who kept a shop; his three other sisters, Martha, Mary and Alice, were likely also married to merchants.



Byrd's first known professional employment was his appointment in 1563 as organist and master of the choristers at Lincoln Cathedral. He obtained the prestigious post of Gentleman of the Chapel Royal in 1572 following the death of Parsons, a gifted composer who drowned in the Trent near Newark on 25 January of that year, and was organist as well as singer. In 1575 Byrd and

Tallis were jointly granted a monopoly for the printing of music and ruled music paper for 21 years, one of a number of patents issued by the Crown for the printing of books, which was the first known issuing of Letters Patent. During his life time, Byrd published three volumes of Cantiones Sacrae (1575, co-written with Tallis; 1589; 1591), two volumes of Gradualia (1605; 1607), Psalmes, Sonets, and Songs of Sadnes and Pietie (1588), Songs of Sundrie Natures (1589), and Psalmes, Songs, and Sonnets (1611). He also composed other vocal and instrumental pieces; three Masses, music for the Fitzwilliam Virginal Book, and motets.



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

1	Billie, Former assistant in 'Dr Who'
2	Parton, Country & Western singer
3	Matthew, Actor who played Chandler Bing in 'Friends'
4	Lee, Enter the Dragon star
5	Samuel, Famous Diarist
6	Ryan, Who was in 'You've got mail'
7	Ronnie, Snooker great
8	Swift, US singer of 'Love Story'
9	Marilyn, Hollywood legend who starred in 'The Seven Year Itch'
10	Nicks, Former singer with Fleetwood Mac

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Cheque	Cigarette	Pencil	Stub
2	Days	Master	Public	
3	Punch	Roger	Wild	
4	Garden	Keeper	Post	
5	Common	Dress	See	
6	Blind	Palm	Stamp	
7	Stag	Treasure	Witch	
8	North	Salt	Water	
9	Contact	Private	Shadow	
10	Pigeon	Court	Pit	
11	Cash	Officer	Thief	
12	Heat	Nappy	Nettle	
13	Honey	Mouse	Door	•
14	Baked	Hot	Sweet	
15	Dutch	Great	Sam	
16	Biting	Down	Thumb	

### **Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent**

### North Downs Walk - a great day and a great result

The Rotary Club of the Weald of Kent held its annual North Downs Walk on Sunday 11th June. We enjoyed great weather and one of the best results in recent years.

The event is a sponsored walk in aid of Cancer Research UK and the walkers' own choice of good causes. With a choice of routes from 1 mile (fully paved, therefore suitable for wheelchairs or baby buggies) to 9 miles including a climb up the North Downs, we attracted a full range of ages and abilities of walkers, including Brownies, Air Cadets, keen hikers and Active Retirement Associations. Some 400 walkers had pre-registered and downloaded sponsor forms via the Weald Rotary website and many more entered on the day, making a donation to CRUK.



Early indications, based on the pledges on walkers' sponsorship forms are that the Walk will have raised about £21,000 once Gift Aid is included, of which about two-thirds will go to CRUK and the rest to causes nominated by the walkers.

Duncan Payne, president of the Weald Rotary Club, said, "This is a great result, and a tribute to the generosity of all our walkers and their sponsors, particularly at a time when many households are facing a cost of living crisis."

Chas Bedford, chairman of the organising committee paid tribute to the small army of volunteers who acted as route marshals, greeted walkers at checkpoints, registered walkers and sponsor forms, and staffed the kitchen – producing 500 ploughman's lunches, strawberries and cream, and hot and cold drinks. "A lot of walkers have praised how friendly and professional our helpers were. I want to thank all of them. I also want to thank Family Funeral Service, our event sponsor, who have underwritten all our expenses, meaning that every penny raised in sponsorship has gone to the charities and not to admin."

Rotary is committed to protecting the environment and, this year, all of the disposable lunchboxes, cups and cutlery were Vegware compostables, and were accepted by KCC for composting. Other waste was separated into categories for recycling, leaving an absolute minimum of 'general waste' going to landfill.

Weald of Kent Rotary have been running the North Downs Walk for 38 years, missing only 2020 due to lockdowns, and plan to continue running it as long as there are walkers. The provisional date for next year is Sunday 9th June.

### Grafty Green Gardening Club Program of Events 2023

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
January 10	Dr Mick Lynn and	Which came first the Bee or the
January 10	AGM	Flower
February 7	Steven Harmer	The story of Plant Hunting
March 7	Kevin Tooher	Getting the best out of Composting
April 4	Caroline Halfpenny	A Gardener's response to Climate
April 4	and Spring show	Change.
Saturday April 29	10 am Plant sale on t	he Green
Sunday May 14	Coach outing to Leon	ards Lee
June 6	Outing to Faversham	– Edible Culture
July 4	Outing to Elmside, U	lcombe - Rhian Banham's Garden
Sunday August	Coach outing to Hyde	
13	Coach outing to Hyde	: Hall
September 4	Victoria Golding and	Marden Meadow
September 4	Autumn show	Ivial dell ivieadow
	Weekend away in Do	rset, staying in Weymouth, visit
September 8,9,10	Chawton House and	Gardens, Abbotsbury, Athelhampton
	House and Garden a	nd Holme Gardens
	Ylva Blid-	
October 3	Mackenzie,	Designing a Perennial Boarder
	Madrona Nursery	
November 7	Christine Bartlett	Healthy House Plants, Happy Home
December 5	Social – wine and che	ese with slide-show

**On July 4th** we have an opportunity to see Rhian Banham's garden at Elmside in Ulcombe. Local events are always enjoyed and we are looking forward to a relaxed evening and a catch up with one another.

Our outing to Edible Culture in Faversham bought a good number of us to view plants raised without insecticides. The introduction talk was very good and the plants were thriving under this regime. Many of us enjoyed the shop too which had some unusual gifts to take away. This was altogether a most enjoyable evening.

**In our Gardens:** - The challenge, is as ever to choose plants that are tolerant to dry conditions and to capture as much rainwater as possible to water those that need it. We can now sow the last vegetables to harvest in the Autumn and plant out all winter brassicas. Runner beans can be pinched out when they reach the top of the

canes and outdoor grown tomatoes when four trusses have formed, and remove side shoots too.

A reminder that payment for our August trip to Hyde Hall (£18) should be sent to Doreen Hulm our treasurer by 19 July. Thank you.

**Enjoy your gardening! Carole Frost.** 

### **Wild About Gardens**

Open Garden

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 1 − 5pm

Over 50 people viewed Sue's garden, enjoyed tea and cake and raised just over £500 for Kent Wildlife Trust.

### **Guided Walk – approximately 3 miles**

### Saturday 15th July

Meet on the village green at 9.30 for a 9.45 start.

We will walk up Church Road to the footpath halfway up and head towards Platts Heath. There are stiles to negotiate

Further details from Sue Burch – 01622 850381

### Yoga Classes in Grafty Green Village Hall with Sue Burch

**Monday** morning at 9.30, 5<sup>th</sup> June – 31<sup>st</sup> July **Wednesday** evening at 7, 7<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> August **Thursday** morning at 9.30, 8<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> August To join a class or for more details please call Sue Burch on 07803 962339.

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# Fun Run!

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 3pm

St Mary's, Lenham



### **Christian Message July 2023**

I know of lots of people. I know of King Charles III and very much enjoyed recently watching his coronation. I know of David Attenborough and always feel strangely tranquil when I hear him describing the magnificent beauty of nature! I know of the footballers who play for Chelsea, the football team I follow, which has been a rather grim experience this year!

I also know of God. The question for us to ponder is whether we are content to 'know of Him' or rather to truly know Him?

I know my wife. Once upon a time I only knew of her, but then I somehow convinced her to spend more time with me and ultimately say yes to marrying me. Over the past 10 years of sharing life together, she's got to know the good and the bad of the real me. She's also given me the opportunity to get to know her in a deep way too.

And so, I think again about my relationship with God. I'm convinced now more than ever that He's worth getting to know. He brings meaning to my life, comfort in my distress, purpose to my steps and fulfilment to my deepest needs.

Matthew 1:23 is a verse that is typically read at Christmas time:

"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel which means 'God is with us.""

This is incredible news, not just to celebrate at Christmas, but at all times! He is the God who is with us. He has come close. He has come to know and be known. Through prayer, we have the immeasurable privilege of drawing close to this God and knowing Him deeper day by day.

I pray that whether you have known of God for decades or whether you still only 'know of' Him, that you'd come to Him today and seek to further know the God who is with us!

Ben Doggett Pathways Church

### **Len Valley Benefice July 2023**

### Everybody is welcome



9.30am Boughton Malherbe:

Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast

Church

11.00am Ulcombe: Morning

Worship

11.00am Harrietsham: Family

friendly Morning Worship

11.00am Lenham: Holy

Communion

Wednesday 5th July

9.30am Lenham: Holy

Communion (BCP)

Sunday 9th July

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy

Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast

Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy

Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy

Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe:

**Choral Evensong** 



Sunday 16th July

8.00am Lenham: Holy

Communion (BCP)

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy

Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy

Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast

Church

11.00am Lenham: Morning

Worship

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy

Communion

Sunday 23rd July

11.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Boughton

Malherbe

"Saying

Goodbye to Revd. Charlotte"

'Identity:

"We are a people of joy"

Sunday 30th July - Creative Sunday **Benefice trip to Canterbury** 

Cathedral – further details available from each church

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### **Emergency and Help Contact Details**

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Police, Non-Emergency - (Including PCSO)	101

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NHS Medical Helpline		111
Maidstone & Pembur	y Hospitals	0845 155 1000
William Harvey Hospi	tal	01233 633331
Headcorn Surgery	(out of hours listen to -	01622 890294
Lenham Surgery	recorded messages)	01622 858341

Electricity (UK Power Networks)

Emergencies and Power Cuts 0800 783 8866 or 01243 508866

Water	Emergencies	0333 000 0002
Southern Wat	ter Foul and Waste Water drainage/Flooding	0330 303 0368
Calor Gas	Emergencies	08457 444999
KCC	Emergencies	03000 41 41 41
	Highways	03000 41 81 81

### KCC Community Wardens:

Local warden – Stuart Ellesmere	07969 583923
District Support – Dawn Riach- Brown	07773 397125

Fire	General Enquiries	01622 692121
	Home Safety Visits	0800 923 7000

R.S.P.C.A	Emergencies	0300 1234 999
Vet	24 Hour Pet Emergency Treatment Service	01622 734555

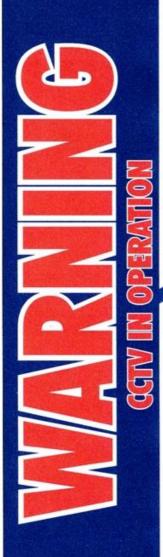
Maidstone Borough Community Protection - **01622 602202** – Bonfires, crime, dogs, domestic abuse, loan sharks, noise, pests and protection orders

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

### Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

Answer	Word 3	Word 2	I broW	
dut2	liona9	Cigarette	Cheque	J
School	Public	Master	Days	7
Flabbit	bliW	Roger	Punch	8
eate	fsoq	Keeber	Garden	t
əsuəs	əəs	Dress	Соттол	9
Date	Stamp	Palm	bnila	9
JunH	Witch	Treasure	Stag	
Sea	Water	Salt	Иоч	8
Eye	wobed2	Private	Contact	6
Clay	1!d	Court	Pigeon	0
Petty	}9idT	Officer	Cash	L
Rash	Nettle	Nappy	Heat	7
Trap	Door	əsnoM	Honey	3
Potato	Sweet	JoH	Baked	t
əlɔuN	Sam	Great	Dutch	S
lisM	qwnq_	Down	Biting	9

0	Stevie Nicks, Former singer with Fleetwood Mac
(	Marilyn <b>Monroe</b> , Hollywood legend who starred in 'The Seven Year Itch'
8	Taylor Swift, US singer of 'Love Story'
7	Ronnie <b>O'Sullivan</b> , Snooker great
9	Meg Ryan, Who was in 'You've got mail'
9	Samuel <b>Pepys</b> , Famous Diarist
t	Bruce Lee, Enter the Dragon star
8	Matthew <b>Perry</b> , Actor who played Chandler Bing in 'Friends'
7	Dolly Parton, Country & Western singer
Į	Billie Piper, Former assistant in 'Dr Who'



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