

# Malherbe Monthly

Number 62  
September 2009



**Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath**

Useful contact names and telephone N<sup>os</sup>.  
BOUGHTON MALHERBE/GRAFTY GREEN

County Councillor	Jenny Whittle	734897
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	858348 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Pat Anderson	858350
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
KM Correspondent	Vacant	
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Incumbent	Rev: Dick Venn email: <a href="mailto:dickvenn@gmail.com">dickvenn@gmail.com</a>	858195
Associate Priest	Marian Bond, available Wednesday-Sunday	07966 442181
Reader	Miss Joan Drury email: <a href="mailto:jdrury23@btinternet.com">jdrury23@btinternet.com</a>	853766
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders email: <a href="mailto:churchoffice@lvb.org.uk">churchoffice@lvb.org.uk</a>	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20 by Post Office	01580 754300
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
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Mike Hitchins	Editor: <a href="mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net">mf.hitchins@virgin.net</a>	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit! Anything for the October edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 ([mf.hitchins@virgin.net](mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net)) by **20<sup>th</sup> September**

**Front cover:** Grazing Cattle in Grafty Green

## News from St. Nicholas Church

### **Cream Teas**

Our Cream Teas have been very popular this year, with many people coming to enjoy a cream tea while sitting in the sunshine. We have been very pleased to welcome friends old and new, some coming regularly each Sunday. We will continue to serve cream teas into September on the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup>.

We have been blessed with good weather on most of the Sundays this year. Our one drawback has been the wasps which have plagued us - unfortunately they like strawberry jam as much as we do. If there is anyone reading this that is able to help with trying to find the nest we would be most grateful. Only one person has been stung so far, thank goodness. Sylvia has a bottle of vinegar to hand, which has proved most effective; we also have Piriton should anyone be subject to a bad re-action from a sting.

We are sorry to report that Sally has unfortunately broken a bone in her wrist, so will be unable to help for the rest of the season. We hope that her wrist will heal quickly and that she will be back with us next year making the scones. In the meantime, several people have come forward to help by making scones and have found that they have a skill they didn't realise they possessed.

### **Friends of Kent Churches Bike Ride/Walk**

The Friends of Kent Churches Bike Ride/Walk is fast approaching and we have a Walker for St. Nicholas who is looking for sponsors on the **12<sup>th</sup> September**.

Is there anyone else out there who could walk or Ride for St. Nicholas? Please get in touch with Joan Davidson on 01622 850210 for a sponsorship form and a list of the Churches which will be open on the day so you can plan your route.

We will be manning the Church from 10.00-6.00pm to welcome riders and offer refreshments, usually a glass of fruit squash or water and a biscuit. I will be looking for people to be "welcomers".

The sponsorship money is sent to the Friends and half the total is handed back to the Church that raised it, so you help your own Church and the Friends. The Friends give Grants to Churches who apply for help to finance large projects. For example: making repairs to the church towers, masonry, re-roofing, etc.

## **Harvest Supper and Back to Church Sunday**

Harvest Festival and Back to Church Sunday are to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September and celebrated together at 9.30am.

We will be auctioning the produce after the service and hope that many of you will come along and celebrate the Harvest with us. The money raised by the auction is given to a Charity chosen by the PCC. This is usually Demelza House Children's Hospice.

The Service will be an all embracing one with a special format so that everyone will be experiencing a new kind of Service together - we hope to see you there.

## **Harvest Supper**

The Harvest Supper will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Mair Chantler is organising this event for us. Some of the funds raised will go to the Charity 'Crisis at Christmas'. Tickets will be available from Mair on 01622 859672.

## **Archdeacon's Visit**

The Archdeacon of Maidstone, the Venerable Philip Down is to visit the Benefice on 10th September to meet with the Church Officers and the PCCs.

**Joan Davidson**

## **Jenny Whittle - News from County Hall**



I know that **speeding** is a serious concern for many residents in Grafty Green and Platts Heath. I would like to use my Member's Highways Fund (a £25,000 'pot' to fund schemes to improve our roads) to help identify how this can be tackled. A speed survey can be undertaken to quantify the extent of the problem. Analysis of the results will show what scope there is to change drivers' behaviour. If less than 15 per cent of

vehicles significantly exceed the speed limit, it is unlikely that any further measures will be taken by Kent Highways Services (KHS). If typical speeds are slightly higher, then a possible solution is to work with the Police by funding occasional speed checks.

At the Parish Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> August, I discussed with Parish Councillors and the Police the possibility of launching a Speedwatch campaign. This relies on local volunteers to undertake speed checks in conjunction with the police. If a driver is found to be speeding twice within a twelve month period, the vehicle's registered owner receives a warning letter from the police. If the same vehicle is caught three times, there is a further warning, and possibly follow-up action by police officers. I can use my Highways Fund for initial start-up costs, or administrative support to ensure letters are sent (which otherwise relies on volunteers). If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Clerk, Pat Anderson (Tel: 858350).

Another solution that KHS is trialling to monitor speed is Speed Indicator Services (SIDs). These are mobile devices that are utilised for a few weeks at a time and will be moved around the county to monitor speed. It is hoped that these will prove to be an effective tool to monitor speed and form another part of the solution to allow us to ultimately reduce excessive speed.

Flashing interactive signs are used as a reminder to drivers who having entered a lower speed limit have failed to reduce their speed. At present, they can only be used in conjunction with a change in the speed limit, so this is not applicable to Grafty Green at the present time. I will make enquiries as to whether the guidelines could be changed to permit the use of an interactive sign in the village, although these are expensive and there are strict guidelines against the proliferation of such signs across the county as it is feared that too many signs will undermine their effectiveness.

On Platts Heath, a KHS engineer will meet with Platts Heath Primary School to discuss transport issues and how to make the surrounding area safer for parents and children. I am advised that the implementation of a traffic calming scheme relies on evidence of consistent speeding together with a history of personal injury crashes. I am told that the county's crash database has no record of any reported personal injury crashes in Platts Heath in the vicinity of the 'village triangle' over the last three year period. I have, however, asked for data on traffic speeds through Platts Heath to be collated to see if this will permit the introduction of traffic calming measures in this area.

Please contact me if you have concerns about speeding in the village or any other matter that I can help with by raising at County Hall. I can be contacted on 01622 734897 or 07855 767968.

**Jenny Whittle**  
**County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East**

**Monday to Fridays**

Service No.	School Days		Not School Days	
	Only	Days	Only	Days
Maidstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	59	59	59	59
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	1227	1402	1555	1555
Wheatsharf	1229	1404	1557	1617
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1236	1411	1604	1604
Linton Corner	1240	1415	1608	1608
Chart Sutton	1244	1419	1612	1612
Wormley	1249	1424	1617	1617
Wormley	1252	1427	1620	1620
Wormley	1255	1430	1623	1623
Wormley	1258	1433	1626	1626
Wormley	1306	1438	1634	1646
Wormley	1313	1445	1641	1653
Wormley	1320	1452	1648	1700
Wormley	1535	1535	1535	1535
Wormley	1544	1544	1544	1544

**Saturdays**

Service No.	School Days		Not School Days	
	Only	Days	Only	Days
Maidstone, King Street, Chequers Bus Station, Lower Stone Street, Upper Stone Street, Loose Road, Chequers Crescent, High Road, College Road, Hill Street, King Street, Loose, Linton Road, Lintons Road, Heath Road, Chart Sutton, Kingswood, Ashford Drive, Four Warming, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Warming, Warming Cross Roads, Chartway Street, Bromfield Road, Kingswood, Ashford Drive, Charlesford Avenue, Caysay Drive, Gravelly Bottom Road, Lenham Road, Ulcombe Hill, Ulcombe, The Street, Pye Corner, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green.	59	59	59	59
Buses running via Langley run as normal from Maidstone to Loose Road, then Sutton Road, Langley, Sutton Road, Warming Cross Roads, then as normal route to Grafty Green.	0838	1241	1525	1755
Buses terminating at Kingswood run as normal from Maidstone to Kingswood, Chartway Street, then Gravelly Bottom Road (Village Hall), Caysay Drive, returning via the normal route.	0840	1243	1527	1757
Service 66: Cornwallis Academy, Heath Road, Four Wents, King's Road, Headcorn.	0847	1250	1534	1804
	1254	1538	—	—
	1258	1542	—	—
	1303	1547	1817	—
	1306	1550	1820	—
	1309	1553	1823	—
	0859	1312	1556	1826
	0907	1320	1604	—
	0914	1327	1841	—
	0921	1334	1848	—
	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—

**Service 59:** Maidstone, King Street, Chequers Bus Station, Lower Stone Street, Upper Stone Street, Loose Road, Chequers Crescent, High Road, College Road, Hill Street, King Street, Loose, Linton Road, Lintons Road, Heath Road, Chart Sutton, Kingswood, Ashford Drive, Four Warming, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Warming, Warming Cross Roads, Chartway Street, Bromfield Road, Kingswood, Ashford Drive, Charlesford Avenue, Caysay Drive, Gravelly Bottom Road, Lenham Road, Ulcombe Hill, Ulcombe, The Street, Pye Corner, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green.

**Buses running via Langley** run as normal from Maidstone to Loose Road, then Sutton Road, Langley, Sutton Road, Warming Cross Roads, then as normal route to Grafty Green.

**Buses terminating at Kingswood** run as normal from Maidstone to Kingswood, Chartway Street, then Gravelly Bottom Road (Village Hall), Caysay Drive, returning via the normal route.

**Service 66:** Cornwallis Academy, Heath Road, Four Wents, King's Road, Headcorn.

**Monday to Fridays**

Service No.	School Days		Not School Days	
	Only	Days	Only	Days
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by	59	59	59	59
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	0723	0723	0815	1325
Ulcombe, Post Office	0730	0750	0822	1332
Kingswood, Village Hall	0735	0755	0827	1337
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0738	0757	0829	1339
Wormley	0746	0808	0835	1345
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0739	0747	0809	0838
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0742	0750	0811	0841
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0745	0753	0814	1354
Chart Sutton, Cornwalls Academy	0750	0758	0820	1507
Linton Corner	0756	0802	0849	1359
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0758	0800	0806	1407
Wheatsharf	0810	0814	1005	1415
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0808	—	—	—
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817	—	—	—
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0826	—	—	—

**Saturdays**

Service No.	School Days		Not School Days	
	Only	Days	Only	Days
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by	59	59	59	59
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	0733	0823	1336	—
Ulcombe, Post Office	0740	0830	1343	—
Kingswood, Village Hall	0745	0835	1348	1604
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0747	0837	1350	1606
Wormley	0753	0843	1356	1612
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0756	0846	1359	—
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0759	0849	1402	—
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0802	0852	1405	—
Chart Sutton, Cornwalls Academy	0807	0857	1410	—
Linton Corner	0811	1001	1414	—
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0815	1005	1418	1624
Wheatsharf	0823	1013	1427	1632
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	—	—	—	—
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	—	—	—	—
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	—	—	—	—

**Service 59** does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays.

**NOTE**  
1. The Saturday buses are provided on behalf of Kent County Council by Nu-Venture (Tel: 01622 882288), NOT Arriva.

**CODES**  
\* — These buses are provided on behalf of Kent County Council. If you have any comments or suggestions, please write to Transport Integration, Kent County Council, Gibson Drive, West Malling, Kent ME19 4QG.  
\* — Special arrangements apply over the Christmas and New Year period and at Easter. Please watch for announcements.  
R — Sets down only upon request by passengers boarding at or before Loose Road, Plains Avenue.

## **Grafty Garden Cuttings – September**

Maybe this corner of England will receive a meaningful amount of rain this month? I really do hope so, for however much one tries, with hosepipe and watering can, nothing is as good as a proper downpour. My runner beans, dwarf beans and sweet corn have been a disaster, over and done two months early and some of the trees have already shed many of their leaves. Everything else is looking extremely weary and we struggle to keep new plantings alive.

Watering well is a must in these conditions - not a can with rose fitted, swished over the leaves: little and often is a disaster as it brings roots to the surface in search of moisture, which then dry out even faster. A really good soak and I am talking gallons, once or twice a week for suffering trees and shrubs, is much better and encourages the roots to go deep.

Bird up-date: Four buzzards circling over the woods, instead of last month's three. And Gold Crests in the fir trees again, a flurry of starlings in a communal bathing frenzy in the bird bath and quite a rise in the number of sparrows. When I was a child on the farm ... years ago, the latter were about in such vast numbers, stealing so much chicken food, they were a real pest. Now I just love to hear their cheeky chatter and welcome what few remain.

Too many jobs to list, so I will put in a reminder that there is still time to sow edible crops like Chinese leaves, lettuces, salad leaves and winter spinach and hardy annuals for an early display next spring, especially if cloches or containers are being used.

The weather has been exceptional this year for encouraging blight in potatoes and tomatoes and WASPs. I only grow early potatoes and was able to harvest before the blight set in, but it ruined my outdoor tomatoes and it will be a race between it getting a hold and the crop ripening successfully in the greenhouse. I usually disinfect the latter at the end of the season, although blight blows in as spores and is not supposed to carry over from one year to the next, I try to make sure and treat the soil, or renew it, as well. Always bin, not compost any affected plants.

As for wasps, they have reached almost plague proportions and really know how to spoil a tree full of fruit, a BBQ or a picnic. It would seem that last winter's cold temperatures did little to reduce the numbers of over-wintering queens, who obviously found plenty of sheltered spots to hibernate.

Whatever, I am now going back out to battle with the hose pipe and maybe do a rain dance (somewhere no-one can see me, of course!)

**Rosemary Smith**

## **Neighbourhood Watch Messages**

I would like to warn any members when coming into Maidstone Town Centre to be extra vigilant. We have had a number of purse thefts and ask that you are cautious of anyone who tries to distract you by starting a conversation with you. We have had an incident where someone has been told that they have something spilt on their jacket and while they are distracted the person's purse was taken. If you witness a crime in progress please call 999. If you have any information that you believe will help us please call 01622 690055. We have made a number of arrests and please be reassured we are doing all we can to tackle this issue. We do have some purse clips still available. For those of you not aware of these, they can be attached between your purse and your handbag so preventing your purse being taken. You can obtain one by visiting Maidstone Police Station in Palace.

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I would like to make you aware of the two following concerns.

People are receiving phone calls from someone who says they are from BT and that the householder owes money and if they do not pay it now they will be cut off. Of course they are not from BT and they only wish to get your bank details.

Another company, who call themselves SAS security, although they may have used other names, are calling people and saying that they are part of a government initiative to secure property. They go on to use hard selling tactics by scaring people by telling them that their area has seen an increase in burglary and it is for their safety. This company will then fit you an alarm system that they charge you a monthly amount, so of course it is not free at all. To reassure you, in the last year April 08 - April 09 offences of burglary to homes have dropped by 3.3%, which are the lowest figures in the County.

Of course we do encourage people to have a burglary alarm, but get it from a company that you know and get more than one quote so you can compare prices.

## **News from Maidstone Council**

### **Support a day of international cease-fire**

**Date:** Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** noon to 6pm

**Place:** Whatman Park, Maidstone

**Details:** A six-hour extravaganza of live bands, skating and BMX-ing is planned as part of an international day of peace.

Young people from Maidstone Youth Forum will be at Whatman Park on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> for this year's Peace One Day event to draw attention to the annual peace campaign, officially sanctioned by the UN since September 2001.

The afternoon will include skating and BMX competitions, a bouncy castle, face painting, a henna tattooist and a graffiti project.

Speakers from various organisations will be on stage between the bands to raise awareness of the peace message and the deputy Mayor of Maidstone, Cllr Eric Hotson, will also be attending.

Maidstone Youth Forum members raised the funds to put on the event from the Youth Opportunity Fund and Maidstone Borough Council and welcomes families and young people of all ages.

For further information call Maidstone Borough Council's Sports, Play and Youth Development Team on 01622 602222.

### **Malherbe Monthly Magazine**

This magazine can now be viewed on the Internet via the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Web Site. As well as the current edition, all back issues for 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 can be viewed. You even get the front cover in colour!!!

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

**[www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk)**

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

<b>Find the missing word?</b>	
1	_____ Date, TV programme with Cilla Black
2	Bald _____, Symbol of the USA
3	The Lone _____, Masked wild west hero
4	I have a _____, A hit by Abba
5	_____ Way, Our Galaxy
6	Nip 'n' _____, US cosmetic surgery drama
7	_____ G, Aussie singer of Ooh Aah Just a Little Bit
8	Blue Suede _____, Rock 'n' Roll classic by Elvis
9	_____ Johnson, Early aviator
10	Pam _____, Walford actress known as Pat

**Maidstone Mela**

The Maidstone Mela is a truly international festival of food, dance and music. Community groups from many parts of the world participate and have stalls selling food and other products at a most reasonable price. The food is varied and really good and cheap!

The event is being held over two days in **Mote Park**, Maidstone on Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Sept, from 6 to 9pm. On this evening there will be groups of musicians performing. There will be at least one professional food stall. However, on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept, the main Community event will take place from 1 to 6pm.

I hope many of our colleagues will come along with their friends and families. Bring your picnic chairs and tables!

As the Mela is a family event there is no alcohol being sold in the park although you can bring your own!

**Maidstone Cultural Group by Voluntary Action Maidstone**

KENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOC



# “PEOPLING PAST LANDSCAPES”

STUDY DAY – OCT 3<sup>RD</sup> 2009



LENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

10.0AM – 5PM **£5** for the day  
(£6 for lunch if required)



Come and gain ideas,  
knowledge, practical  
experience on how to  
research your Parish.  
Find its history, people,  
Buildings & archaeology..

Tickets and details from  
Lesley Feakes  
01622 850275



**CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL**  
**OPEN EVENING**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October – 5.30 pm to 9.30 pm**

See many interesting displays showing behind the scenes at the Cathedral and a special exhibition featuring:  
The Oakeley Collection – a fine collection of scale models of famous cathedrals made in 1916.

**FREE ENTRY, FREE ACTIVITIES & FREE GUIDED TOURS**

**LOOK OUT FOR THE HENRY VIII EXHIBITION TOO**

5.30 pm	Choral Evensong
6.15 pm – 8.40 pm	Displays and activities
8.40 pm	Concert by the Choristers
9.00 pm	Compline

**EVERYONE WELCOME – BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

For information call The Friends Office on 01227 865292

## **NEWS FROM ULCOMBE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **A NEW SCHOOL YEAR**

#### **Summer Seems to Fly By**

It may have been one of our longest school holidays of recent times, but the time still seems to have rapidly disappeared. The staff team are already gearing themselves up for the new school year and we look forward to seeing the children returning on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September safe and well.

#### **Next Year!**

Looking ahead we have several things happening right at the start of the new school year. On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September Two Feet will be in the hall running a shoe fitting surgery. This is a great opportunity to check that your child has the right size shoes. You can also buy shoes, though there is no compulsion to buy from them and the fitting service is free. This is open to children from school and from the wider community.

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September Premier Sport are hoping to run a Multi-Skills day from 9.30am. If you have ordered uniform for the new school year, you will be able to collect this from 10am, also on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Much further ahead, please put the date of our Open Morning in your diary. This is for parents of children currently in school, and for parents of children who are yet to start primary education. We look forward to seeing you there on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October, finding out what a morning is like in our school.

Mr V Hampton,  
*Head Teacher*

## How about joining a Yoga Class?

Yoga exercises promote increased flexibility, postural alignment, balancing muscle groups and counter-acting the overuse of specific muscles used in our everyday activities. Yoga also focuses on being able to breathe with control; using the breath with movement to bring balance between the body and the mind.

Generally, the class will start with a warm up through the joints and stretching the muscles and then practicing sequences of moves that improves co-ordination and grace, strengthening areas of the body and building stamina.

Each session finishes with a relaxation to allow the mind and body to feel rejuvenated. To be able to relax and reduce stress provides a natural way to boost the immune system, sooth the nerves and promotes a positive state of mind.

### **Yoga classes in Grafty Green Village Hall**

**Thursday mornings 9 - 11.30 am**

Term starts Thursday 3rd September  
and

**Wednesday evenings - 7 - 8.30 pm**

Term starts Wednesday 9th September

£5 a Session

If you are able to make any of these dates and would like to join in please  
give me a call -

Sue Burch - 01622 850381

email:burch1997@aol.com

Mobile: 0780 3962339

## GRAFTY GREEN GARDENING CLUB 2009 PROGRAMME

Date	Topic	Speaker
6 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM + Vegetable growing - hints and tips	Sissinghurst gardener: Amy Cabey
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Dry Garden	H. Newman
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Butterflies	Steve Weeks
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Spring Show & River Medway Part 2	Graham Johnson
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Plant Sale – on the Green	
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Local garden visit	Sissinghurst
5 <sup>th</sup> June – 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Weekend visit to Hampshire	
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Lullingstone Castle – World Garden visit	Tom Hart Dyke
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Social at Myrtle House, Grafty Green	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>Autumn show - Aspects of showing</b>	<b>Lesley Feakes</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Village Signs	Avice Harms
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Kent in the 1900 century	Bob Ogley
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Gardening quiz and supper	

Further details from Sue Burch on 850381 or Rosemary Smith on 850526

- ❖ Membership to the gardening club is only £5 for an action packed year
- ❖ Regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month in the village hall at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated. 75p for members and £1 for visitors.
- ❖ The club enables members to swap plants/seeds, share ideas and improve their growing skills.
- ❖ Meetings are friendly and informal; visitors are always welcome; refreshments included.



**The Grafty Green Gardening Club** September meeting will be in the Village Hall at 7.30 on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. The topic of the evening is the Autumn Show with explanations of how to achieve the best results when showing plants. Flowers, vegetables etc. from Lesley Feakes.

Refreshments and raffle added bonus; come a join us as visitors are always welcome.

The schedule below for the different classes should you wish to enter.

Flower Classes:-

1. Vase of annuals - 7 stems
2. Vase of perennials - 7 stems
3. Vase of 5 Asters or Michaelmas daisies
4. Specimen rose
5. Vase of 5 dahlias – any variety
6. Succulent growing plant – 5” pot maximum

Vegetable Classes:-

7. 3 carrots
8. 5 tomatoes
9. 9 runner beans
10. 3 onions
11. Novelty “the funniest vegetable”.
12. 3 Beetroot

Craft

13. Decorated wooden spoon (garden theme)
14. Novelty bird next box (wood, knitted, whatever)

## **Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)**

Maidstone Borough Council has now has issued the new timetable up to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The main difference is that all Grafty Green times will be on a Sunday and the freighter will only be here for 45 minutes – so get there early.

Additionally there will be no service for collecting electrical items .i.e. no separate freighter to pick up items such as TV's, monitors, etc. They state it is against EU rules and they have to provide a separate freighter to do this.

### **Grafty Green**

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	14:15 – 15:00 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	14:15 – 15:00 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

### **Platts Heath**

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	11:15 – 12-15 -: Green Lane
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	11:15 – 12-15 -: Green Lane

### **Ulcombe**

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	12:30 – 13:15 -: Lodge Road
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	12:30 – 13:15 -: Lodge Road

### **Lenham**

Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	14:15 – 14:45 -: Lenham Heath Rd – Boughton Rd
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	14:15 – 14:45 -: Lenham Heath Rd – Boughton Rd



## **‘Back to Basics’ through to ‘Digital Photography’**

### **Egerton Telecottage does it all!**

We are pleased to say we have now arranged the following computer classes to be run from September to December:

<b>Basic IT</b>	Tuesdays 15 <sup>th</sup> /22 <sup>nd</sup> /29 <sup>th</sup> Sept/6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10am-12 noon
<b>Basic IT</b>	Wednesdays 11 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> /25 <sup>th</sup> Nov/2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	10am-12 noon
<b>Digital Photography</b>	Wednesdays 16 <sup>th</sup> /23 <sup>rd</sup> /30 <sup>th</sup> Sept/7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	7.30pm-9.30pm
<b>Word Processing – Basic</b>	Tuesdays 13 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> Oct/3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	10am–12 noon
<b>Word Processing – Intermediate</b>	Tuesday’s 17 <sup>th</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> Nov/1 <sup>st</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10am– 12 noon
<b>Desk Top Publishing</b>	Tuesdays 20 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> Oct/3 <sup>rd</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	7.30pm–9.30pm

**For full details and any further information please contact our Booking Clerk – Sylvia Tillman on 01233 756050.**

We can also arrange to run other classes such as Excel, Ebay, Home Security, Internet, etc. If there are four or more people interested in any of these subjects, we will be happy to look into arranging times and dates. In addition, if there are any other areas where you think we can help, don’t hesitate to talk to Sylvia and we will do what we can.

Our computer clinic is open every Saturday morning from 10am to 12 noon to help you with technical advice, photocopying, scanning and laminating etc. – or just a coffee and a chat!

## The September Night Sky

The Sun is in the constellation of Leo, and moves into Virgo on the 16<sup>th</sup> September.

The Autumn Equinox occurs on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, when the Sun crosses the celestial equator. At this point, night and day are of equal length. After this the Sun moves into the southern half of the sky, and I'm afraid that for the next six months the nights are longer than the days.

Full Moon occurs on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, when the Moon is in the constellation of Aquarius, and New Moon is on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Mercury is at inferior conjunction (almost directly in front of the Sun) on 20<sup>th</sup> September, and by the end of the month it will start to become visible in the eastern sky before dawn. We should be getting better views of this planet by mid October.

Venus is rising in the northeast in the early hours of the morning, and is visible in the eastern sky at dawn. Venus rises more than three hours before the Sun, and each morning rises a little later. It is still, however, brighter than any of the stars.

Mars rises in the northeast just before midnight, and by dawn is well up in the eastern sky. Mars is moving eastward through Gemini, towards the "Twin" stars Castor and Pollux. It is only slightly brighter than they are, and is faintly orange in colour.

Jupiter is the only planet well placed for viewing this month. It can be seen due south just above the horizon. Relative to the stars it is moving south-westwards in the constellation of Capricornus. Through a telescope the disc of Jupiter can clearly be seen, together with the dark and light cloud bands and some of the four major moons.

Saturn is at superior conjunction (almost directly behind the Sun) on 17<sup>th</sup> September, and will therefore not be visible this month.

Some of you may have read that the key to life has been found in a comet. The discovery, described by scientists as "exciting and profound" is a boost for the theory that life came from outer space. The amino acid glycine was found in samples from comet Wild 2 by the American Stardust probe. The substance is one of 20 amino acids that form chains to form millions of different proteins, from which all cells of living organisms are made.

**John Maunder**

## **The Grafty Gourmet**

Those of you, who enjoy the flavour of Chinese ribs, will love this dish. The slow cooked pork literally falls apart in your mouth as you eat it! Serve with rice and a stir-fry of mixed mushrooms and mange tout, to make a fabulous mouth watering meal. Once tried, it will become a favourite, I can assure you. Enjoy.

### **Aromatic Eastern Slow Cook Pork**

Serves 4

900g Lean boneless pork collar, shoulder or leg joint  
2.5cm (1 inch) Root ginger (peeled and thinly sliced)  
4 Garlic cloves (crushed)  
2 tbsp Soy sauce  
200ml Fresh Orange juice  
1 tsp Sesame oil  
2 tbsp Brown sugar  
2 tbsp Hoisin sauce

1. Take the lean boneless collar, shoulder or leg joint; cut the string off the joint and flatten out. Cut into 6-8 large chunks removing any excess fat.
2. In an ovenproof casserole dish, mix together the root ginger, garlic, soy sauce, orange juice, sesame oil, brown sugar and hoisin sauce. Add the pork chunks and mix together.
3. Cover with lid and cook for about 2 hours at 180° (gas mark 5) until meat is very tender and almost falling apart. (Add a little extra orange juice during cooking if required).

**The Grafty Gourmet**



**Girlguiding UK**  
*girls in the lead*

is 100 years old!

And to help raise funds for the Centenary Celebrations we are holding a

## **Boot and Indoor Craft Fair**

on Sunday 27th September

at Kingswood Primary School

'Boots' and stall holders £5 each from 8am (cars only please, no vans)

Public from 9am until 1pm

Entrance 50p per person or £1 for a family

Refreshments available

Contact Sue Morris (Harrietsham Guides) on 01622 850948 or 07740 822244

***Look out for details of future events in your village magazine***

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

$\frac{1}{8}$ page	£3.00
$\frac{1}{4}$	£5.00
$\frac{1}{2}$	£10.00
Complete page	£20.00

Phone 01622 858937 or  
Email [mf.hitchins@virgin.net](mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net)

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

I hope you enjoyed last month's link word. Here is another  
to rack your brains – Paul Neaves

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

	<b>Word 1</b>	<b>Word 2</b>	<b>Word 3</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	Poison	Run	Desert	<b>Rat</b>
2	Spray	Fire	Hand	
3	Industry	Cheese	Pie	
4	Ticket	Tax	Stamp	
5	Dummy	Fun	Dry	
6	Stepping	Grind	Mile	
7	Quarters	Just	Bliss	
8	Shot	Off	Total	
9	Measure	Red	Worm	
10	Apron	Heart	Purse	
11	Eaten	Ball	Tiger	
12	Shower	Night	Hub	
13	Shotgun	Diamond	Cake	
14	Charmer	Grass	Bite	
15	Liner	Sided	Way	
16	Pilot	Acid	Tube	

**THE FRIENDS OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST'S CHURCH,  
HARRIETSHAM**



**GUIDED TOUR OF ST. PETER'S, BROADSTAIRS**

In a variation on our normal autumn outing, the Friends have booked 20 places on the "St. Peter's Village Tour" on Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> next. The tour, which was judged one of the world's top three responsible tourism destinations in the 2008 Virgin Holidays Responsible Tourism Awards, is a two hour, approximately one mile guided walk around the village of St. Peter's near Broadstairs, during which historical characters in costume tell the history of the village. Now in its 15<sup>th</sup> season, it has to date entertained more than 16,000 visitors.

Our visit will start from the main entrance of St Peter's church at 9.45am. Admission is free but participants are invited to make a donation to cover costs which average £3 per adult visitor. If you would like to join the tour either add your name to the sign up list on the screen at the back of St John the Baptist's church or contact Joanna Pegg on 859518 before September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Those taking part will need to travel to St. Peter's by car but it should be possible to arrange lifts and car sharing. More information is available on the tour website at [www.villagetour.co.uk](http://www.villagetour.co.uk).

**Wives Obey Your Husbands!**

Does the Bible really say this? The answer will be revealed at one of the next series of Bible Studies beginning at Weirton Villa on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September. We meet at 10 for coffee and chat and the studies begin promptly at 10.30am. This session we shall be studying St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Do join us! Telephone me on 853766 if you would like to know more.

**Joan Drury**

## Christian Message

### **Praise the Lord for cauliflower - and you!**

I am fascinated by the Golden Section. It really is amazing!

Any space can be divided visually and geometric rules can help to make a painting, design or building look balanced. The Golden Section, in particular, creates areas related to each other. The ratio between the larger and smaller sides of a rectangle is equal to the ratio between the two added together and the larger one.

The Egyptians knew about the Golden Section when they designed the pyramids. No one can prove the connection but the design of the Greek Parthenon seems to follow the same rules too. By the Renaissance, it was common knowledge and artists from Leonardo de Vinci to modern day Mark Rothko have applied the theory to their work.

The Fibonacci series and the square root of two are also very exciting and are well worth looking up in books or on the Internet.

What really gets me going, though, is when the Golden Section works in nature. Snail shells, galaxies and even the DNA that makes up each and every one of us are all based on the same ratio. So what are we saying, God knew about the Golden Section even before the Egyptians and the Greeks? Well, he did create them too!

I get very enthusiastic about the oddest of images. I love looking at items through a microscope and delight in playing with my daughter's macro lens on her camera. I've always enjoyed the repetitive geometric patterns made by kaleidoscopes, intertwining Celtic designs and the work of artists like Escher, but another phenomenon that really brings me out in palpitations is the theory of fractals.

My knowledge of the subject is relatively recent and limited but my understanding is that fractals are roughly geometric shapes, which put together form a bigger version of the same shape. So a bud might have a form that, when added to other buds, becomes a branch of the same shape, which, when added to other branches, becomes a plant of the same shape. To look at it the other way round, however many times an object is magnified the parts, or parts of parts, relate to the whole in a beautifully ordered pattern. Of course the Golden Ratio fits perfectly into this theory too.

Benoit Mandelbrot first described the principle in the 1970s but there are many examples of early design work intuitively based on the theory including paisley patterns, the 9th Century Book of Kells and Gothic architecture. There are lots of interesting books on fractals and some wonderful pictures can be found on the internet.

A good beginner's guide is *Introducing Fractal Geometry*, published by Icon Books UK: ISBN 978 1840467 13 0. If you want to save the expense of buying this, please feel free to borrow my copy (phone 01622 859442).

So is God a scientist, mathematician or an artist? As far as I'm concerned, he's clearly all of the above but we don't have to be any of the above to appreciate his creation. Tiny petals of alyssum or gypsophilia are enough to make many a gardener gasp at God's sheer attention to detail, but to think that coastlines, snow flakes, ferns and even vegetables all conform to fractal order, makes for a really amazing universe.

Jesus said:

*"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow, they neither toil or spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you". Matthew 6 verses 28 – 30*

Next time you sit down to supper containing cauliflower or broccoli, take time to consider how clever its design is, and how the patterns within it are repeated over and over again to the minute detail.

Then remember that God loves you far more than the humble cauliflower: so much so that your arteries, lungs and even your brain are fractal structures and your DNA conforms to the beautiful design theory of the Golden Section.

**Pamela Cuerden**

### **A word of thanks from Revd. Marian Bond**

This is just to thank you all for the very warm welcome you gave me when I was licensed as Associate Priest in the Len Valley Benefice on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

It was lovely to see so many people from all the parishes. We all appreciated the delicious refreshments! Thanks you so much. I look forward to getting to know you more as time goes on.

**The Len Valley Benefice**  
**Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe**  
**Sunday/Main Services – September 2009**

**6<sup>th</sup> September Blessed Virgin Mary**

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion  
9.30am Harrietsham Family Praise Service  
9.30am Boughton Malherbe BCP Holy Communion  
11.00am Lenham Holy Communion  
11.15am Family Praise Service

**13<sup>th</sup> September 14th Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion  
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion  
9.30am Boughton Malherbe BCP Morning Worship  
11.00am Lenham Morning Worship  
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion  
6.30pm St. Nicholas Boughton Malherbe, Choral Evensong  
7.00pm Hoy Cross Bearsted Taize Service

**20<sup>th</sup> September 14th Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion  
9.30am Harrietsham Morning Worship  
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Holy Communion (Sung)  
11.00am Lenham Holy Communion  
11.15am Ulcombe Morning Worship

**27<sup>th</sup> September 15th Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion  
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion  
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Family Praise Service  
11.00am Lenham Family Praise Service  
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion  
6.30pm Harrietsham Informal

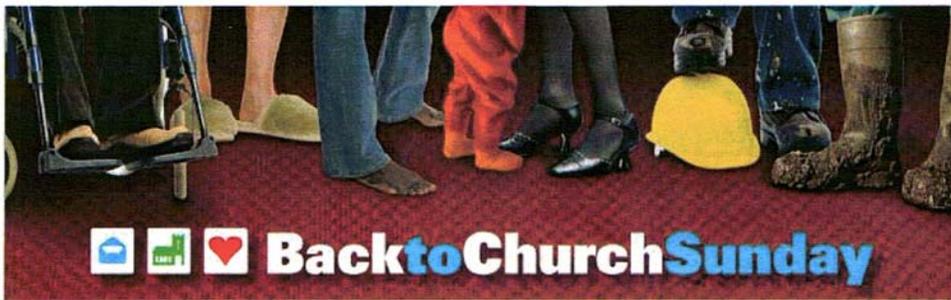
Interested in joining a new church youth group for Years 7 - 9? Fun, games, discussions. Please ring Helen Venn on 858195 for more details.

**Helen Venn**

## Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	<b>Word 1</b>	<b>Word 2</b>	<b>Word 3</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	Poison	Run	Desert	Rat
2	Spray	Fire	Hand	Gun
3	Industry	Cheese	Pie	Cottage
4	Ticket	Tax	Stamp	Collector
5	Dummy	Fun	Dry	Run
6	Stepping	Grind	Mill	Stone
7	Quarters	Just	Bliss	Married
8	Shot	Off	Total	Tee
9	Measure	Red	Worm	Tape
10	Apron	Heart	Purse	Strings
11	Eaten	Ball	Tiger	Moth
12	Shower	Night	Hub	Cap
13	Shotgun	Diamond	Cake	Wedding
14	Charmer	Grass	Bite	Snake
15	Liner	Sided	Way	One
16	Pilot	Acid	Tube	Test

	<b>Find the missing word?</b>
1	Blind Date, TV programme with Cilla Black
2	Bald Eagle, Symbol of the USA
3	The Lone Ranger, Masked wild west hero
4	I have a Dream, A hit by Abba
5	Milky Way, Our Galaxy
6	Nip 'n' Tuck, US cosmetic surgery drama
7	Gena G, Aussie singer of Ooh Aah Just a Little Bit
8	Blue Suede Shoes, Rock 'n' Roll classic by Elvis
9	Amy Johnson, Early aviator
10	Pam St Clements, Walford actress known as Pat



At each church in the Len Valley Benefice

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

Boughton Malherbe – St Nicholas' church:	9.30am
Lenham – St Mary's church:	11.00am
Harrietsham – St John the Baptist church:	9.30am
Ulcombe – All Saints' church:	11.15am



Please do come and join us for one of these special services that we think you will really enjoy.  
And do stay afterwards for refreshments.

**We're looking forward to seeing you!**

