

Malherbe Monthly

Number 227
June 2023



The event held at St Nicholas Church to celebrate King Charles III coronation on Sunday 7th May. More pictures inside magazine. Pictures courtesy of Christine Hollingsbee

Useful contact names and telephone N^{os}.

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Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
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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 **July** edition should be left in Grafty Green Telephone Box, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th June**

News from St. Nicholas Church – June 2023

What a month May has been. Not sure if we could build up enough enthusiasm or energy to make the most of the King's coronation. Last year we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with excitement and awe for her magnificent reign, realising most of us could never experience anything like it again. Then the sadness and emotional reactions to her death, lying-in state and all the pomp and ritual of her funeral. Could we raise our game again so soon?

The answer was a definite 'YES, OF COURSE WE CAN'. With posters and meetings, generosity of time, money and resources, knitted crowns and bunting and an amazing festive lunch and get-together in the church grounds on Sunday 7th, after a special thanksgiving service taken by Rev. Millie Hart in the morning, all expectations were more than realised.

So very many thanks to everyone. Even the beautiful weather played a part.

Usual reminders

The church porch is always open. Make use of the refreshment table and seating and the mini food bank if you are in need. There is a larger food bank in St Mary's church in Lenham, open 10-4pm daily.

The main church building is only open for services, with details on the notice boards. A key can be obtained from the churchwardens at other times. Their details are on the page opposite in the magazine.

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

Information

Village Coffee Morning is held every Tuesday 11.30am-2pm in the Village Hall, Grafty Green. The Post Office opens there 12.45-2.15 and there are various stalls most weeks, from Pluckley teas, organic meats, eggs, honey, marmalade, cards, to church eco-shop household cleaning products from 'Homethings'. Just drop in and see what is on offer at any time, catch up with friends and enjoy the cakes and homemade treats. All donations are shared equally with the church and a charity chosen by those who come for coffee. This week a balance of £31 was given to help fund a coronation mug for each member of Platts Heath Primary school.

Cream Teas will be making a come-back this summer at St.Nicolas! There will be 4 Sunday afternoon events. They will take place from 2.30-5pm in July and August. The dates are not finalised yet, but we will be posting them as soon as possible.

The funeral took place at St Nicolas church on Monday 22nd May of Gerda Holt, the much-loved Mother, grandmother and Mother-in-law to the Goodwin family. She was well known and appreciated in the church and wider community. We shall miss her friendly presence amongst us. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

Craft Group. A note to say how much we enjoyed a visit to the Barchester Care Home in Sutton Valence this week, helping with and admiring some of the skills of the residents.

Finally

Such a beautiful sunny evening, but oh, so cold. Can't wait for some warmth. The flowers and the field crops are thriving, so must not grumble.

Just a thought about the coronation service itself, so impressive. The most poignant moment to see the king without the trappings of velvet robes and priceless gold crown, a humble man in his grandfather's loose linen shirt, vowing to follow his Christian faith and serve this country and people as long as he lives. Something for us to ponder.

Sally Alexander



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Boughton Malherbe

Parish Council

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MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

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Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Eastwood; R Galton (Chairman); R Turner

In attendance: Cllrs M Round; Z Trzebinski (Maidstone Borough Council)
Clerk Mrs Vickie Ford

The Chairman opened meeting at 7.45 pm

Anybody filming or recording this meeting kindly requested to declare it: none

M01/05/23 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED: Cllr R Galton elected as Chairman to Boughton Malherbe Parish Council for the next year. Cllr Galton signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

It was agreed not to elect a Vice Chairman.

M02/05/23 Election of Planning Committee Chairman

RESOLVED: in view of the low number of Councillors present, to defer the decision

M03/05/23 Election of Finance and Staffing Committee Chairman

RESOLVED: in view of the low number of Councillors present, to defer the decision

M04/05/23 Apologies

Cllr Adam's apologies were received and accepted. Apologies from Cllr S Prendergast (Kent County Council) were also noted.

M05/05/23 Declarations:

Any lobbying: In accordance with Cllr Adams' written request, the Chairman read out the following statement: "I [Cllr Adams] wish it to be recorded that I have been lobbied about a letter concerning the traffic calming survey results seen by a member of the public that has not yet been finalised for publication by the Parish Council. The lobbyist did not agree with the content of the letter."

Any interest in items on the agenda: none declared

Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests: none declared

M06/05/23 Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2023 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings.

M07/05/23 Public Session: four members of public present, no public session

M08/05/23 Annual Reviews

Current arrangements for delegation to committees, employees and other authorities were confirmed with no changes.

M09/05/23 Terms of Reference of Committees

The terms of reference for the Planning Committee had been reviewed on 4th July and adopted by Full Council on 5th September 2022; the terms of reference for the Finance and Staffing Committees had been reviewed on 16th January and adopted by Full Council on 23rd January 2023.

M10/05/23 Nominations to Existing Committees

RESOLVED: All Councillors will continue to be members of both committees.

M11/05/23 Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Members had before them revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: to adopt the revised Standing Orders as presented by the Clerk

RESOLVED: to adopt the revised Financial Regulations as presented by the Clerk

M12/05/23 Representation on External Bodies

RESOLVED: Cllrs Galton and Turner will continue to represent the Parish Council at KALC meetings; other representatives will be nominated ad hoc.

M13/05/23 Review of Land and Asset Register

Members had before them an updated register prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: to adopt the updated Register of Assets as presented.

M14/05/23 Arrangements for Insurance Cover

As the Parish Council had entered into a 3-year agreement on 16th June 2022, members had before them a renewal quotation from A J Gallagher Insurance Brokers.

RESOLVED: to continue in the 3-year long term agreement with Hiscox through A J Gallagher.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to review insurance arrangements for kissing gates purchased by the Parish Council.

M15/05/23 Review of Membership of Other Bodies

RESOLVED: to continue with membership of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) and KALC; to pay the Clerk's membership fees to the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC).

M16/05/23 Complaints Procedures

It was noted that no change was necessary.

M17/05/23 Employment Policy and Procedures

It was noted that no change was necessary.

M18/05/23 Risk Register

RESOLVED: to adopt the updated Risk Register, as prepared by the Clerk.

FINANCE

M19/05/23 Receipts since last meeting:

£677.25 VAT refund; £7,113 precept; £3,650 KCC Community Transport Fund grant

The Clerk was asked to check on receipts under the Parish Services Scheme.

M20/05/23 Authorisation of any payments since last meeting:

£500 St Nicholas Church; £271.25 Grafty Green Village Hall; £1,117.48 Clerk's salary; £60.67 Amesis Ltd;

£215.76 R. Turner*; £100 Mrs N Oliver*; £286.98 KALC; £100 Mr M J Dallas*; £92.17 Amesis Ltd

(*Coronation event)

M21/05/23 Cheques for Signature

£90 Lionel Robbins; £257.21 Mr J Thompson; £500.13 Arthur J Gallagher Insurance Brokers Ltd

M22/05/23 Bank Balances

The following balances as at 9th May were noted:

Lloyds Current	£14,610.96
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Lloyds Business Instant Access	£20,078.42
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Lloyds 32 Day Notice	£20,070.61
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Nat West Current	Nil
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Nat West Business Saver	Nil
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Nationwide	£14,465.77
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Cambridge and Counties	£23,685.05
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RESOLVED: the Clerk to transfer £10,000 from the Lloyds current account to the Lloyds instant access account.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to transfer £20,000 from the Lloyds instant access account to the Lloyds 32-day account.

M23/05/23 Bank Reconciliation

The end of year statement, as prepared by the Clerk for internal audit etc, was noted.

M24/05/23 Internal Auditor's Report 2022/23

RESOLVED: to receive and note the Internal Auditor's report.

Members also had before them the signed Annual Internal Audit Report, forming page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).

EXTERNAL AUDIT 2022/23:

M25/05/23 Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

Members had before them the Annual Governance Statement prepared by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: to approve the Annual Governance Statement (AGAR Section 1)

The Chairman and Clerk signed the Annual Governance Statement.

M26/05/23 Accounting Statements 2022/23

Members had before them the Accounting Statements, prepared and signed by the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO – the Clerk).

RESOLVED: to approve the Accounting Statements (AGAR Section 2)

The Chairman signed and dated the Accounting Statements.

M27/05/23 Exemption Certificate

Members had before them the exemption certificate prepared by the RFO.

RESOLVED: Since the Parish Council had met the criteria, to claim exemption for the year 2022/23.

RESOLVED: to approve the Exemption Certificate.

The Chairman and RFO signed and dated the Exemption Certificate (AGAR Form 2).

M28/05/23 Commencement Date for Exercise of Public Rights

The RFO informed Members that the commencement date would be Monday 12th June.

M29/05/23 Outturn for 2022/23 Budget

Members had before them the end of year statement of receipts and payments against budget prepared by the Clerk, which was noted.

M30/05/23 Bank Signatories

Signatories to the Cambridge and Counties and Nationwide accounts had been reviewed and updated during the year; the Lloyds Bank accounts had been opened during the year.

RESOLVED: to remove Mr G Kennaird as a signatory from the Lloyds Bank accounts.

M31/05/23 Reserves Policy

It was noted that no change was necessary.

M32/05/23 Meeting Dates in 2023/24

Agreed dates are: 3rd July; 4th September; 6th November; 22nd January 2024; 4th March 2024.

M33/05/23 King's Head Public House as an Asset of Community Value (ACV)

It was noted that the current listing would expire in October 2023.

RESOLVED: to authorise an application for renewal of the nomination.

M34/05/23 New fencing between the Village Green and the King's Head Public House

The Parish Council had been reminded that the fencing (excluding the gate) should be replaced.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to confirm with Mr Sweet the arrangements for clearing the undergrowth; and also confirm if the section between the gate and Headcorn Road required replacement.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to obtain three quotations for the replacement of the fence between the gate and Church Road and to place the order in accordance with the lowest price.

M35/05/23 Village Green Planter

RESOLVED: to retain the planter.

M36/05/23 Village Green Access from Church Road

Councillors acknowledged that access from Church Road was prone to flooding.

RESOLVED: Councillors to inspect the site and table suggestions for improvement.

M37/05/23 Coronation Celebration

The Coronation celebration had been very well supported and received by the local community. The final cost of the event had been £637.01.

Members of the press and public left the meeting.

M46/05/23 Number 59 Community Bus Service

The Clerk reported that she had obtained confirmation from Maidstone Borough Council and the Internal Auditor that Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies could be used to fund the 59 community bus service.

Funding of £3,650 had been obtained from the KCC Community Transport grant scheme towards a 12-month trial of the once-weekly shopper bus service between Grafty Green and Maidstone. A further £1,825 contribution from Parish Councils would be required to run the service until 31st March 2024.

RESOLVED: Boughton Malherbe Parish Council to contribute up to £1,000 from CIL monies.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to ask other Parish Councils to contribute funding.

RESOLVED: subject to sufficient funding being obtained, the Clerk to be given delegated authority to sign the proposed agreement with Nu-Venture, including discretion regarding the retention or otherwise of fares collected.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05 pm







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Village Hall – June Newsletter

Since last month's newsletter the village hall committee in collaboration with the Church, Platts Heath Primary School and kindly sponsored by the Parish Council helped to host the Coronation Cream Tea in the Churchyard. We were blessed with good weather, the church choir and the school sang beautifully, the children were entertained by Mr Muddles and everyone made it a lovely community event. Thank you for supporting it and a big thank you to all those volunteers who worked so hard and generously gave of their time to make the event such a success.

There are now lots of things to do at the village hall so I thought it would be a good idea to detail all the activities, clubs and societies who hold classes or meetings at the hall, so I have included in this month's newsletter contact details and timings for your information. If you want to get fit, create a masterpiece, learn a new craft, find out if that plant you were not sure about is a weed or a flower, get some cash, post a parcel or simply just come along for a chat over a cup of tea and a bit of cake you will be very welcome.

Finally a date for your diary

Summer Fair Sunday 3rd September

We have pencilled in Sunday 3rd September as the date for the annual summer fair further information will be provided in due course.

Jon Thompson Hall Committee Chairman

bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk

www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk

Facebook – [graftygreenvillage](#)

Coronation Event

I wish to say a huge thank you to Boughton Malherbe Parish Council, the organisers from St. Nicholas Church and Grafty Green Village Hall and everyone who helped to make the event such a success.

The weather was lovely, the food delicious and being able to socialise outdoors with friends and neighbours was such a delight. A wonderful way to welcome King Charles III.

Cathrine

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 Doreen 01622 850287	First Tuesday of the month 7.30pm
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What's on in June;

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Katherine Costain on
clerk.hdc@gmail.com
07889 562931.

Completed forms should be returned no later than
30th June 2023.

Grafty Gourmet

I created this dish several years ago for someone special, hence the name. This recipe comprises of Chicken dredged in Cajun spice, served on a bed of pasta and cream sauce, complimented with the bright colours of red and green peppers. Spaghetti, or any pasta of your choice can be used in place of Linguine.

Pollo di Principessa

Serves 2

4oz Linguine Pasta	1 Cup of Double Cream
2 Skinless Boned Chicken Breasts	¼ Teaspoon of Dried Basil
1 Medium Onion, finely chopped	¼ Teaspoon of Salt
1 Red Pepper, sliced	¼ Teaspoon of Ground Black Pepper
1 Green Pepper, sliced	½ Teaspoon of sugar
2 Tablespoons of Butter	2 Cloves of Garlic, crushed
Olive Oil	A Good Squeeze of Fresh Lime Juice
2 teaspoons of Cajun Seasoning	¼ Cup grated Parmesan Cheese

1. Melt half the butter (1 Tablespoon) and add 1 crushed clove of Garlic. Brush the garlic butter over each chicken breast. Then dust the top of each chicken breast with the Cajun spice. Wrap each breast in tin foil and place in a pre-heated oven at 180° for 20 minutes, or until juices run clear from chicken when pierced with a fine skewer.
2. After about 5 minutes, place the Linguine in a saucepan of water and bring to the boil, then simmer for about 12 minutes, until al dente.
3. Whilst the pasta and chicken are cooking, melt the remaining butter with the olive oil in a frying pan and sauté the onion for 2-3 minutes. Then add the sliced red and green peppers and simmer until soft and tender.
4. Add the cream together with 1 clove crushed garlic, basil, salt, black pepper, sugar and lime juice and stir the mixture with the onions and peppers until warmed through.
5. When Linguine is cooked, drain and add to the cream and pepper mix in the frying pan. Stir into the sauce so that the pasta is even coated, and simmer on a very low heat, to keep warm, stirring occasionally.
6. Remove the Chicken breasts from the oven and place on a chopping board. Slice each breast diagonally into strips. Serve an equal mix of the pasta and cream mixture onto plates, and place the sliced chicken breast on top. Sprinkle with grated parmesan cheese.

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Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

As Good As It Gets

Friday 9th June

Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00

As Good As It Gets (15, 1997) is our members' choice with a well-deserved title for this enjoyable romantic comedy which won two Oscars. So come along to share a superb evening with Jack Nicholson playing Melvin, a bad-tempered author who is catapulted out of his usual grumpy demanding self when his neighbour Simon, a gay artist, leaves his terrier dog Verdell in his care. But is care the right word for Melvin's reaction to this honour? And in the midst of his coping with his predicament, Carol, the only waitress at his local café who will serve him, abandons him when her sick son Spencer needs her. Melvin turns up on her doorstep and Well, come and find out what happens next; you'll be laughing all the way. Directed by James L. Brooks, it's a winner. Running time: 2 hrs 13 mins.

Our film on July 14th is A Man Called Otto starring Tom Hanks. He's another grumpy man – just as compelling and irresistible but oh so different from Jack Nicholson. Mark this down as a 'must' too.

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)



lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com



www.lenhamfilmclub.org



[@lenhamfilmclub](https://www.facebook.com/lenhamfilmclub)

Music Notes for June 2023 – B Hardy

Some first-class organ recitals at our Cathedrals in June, but nothing very local to Maidstone until the turn of the month. July looks busy, but here is my June list:

***Friday, 9th June**, 7.30 pm at Canterbury Cathedral CT1 2EG, there will be the first of a series of organ recitals as part of the 2023 organ festival. This recital will be by Peter Stevens from Westminster Cathedral. Tickets for the series or individual concerts (Under 18s free) boxoffice@canterburyfestival.co.uk

***Friday 16th June**, 7.30 pm, second of the Canterbury Cathedral organ recitals (see above). By William Fox from St. Paul's Cathedral.

***Saturday 17th June**, 7.30pm at St. John the Baptist Church, Wittersham TN30 7EA, you are invited to a concert by the Kent Police choir. Tickets (donations) 01797 270656 or at the door.

***Wednesday 21st June**, 7.30pm at Rochester Cathedral ME1 1SJ, Jeremy Lloyd gives an organ recital as part of the Rochester Cathedral Organ Festival. Free entry for under 18's and carers. Tickets:

<https://shop.myonlinebooking.co.uk/rochestercathedral/sessions.aspx?tid=36>

***Friday 23rd June**, third of the Canterbury Cathedral organ recitals (see above). By Peter Holder from Westminster Abbey.

***Saturday 24th June**, 7.30pm at St. George's Church, Church Street, Gravesend Church Street DA11 0DJ, Gravesham Choral Society perform Carl Orf's *Carmina Burana*. Tickets at the door or

<https://thelittleboxoffice.com/graveshamcs/event/view/180481>

***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 (under 19's free) at the door or from; mcuconcertmanager@gmail.com

Anniversary

My anniversary for June is 15th, 180 years since the birth of Edvard Greig (15 June 1843 – 4 September 1907) who was a Norwegian composer and pianist. He is widely considered one of the leading Romantic era composers, and his music is part of the standard classical repertoire worldwide. His use of Norwegian folk music in his own compositions brought the music of Norway to fame, as well as helping to develop a national identity, much as Jean Sibelius did in Finland and Bedřich Smetana in Bohemia.

Grieg is the most celebrated person from the city of Bergen, with numerous statues which depict his image, and many cultural entities named after him: the city's largest

concert building (Grieg Hall), its most advanced music school (Grieg Academy) and its professional choir (Edvard Grieg Kor). The Edvard Grieg Museum at Grieg's former home Troldhaugen is dedicated to his legacy.

Grieg produced a wide range of music, one of the most well-known being "the hall of the mountain King" from the Peer Gynt suite. He didn't like it apparently! In an 1874 letter to his friend Frantz Beyer, Grieg expressed his unhappiness with one of the movements in the Peer Gynt incidental music, writing "I have also written something for the scene in the hall of the mountain King – something that I literally can't bear listening to because it absolutely reeks of cow-pies, exaggerated Norwegian nationalism, and trollish self-satisfaction! But I have a hunch that the irony will be discernible."



Portrait of Edvard Grieg. Carte de visite with signature: the portrait was published in The Leisure Hour (1889). An engraving of it was made by T. Johnson and published in The Century (1894).

Yoga Classes in Grafty Green Village Hall with Sue Burch

Monday morning at 9.30, 5th June – 31st July

Wednesday evening at 7, 7th June – 2nd August

Thursday morning at 9.30, 8th June to 3rd August

To join a class or for more details please call Sue Burch on
07803 962339.

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

1	Sophia Loren, Actress in El CID
2	Santa Maria, Flagship of Christopher Columbus
3	London Calling, A hit for The Clash
4	Perry Como, A 1950's crooner
5	Eva Longoria, US TV & Film actress
6	Prima Donna, Leading female opera star
7	Oliver Hardy, Stan Laurel's comedy partner
8	Ben Nevis, Scottish mountain
9	Noel Edmonds, TV presenter of Deal or No Deal
10	Asti Spumante, Italian sparkling wine

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Gold	Ivory	Sunshine	Coast
2	Pink	Rock	Trout	
3	Classes	Dress	Good	
4	Finger	Linked	Thumb	
5	Barley	Cane	Rush	
6	Island	Gobi	Rats	
7	Bonnet	Egg	Island	
8	First	Give	Live	
9	Cement	Food	Tap	
10	Battle	Ice	Pick	
11	Ankle	Bed	Slipper	
12	Cow	Tool	Wood	
13	Driver	Home	Land	
14	Each	Half	Wise	
15	Ararat	Fuji	Sinai	
16	Ivy	Rugby	Tables	

Grafty Green Gardening Club

Program of Events 2023

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
January 10	Dr Mick Lynn and AGM	Which came first the Bee or the Flower
February 7	Steven Harmer	The story of Plant Hunting
March 7	Kevin Tooher	Getting the best out of Composting
April 4	Caroline Halfpenny and Spring show	A Gardener's response to Climate Change.
Saturday April 29	10 am Plant sale on the Green	
Sunday May 14	Coach outing to Leonards Lee	
June 6	Outing to Faversham – Edible Culture	
July 4	Outing to Elmside, Ulcombe - Rhian Banham's Garden	
Sunday August 13	Coach outing to Hyde Hall	
September 4	Victoria Golding and Autumn show	Marden Meadow
September 8,9,10	Weekend away in Dorset, staying in Weymouth, visit Chawton House and Gardens, Abbotsbury, Athelhampton House and Garden and Holme Gardens	
October 3	Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Madrona Nursery	Designing a Perennial Boarder
November 7	Christine Bartlett	Healthy House Plants, Happy Home
December 5	Social – wine and cheese with slide-show	

Our Plant Sale was a great success. It was held in the village hall this year as the green was still too wet underfoot. There was a steady flow of buyers for the plants, and an opportunity to buy eggs, honey and cards, and enjoy coffee and cake with friends all adding to a cheerful atmosphere.

A group of us took the opportunity to take the coach outing to Leonards Lee in the lovely Sussex countryside. We were not disappointed, the Rhododendrons and Azalea were at peak of flowering and we were lucky with the weather, a thoroughly enjoyable day out.

On June 6th we continue our summer visits with an outing to Edible Culture in Faversham. We are aiming to be there by 6.00pm and are being met for a short talk and the shop will be open. Lift share is encouraged and can be arranged through any member of the committee. We look forward to seeing you there.

In our Gardens we can prune spring flowering shrubs, cut down the foliage of bulbs and lift and divide overgrown clumps of bulbs. Summer bedding plants can be planted out in borders and into containers and hanging baskets. A liquid feed can be applied to lawns that will benefit from regular cutting and edging until the growth slows down. There is so much to do but find time to sit and enjoy your efforts.

Enjoy your gardening! Carole Frost.

Wild About Gardens

Open Garden

Saturday 24th June 1 – 5pm

Myrtle House, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green ME17 2AR

Suggested donation £5

In association with Kent Wild Life Trust as part of their ‘Wild About Gardens’ scheme.

See my mini meadow, watch the house-martins and have a cuppa.

Sue Burch

Guided Walk

Saturday 10th June

Meet at St. Nicholas Church at 9.30 am.

We will head east towards Pope’s Hall, then north to Chilston Park and then through to Bowley Lane heading up through farmland to Popes Hall and back to the church. Just over three miles and takes, roughly, under two hours.

Further details from Sue Burch – 01622 850381

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Christian Message June 2023

Endings and beginnings

This year has been a time of endings and beginnings. You only grow by coming to the end of something and by beginning something else. We have experienced the ending of the shortest term of office for a Prime Minister and the appointment of a new one: the end of the longest reigning monarch and the beginning of the reign of our new King. We saw the lifting of nearly all covid-19 restrictions, and we welcomed the reopening of international borders.

Not all endings are positive, however. We have also seen the end of low inflation resulting in the higher cost of living; the end of peace for some countries and the beginning of war.

Over Easter, Christians commemorate an ending and a beginning. Jesus' closest friends, his disciples, thought that Jesus' dying on the cross to save us from sin, from all of the messed-up parts of our life was the end; however, death was not the end as Christians believe that he rose again from the dead to new life, on Easter morning. This gives us all the promise of a new beginning, full of hope and anticipation.

I finish my time in the Len Valley Benefice mid-July and will begin a new era in a parish nearer to where I live. Sometimes endings bring sweet sorrow as although we are sad to leave, it is really farewell rather than goodbye, and an embracing of what is to come.

Thank you for making my time here such a rich one, full of love and support. I pray that for whatever you may be experiencing in life at the moment, *'whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. (Philippians 4.8).*

Revd. Charlotte Coles

Len Valley Benefice June 2023

Everybody is welcome



Sunday 4th June

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 7th June

9.30am Lenham: Holy
Communion (BCP)

Sunday 11th June

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy
Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast
Church followed by joining the
market.

11.00am Lenham: Holy
Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy
Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe:
Choral Evensong

Sunday 18th June

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 25th June

10.30am Benefice Holy
Communion at Boughton
Malherbe

*Identity: "I am fully
capable"*

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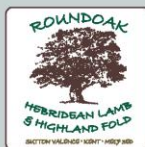
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William Harvey Hospital	01233 633331
Headcorn Surgery (out of hours listen to -	01622 890294
Lenham Surgery recorded messages)	01622 858341

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Southern Water 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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Gold	Ivory	Sunshine	Coast
2	Pink	Rock	Trout	Salmon
3	Classes	Dress	Good	Evening
4	Finger	Linked	Thumb	Index
5	Barley	Cane	Rush	Sugar
6	Island	Gobi	Rats	Desert
7	Bonnet	Egg	Island	Easter
8	First	Give	Live	Aid
9	Cement	Food	Tap	Mixer
10	Battle	Ice	Pick	Axe
11	Ankle	Bed	Slipper	Socks
12	Cow	Tool	Wood	Shed
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16	Ivy	Rugby	Tables	League

	Find the missing word?
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7	Oliver Hardy, Stan Laurel's comedy partner
8	Ben Nevis , Scottish mountain
9	Noel Edmonds, TV presenter of Deal or No Deal
10	Asti Spumante , Italian sparkling wine

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