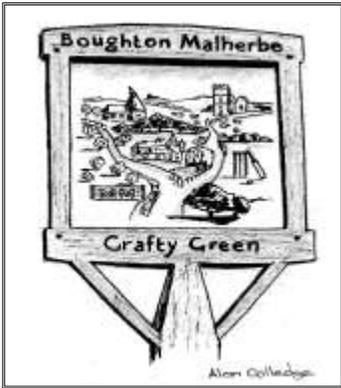


# Malherbe Monthly

Number 145  
August 2016



**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	Martin Round Richard Thick	890276 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	859549 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Chris King email <a href="mailto:boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com">boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com</a>	850711
Village Hall bookings and other matters	Carol Hulm email <a href="mailto:carolhulm@gmail.com">carolhulm@gmail.com</a> Mobile 07990 574214	853583
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: <a href="mailto:jdrury23@btinternet.com">jdrury23@btinternet.com</a>	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Sue Burch	850381
Priest in charge	Rev: Dick Venn (Sat -Thurs) email: <a href="mailto:vicar@lvb.org.uk">vicar@lvb.org.uk</a>	858195
Associate Priest	Mille Hart (Weds - Sun) email: <a href="mailto:revmilliehart@lvb.org.uk">revmilliehart@lvb.org.uk</a>	297296
Reader	Joan Drury email: <a href="mailto:jdrury23@btinternet.com">jdrury23@btinternet.com</a>	853766
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: <a href="mailto:churchoffice@lvb.org.uk">churchoffice@lvb.org.uk</a> Answer phone available out of hours	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons - 4.30pm	
St. Edmunds Centre	Karen Yardley	858208
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20pm by Post Office	01580 754300
Weekend Freighter	See article in magazine	
<b>Malherbe Monthly Production Team</b>		
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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 **September** edition should be left in  
Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on  
01622 858937 ([mfhitchins@btinternet.com](mailto:mfhitchins@btinternet.com)) by **20<sup>th</sup> August**

**Front cover:** Canada Geese beside the reservoir on Ivy House Farm as viewed from  
Church Road Grafty Green

## **News from St. Nicholas Church**

**Morning Prayers** during the month of August prayers will be said at St. John the Baptist Harrietsham at 9.30a.m. on Thursday mornings and then in September each church will go back to their usual day in St. Nicholas case Tuesday mornings alternately with All Saints Ulcombe.

**Cream Teas** will continue until 21<sup>st</sup> August 2.00 p.m. until 5.00p.m. they are still very well supported with people coming from far a field. We offer a Pot of Tea and freshly made Scones with homemade Jams and whipped Cream all for a very reasonable price of £2.50. St. Nicholas is situated on the Greensand Way with wonderful views of the Weald of Kent, come and join us we will be pleased to welcome old friends and new.

**Coffee Morning** in the Village Hall on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30 until 12.00. Come along for a chat and enjoy a Coffee with a Cheese scone or a piece of Cake or if you prefer a cup of Tea. Entry is by donation which are given to Charity either in Africa or here in Britain.

**Ride and Stride** once again the Friends of Kent Churches are organising their Bike Ride which can be a Bike Ride or Walk around a group of Churches of your choice.. Going on the Ride and Stride gives you a chance to visit many more Churches than are usually available, while getting sponsors to support you raising money for your own Church and for the Friends of Kent Churches. We are hoping someone will come forward and ride for St. Nicholas we could help with getting sponsors. If you feel that you can Ride for us please get in touch with Joan Davidson on 01622 850210 or a member of the PCC, we will be very grateful to you for your help.

**Bible Study** Group does not meet during August. If you would like to join this group please get in touch with Joan Drury on 01622 853766.

**Joan Davidson**

## **Boughton Malherbe Parish Council**

The next meeting of the Parish Council, will be held in Grafty Green Village Hall on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 19.30.**

The Agenda for this meeting and the minutes for the last meeting (and all previous minutes) can be viewed on the Boughton Malherbe Parish Website or by contacting the Parish Clerk

**Ken and Eve Sweet  
extend a warm welcome to**

## **The Kings Head Grafty Green**

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"Dover Bill" -  
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## **Weekly Yoga classes in Grafty Green Village Hall**

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New term begins 7<sup>th</sup> September for seven weeks £42  
Wednesday evening 7 - 8.30 - booking essential, no drop in.  
Thursday morning at 9.30 till 11 – drop in £8

Saturday morning –6<sup>th</sup> August and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 10 till 11.30 – investment £7 – booking appreciated.

Contact me for more information on 01622 850381.

I have a web site: [www.yogawithsusan.co.uk](http://www.yogawithsusan.co.uk) which gives more details about yoga and the classes. Please note that I am not running classes in Platts Heath for the moment. Contact me for more information on 01622 850381.

**Susan Burch**

### **Grafty Gourmet - Garlic Prawn Linguine**

This is a great summer dish, and as like all my recipes, it is very simple to make.

500g uncooked linguine	1 teaspoon chopped fresh parsley
1 tablespoon butter	1 pinch salt and pepper to taste
3 tablespoons white wine	500g King Prawns, peeled and deveined
2 teaspoons grated Parmesan cheese	
3 cloves garlic, minced	

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to the boil. Add the linguine and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until al dente. Then drain.
2. In a medium saucepan, melt the butter over a low heat; add the wine, parmesan cheese, garlic, parsley and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer over low heat for 3 to 5 minutes, stirring frequently.
3. Increase heat to medium and add the prawns to the saucepan. Cook for about 3 to 4 minutes or until shrimp begins to turn pink. Be careful not to overcook or the prawns will become chewy.
4. Divide the linguine into portions and spoon the prawns and sauce on top. Garnish with more Parmesan cheese and fresh parsley, if desired.

## Village Hall News

[www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk)

The whole village was saddened by the untimely death of Margaret Neaves earlier this year. She had been such a presence in the village for so long and, in particular, had served for so many years on our Village Hall committee that the committee felt it would be right to commemorate her life in some way. Margaret would not have wanted fanfares, but some modest permanent reminder of her would, we thought, be an appropriate way to acknowledge her contribution to the life of our village.

This immediately led us on to thinking of others who were no longer with us and who had contributed much to our community during their lives - people like John Maunder, who ran a youth club in the village hall for many years and lent his architectural skills to the development of the Hall; John Collins snr, who freely gave his time and building expertise to maintain the Hall; and Henry Town, whose bequests to the Parish will help to ensure the continuation of village life as we know it.

You may well be able to think of others. We hope you can, because we would like to commemorate all those who served our community without reward during their lifetimes. We have in mind something like a series of simple plaques attached to the seat on the Green, describing what these folk did for the village in their time here.

Please do let me know who else you think would warrant a simple, but heartfelt (albeit belated) public 'thank you' of this sort. My contact details are below.

Now, some less sober thoughts. Future events in the village.

Next up is our outdoor extravaganza "**Animal Antics**", an animal-themed afternoon of fun and games for all, in the field where our fete is traditionally held (courtesy of Jamie Clark). Please see the whole page advert elsewhere in this magazine for details, but do note the date: **Saturday 3 September**.

The following month we will mount another '**Phil The Bag**' collection. The precise date has yet to be confirmed but please put-by any unwanted clothing, soft furnishing material, shoes and bags for this event. As most of you will know, we nominate a day when you can bring your items to the Hall, from where 'Phil' collects them and either recycles them or ships them to developing countries, where they are sold at affordable prices. The Village Hall receives a payment based on the weight of the material collected. (*Please note that 'Phil' will not accept heavily soiled items; 'filled' items - such as pillows and duvets; and off-cuts of material.*) Further information in next month's magazine.

We have more events planned for the autumn and spring so 'watch this space' for details of all these over the coming months.

*Richard Pilborough* Hall Committee Chairman

Email: [pilborough@grafty.plus.com](mailto:pilborough@grafty.plus.com); tel: 01622 850484

## Grafty Green Gardening Club

On **August 2<sup>nd</sup>** members will pay a visit to Goddards Green at Cranbrook. Directions for the garden can be obtained from Irene Ayling (01622) 842507 or Rosemary Smith (01622) 850526. This garden is large enough to accommodate all of us so just turn up; Postcode is TN17 3LR we look forward to seeing you all there.

The summer gardens we have visited so far have been enjoyed by so many of us and special mention and thanks to Alison Wainwright of the Placketts Hole garden at Bicknor which we visited in July, we all enjoyed the hospitality which matched the very lovely garden.

**Tip Of The Month** – minimise slug damage, put down pieces of slate or wood in the borders for the slugs to creep under. These traps can then be turned over for the birds to feed on. Beer traps also work well or try inverted hollow grapefruit or orange halves placed around the border as decoys!

Summer is moving on but we still have one outing to look forward to, a visit to Headcorn Vineyard in September to round off our summer visits and then we are back into the Village Hall in October for our Autumn Show and a talk by Maureen Rainey about garden ponds.

## **Helen Whately** **MP for Faversham and Mid Kent**

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Tel: 020 7219 6472;  
Email: [helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk)

### **Upcoming surgeries**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August, Headcorn

# From the Minutes of Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Meeting Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Public Session:** Defibrillator issues and whether access code should be removed – C. Wheal

**KCC/MBC Reports:** Cllr Shellina Prendergast, MBC

“I am getting into the swing of the role and am on 3 Committees, including Planning and Strategic Planning and there are 2 meetings this week with big agendas. Junction 8 was refused on landscape and heritage grounds last week. The MBC local plan has been submitted and is with examiner with the Public Hearing and Examination due in September sometime.

Also, the Matrix Scoring System for unauthorised development indicates 3 sites – 1 in Boxley and 2 in Headcorn which scored highly. All have cost implications – Hammer stream and the Meadows were 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Action will be taken. Cllrs are taking the problems in rural areas very seriously.

I went to see Mathew Scott, the new Police and Crime Commissioner and we had a positive meeting. A new on-line reporting system will be launched later this month. Also, they are recruiting new PCSOs – another 80. He would like to know what issues affect us here. Clerk to supply list by end of week.”

Yasmine Gordine is the MBC Parish Liaison Officer and she is working her way around parishes; working on Matrix; working with KALC, and can help with any problems – chase up the person required within MBC.

## **Local Policing**

**Police Report from John Boyd:**

8 calls to police

There were three crimes to report for this period:

10-13 May ELMSTONE LANE copper earthing and tubing stolen from telephone site

11 May ELMSTONE LANE carrying a BB gun in a public place. The gun was confiscated

04 June Headcorn Rd Dog Bite

Including the above there were 8 calls to the police

2 RTC at Liverton Hill, Church Rd, and an abandoned vehicle at woodcock lane - local authority job

## **KFRS – Chris Wheal**

1 – good news: Smokey Paws project – 43 stations have them with 60 kits and 12 sets in process of being allocated. First FRS in the country to do that.

2 – with a previous Liverton Hill closure the Fire Brigade wasn't notified. This time, Lenham was not informed although Head Office was. Also, the diversion sign was placed in middle of grass triangle at Eastwood Road directing traffic to Grafty Green. Other signage was ok. CW reported this and was assured it would be rectified. Work didn't start work until midday on Monday (the first day) because the signage (to close the road) hadn't arrived.



# Animal Antics & Family Fun Day

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept, 2016

Location: The Field, Church Road, Grafty Green

Time: 2pm – 5.00pm

Hog Roast Kings Head, 5.30pm – till late



### Programme

Time	Event
2.00pm	Event Opening
2.15pm	<u>Dog Competition – Part 1 - Categories:</u> Dog with waggiest tail Dog most like its owner Best dog trick Best groomed dog
3.15pm	Surprise Animal Display
3.45pm	<u>Dog Competition - Part 2 - Categories:</u> Handsome dog Prettiest bitch Best golden oldie (over 7) Dog the judge would like to take home
4.30pm	Prize giving and Grand Draw
5.00pm	Field Event Closes
5.30pm	Hog Roast at the Kings Head
6.00pm	Animal themed paper-based quiz



### Additional attractions include:

#### **Oreo and Friends**

An interactive, entertaining and educational experience you'll never forget. Animals include Meercat, Raccoon, Armadillo, Skunk, and a good selection of other endangered species, which cannot be confirmed until the



day as it depends on weather conditions, for more information go to <http://www.oreoandfriends.co.uk/animals/>

**Cat Photo competition – bring your pictures to be judged on the day**



**The resident Alpacas and Goat, with petting and fun games for the children**

**Ferrett racing**

**Animal themed stalls, games, face painting and side competitions**

**Refreshments Include:** Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks, Cakes, Ice Cream and homemade doggie treats

---

**Grand Draw:** Prizes include: £100 cash, Hamper donated by AW Court, Tea for two at Chilston Park, £40 Dog Grooming Voucher, Fish & Chip Supper for two Kings Head

---

**Sponsors:** Who'd a Thought IT, Chequers Fish Bar, Sue and Harry, Sarah and Dean, Jan and Steve, Karen and Niall, R&S Wickens, Cam-tech Security, Amiga-Fire & Security

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## Grafty Geeks

### What's it all about?

Pokémon Go is a location-based, reality game for mobile devices, typically played on mobile phones. Players use the device's GPS and camera to capture, battle, and train virtual creatures called Pokémon, who appear on the screen as if they were in the same real-world location as the player. It was released in most regions of the world in July 2016

#### Game Play

After establishing a game account, the player creates an avatar by selecting a hair, skin, and eye colour; style; and outfit. After the avatar is created, it is displayed at the player's current location along with a map of the player's immediate surroundings.

Features on the map include a number of PokéStops and Pokémon gyms. PokéStops provide players with items, such as eggs, Poké Balls, and potions and can be equipped with items called lures, which attract wild Pokémon. Gyms serve as battle locations for team-based “king of the hill” matches. These are typically located at places of interest.

As players travel the real world, their avatar moves along the game's map. Different Pokémon species reside in different areas of the world; for example, water-type Pokémon are generally found near water. When a player encounters a Pokémon, they may view it either in augmented reality (AR) mode or with a live rendered, generic background. AR mode uses the camera and gyroscope on the player's mobile device to display an image of a Pokémon as though it were in the real world. Players can take screen shots of the Pokémon they encounter either with or without the AR mode activated.

The ultimate goal of the game is to complete the entries in the Pokédex, a comprehensive Pokémon encyclopaedia, by capturing and evolving to obtain the original 151 Pokémon.

This is the basics, there are other complexities to the game like capturing wild Pokémon, throwing a Poké Ball and being awarded with currencies and candies, so if you are interested in playing the game please go to the internet to get more detailed information.

**If you need any help, please visit the Egerton Telecottage on Saturday morning between 10am and 12noon <http://www.egerton-kent.co.uk/telecottage>. Advice is free and there is always someone there it help you. If you would like any topics covered in this magazine, please email me at [carolhulm@gmail.com](mailto:carolhulm@gmail.com)**



## Open Gardens in support of Heart of Kent Hospice

The owners of **Little Nut Hall**, The Common, (A229) Sissinghurst, TN17 2AJ will be opening their award-winning garden exclusively for Heart of Kent Hospice on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>

September from 2 – 5 pm

Enjoy magnificent views of the North Downs from this 5 acre garden which was joint-runner up in the 2015 Kent Life Amateur Gardener Award and which includes a formal landscaped area, fruit orchard , vegetable garden, woodland of native trees and fledgling wildlife meadow. Previous visitors will see further remodelling around the main lawn.

Entry is by suggested donation of £5.00 – children welcome

---

**Stoneacre** , Otham, Maidstone ME15 8RS Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2pm -5pm

Come and meet the new tenants of this wonderful National Trust garden and 15<sup>th</sup> Century timber-framed Yeoman's House and see what is in store for the future of Stoneacre as they share the progress of their first year of tenancy and their future plans. The garden includes sculpted lawns, herbaceous borders and a secret garden.

Enjoy a cream tea with strawberry jam and let the children try out some traditional garden games.

Entry by suggested donation of £5.00 – children welcome

For further details on both gardens please visit [www.hokh.org](http://www.hokh.org)

### August Music notes

I'm really struggling this month to find a good selection of local concerts. I have no doubt there are some local events somewhere, but I have been unable to find them. The Cathedrals at Rochester and Canterbury seem to have kept August free, and the lunchtime concerts at All Saints and URC in Maidstone this year ended in July. The Great Comp Music festival has a gap in its published programme corresponding to the whole of August! I can only suggest you take a trip to London to a prom concert - "The Proms" continue daily throughout August and keep going until 10<sup>th</sup> September.

What I have found locally is:

- Saturday 6th August 5.30pm. at The Flying Heron, Cage Lane, Smarden TN27 8QD – the Invicta jazz Orchestra perform as part of the Smarden Beer Festival. They are also performing on Friday 12th at 8.00pm in Marden church and at 3.00pm on 21st At Tonbridge Castle.
- Also on 6th, from 2.00pm in the Glebe Field at Tenterden (behind the church), there is an outdoor concert of "Summer swing" by the professional Orbi Player group. Barbecue food available.
- Monday 11th, 7.00pm at Maidstone Community Centre, 39 Marsham St., Maidstone, there will be an interesting talk by Gordon Slater on the topic of "songs and arias of famous performers". This is under the aegis of the Maidstone Music Appreciation Society.
- Saturday 20th August, 7.30pm at St. Mary's church, Faversham, ME13 6GZ, David Flood, the Canterbury Cathedral Organist, is giving an organ Recital. Free entry, retiring collection.

A number of the proms are on BBC TV during August – I would choose prom 21, on BBC 4, 23<sup>rd</sup> August – it features Mozart's 4<sup>th</sup> Symphony (the Jupiter).

**Brian Hardy**

**The Christian bookshop** in Maidstone closed earlier this year. Christian Literature Crusade has re-opened the Tonbridge shop at 9 Quarry Hill Parade, Tonbridge TN9 2HR. Tel: 01732 364987 Email:[tonbridge@clcbookshops.com](mailto:tonbridge@clcbookshops.com)  
Online:[www.clcbookshops.com](http://www.clcbookshops.com)

**Planning Application before  
Boughton Malherbe Parish Council in July 2016**

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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Tongue	Eyed	Card	<b>Sharp</b>
2	Vice	Team	Sea	
3	Upper	First	Room	
4	Circuit	Law	Ice	
5	Faced	Piece	Tone	
6	Ballot	Agent	Trade	
7	Salad	Punch	Over	
8	Paper	Land	Lay	
9	Harvest	Field	Hole	
10	Way	Test	Disk	
11	Heart	Back	Ear	
12	Poles	Tear	Tell	
13	Half	Home	Serum	
14	Short	Clear	Far	
15	Master	Meal	Hair	
16	Island	Boots	Rat	

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Benjamin _____, Conservative Prime Minister in 1868 & 1874-1880
2	_____ Bill Hickok, 19 <sup>th</sup> century US Frontiers man & Marshall
3	Sheena _____, Singer who became a familiar name in 1980
4	_____ Albion, Midlands based Football team
5	Another _____ In The Wall, A hit for Pink Floyd
6	_____ McCartney, English Fashion Designer
7	Treasure _____, Robert Louis Stevenson Novel
8	_____ Nobel, Swedish Chemist and Philanthropist
9	_____ Friend, A Charles Dickens Novel
10	Total _____, A Science Fiction film with Arnie



## Bank Holiday Treasure Hunt

For the August bank holiday (29th August) we are hosting a treasure hunt! Meet at the Who'd A Thought It for 12pm, and you'll be given clues taking you from pub to pub for around 2 hours. There will be prizes given to the most successful hunters. Entrance is just £1.0pp and this will include a BBQ and glass of wine/beer.

## Champagne Lunch just £20

We are offering a brand new delicious two course lunch with a complementary glass of Champagne for just £20pp. The perfect way to enjoy a sunny summer afternoon at The Who'd A Thought It. Available Monday-Thursdays, to book call 01622 858 951.

Headcorn Road, Graftly Green, Nr Lenham, Kent ME17 2AR

[www.whodathoughtit.com](http://www.whodathoughtit.com)



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**TO REPORT** non-domestic Water Leaks:

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## **Maidstone Museum wins Heritage Lottery Fund support**

Maidstone Museum has received a £78,700 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an exciting project to redisplay ancient Egyptian and Greek artefacts in an Ancient Civilisations Gallery. With support from the Maidstone Museums' Foundation, the Egyptology Department at the British Museum, the Petrie Museum at University College London, and the Egypt Exploration Society to research and uncover the stories behind the objects, the redisplay will be unveiled in Summer 2017 with a fantastic new space in which to discover the artefacts.

The project will enable visitors to Maidstone Museum to experience the Ancient Civilisations collections in a modern environment. The Museum's Cur8 youth group (ages 12-24) will research both the Victorian collectors responsible for bringing the items to Maidstone Museum, and the life of the museum's 2,500-year-old Egyptian mummy, Ta-Kesh. With nearly a third of the 10,000 annual school visitors finding out about ancient Egypt and Greece through workshops, local teachers will be invited to help create educational activities for school visits.

Maidstone Museum is owned and operated by Maidstone Borough Council, and holds more than 600,000 artefacts and specimens in its historic buildings. As the largest collection in Kent and one of the best regional museums in the South East, Maidstone Museum is free to attend and offers a wealth of educational services and workshops to local schools and visitors of all ages.

Commenting on the award, Lyn Palmer, Public Programming Manager at Maidstone Museum, said: "We are thrilled to have received the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and we look forward to transforming the Ancient Civilisations Gallery into a fantastic space that educates, informs, and entertains. We're also delighted to be working with the Kent Association for the Blind to ensure that development of the space will be optimised for visually impaired visitors, while Maidstone Borough Council will be funding a new lift and ramps to provide accessibility to the gallery and other galleries currently out of reach to less able visitors."

Explaining the importance of the HLF support, the head of the HLF in the South East, Stuart McLeod, said: "We are pleased to support Maidstone Museum with their project to form a collectively-curated new space to exhibit and research artefacts from the Ancient Civilisations Gallery. Thanks to National Lottery players, the funding will engage the community and youth groups to research the collections and bring to life the stories behind the artefacts."

In addition to the redisplay of the Ancient Civilisations Gallery, Maidstone Museum will be working with the Kent Institute of Medicine and Science (KIMS) and Liverpool John Moores University to conduct a CT scan and facial reconstruction of Ta-Kesh, helping determine how this 2,500-year-old mummy – who passed away aged 14 – looked during her lifetime.



## **Lenham Valley Business Association**

You will recognise actress Constance Lamb . . .

Constance played the British Prime Minister in 'West Wing' and Del Boy's sister in 'Only Fools and Horses'.

LVBA has managed to arrange a presentation from Constance right here in Lenham.

It's not just in business, we are often required to present in various ways. It may be to a new Corporate Client about our service or to a group of potential clients who want learn about who we are and what we can offer. It could be anything.

Whatever the situation, you will not get that second chance to make a first impression. So it's vital to be ready to give your best. Constance is going to tell us about 'Dynamic Speaking'.

Make it a date on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 5:45pm** at The Dog & Bear Hotel on Lenham Square.

This meeting is free, it will interesting and informative and fun. So, if you want to come to it and to meet Constance then please register. Register online or by phoning 01622 820841

**Alan Reading, Organiser**

**Police Choir Concert at All Saints Church, Ulcombe** on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 pm Tickets £12.50 to include a light buffet from Molly Poulter on 01622 842988

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## Christian Message August 2016

“Take back control.” “Life will go on.” “The sky hasn’t fallen in.” “Make Britain great again.” “It’s about sovereignty.”

We’ve read or heard these things said before and after the referendum on the EU. I personally regret the outcome, having benefitted enormously from our membership (EU exchange scientists at Pfizer; scientific collaborations across Europe; school and university exchanges and collaborations, to name but a few). Others of course see it differently. Whichever side we’re on, we must live with the result, slim as it was, and work our way through the political and economic turmoil that seems to be an immediate result.

The referendum has been described as a once in a generation decision. It’s probably going to have its effects for far longer than a generation, though, and will affect each of us in ways we will never know. We can’t run the “control experiment” to see what would happen if we didn’t make that decision, so we’ll never actually **know** the difference. Now we’re out, we’re out.

There is a parallel here with our spiritual lives. During our lifespan we make decisions day by day about what to do, where to shop, where to live, and so on. And we make decisions about God, too. To listen to him or not. To pray or not; to go to church, to give thanks for answered prayer, to give thanks for the safe delivery of a baby, to ask God’s blessing on our marriage – and so on. Ultimately, we make a decision as to whether we are in God’s family or not, in his kingdom or not.

“It’s about sovereignty.” In other words, it’s about who controls our lives – Eurocrats, or our own politicians. The EU referendum may ultimately have been about that. For each of us, our response to God is about sovereignty, too. We see God’s kingdom as either a threat – “I don’t want God interfering in my life” or an amazing opportunity – “I love having God in my life” – for guidance, help, power to live well, forgiveness, being part of a loving community – the list goes on. How do **you** see it?

The decision to be a member of God’s family, to be in his kingdom, to take up his offer of living life in all its fullness is one that is celebrated here and in heaven – Jesus said, “God’s angels are happy when even one person turns to him.” (Luke 15). It’s not about God taking control, or interfering: it’s about enjoying the best possible life, being fulfilled in every aspect of our lives with God as a friend and guide, alongside us through it all. And we **can** know the difference for good that it makes.

On this one, I want to say to everyone “vote in!” – come into God’s family and you won’t regret it for a minute.

To find out more, meet me in the pub!

*Rev Dick Venn email me on [vicar@lvb.org.uk](mailto:vicar@lvb.org.uk)*

*The Len Valley Benefice*  
*Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe*  
Sunday/Main Services – **August 2016**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August**

**9.30 am** Lenham: Holy Communion

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August**

**9.30 am** Lenham: Breakfast service

**9.30 am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

**10.30 am** Ulcombe: Family Worship

**11.00 am** Lenham: Holy Communion

**3.30 pm** Harrietsham: GIFT family worship

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August**

**8.00am** Lenham: Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Service

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion

**10.45am** Ulcombe: Holy Communion

**11.00am** Lenham: Morning Worship

**6.30pm** Boughton Malherbe: Evensong

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

**10.30am** Holy Communion: Chippendayle Lodge

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August**

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Service

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Morning Worship

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

**10.45am** Ulcombe: Morning Worship

**11.00am** Lenham: Holy Communion

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August**

**8.00am** Lenham: Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe: Family Worship

**10.45am** Ulcombe: Holy Communion

**11.00am** Lenham: Family Worship



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NHS Medical Helpline	<b>111</b>
Maidstone & Pembury Hospitals	<b>0845 155 1000</b>
William Harvey Hospital	<b>01233 633331</b>
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KCC	<i>Emergencies</i>	<b>03000 41 41 41</b>
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<i>District Support – Dawn Riach- Brown</i>	<b>07773 397125</b>

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	<i>Home Safety Visits</i>	<b>0800 923 7000</b>
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## Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	<b>Word 1</b>	<b>Word 2</b>	<b>Word 3</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	Tongue	Eyed	Card	Sharp
2	Vice	Team	Sea	Captain
3	Upper	First	Room	Class
4	Circuit	Law	Ice	Breaker
5	Faced	Piece	Tone	Two
6	Ballot	Agent	Trade	Secret
7	Salad	Punch	Over	Bowl
8	Paper	Land	Lay	Waste
9	Harvest	Field	Hole	Mouse
10	Way	Test	Disk	Drive
11	Heart	Back	Ear	Ache
12	Poles	Tear	Tell	Apart
13	Half	Home	Serum	Truth
14	Short	Clear	Far	Sighted
15	Master	Meal	Hair	Piece
16	Island	Boots	Rat	Desert

	<b>Find the missing word?</b>
1	Benjamin <b>Disraeli</b> , Conservative Prime Minister in 1868 & 1874-1880
2	Wild Bill Hickok, 19 <sup>th</sup> century US Frontiers man & Marshall
3	Sheena Easton, Singer who became a familiar name in 1980
4	<b>West Bromwich Albion</b> , Midlands based Football team
5	Another <b>Brick In The Wall</b> , A hit for Pink Floyd
6	<b>Stella McCartney</b> , English fashion designer
7	<b>Treasure Island</b> , Robert Louis Stevenson Novel
8	<b>Alfred Nobel</b> , Swedish chemist and Philanthropist
9	<b>Our Mutual Friend</b> , A Charles Dickens Novel
10	<b>Total Recall</b> , A Science Fiction film with Arnie



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