



# Malherbe Monthly

Number 49  
August 2008



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart	890651
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson	890200
	Richard Thick	891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander	858348
	Joan Davidson	850210
Parish Council Clerk	Pat Anderson	858350
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
KM Correspondent	Sylvia Close	858919
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Sunday School	Mair Chantler	859672
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson	858350
	Sue Burch	850381
Incumbent	Rev: Dick Venn	
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders (email: churchoffice@lenvalleybenefice.org.uk)	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Thursday afternoons at approx. 4.45 by Post Office	01580 754300
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: <a href="mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net">mf.hitchins@virgin.net</a>	858937
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 September 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> August

**Front cover:**

The White Horse Inn at Sandway, now under new management

## News from St. Nicholas Church

### **Position Filled**

We are very happy to announce that the position of Priest-in-charge in our benefice has been filled by the Reverend Dick Venn, the Bishop's Preferred Candidate. He has met with the wardens and selection committee of the benefice at St. Mary's Lenham.

During the day, he and his wife Helen travelled around the parishes of the benefice, also visiting Hollingbourne and Leeds benefices as we will be working more closely with them in the future. The joint PCCs of the benefice, together with representatives from Hollingbourne and Leeds, met for a light supper in St. Mary's on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Afterwards the selection committee interviewed Reverend Venn, along with the Archdeacon of Maidstone (the Venerable Philip Down) and the Area Dean of the North Downs Deanery (Canon Professor Robin Gill).

After due consideration the selection committee were very pleased to offer Reverend Venn the position of Priest-in-charge in the Len Valley Benefice. Reverend Venn thanked us and, after considering the proposal with his wife, they were more than happy to accept.

Dick and Helen will live in the Vicarage in Lenham, but he will be priest to us all in Boughton Malherbe, Harrietsham, Lenham and Ulcombe. (The Len Valley Benefice) They have a family of one son and three daughters and Helen has been a Languages Teacher at secondary level teaching Italian.

The Service to install Reverend Venn to his new post will be held in St. Mary's, Lenham on 16<sup>th</sup> October in the evening at a time to be decided.

### **Cream Teas**

We started serving Cream Teas at St. Nicholas on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July and were delighted with the number of customers that we had for a first Sunday of the season. So many in fact that we almost ran out of scones, but how different the next Sunday was. The day was much duller - it didn't actually rain but the numbers were reflected in the doubtful weather. Never mind, we have the whole of the month of August and two week-ends in September when we plan to serve teas to our very welcome guests in the churchyard or in the nave if it is wet.

### **Dates for your Diary**

We are planning a Flower Festival for the first week-end in October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

If there is anyone out there who would like to help with arranging flowers or helping in any other way with refreshments or stewarding the Church for the time it is open, please ring Joan on 01622 850210. Thank you.

### **Harvest Supper**

We will be having a Harvest Supper this year which is wonderful. Mair Chantler has offered to organise the Supper for us - thank you very much Mair. It will be on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October. More about this later.

**Joan Davidson**

### **The Grafty Gourmet**

.... is on holiday this month – will be back in time for another recipe next month.

### **Grafty Garden Cuttings**

.... will resume next month when Rosemary has recovered from becoming a Grandmother again.

### **‘Yoga for Mums and Daughters (over 14’s)’**

*Or, maybe, come on your own.*

Would you and your daughter(s) like a taster session of yoga on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 6 - 7.30? Cost £4 per person.

If yes, please give me a call on 01622 850381 or 07803 962339 or e-mail [burch1997@aol.com](mailto:burch1997@aol.com) to book.

My aim will be to give a general session focusing on the importance of alignment and flexibility of the spine to improve posture and to give a relaxation which promotes a feeling of well being.

**Sue Burch**

# HOG ROAST

The Kings Head  
Grafty Green

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008  
From 2pm

## **Grafty Green Heating Oil Syndicate**

Grafty Green has its own Heating Oil Syndicate. We have over 200 members who benefit from cheaper Heating Oil when ordered in bulk. If you are prepared to buy at least 500 Litres 3 or 4 times a year and are fed up with Oil Tankers trundling through your village every week causing damage to our roads, not to mention the environmental cost and you want to join, email [europa.13@btinternet.com](mailto:europa.13@btinternet.com) or call Keith Anderson on 01622 858350. We now reach out to over 25 villages in the Ashford and Maidstone area. This club is non profit making.

**Keith Anderson**

## **Planning Application Update**

OUTCOME OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17th JULY AT MAIDSTONE TOWN HALL TO CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE AT PETSFIELD , EASTWOOD ROAD FROM GRAZING TO RESIDENTIAL FOR GYPSY FAMILY.

The meeting was attended by Robert Turner, chairman of the Parish Council and Ron Galton, vice chairman. Ron addressed the committee and Cllr. Richard Thick also spoke at length. The debate that followed was quite heated at times.

One committee member confirmed that an ecological survey was a specific requirement of government guidelines prior to any application being considered wherever a site is within 50 metres of a watercourse.

The planning officer had recommended approval without first having the survey carried out.

The application was deferred pending the survey.

#### **ANY BRIGHT IDEAS – UPDATE**

The response to the request for bright ideas which might attract funding to benefit the community has been disappointing, only 2 submissions received so far !

The deadline has therefore been extended so if you missed out first time round, now is your opportunity.

Suggestions please to Ron Galton at Maples, Woodcock Lane. Or phone him on 850369.

## Sudoku Quiz

5 3	7 9	1
9	5	8 2
4 8	2	
	6	
	8	9 7
5 6	4	2
	1	
4	2	5 1

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

<b>Find the missing word?</b>	
1	___ Bunton, A Spice Girl.
2	Ginger ____, Actress who danced with Fred Astaire
3	___ Reaction, 1986 No 1 for Diana Ross
4	Peter ____, Stand up comedian and starred in Phoenix Nights
5	___ Weapon, 1987 film with Mel Gibson
6	Captain ____, Played by Frank Thornton in Are You Being Served
7	___ Keith, Actress in To the Manor Born
8	Uncle ____, 1989 film starring John Candy and Macaulay Culkin
9	___ Gordon, Hero of a Sci-Fi comic strip
10	Guglielmo ____, Italian born radio pioneer



## PROGRAMME FOR 2008

Date	Topic	Speaker
8 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM & The Vertical Gardener	Hilary Newman
5 <sup>th</sup> February	New Zealand Interlude	Brian Self
4 <sup>th</sup> March	The Garden as a Nature Reserve & Spring Show	Janet Bryant
1 <sup>st</sup> April	“Saxon Shore Way” part 2	Chris Wade
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Plant Sale	
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Outing to Coptonsh, Faversham 6.30 pm. £2.50 + £1 tea and biscuits	
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Outing Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst (National Trust) 2 pm House and Garden £7.50, Garden only £5.80	
20 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Weekend away staying in Bury St Edmunds, Best Weston Hotel, dinner bed and breakfast. Visiting Beth Chatto, Foggy Bottom, Mannington Gardens and Hyde Hall. £212 per person	
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Outing Tram Hatch, Charing Heath 6.30pm £3.50 + £1 tea and biscuits	
<b>Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	<b>Outing Great Dixter, Northiam 2pm £6.50 garden only</b>	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>National Trust Gardens and how they are maintained &amp; Autumn Show</b>	Roger Smith
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Venezuela – plant hunting	Tom Hart-Dyke
4 <sup>th</sup> November	A Kent Woodland through the Seasons	Robert Canis
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Practical evening making Christmas table or door decoration & Wine and nibbles	

Advance Notice: our October speaker is Tom Hart-Dyke, who will tell us about plant collecting in Venezuela. For those who do not know, he was kidnapped and; held for 9 months and threatened with death, which is when he conceived the idea of a World Garden at his home at Lullingstone Castle. He has featured in two television series on the trials and tribulations of same so should provide us with a memorable evening. Entry is by **TICKET ONLY**, available in advance. Free for members, £2 to visitors. Book early. Limited numbers due to the size of our hall.

## 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	Motor	Park	Static	<b>Caravan</b>
2	Energy	System	Wreck	
3	Fox	Oven	Puppet	
4	Horn	Shine	Snow	
5	Apple	Nosed	Treacle	
6	Tent	Tile	Way	
7	Drama	Killer	Number	
8	Biscuit	Fight	Star	
9	Driver	Jet	Room	
10	Out	Over	Wing	
11	Day	Pole	Union	
12	Audience	Film	Flat	
13	Lucky	Odd	Wrong	
14	Break	Keel	Tempered	
15	Record	Snooker	Team	
16	Action	Aid	Tender	

Many thanks to **Paul Neaves** who set both the Link Word and Missing Word Puzzles.

## Boughton Malherbe Parish Council – 59 Bus

The Council has been advised by Nu-Venture that because of road works at Linton Corner, the B2163 is closed with immediate effect. This will mean that the Saturday timetable will alter slightly and instead of the bus leaving at 09.23 it will now leave at **09.20** and the route will be slightly altered – details below. There are no changes to the timetable and the route for services during weekdays.

**The B2163 is closed throughout the summer at Linton Corner for road works. During this period, a revised timetable will operate on Bus 59.**

<b>Saturdays from 26 July - temporary timetable</b>	<b>NU-VENTURE BUS 59 59A</b>				
<i>Service Number</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>59A</i>	
Grafty Green	0733	0920	1346	--	
Ulcombe PO	0740	0927	1353	--	
Kingswood <i>Ashford Drive</i>	0745	0932	1358	1614	
Kingswood <i>Village Hall</i>	0747	0934	1400	1616	
Warmlake Corner	0753	0940	1406	1622	
Chart Sutton <i>Buffalo's Head</i>	0756	0943	1409	<i>via</i>	
Boughton Monchelsea <i>opp Cock Inn</i>	0759	0946	1412	<i>A274</i>	
Boughton Monchelsea <i>Albion</i>	0802	0949	1415	--	
<i>then Bus 59 runs non-stop from Boughton Monchelsea to The Wheatsheaf</i>	<i>NON</i>	<i>NON</i>	<i>NON</i>	--	
The Wheatsheaf	<i>STOP</i>	<i>STOP</i>	<i>STOP</i>	--	
MAIDSTONE <i>Town Centre</i>	0825	1012	1438	1634	
	0830	1019	1446	1642	
	<i>Service Number</i>	<i>59A</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>59</i>
MAIDSTONE <i>King St, Bus Stop L2</i>	0835	1241	1525	1755	
MAIDSTONE <i>Chequers Centre Bus Stop J4</i>	0837	1243	1527	1757	
The Wheatsheaf	0844	1250	1534	Z	
<i>then Bus 59 runs non-stop from Loose Rd Plains Ave to Boughton Monchelsea</i>	--	<i>NON</i>	<i>NON</i>	<i>NON</i>	
Boughton Monchelsea <i>Albion</i>	--	<i>STOP</i>	<i>STOP</i>	<i>STOP</i>	
Boughton Monchelsea <i>Cock Inn</i>	--	1313	1557	Z	
Chart Sutton <i>Buffalo's Head</i>	<i>via</i>	1316	1600	Z	
Warmlake Corner	<i>A274</i>	1319	1603	Z	
Kingswood <i>Village Hall</i>	0856	1322	1606	Z	
Kingswood <i>Ashford Drive</i>	--	--	--	Z	
Ulcombe PO	0904	1330	1614	Z	
Grafty Green	0911	1337	--	Z	
	0918	1344	--	Z	

# Maidstone — Chart Sutton — Kingswood — Grafty Green

# 59

## Mondays to Fridays

Service No:	School Days		Net School Days	
	59	59	59	59
Maidstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	1227	1402	1555	1615
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	1229	1404	1557	1617
Wheatshat	1236	1411	1604	1604
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1240	1415	1608	1608
Linton Corner	1244	1419	1612	1612
Cornwallis Academy		1505		
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1249	1424	1617	1617
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1252	1427	1620	1620
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1255	1430	1623	1623
Warmslake Corner	1258	1433	1626	1638
Kingswood, Village Hall	1306	1523	1634	1646
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	1313	1530	1641	1653
Grafty Green, King's Head	1320	1537	1648	1700
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle		1535		
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by		1544		

## Saturdays

See Note 1	School Days		Net School Days	
	59	59	59	59
0838	1241	1525	1755	
0840	1243	1527	1757	
0847	1250	1534	1804	
R	1254	1538		
R	1258	1542		
R	1303	1547	1817	
R	1306	1550	1820	
R	1309	1553	1823	
R	0859	1312	1556	1826
R	0907	1320	1604	
R	0914	1327	1611	
R	0921	1334	1618	
R				

**Service 59: Maidstone, King Street, Chequers Bus Station, Romney Place, Lower Stone Street, Upper Stone Street, Loose Road (return Sheels Crescent, Hayle Road, College Road, Mill Street, High Street, King Street), Loose, Linton Road, Linton Cross Roads, Heath Road, Church Street, Boughton Monchelsea, Green Lane, Heath Road, Four Wents, Brishing Road, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Warmlake Road, Warmlake Cross Roads, Chartway Street, Broomfield Road, Kingswood, Ashford Drive, Charleford Avenue, Cayser Drive, Gravely 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, Warmlake Cross Roads, then as normal route to Grafty Green.

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

**Service 66: Cornwallis Academy, Heath Road, Four Wents, then same route as Bus 59 to Pye Corner, Lenham Road, King's Road, Headcorn.**

## Mondays to Fridays

Service No:	School Days		Net School Days	
	59	59	59	59
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by				
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle		0736		
Grafty Green, King's Head	0723	0723	0930	1325
Ulcombe, Post Office	0730	0730	0937	1332
Kingswood, Village Hall	0735	0735	0942	1337
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0738	0738	0944	1339
Warmslake Corner	0746	0744	0808	0950
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0739	0747	0809	0953
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0742	0750	0811	0956
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0745	0753	0815	0959
Cornwallis Academy		0820		1507
Linton Corner		0750		0758
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0756	0802	1008	1403
Wheatshat	0758	0800	1012	1407
Maidstone, King Street		0810		0814
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0808			
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817			
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0826			

## Saturdays

See Note 1	School Days		Net School Days	
	59	59	59	59
0733	0923	1336		
0740	0930	1343		
0745	0935	1348	1604	
0747	0937	1350	1606	
0753	0943	1356	1612	
0756	0946	1359		
0759	0949	1402		
0802	0952	1405		
0807	0957	1410		
0811	1001	1414		
0815	1005	1418	1624	
0823	1013	1427	1632	

## Sundays and Public Holidays\*

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.

## **Would a small Pre-school suit your Child?**

Ulcombe Pre-School offers your child the opportunity to learn through play with a varied range of activities.

The Pre-School caters for children aged from two and is Ofsted inspected. It has a very high staff to children ratio and meets in a modern, spacious hall, with a safe and fenced garden area.

It received good marks from Ofsted at their last Inspection.

The Pre-School runs Monday – Thursday, 9.15am – 12.15 term time only.

Places are available for this academic year and reservations are being taken for September 2008 and beyond.

You are more than welcome to visit the Pre-School during opening hours at Ulcombe Village Hall – we are only 5 minutes drive from Headcorn and 10 minutes from Egerton.

*We also run a baby/toddler session on a Tuesday from 9.30 - 11.30, when younger children are welcome to come along with a parent/carer and join in with the pre-school children, at a cost of £2.00 per child per session. (Refreshments included)*

For more details, please contact Jane Williams, Chair of Committee on 01622 843228.

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

It is strongly recommended to fit a locking device to your Oil Tank. Several villages in Kent have been hit by thieves stealing Oil from unlocked tanks.

**Keith Anderson (Neighbourhood Watch)**



IS THIS  
YOU?

Still frustrated by your computer? Egerton Telecottage Computer Centre has the equipment, skills and boundless enthusiasm to guide you through the sometimes irritating world of computers. Our Basic IT class was sold out in July but our next training session will be running for 4 weeks from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September during the mornings.

This will be the start of our Autumn schedule of courses with Intermediate Word Processing starting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September and an additional Basic IT class starting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. We are also planning classes covering Desk Top Publishing, Email, Excel, and Clean up your Computer during the months of September to December. In addition, a peek into the world of Ebay might be just what you need to make a bit of money!

The classes are run both during the day and in the evening and, as we are non profit making, our rates are extremely low. Final dates and times will be confirmed soon but, as they will be arranged on the basis of demand, we need you to contact us now to register your interest. You can talk to Sylvia Tillman on 01233 756050 and she will be give full details.

In the meantime, if you need advice about any computing problems, an internet connection or a chat and a coffee, don't forget to drop into our free open session any Saturday morning between 10am and 12 noon- we look forward to meeting you!

## The August Night Sky

In August there is a partial eclipse of the Sun at the beginning of the month followed by a partial eclipse of the moon. I will give you more details later.

At the start of the month the Sun is in the constellation of Cancer and moves into the constellation of Leo on the 10<sup>th</sup> August.

This month New Moon occurs on 1<sup>st</sup> August, and after a few days can be seen in the southwest at sunset. Full Moon occurs on 16<sup>th</sup> August and rises in the east at sunset.

Early this month the Moon passes directly in front of the Sun producing a total eclipse of the Sun in certain areas. The path of totality runs through northern Canada, Greenland, northern Russia, Mongolia and China, however, in the UK we will see it as a partial eclipse. Please remember you can seriously damage your eyes if you look directly into the Sun, so it is preferable to project the image on to a screen. The eclipse can be observed between 9:25 and 11:10 a.m. BST on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August.

Full Moon occurs when the Moon lies in the opposite direction to the Sun, as seen from the Earth. But usually the Moon passes a little way above or below the Earth's shadow. This month, however, the Moon passes through the edge of the shadow producing a partial eclipse of the Moon. The eclipse occurs on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August and will be noticeable at about 8:40 pm with the maximum eclipse occurring around 10:10 pm.

I am afraid it is not the best month to view the majority of the planets, only Jupiter, which is low in the south at dusk, can readily be seen. It sets in the early hours, and is moving slowly westwards in the constellation of Sagittarius. Owing to its low altitude it will be difficult to see any detail through a telescope, however, the major moons should be visible particularly the outermost one, Callisto.

This year the well-known Perseid meteor shower is expected to peak in the morning of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August. Subject to the weather the meteors should easily be seen on Monday night through to the morning, and they will appear to radiate from the constellation of Perseus high in the northeast.

**John Maunder**

## Old sayings and how they came into existence

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, Don't Throw The Baby Out With The Bath Water.

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying. It's raining cats and dogs.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house.. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, Dirt poor. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a thresh hold.

(Getting quite an education, aren't you?)

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could bring home the bacon. They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and chew the fat.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes so, for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the upper crust.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a wake.

In England when coffins were reused they would take the bones to a bone-house and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be saved by the bell, or was considered a dead ringer.

## Ulcombe – dates for your diaries

Although Ulcombe is a small village it seems to have a lot of things going for it.

**The Ulcombe History Society** has an interesting programme ahead. **On Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> of September** we will be taking a coach to **The Weald and Downland Open Air Museum** near Chichester. The cost is £23.50, and details can be obtained from either Molly Poulter (Chairman) on 01622 842988 or John Moore (Treasurer) on 01622 850384.

Then on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm the great grandson of Charles Dickens will be coming to entertain us. All welcome.

Then there is **the Ulcombe Friendship Club** which meets on the last Thursday in the month. Many say it's the friendliest club they've ever joined!

On August 28<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall there is a talk and music by Pauline Fisher entitled *My life and my trumpet*.

On Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> of September we are taking the train from Tenterden to Bodiam Castle where we will have a cream tea.

All are welcome. Details from either Molly Poulter, Chairman (01622 842988) or Dorothy Playford, Treasurer on (01622 842988).

### **Music also figures in Ulcombe's activities.**

**On Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of October** the Sutton Valence Choral Society will be presenting a **Come Sing the Messiah** in Ulcombe's beautiful church, All Saints.

If you would like to take part:

3.00 pm rehearsal

6.00 pm Tea

7.30 pm performance

please contact Mrs Alexandra Brown on 01622 853791. Tickets from Molly Poulter (01622 842988).

**On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October Joanne Parker** and friend will be giving a very different concert but details are not yet to hand. A few years ago Joanne Parker gave a hugely successful concert based on the Joni Mitchell style of singing.

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

Maidstone Borough Council has now issued the timetable for this service up to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2008. Please find below the dates of when the weekend freighter service stops near your home during this period:

### **Grafty Green**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov: 13:30 – 15:15 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

### **Platts Heath**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Aug: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Green Lane

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Oct: 12:15 – 13:00 -: Green Lane

### **Ulcombe**

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Aug: 07:45 – 08:30 -: Lodge Gardens (cul-de-sac)

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct: 11:15 – 12:30 -: Lodge Gardens (cul-de-sac)

### **Lenham**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept: 09:00 – 10:30 -: Lenham Heath Rd - Boughton Rd

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Lenham Heath Rd - Boughton Rd

## **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 and 2008 can be viewed. You even get the front cover in colour!!!

This web site also hosts all the minutes of Parish Council Meetings and give 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)

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:

1/8 page	£3.00
1/4	£5.00
1/2	£10.00
Complete page	£20.00

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

### **Friends of Kent Churches Annual Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk**

This event has been running for over 20 years and this year promises to be a really successful day. The event takes place on Saturday 13th September 2008 from 10am to 6pm. Over 700 churches across Kent will be involved, welcoming riders and walkers, often with refreshments. Money is raised through sponsorship and is shared between your nominated church and the Friends of Kent Churches, who give grants for church repairs. Last year more than £140,000 was raised.

Plan your own route, long or short, flat or hilly, challenging or relaxed, whatever suits you. This is a lovely day out for all the family.

Visit the website – [www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk](http://www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk) for more information, sponsor forms, tee-shirts and more. Or contact – Carolyn Millen on 01622 843383, [carolynmillen1@btinternet.com](mailto:carolynmillen1@btinternet.com)

### Sudoku Solution

8	5	3	4	2	7	6	9	1
1	2	4	6	8	9	7	5	3
6	7	9	3	5	1	8	4	2
3	4	8	7	9	2	1	6	5
7	9	1	5	6	4	3	2	8
2	6	5	8	1	3	9	7	4
5	1	6	9	4	8	2	3	7
9	3	2	1	7	5	4	8	6
4	8	7	2	3	6	5	1	9

## **Maidstone Borough Council – News Release**

Release Date: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008

Ref No: KJ/080712

### **Panto is sure to be a big hit this year as line-up is announced**

Jake Hendriks, better known as Father Kieron Hobbs in Hollyoaks, will be ditching the dog collar for a beanstalk as he makes his way to the borough for this year's panto.

The Hazlitt Arts Centre and Pantomime producers Westward Ventures Limited have announced the Hollyoaks heart throb Jake as the leading man, straight from his role into rehearsals for Jack and the Beanstalk.

Company director, Gary Telfer, said: "This is fantastic news for the Maidstone area. To land Jake for the pantomime is fantastic as he is very current on our television screens and hugely popular with our target audience. I spoke to Jake over the weekend and he can't wait to come and meet the Maidstone people. I think this year is going to see one of the best Maidstone pantomimes ever, we will be putting in an amazing live band so the audience can expect an all new look to the Hazlitt Arts Centre Pantomime this year."

Also appearing in this year's panto will be Michael Fenton Stevens who played Mr Griffith in the BBC TV sitcom My Family. He will be playing Jack's mother Dame Trott. The panto will also feature a host of other top quality entertainers including local funny man Tom Swift.

Brian Moss, cabinet member for leisure and culture said: "Looking at the stars we have for this year's panto it is going to be a popular show. Jack and the Beanstalk is always a good choice for audiences. I look forward to the live band – I think we will see something we have never seen before this year. I expect it will be a real treat for the whole family."

Tickets for this year's panto, which runs from the November 29 to January 4 are now on sale and can be bought at a reduced rate of £1 off each ticket until October. For more information please call the Hazlitt Arts Centre box office on 01622 758611 or log onto [www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk](http://www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk)

## Music Notes - August

August is a quiet month for most things apart from holidays; the local music societies take time off, so the selection of musical events requires a wider search than usual. However, you may find something of interest in the following:

- As mentioned last month, there are free concerts at **1.05pm every Thursday** at All Saints' Church, Maidstone, continuing through to 25<sup>th</sup> September. Retiring collections at each concert are in aid of local charities. Bring your own sandwiches, but coffee and biscuits available!
- The Brenchley Gardens Band Season runs through to 31<sup>st</sup> August. Every Sunday afternoon from 3.00 to 4.30pm in Brenchley Gardens, St. Faith's street, Maidstone. A free concert programme – deckchairs available to hire for £1.
- Why not listen to Kent Chorale sing evensong? They have a programme of services throughout Kent during August on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. 6<sup>th</sup> August, at St. Peter's, Oare; 13<sup>th</sup> August at St. Cosmos & St. Damian, Challock; 20<sup>th</sup> August at St. John's Ickham;
- Or visit Canterbury Cathedral for your music. Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30pm, an organ recital by Philip Moore of York Minster. Tickets at the door. Also Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 8.00pm, a concert by the Berkshire Choral Society from the USA. Tickets tel. 01227 378188.

**Brian Hardy**

## Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

Answer	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3
1	Motor	Park	Static
2	Energy	System	Wreck
3	Fox	Oven	Puppet
4	Horn	Shine	Snow
5	Apple	Nosed	Treacle
6	Tent	Tile	Way
7	Drama	Killer	Number
8	Biscuit	Fight	Star
9	Driver	Jet	Room
10	Out	Over	Wing
11	Day	Pole	Union
12	Audience	Film	Flat
13	Lucky	Odd	Wrong
14	Break	Keel	Tempered
15	Record	Snooker	Team
16	Action	Aid	Tender
			Legal
			Player
			Even
			Number
			Studio
			Flag
			Left
			Engine
			Dog
			Serial
			Ridge
			Toffee
			Shoe
			Glove
			Nervous
			Caravan

	<b>Find the missing word?</b>
1	Emma Bunton, A Spice Girl.
2	Ginger Rogers, Actress who danced with Fred Astaire
3	Chain Reaction, 1986 No 1 for Diana Ross
4	Peter Kay, Stand up comedian and starred in Phoenix Nights
5	Lethal Weapon, 1987 film with Mel Gibson
6	Captain Peacock, Played by Frank Thornton in Are You Being Served
7	Penelope Keith, Actress in To the Manor Born
8	Uncle Buck, 1989 film starring John Candy and Macaulay Culkin
9	Flash Gordon, Hero of a Sci-Fi comic strip
10	Guglielmo Marconi, Italian born radio pioneer

**The Len Valley Benefice**  
**Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe**  
**Sunday/Main Services – August 2008**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time/Location</b>	<b>Service</b>
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August  Transfiguration of our Lord	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U	BCP HC CW 1 Family Service CW 1 Family Service
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> August  12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U 19.00 Bearsted	BCP HC Family Service CW 1 Family Service CW 1 Taize Service – Holy Cross Bearsted
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> August  13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U 18.30 BM	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 BCP Evening Prayer
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> August  Bartholomew the Apostle	08.00 L 10.00 BM	BCP HC CW1 - Benefice Service at St Nicholas Boughton Malherbe
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> August  15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L 09.30 H 18.30 H	BCP HC CW1 - Benefice Service at Harrietsham Informal

## Key

### Parishes / Churches

L: Lenham  
BM: Boughton Malherbe  
H: Harrietsham  
U: Ulcombe

### Services

BCP HC = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Holy Communion  
BCP EP = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Evening Prayer  
Fam Svc = Family Service (not Communion)  
MS = Morning Service (not Communion)  
CW 1 = Common Worship (Order One)  
H = Holy Communion  
Informal = Informal! (not communion)

## Christian Message

### August So Soon!

Can you believe that August has arrived? This is the time of holidays well-earned after a year of work, within or outside the home, at school or in the fields where the hard work is still at its height, but is the culmination of a year of nurturing and worrying.

For many this is a time of endings as schoolchildren finish their year and with excitement and some trepidation look forward to the new start in September, perhaps even a new and unknown school, with new opportunities and new friends to make.

It is a time of anticipation as families can get to know one another again as they spend time and have fun together on holiday, maybe start assembling next term's uniform and watch the Olympic Games from Beijing and see there the culmination of, in some cases, many years of dedicated training.

But it can also be a time for looking back over the year and appreciating the good things that have happened; the successes in the classroom or on the sportsfield, or the times with friends. In our case we appreciated the good weather in April, which meant an easier time for the shepherd, (my husband), and his new lambs, and the baby which arrived safely at home just before Christmas, surrounded by his family

and Christmas decorations! There have been the heartaches when a close friend died, but also we felt that glow of love, which surrounded and held her family at that time.

There will have been sad and difficult times for us all, but can we now, looking back, see the satisfaction in how we, with the help of friends and family, or with God-given strength within ourselves, were able to cope and come through those times and move on.

A friend told me a few words of advice she was given in her Christian training, that if we wanted to see God, (and don't we all?), then we only need to look back over our lives.

I would suggest we start with this last year and see where it leads us!

**Sally Alexander**

### **Bible Study Evenings**

After a break for summer, the Tuesday Evening Bible Study group will resume on 2nd September at 8pm, at Deans Hill Lodge, Deans Hill, Harrietsham.

The following two meetings will be on 16th and 30th September at the same venue and time. Transport can be arranged. Please contact Pamela Cuerden on 859442. Everyone welcome.

### **Canterbury Cathedral Open Evening**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 5.30pm to 9.30pm

See many interesting displays showing behind the scenes at Canterbury Cathedral, including a large photographic exhibition: A Day in the Life of Canterbury Cathedral.

FREE ENTRY, ACTIVITIES & GUIDED TOURS

5.30pm	Choral Evensong
6.15pm - 8.40pm	Displays and activities
8.40pm	Concert by the Choristers
9pm	Compline

EVERYONE WELCOME - BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

For more information call The Friends' Office on 01227 865292