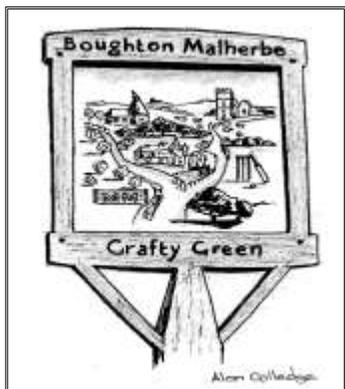


Malherbe Monthly

Number 106

May 2013



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

Useful contact names and telephone N^{os}.
BOUGHTON MALHERBE/GRAFTY GREEN

County Councillor	Jenny Whittle	734897
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	859549 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Chris King email boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	850711
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
Other Village Hall issues	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@btinternet.com	853583
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Priest in charge	Rev: Dick Venn (Sat -Thurs) email: dickvenn@gmail.co.uk	858195
Curate	Mille Hart (N/A Tues, & Sun afternoon) email: mille.hart@uwclub.net	859753
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Office opening times as 9am – 12noon Monday - Thursday	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons - 4.40pm	
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	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	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 **June** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th May**

Front cover: The new Village Hall sign - before being installed

News from St. Nicholas Church

Silent Auction for the Pews - There has been some interest shown in the pews for which we are holding a Silent Auction. It is proposed to receive bids for the auction until 25th May, by which time people will have had time to consider if they are interested or not.

To refresh your memories there is one pew which will seat three persons and one that will seat six persons. If you would like to view them please get in touch with one of the Churchwardens. Their telephone numbers can be found in the front of the magazine and arrangements will be made for you to view the pews, which are in store, before placing your bid.

Morning Prayers will be said in St. Nicholas and All Saints Ulcombe on alternate Tuesdays during May at 9.30am. The next meeting is on the 7th and then the 21st May at St. Nicholas and 14th and 28th at All Saints, Ulcombe.

Village Coffee Morning - This will be held on the Village Hall Grafty Green between 10.30-12.00 noon on 8th May. Please come and support this event.

There is no charge but any donation you may like to give will be sent to a charity at the end of the year. There will be freshly made cheese scones and cakes served with coffee or tea - we hope to see you there.

Jam Jars - Once again we will be very pleased to receive any 1lb or 12oz jam and honey jars, which you may have kept for us. I'm afraid they must be a uniform size as this makes it easier to price the jams accurately. No coffee or pickle jars can be used.

Please ring Joan on 850210 and I can collect. Many thanks.

Joan Davidson

Bulky Refuse Collections (Saturday Freighter Service)

Maidstone Borough Council have issued the timetable for the Saturday Freighter Service up to end of June 2013.

Grafty Green

Saturday 1st June 15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

Platts Heath

Saturday 1st June 14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane

Ulcombe

Saturday 8th June 09:25 - 09.55 -: Lodge Gardens

Ken and Eve Sweet
extend a warm welcome to

The Kings Head Grafty Green

A
16th Century
Coaching Inn
haunted by
"Dover Bill" -
the Highwayman!



Traditional Sunday Lunches

Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers

Booking Advisable
01622 850259

Children's Room Beer Garden



LENHAM NURSERY SCHOOL



at Lenham Primary School,
Ham Lane, Lenham.

The Nursery School is
Ofsted Registered
and a member of the
Pre-School Learning Alliance;
holds an excellent Ofsted Report
and has validation to accept
Early Years Funding.

*We're here to serve your needs.
Why not call in to discuss
your requirements?*

It's never too early
to add your child's name to our Waiting List.

Contact Ami Rathmill

07967 128056

Registered Charity No. 1041661

Beaubray Caterers est 1972

'quality function catering at the venue of your choice'

Weddings * marquee receptions * hot and cold buffets * bbq's
Corporate events * club dinners and presentation nights
Christmas * christenings * funerals

Catering Equipment Hire

For a **FREE** brochure and planning advice ring 01622 763269
or email beaubraycatererskent@tiscali.co.uk
www.beaubraycaterers.co.uk

Grafty Green Village Hall News

Overspill car parking arrangements and crowd control contingency plans proved unnecessary for our recent AGM, when a dozen of us (mostly the existing committee) met to review the 20 months since the present committee was formed and to make our strategic plans for the future. But it meant larger servings of the promised wine and nibbles for those who attended - which may have added a rosy glow to our view of past achievements and contributed to the unbridled air of optimism for the future!

We took it as a compliment that there were no banner-waving protesters and considered it a silent vote of confidence in the existing committee that no one new came forward offering to join us. So the committee continues to comprise Richard Pilborough, Robert Turner, Carol Hulm, Sue Burch, Sarah Cutbill, Ann Henderson, Margaret Neaves, Barbara Pearce, Sandra Pilborough, Jacky Simmons and Jacqui Thompson. Votes of thanks were passed to Doreen Walter for her work in keeping the Hall clean and tidy, as well as handling Hall bookings, and to Gary Brooker for his prompt and efficient attention to all our maintenance needs.

HALL IMPROVEMENTS

Most recently, Gary has provided us with a removable shelving system in the kitchen. Deep shelves (stored in the Hall loft) can be attached whenever needed to permanent fittings on the kitchen wall to the left of the window. This is in response to those who have previously served food at Hall events and commented on the lack of surface area on which to lay out plates, etc. We hope the new arrangements help a little.

FUTURE EVENTS

Firstly, please tell all your friends (within and outside the village) about our fabulous **comedy night** on **Thursday 30th May** – see the separate advert in this magazine. We need the Hall *full* of laughter! And please help us assess demand by buying your tickets early. They are available *now* from Rob at the village shop or from Richard Pilborough, tel. 850484.

Finally, a summer date for your diary. Following the twin successes last year of the Olympic Games and the Grafty Green Jubilee celebration, we thought we'd combine them this year in a day of outdoor fun-and-games. It's '**Grafty Green does the (silly) Olympics**'! You won't need to get into training, but you might well want to take part – and even if you only come to spectate, you'll have fun. So do note the date now, it's **Saturday 31 August**. More details in due course!

Richard Pilborough

Hall Committee Chairman

(tel: 850484 or email: pilborough@graffy.plus.com)

Grafty Green Gardening Club - 2013 Programme

Date	Event/Speaker	Subject
January 8th	AGM – Adrian Hutchinson	Alpine plants
February 5th	Steve Harmer	History of gardening
March 5th	Rob Masters	Adventures on the allotment!
April 2nd	Spring show and George Pearson	Madagascar
May 7th	Old Farm Otterden, Near Faversham	Outing
May 10th – 13th	Weekend away Malvern Spring Show	
June 2nd (Sunday)	Old Bladbean Stud, Near Elham, Canterbury	Outing
July 2nd	Michael and Gill Bushell, Garden House, Surrenden	Outing
August		Outing
Sept 2nd	Autumn Show Peter Kirby	My lost Kent
Oct 1st	Produce, jams chutney evening	Bring and Buy/swapping
Nov 5th	Sue Marshall	Love affair with Irises
Dec 3rd	Social and quiz	

Tuesday May 7th our summer outing programme begins with a visit to Old Farm Otterden, near Faversham, we aim meet there at 6.30p.m.

10th to 12th May a number of us will be visiting Batsford Arboretum (£5.40 entry) on the way to our stay at the Puckrup Hilton Hotel, Tewkesbury. On Saturday we visit The Malvern Show (£15.00 entry) for all day and Lydney Park (£3.00 entry) on Sunday. It would be helpful if members bring the correct money for entries. The coach will be leaving Grafty Green Post Office at 9.00am and will make two further pick-ups at Lenham 9.10am and The Maidstone Hilton at 9.30am. We should be returning to Grafty at about 6.30pm.

For information about any of our events please call Sue Burch on 850381 or Rosemary Smith 850526 or Carole Frost 757536 for information on the weekend away trip.

Mondays to Fridays

Service No	School Days Only See Note 1			
	59	66	59	59
Maidstone, King Street	1230	....	1610	1745
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Stn, Stop J4	1232	....	1612	1747
Wheatsheaf, Loose Road	1239	....	1619	1754
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1243	....	1623	1758
Linton Corner	1247	....	1627	1802
Cornwallis Academy	....	1505	....	....
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1252	....	1632	1807
Boughton Monchelsea, Cook Inn	1255	1509	1635	1810
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1258	1512	1638	1813
Warmlake Corner	1301	1515	1641	1816
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	1309	1523	1649	1824
Kingswood, Village Hall	....	1525	....	1826
Ulcombe, opp. The Harrow	1316	1530	1656	1831
Grafty Green, Kings Head	1323	....	1703	1838
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	....	1535	....	....
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by	....	1544	....	....
Sutton Valence, The Harbour	....	1549	....	....

Saturdays

* 59			
0845	1241	1525	1755
0847	1243	1527	1757
0854	1250	1534	1804
via	1254	1538	1808
Sutton	1258	1542	1812
Road	....	....	....
and	1303	1547	1817
Langley	1306	1550	1820
....	1309	1553	1823
0905	1312	1556	1826
0914	1320	....	1834
0916	1322	1604	1836
0921	1327	....	1841
0928	1334	....	1848
....
....

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, Aylesford Highways Depot, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7TZ or email transport.integration@kent.gov.uk

* - Special arrangements apply over the Christmas and New Year period and at Easter. Please watch for announcements.

Sundays & Public Holidays*

Service 59 does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays.

NOTES

1 - This bus is run by Nu-Venture (Tel: 01622 882288), NOT Arriva.

2

Mondays to Fridays

Service No	School Days Only See Note 1			
	59	59	66	59
Sutton Valence, The Harbour	....	....	0731	....
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by	....	....	0736	....
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	....	....	0745	....
Grafty Green, Kings Head	0710	0721	....	0930
Ulcombe, The Harrow	0717	0729	0750	0937
Kingswood, Village Hall	0722	0733	0754	0942
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0725	0736	0757	0944
Warmlake Corner	0731	0742	0801	0950
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0735	0745	0804	0953
Boughton Monchelsea, Cook Inn	0738	0749	0807	0956
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0741	0751	....	0958
Cornwallis Academy	....	....	0820	....
Linton Corner	0746	0756	....	1003
Loose, Loose Road/Old Loose Hill	0750	0800	....	1006
Wheatsheaf, Loose Road	0756	0806	....	1012
Maidstone, King Street	....	0814	....	1020
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0808	....	....	....
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817	....	....	....
Tonbridge Road, Oakwood Park	0826	....	....	....

Saturdays

* 59			
....
....
....
0733	0930	1336	....
0740	0937	1343	....
0745	0942	1348	1604
0747	0944	1350	1606
0753	0950	1356	1612
0756	0953	1359	via
0759	0956	1402	Langley
0802	0959	1405	and
....	....	....	Sutton
0807	1004	1410	Road
0811	1008	1414	....
0815	1012	1418	1624
0820	1020	1426	1632
....
....

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, Aylesford Highways Depot, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7TZ or email transport.integration@kent.gov.uk

* - Special arrangements apply over the Christmas and New Year period and at Easter. Please watch for announcements.

Sundays & Public Holidays*

Service 59 does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays.

NOTES

1 - This bus is run by Nu-Venture (Tel: 01622 882288), NOT Arriva.

3

BUS SERVICE 59

Grafty Green – Maidstone via Ulcombe and Kingswood

NEW AFTERNOON SERVICE AND SOME TIMING CHANGES

A new timetable, reproduced in Malherbe Monthly, was introduced on Monday 25th March.

Mondays to Fridays

The big change is the re-introduction of an afternoon service to Maidstone, departing from Grafty Green at **13.25**.

There are also two timing changes. The 12.20 service from Maidstone now departs ten minutes later at **12.30**, and the 17.25 service from Maidstone now departs twenty minutes later at **17.45**.

Saturdays

The 09.23 service from Grafty Green now departs at **09.30**, bringing it in line with the Monday to Friday departure time.

All buses should or very soon will be easy access vehicles with no entrance steps.

The message remains – USE IT OR YOU MIGHT POSSIBLY LOSE IT

John Collins

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council's representative
on the East of Maidstone Rural Transport Group



STONEBRIDGE ACCOUNTING
ACCOUNTS AND TAX SUPPORT
FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND SMALL BUSINESS

Tel: 01233 840373

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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Meeting	Lords	Book	Prayer
2	Honorary	Course	Third	
3	Holiday	Club	Site	
4	Recorder	Home	Game	
5	No-go	Manager	Grey	
6	Silver	Sand	Step	
7	Minute	House	Beef	
8	Ticket	Square	Piece	
9	Mother	Music	Cross	
10	Shopping	Dressing	Bay	
11	Writer	Smoke	Split	
12	Constable	Effects	Extra	
13	Sound	Reef	Crash	
14	Load	Weight	Top	
15	Secret	Union	Mark	
16	Squash	Bitter	Sole	

News from Ulcombe Village School

There is not so much to report from the school this month, as the start of April was also the start of the two week long Easter Holiday. However, work still carried on and improvements continued to be made whilst the children were enjoying their chocolate eggs and bunnies. Following significant work on the roof there was internal redecoration of the corridor, the junior cloakroom and toilets and the ceilings in the two junior classrooms to be completed. These have really freshened up the corridor area and prompted us to make a small start in purchasing library furniture. We are very grateful to all of the contractors and sub-contractors, especially our friends at Byford Roofing.

After writing the article for last month's edition, children from Tawny Owls class headed off to PGL Osmington Bay for a long weekend away from home. As in previous years we were joined by our friends from Platts Heath Primary and John Mayne CE Primary Schools. Though the weather was bitterly cold at times, the children had a fantastic time facing challenges and conquering fears. Well done to all of our adventurers.

Term 4 did not end in quite the way we expected, as the Easter Service had to be moved to the school instead of All Saints Parish Church. It was great to be joined by parents and friends despite the last minute change of plan. The change was necessary because of unexpected road works on Ulcombe Hill, that it appears no one had been informed about. We have received a profuse apology from Kent Highways, which they have asked us to share with of all those who were affected.

Supermarket Tokens Needed

Have you got any Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers waiting to be handed in to a school or club? If you, or any of your friends and family, have any tokens that you can bring in we would be delighted to receive them. We have benefited in all sorts of ways previously, from our school football kit to athletics equipment. These schemes continue to be of great benefit to us, so thank you very much to all of you who have sent in tokens from the various supermarket schemes in the past. At this moment we are unaware of Tesco's Plans for its 2013 scheme. We will pass on as much information as we can as soon as we have it.

What Do You Have In The Loft?

Children in Years 5 and 6 are creating a model railway again this year as part of a KCC and Hornby competition. Thank you very much to everyone who helped us last year. We will be using some of the items, including track and trains in our model this year. However, we are again asking if anyone would be willing to lend (or even donate) tracks, model trains or accessories to our young engineers? We are particularly keen to receive any model plants including grass, to make our scene look as real as possible. If you think you can help please contact the school at the earliest opportunity.

Looking Ahead

Events in May include Chance 2 Shine cricket coaching for all of the juniors, the National Tests for children in Year 6, National Walk to School Week and class and group photographs for us to look our best for. We will be thinking about the Queen's coronation towards the end of term. The 60th anniversary takes place before we return to school for Term 6.

All of you, our friends from the local community, are warmly invited to our next Ulcombe School Friends' Dinner on Wednesday 12th June. The older children will wait at the tables during the meal, and it will be followed by the children showing off various pieces of work and celebrating everything fathers, grandfathers, uncles, etc do to help us as we prepare for Father's Day on the following Sunday. This will cost £4.50, which includes a small donation to the school. If you would like to book your seat please contact the School Office.

Friends of Ulcombe School

Moving on through the summer, Saturday 22nd June is our Sports Day and Summer Fayre. This year we again plan to run our Sports Day from 11am, with the Summer Fayre following immediately afterwards. As ever, the closely fought races between the children (and adults!) will be followed by our Fayre, which always has a wonderful array of activities, refreshments and stalls.

Phil The Bank remains ever popular and will soon have gone passed £1,000 in terms of money raised for FUS. Thank you to every single one of you who has helped by recycling old clothes, curtains, shoes, handbags and more.

As ever, if you have any questions, or if you would like to offer your time to help in some way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us in school. We hope to see you at one of the forthcoming events.

Best wishes,

Mr V Hampton, *Head Teacher.*

Grafty Green Short Mat Bowls Club

Every Tuesday at 2.00pm in the Village Hall

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME - JOIN US

gentle exercise, easy to learn, loan bowls available
further information - Chris Wheal 01622 858100

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Joan _____, The First lady of Carry On films
2	Rory _____, Satirical Impressionist
3	_____ and Hopkirk (Deceased), Comedy Drama
4	Mike _____, The voice of Shrek
5	_____ Chambers, Actress who played the dizzy Alice in Vicar of Dibley
6	Harry _____, Big collar joker
7	_____ Proof, Heat resistant
8	Dr Christiaan _____, Heart transplant pioneer
9	_____ Monet, Artist (French)
10	Neil _____, Crooner who sang Love on the Rocks

Yoga Classes Grafty Green Village Hall

Do you feel that you are being stretched in too many different directions? The family need you, your colleagues at work need you; your friends need you, the chores around the home are mounting up and you end up feeling frayed at the edges. When you experience a yoga practice you begin to experience the rejuvenation effect, shedding the stress and gaining energy and you are then able, somehow, to do more! This all happens in Grafty Green Village Hall.

If you would like to try a practice I am happy for you to dip in, maybe occasionally when the need arises (recharge the batteries); I am flexible in more ways than just physically!

Classes are on *Wednesday evening* 7 - 8.30 pm 17th April – 22nd May 6 weeks £36 and on *Thursday morning* 9.30 – 11 am 18th April – 23rd May, 6 weeks £36, **not** 2nd May but Wednesday morning 1st May 9.30 – 11am.

If you have an inclination to experience just meditation sessions I am happy to take appointments – Sue Burch 850381. For further details, other classes and events see my web www.yogawithsusan.co.uk

Sue Burch, (British Wheel of Yoga Teacher – 26 years' experience) contact 850381, grafftyyoga@gmail.com.



activate
body & soul

Activate Body & Soul is a £1m state of art fitness facility situated at Swadelands School which is open to the public in the mornings, evenings & at the weekend.

- Air conditioned gym with LifeFitness® strength and cardiovascular equipment.
- No contracts, membership on a monthly rolling basis with prices starting from **£23 per month**.
- Floodlit 3G All Weather Pitch available for public hire.
- Sports Hall suitable for Football, Basketball, Badminton, Netball etc, available for public hire.
- Air conditioned dance/fitness class studio available for hire.

Pop in today and let us help you achieve your fitness goals

Activate, Ham Lane, Lenham, Maidstone, ME17 2QJ
www.swadelands.kent.sch.uk/activate
activate@swadelands.kent.sch.uk
01622 853750

The White Horse - Sandway

A traditional public house

A Lunch time special

Open Tuesday to Friday between 12 and 3 where you

can enjoy two courses for £12.50

All home cooked food including pub classics and specials board

Traditional Sunday lunch served 12-6; pub bar open all day

Music the first Friday of each month

May's band - Kellys Heros

June's band - Chillibillies

Fathers day June the 16th

Music on bank holiday Sundays starting at 5

May the 5th almost unplugged

May the 26th guilty secrets

The White Horse, Lenham Heath Road, Sandway

01622 859511 - whitehorse@freehousesandway.com

<http://www.freehousesandway.com>



'Countryside facing 'warfare', says chairman of National Trust, ..as local communities.. fight vague new legislation' . So ran the leading story in the Daily Telegraph on March 7th , envisioning a future of 'rural communities fighting '.. a succession of housing and wind farm developments' .

Government's pronouncements on housing become daily more confusing. Construction is one area where the government rightly sees an urgent need for reversing that industry's downturn and getting us back to growth.

The new NPPF and Localism Bills must be clearly and rapidly redefined still further, so we can know exactly how Government intends to deal with the nation's massive housing shortage. WKPS' task is to see that this shortage is resolved without compromising the countryside with any more land-grabbing than absolutely necessary.

There are in place large development plans situated immediately around the major towns within our region. Like others, WKPS has to accept that such developments are needed. If we say 'no' to everything, we will rapidly become ignored. We have to strike a balance between much-needed housing and the countryside we wish to protect. Supporting outlying town developments can give us the moral authority to object to any such developments appearing in rural areas.

All authorities have scheduled consultation sessions, to discuss how these large schemes will progress. Those attending include groups from the Church, CPRE, Kent Wildlife, Rural Kent etc. as well as developers, landowners and Parish and Borough Councils. WKPS will be involved with these consultations to ensure our voice is properly heard.

After four years of economic stagnation, there are rumours of 'small green shoots'. Developers are certainly increasing their planning applications. Providing the constraints on lending do not continue to be dissuasive on those seeking new mortgages, these green shoots will translate into a greater number of new building starts. Without the clarification needed on the new legislation, this must be a time of great concern to anyone who cares for the countryside. Without Core Strategies firmly in place, developers can apply for planning permission almost anywhere. The new regulations require authorities to decide applications more rapidly - especially for large developments. Prolonged delay will produce an automatic presumption in favour.

Constant and detailed vigilance must be WKPS' watchword as we enter these new, uncertain times.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.WKPS.ORG.UK



New planning rules are coming! Will they mean:

Chaotic house-building? Rampant development?

**Little boxes on every hillside? Wind turbines everywhere?
Does it make you angry? Then join us now!**

secretary@wkps.org.uk OR www.wkps.org.uk

Parish Calendar 2014

Now that spring has at last arrived there are plenty of photo opportunities for pictures for our 2014 calendar. I've already received some lovely ones, - but more will be needed!

People, pets, places, views, flora and fauna - whatever you like, please send to me at christine-king@hotmail.co.uk or leave in my mail box: Gowell Cottage, Boughton Malherbe.

Judy Porter

A familiar face is missing from Grafty Green. It is that of Judy Porter. Her sudden death on April 3rd came as a shock to the community. Three Chimneys had been the home of Les and Judy for many years and there can be few villagers who did not stop to chat with them when out on a walk.

Les died in January 2011 and it was then that I got to know Judy well. After Les' funeral she joined the Bible Study group which meets in my home and we all grew to appreciate her company. In March last year she was confirmed in Ulcombe church by the Bishop of Dover. Judy became a regular member of the St Nicholas cream teas team and helped at the monthly coffee morning.

Judy could not resist dogs and she enjoyed the company of Lassie, Misty and Poppett. The recent winter was hard for her but she continued to work and to smile. A few months ago she joined the Ulcombe Dramatic Amateur Society. She had often spoken about the enjoyment she and her parents derived from acting and decided to resume that interest. As a result many friends will remember her as a platinum blonde in the hilarious production of 'SShh Don't Mention the War!'

Sue Burch has written the following tribute: 'I admired Judy for her spontaneous acts of kindness; nothing was too much trouble and always with a smile. I loved the trust she had in the people that she counted as her friends and they were in abundance. I remember how she took the word of a friend that a pony – that was in Wales – was just right for her – that was enough, she met the horsebox at a service station and the pony came home with her! She was a gentle soul but had nerves of steel, and a character that showed great courage after Les died. I will miss her greatly.' Sue.

Judy's funeral will be at Charing Crematorium on Wednesday 8th May at 2.40.

Joan Drury

Platts Heath Residents

I hope you all agree how lovely the spring flowers look at the triangle in Green Lane.

If anyone would like to give a donation towards one more planter and bedding plants for this season, we would be very grateful. Please give to Jenny at Number 9 or Wendy at Number 26 Green Lane.

ALPINES
 AQUATICS
 BARBECUES
 BEDDING PLANTS
 BIRDS
 BIRD TABLES
 BOOKS
 BULBS
 CHEMICALS
 CHIMINEAS
 CLOTHING
 CAFE
 COMPOST
 FENCING
 FERTILISERS
 FISH
 FRUIT TREES
 FURNITURE
 GARDEN ARCHES
 GARDEN LIGHTING
 GAZEBOS
 GIFTS
 GLOVES
 GREENHOUSES
 GROWBAGS
 HANGING BASKETS

THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT GARDEN CENTRE IN THE AREA

GRAFTY

**Superb
 aquatics
 & pets
 depts**

**Large free
 car park**

**10 ACRES OF
 GREAT GARDENING
 WITH OVER 37,000
 SQ FT OF INDOOR
 SHOPPING**

**Call
 01622
 858800**

GET CRAFTY, FIND GRAFTY

Crumps Corner, Grafty Green, ME17 2AT.

OPEN 7 DAYS. CLOSED EASTER SUN. FULL INFORMATION PLUS
 LATEST NEWS AND SEASONAL DEALS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE AT

www.graftygardencentre.co.uk

**Huge
 on-site
 nursery**

Grafty staff
 know their stuff
 for really useful
 help and advice

HERBACEOUS
 HERBS
 HOUSE PLANTS
 KOI
 MOWERS
 ORNAMENTS
 PARROTS
 PATIO HEATERS
 PAVING
 PETS
 PONDS &
 PUMPS
 POTS
 REPTILES
 ROSES
 SEEDS
 SHEDS
 SHRUBS
 STONWARE
 TERRACOTTA
 TOOLS
 TREES
 TROPICAL FISH
 VEGETABLE PLANTS
 WATER BUTTS
 WATER FEATURES



HOUSEKEEPING

all aspects of housekeeping and gardening
 undertaken

We are an experienced and reliable cleaning and
 home maintenance business.

Our clients can choose from a daily, weekly, fortnightly
 or one off cleaning service ranging from general
 domestic cleaning to site washing / ironing and
 provisions shopping to holiday house checks and
 garden or window box maintenance.

We also provide an 'at home' care service for the
 housebound, elderly and your pets!

We are a small and dedicated team and we pride
 ourselves in our efficient, honest and friendly service.

AMY MCLAUGHLIN

07813 030 527/01622 851562

amy.mclaughlin@hotmail.co.uk

All this from one plumber!

Bathroom Installations Tiling
 Drains & toilets unblocked Painting
 General domestic plumbing Decorating
 Leaking pipes Odd jobs
 Replacement taps No job too small
 Toilets and drains repaired Fully insured
 Repairs and installation FREE quotes
 Power Flushing No call out cost

and friendly professional advice



T: 01622 851186 E: info@allfixplumbing.co.uk
 M: 0791 438 0521 W: www.allfixplumbing.co.uk



Invicta Chimney Sweep



No Mess
No Dust
No Fuss

- All types of Chimneys swept and smoke tested
- Certificates Issued
- Pots, Cows, Bird Guards etc.
- Birdnest Removal
- Chimney Repairs

Fully Insured

01622 632641

0798 854 9010

www.invictachimneysweeps.co.uk



SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1965

A.W. COURT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

(West & Coe Ltd)

Your local, family business offering caring, personal service to families in the Boughton Malherbe/Grafty Green and Lenham areas

*Golden Charter
Pre-Payment Plans*

Should you wish to telephone there is always an experienced member of staff available to offer advice

Tel: 01622 850840

Headcorn Road, Grafty Green.

Harrietsham Computers

Computer Problems?
Need an upgrade
or a new machine?
Just want some extra tuition?



For local, friendly, experienced Help, call Mike Cuerden at
01622 859442 or
07963 020092



No call out fee
Reasonable rates
Private &
Commercial Work
No job too small

N. PLUMMER

GENERAL BUILDING
UNDERPINNING
STRUCTURAL REPAIRS
PROFESSIONAL CARPENTRY

Marchant Farmhouse, Grafty Green. ME17 2AP

Tel/Fax: 01622 859079

Mobile: 07973 193310

FOUR JAYS GROUP HIRE SPECIALISTS

Marquees, Linings, Furniture, Flooring,
Heaters, Fridges & Chiller Trailers
Luxury & Event Trailer & Individual Toilet Units,
Site Toilets & Showers, Effluent Emptying Inc. Cess pits,
Rotajaw Concrete Crusher & Site Welfare
Facilities & Units
JANET'S CHINA HIRE: 01622 844646

Tel.: 01622 843135

www.fourjays.co.uk

Grafty Gourmet

This is a great recipe for vegetarians. The parmesan can be substituted for a vegetarian equivalent if required. As usual, a very simple but tasty dish to make and enjoy.

Spinach & Ricotta Gnocchi

200g of young spinach	2 eggs
Small handful of parsley leaves – finely chopped	100g of freshly grated parmesan cheese (use a vegetarian equivalent if vegetarian)
1 x glove of garlic	Freshly grated nutmeg
140g of ricotta cheese	Olive oil & rocket, to serve
85g of plain flour	

1. Boil the kettle. Place the spinach in a large bowl and pour boiling water over it. Leave for 2 mins until wilted, then drain thoroughly. Leave to cool, then wrap a clean tea towel around the spinach. Hold it over the sink and squeeze out as much water as possible. Finely chop.

2. Place the spinach, parsley, garlic, ricotta, flour, eggs, cheese and a generous grating of nutmeg into a large bowl and season with salt and pepper. Use a fork to stir very thoroughly until everything is completely mixed. Using wet hands, form the mixture into walnut-size balls. Place on a large plate or tray and refrigerate for at least 30 mins.

3. When ready to cook, bring a large pan of water to the boil. Reduce the heat to medium and drop in batches of about 8-10 gnocchi at a time. They will sink to the bottom, and when they rise to the top give them about 1 min more, then remove with a slotted spoon and keep warm while you cook the rest. Serve the gnocchi on warm plates drizzled with olive oil and scattered with rocket and more cheese.

The Friends of All Saints, Ulcombe is to be launched on Friday 17th May at 7.30 pm in Ulcombe Church. All who are interested in Ulcombe's beautiful church are welcome. Refreshments will be served during the evening.

Windows 8 – Getting Started - 10 Top Tips

There is a lot to get used in Windows 8, so here are 10 Top Tips for keyboard people to get you started. Once you have mastered navigation in Windows 8 you will soon realise that the applications you been using regularly have not changed very much at all.

1. To find the Start Screen when you are in an application point to the **bottom left corner** of the screen. A small image of the Start screen will be pop up, click it to return to the Start Screen.
2. Remove any unused icons (known as Tiles in Windows 8) on the Start Screen so you do not have to scroll to find applications you use regularly. Point to the tile that you don't need, right click, then select Unpin from the Start.
3. To add Application Tiles use search to find the application that you use regularly, when you have found it point and **right click** on it, then select **Pin to Start** from the menu.



4. To view applications you have already opened point to the top left corner of the screen, when the first application is displayed drag your mouse down the screen, then all applications will be displayed, select the one you want to use.
5. To find features such System Properties, Device Manager, and Control Panel, File Explorer and the Desktop, now called **Power User Task Menu** point to the **bottom left corner** of the screen, right-click.



6. You can find and manage your Devices by selecting devices from the Charm Bar – point to the top right corner of the screen in any application and the Charm Bar will appear. The Device Charm is the 4th Charm down.
7. When using Internet Browser, to view any pages you have opened, point to the **top of the screen**, right click which will display all open web pages.
8. To quickly close applications, point the mouse to the top of the application window, click and hold the mouse button down, then drag to the bottom of the screen
9. The Applications Bar will appear if you **Right click** the mouse button on part of the Start Screen that is not a Tile or Icon. The Applications bar will appear at the bottom of the screen. Select the button at the right of the bar to show “All Applications”.

10. If you like using the keyboard and would like to know more about Keyboard Shortcuts, search for Windows 8 Keyboard Shortcuts on the internet and you will find quite a few that include the things like Window Key + C will open the Charms.

The May Night Sky

The **Sun** is in the constellation of Aries at beginning of May, and moves into Taurus towards the end of the month.

New Moon occurs on Thursday 9th May. **Full Moon** is on Friday 24th May when in Libra.

Mercury rises in the southeast at sunrise in the constellation of Aries, so again we will not be able to see it in the twilight.

Venus rises in the southeast at sunrise in Aries, and sets just after sunset near the constellation of Taurus, so again will not be visible this month.

Mars is rising in the southeast at sunrise with **Mercury**, so will also not be visible this month.

Jupiter is not so well placed for viewing this month, as it rises at sunrise and sets in the northwest in late evening near Taurus. Through a telescope it may be possible to see the dark and light bands together with the **Great Red Spot**. It may also be possible to see, even through binoculars, Jupiter's four major moons.

Saturn is rising in the southeast at sunset between the constellations of Libra and Virgo, and is well up in the southern sky before setting at sunrise. Through a telescope you should be able to see the famous rings together with many of its moons.

You may have read recently that scientists, working at the deep underground facility in America, may have glimpsed "dark matter" for the first time. They have recorded signals that could have been caused by dark matter particles, known as "wimps" or weakly interacting massive particles, colliding with normal matter. The tests, which were carried out at the Cryogenic Dark Matter Search in Minnesota, will require further experiment to confirm the results.

While on the subject of dark matter, the Large Hadron Collider at Cern has been shut for two years for a £70 million upgrade in the hope of finding this mysterious and invisible material, which makes up a quarter of the universe and holds galaxies together.

John Maunder

Partial lunar eclipse 25th April, around 8pm, as seen from Boughton Malherbe. Picture courtesy of **Chris King**



Ulcombe Pre-School

Coffee Morning

A huge thank you goes out to all the people who attended our Easter coffee morning. We are sorry for the confusion over the date, but we had to cancel the original one due to the theft of heating oil at the village hall and we had consequently missed the deadline to put the new date in the newsletter. We managed to raise an amazing £88 which considering the confusion was fantastic, so thank you to everyone involved.

Job vacancy

Ulcombe Pre-School is looking for a Deputy Supervisor to work with the children on Monday and Tuesday mornings. (8.45am-1.15pm) The successful applicant will hold an NVQ level 3 in Child Care and Education or equivalent. If you are interested or know anyone who would be, please contact Melissa on 07720053008 for more details.



Egerton Telecottage

**Computer Centre
The Millennium Hall**

Our 1-hour individual sessions on weekdays (known as 1-2-1) are proving very popular. There are 3 x 1-hour slots available between 9am and 12:30pm.

Contact us for available dates on the number below or email to book a slot and be sure to leave your `phone number/email address, together with an idea of how we can help you.

We will also ask you to pay the price of £10 prior to your session, by cheque or pop into the Telecottage any Saturday morning where bookings can also be made.

The list below is not exhaustive, but gives you an idea of what can be covered

Getting Started	Digital Photography	Family History
Word Processing	Managing Documents	Getting Photos to PC
Edit Photographs	Email Photographs	Produce a Calendar
Produce a Newsletter	Using the Internet	Facebook/Twitter/Skype
Excel	PowerPoint	Paint Shop Pro

We are still running our Saturday morning clinics every week between 10am and 12noon – call in for a coffee and a chat – we would love to see you!

Phone 07523 182994

**email: instructor@egerton-kent.co.uk
www.egerton-kent.co.uk**



RussOIL Heating

Now

Based in Platts Heath

Special Offer

If you live within 10 miles of Platts Heath you can benefit from the **Platinum Contract** – for £70 you get a full boiler service and one year's free breakdown cover (parts not included).

Normal boiler service is £50

www.russoilheating.co.uk

Call RussOil Heating on:

Mobile: 07810 166 529

Home: 01622 853517



Cybereye Security Electrical Services

RING MARCUS SHEPHARD ON

01622 858612 or 07821776334

ALARM SYSTEMS CCTV FIRE ALARMS

AUTOMATED GATES VIDEO/AUDIO ENTRY SYSTEMS

EXISTING SYSTEMS REPAIRED AND MAINTAINED

ALL ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

DOMESTIC AND COMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS

PART P CERTIFIED

FREE QUOTES

FULLY INSURED

24 HOUR CALL OUT



**JCM
KENT**

BUILDING . RENOVATION . DESIGN

We provide a complete design and build service for our clients from initial consultation, design and planning stage, all the way through to completion.

Please contact us for a free consultation:

01233 756 103 or info@jcmkent.com

www.jcmkent.com

**LOCAL BUILDERS FOR OVER
20 YEARS**



Home heating oil

Gas oil & diesel

Premium lubricants

Fuel cards

Auto top-up facility

Tank monitoring equipment

Hawkhurst

01580 755678

www.nigelcollisonfuels.co.uk

D.FLISHER ROOFING

*Free winter check on roofs
Roofing repairs, ridge &
hips checked*

*Moss cleaned off roofs
Gutters & window frames
cleaned*

Chimneys re-pointed

Call Dave for a quote on
01622 850659 or 07941 324286

philip INDEPENDENT
ESTATE
AGENT
Jarvis

Your friendly, local estate agent,
specialising in the sale and letting of
village and country properties.

**If you are looking to move
in the near future
call us now.**

T: 01622 858241

W: www.philipjarvis.co.uk

A: 1 The Square, Lenham, Kent ME17 2PH

E: homes@philipjarvis.co.uk

N & S JOINERY

PROFESSIONAL
CARPENTRY & JOINERY
KITCHENS
BATHROOMS
BEDROOMS

Any Job Undertaken

Tel/Fax: 01622 851611
Mobile: 07973 193310

BARRY WHEBLE PLUMBING

**Tel: 01622 260568
Mobile: 07768 945705**

Blocked Drains, Dripping Taps
Burst Pipes, Boilers
Central Heating, Appliances
Power Flushing

**THE LOCAL PLUMBER YOU'LL
RECOMMEND**

All areas covered
24 Hours / 7 Days
No Call Out Charge

Gas Safe Registered Gas Installer
No: 68640

Christian message May 2013

I have recently been through a major event. It is almost 37 years since I last was as close to this particular process and almost 25 years since I had the trauma of moving house. It is one of those life experiences that are very common, almost inevitable some would say – but every time it happens it feels like it is the first time anyone has ever been through it. It is a roller coaster of triumphs and setbacks, of joy and trepidation and when it is over it leaves the participants richer and poorer....

My daughter has just been married!

I could write at length about the whole marriage industry, about how it seems that the cost is at times frighteningly exorbitant for the simplest of elements. I remember with a shiver the Wedding Fairs and the worry of ever finding a dress that would be 'the one'. There was a period leading up to the wedding when it felt as if we were trapped in a surreal dream where no matter how hard you try get back to reality the dream simply wouldn't end.

It did end though, and in the most wonderful way. The marriage ceremony seemed to make sense of all the build up. It distilled the essence of the huge step that two young and very much in love people were taking. All of the commercial aspects of the day melted in a gloriously joyous hour. The families and friends witnessed before their eyes a life changing transformation and I was filled with a sense of contentment that this was right and that the Service was the perfect way to unite my daughter and her chosen partner.

Why was it so right? There are facts that made it so. First, the weather was kind. The two days on either side were of torrential rain and freezing snow. My daughter worshipped at All Saints as a girl, she was confirmed from there and, in her own words, she only ever thought that this was, one day, the church in which she would be married. The church looked beautiful adorned with superb flower displays. The hymns and the readings meant something to us all. Finally, it just felt very comfortable being there amongst the people who mean most to us and to them.

There was so much more to it than that, though. The words of the service are profoundly moving and serious. They ask for a physical and a spiritual commitment from the couple – not just for now but for the rest of their lives. Marriage is a gift from God, a way of life given by Him – these sentences take us back to the central purpose. Vows and promises are made that demand total commitment – whatever lies ahead. In return for these solemn words the couple are assured by the blessing -

Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts
and a crown upon their heads.

Bless them in their work and in their companionship;
awake and asleep,
in joy and in sorrow,
in life and in death.

I left the church uplifted. And just in case you feel like having a look at the words to refresh your memory or if you soon to be married, here is the link to the Marriage Ceremony.

Ian Collins

Music Notes, May 2013

My emails recently have been full of news and pictures from The Maidstone Singers, who are currently on tour in Malta. I imagine they will come back inspired to still greater things, so have included their May concert in my monthly recommendations, even though it will be at Hadlow. And if you are prepared to travel just a little, try the Brighton Festival, 4th-26th May, which includes several concerts by the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Details 01273 709709.

My local list is:

- Saturday 11th May, 7.30pm at The Central Theatre, Chatham, the City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra present a concert with a Spanish theme, including a selection from Bizet's *Carmen*, featuring soprano Katherine Crompton.. Tickets 01634 338338
- Sunday 12th may, 7.30pm at St. Mary's church, Hadlow, The Maidstone Singers perform a selection of choral music including Kadaly's *Missa brevis* and Britten's *Hymn to St. Cecelia*. Tickets available at the door.
- Saturday 18th May, 7.30pm at Mote hall, Maidstone, the Maidstone Symphony Orchestra's May Concert features Korngold's *violin concerto* (soloist Ulf Hoelscher) and Tchaikovski's *Symphony No.4*. Tickets 01622 735830
- Saturday 25th May, 7.30pm at All Saints' Church, Maidstone, Maidstone Wind Symphony's concert is entitled "Heritage". It will include a selection of traditional and folk -based music, including works by Percy Grainger and Gustav Holst. Tickets and info : 01580 291056

On the box this month we are promised an hour-long documentary on BBC4 to celebrate the bicentenary of Verdi's birth. Unfortunately date & time are not yet confirmed as I go to press! So instead I will recommend radio 3, 7pm on Friday 10th may, when the programme goes live to the opening concert of the annual Lufthansa Festival of baroque music

Brian Hardy

Messy Church: Harrietsham Primary School will be the venue for the next Messy Church on Saturday May 18th. This is an event for the whole family ending in a sit down tea.



Thorneloe & Co. Solicitors

Michael and Harriet Thorneloe

*An independent, family practice providing a friendly,
high quality personal service tailored to your specific needs.*

Specialists in:

- Wills
- Estate Administration
- Trusts & Taxation
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Court of Protection
- Residential Conveyancing
- Commercial Conveyancing
- Re-mortgaging
- Equity Release
- Buy-to-Let

01622 859 416



thorneloe@thorneloe.co.uk
www.thorneloe.co.uk

22 High Street, Lenham, Kent ME17 2QD

Free Parking

Free initial consultation ♦ Flexible appointment times

Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority
Registered Number 29429

Seasoned Logs from Local Coppice for Sale

*Clean Burning, Kiln Dried
Cut to size and delivered*



*Variety of logs suitable for
open fires or log burners*

**Contact Norman on
077333 28715**



MAIDSTONE LANDSCAPES & PROPERTY SERVICES Ltd

BrettApproved
PAVING EXPERTS YOU CAN TRUST

*Less 15% discount
with advert* and 20% over 55's
cannot be used with other offers
ad must be mentioned at time of estimate

LANDSCAPING- Drives, Patios, Pathways, Brick/Stone Walls, Block/Stone Paving,
Tarmac, Decking, Fencing, Turfing, Ponds, Water Features, Garden Clearance,
Sheds/Summer & Play House Bases, Tree Surgery etc.

BUILDING WORKS- Extensions, Porches, Conservatories, Garages, Groundworks,
Roofing, PVC Windows, Doors, Soffits, Fascias, Floor/Wall Tiling, Decorating etc

FULLY INSURED/WORK GUARANTEED. VERY PROFESSIONAL/FRIENDLY SERVICE
Top Quality Materials/Workmanship from design to completion - FREE ESTIMATES

Tel: 01622 851222 Mob: 07786 07 01 07

www.maidstonelandscapes.com

LOOK: Please check our reviews and other
companies you may use at www.uktc.org

Established: 1990 Director: M. Potter



The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – May 2013

5th May – 6th Sunday of Easter

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
8am Harrietsham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Family Worship
9.30am Boughton Holy Communion
11am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Family Worship

12th May – 7th Sunday of Easter

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion
11am Lenham Morning Worship
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion
6.30pm Boughton Choral Evensong

19th May – Day of Pentecost

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Morning Worship
9.30am Boughton Holy Communion
11am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Morning Worship

26th May – Trinity Sunday

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion
9.30am Boughton Family Worship
11am Lenham Family Worship
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion
6.30pm Harrietsham Informal Service

St. Edmunds Centre - Film Club

The following films are the suggested screenings for the remainder of our current season. Doors open at 7.45 p.m. for an 8 p.m. start. Titles may vary if members agree to make changes. If you wish to receive emails detailing each film about a week prior to the screening date please contact Clive Bartlett, 14 Green Lane to leave your address details. The information can be hand delivered if you do not have access to a computer. You are invited to make a donation of £3 to St Edmunds.

9th April. Choice of Ealing Comedy (Title to be agreed).

24th May. Warhorse

St Edmunds Centre - Platts Heath

We will be holding our AGM on Monday 13th May, from 8pm. It would be wonderful to see some new faces and you would be made very welcome.

A date for your diary: Friday 7th June, Karaoke night at the St Eds, from 8pm. Always a fun night!

For any information regarding clubs, hall bookings or future events call 858208.

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Meeting	Lords	Book	Prayer
2	Honorary	Course	Third	Degree
3	Holiday	Club	Site	Caravan
4	Recorder	Home	Game	Video
5	No-go	Manager	Grey	Arena
6	Silver	Sand	Step	Quick
7	Minute	House	Beef	Steak
8	Ticket	Square	Piece	Meal
9	Mother	Music	Cross	Country
10	Shopping	Dressing	Bay	Window
11	Writer	Smoke	Split	Screen
12	Constable	Effects	Extra	Special
13	Sound	Reef	Crash	Barrier
14	Load	Weight	Top	Heavy
15	Secret	Union	Mark	Trade
16	Squash	Bitter	Sole	Lemon

	Find the missing word?
1	Joan Sims, The First lady of Carry On films
2	Rory Bremner, Satirical Impressionist
3	Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased), Comedy Drama
4	Mike Myers, The voice of Shrek
5	Rama Chambers, Actress who played the dizzy Alice in Vicar of Dibley
6	Harry Hill, Big collar joker
7	Oven Proof, Heat resistant
8	Dr Christian Barnard, Heart transplant pioneer
9	Claude Monet, Artist (French)
10	Neil Diamond, Crooner who sang Love on the Rocks



MONDAY & TUESDAY EVENINGS

Three course meal £9.95

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

STEAK NIGHT

10oz Rump & chips £8.95

THURSDAY NIGHT

**Classic English pub pie night
Selection of classic pies, vegetables
and a choice of potatoes £6.95**

SUNDAY LUNCH

Traditional Roast £8.95

Plus a further Sunday menu for those who fancy something a little different!

FISH & CHIPS TAKE AWAY £6.95

Monday – Saturday lunch & evening

www.egertongeorge.co.uk TEL: 01233 756 304

The Street, Egerton, Kent. TN27 9DJ