



Malherbe Monthly

Number 36 July 2007



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

Useful contact names and telephone N^{os}.
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	Liz Watts	737321
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson	858350
	Sue Burch	850381
Incumbent	To be announced	
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. 3.30 by Post Office	
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Chris King	Advertising: Christine.kings@btinternet.com	850711
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The views expressed in “Malherbe Monthly” are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit!
Anything for the August edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mf.hitchins@virgin.net) by 15th July

Front cover: the new 30 mph sign on Headcorn Road as you enter Grafty Green

News from St. Nicholas Church

Cream Teas

We start to serve Cream Teas again on Sunday 8th July, 2.00p.m. until 5.00p.m. Why not come and join us one Sunday during July and August. We serve a delicious Cream Tea for just £2.50 per head, for which you are served with 2 homemade scones, fresh cream and fresh strawberry jam made from locally grown strawberries and a pot of freshly made tea. We also provide cheese scones for those who have a more savoury tooth and coffee. Soft drinks are available for the children. We serve the Teas in the churchyard or in the nave of the Church if its wet weather. The view from the churchyard is a truly rural one looking across the Weald towards Tenterden and beyond.

Invicta Singers Concert

On Saturday 14th July, the Invicta Singers Ashford conducted by Charlotte Coles and accompanied by Duncan Finn are singing for us in Concert at Ivy House Farm, Liverton Hill, Grafty Green. They sing in the garden of Ivy House at 7.00p.m. You may come and bring a picnic from 5.00p.m. and picnic in the garden or on the farm, but we ask you to collapse your picnic table, if you bring one, before the performance so that more people can get a good position. Please bring your own chair or rug for your comfort. The tickets are £7.00, no concessions. Children come free. There will be a Raffle. Tickets are available from Joan on 01622 850210 bought before the night please. Proceeds are in aid of St. Nicholas Church Fabric Fund. Having recently re-decorated, re-wired and installed new heating and lighting, we now need to start saving towards the next improvement - which could be either a WC or re-tiling the roof over the chancel in the not too distant future. The tiler has patched it up for the last time, he said.

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning held on the 7th June at the Old Rectory for the Sister Christobel Mission in India was very poorly attended, but we still raised £45 for her refuge for single mothers, children and the destitute in India.

Benefice Walk

The Benefice Walk took place on 2nd June. The day was fine and warm but unfortunately there were fewer walkers than usual who took part from the four Parishes.

Joan Davidson

Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)

Maidstone Borough Council has now issued the timetable for this service up to 30th September 2007. Please find below the dates of when the weekend freighter service stops near your home during this period:

Grafty Green

Saturday 4th Aug: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Saturday 22nd Sept: 13:30 – 15:15 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Ulcombe

Saturday 21st July: 07:45 – 08:30 -: Lodge Gardens

Sunday 9th Sept: 11:15 – 12:15 -: Lodge Gardens

Platts Heath

Saturday 7th July: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Green Lane

Sunday 2nd Sept: 14:15 – 15:30 -: Green Lane

Reduction of Speed Limit from 40 to 30mph in Grafty Green

As you have probably noticed this has now happened – see front cover. It is recognised that this has taken a long time in coming and that special thanks should be made to Pat Anderson; the Parish Clerk; who, over the past year or two, has been in constant communication with The Highways Department and KCC.

All we need now is to hope this will have some effect in reducing the speed that cars and lorries travel through the village and hope that this will increase the safety of our village for old and young alike.



PROGRAMME FOR 2007

Date	Topic	Speaker
Jan 9th	AGM - Light up your garden with bulbs	Janet Bryant
Feb 6th	Japanese garden	Jean Cockett
March 6th	Organic Vegetable Gardening	Nick Robinson
April 3rd	Saxon shore way	Chris Wade
May 1st	Evening visit to Hole Park	
May 5th	Plant sale	
First weekend in June	Weekend trip to Worcestershire	
June 5th	Evening visit to Torry Hill	
July 3rd	Evening visit to Hall Place	
Aug 4th	Afternoon visit to Stoneacre	
Sept 4th	Autumn Show Talk on Chrysanthemums	John Lawrie
Oct 2nd	Mushrooms and Toadstools	Martin Newcombe
Nov 6th	History of Weather forecasting	Ian Currie
Dec 4th	Port & Stilton	David March

Grafty Garden Cuttings - July

The pheasant has hatched her clutch of eggs in the centre of the iris clump. Lots of tiny chicks are running around, but only when she thinks we are not about. Unfortunately, the chaffinch nest in the lilac tree was robbed by a jay. I saw it go in, but it had done the deed in the few seconds it took for me to reach the tree. A blackbird has built just outside the back door and does not seem to mind our comings and goings, probably hoping to be safer there. There are several greater spotted woodpeckers around as well and each day sees them on the peanut feeder. The apple branch they keep pecking holes into now has even more, so we expect it to crash down any minute.

We are busy cutting back and lopping trees and bushes as the jungle thickens with every week. There has been enough rain to spur on growth and we cannot keep up. If July is hot and dry, watering will be the main task, especially baskets and containers and swelling fruit and vegetables.

Runner beans need regular watering for if they are moist at the roots, they should set well and not go stringy too quickly. And sweetcorn, marrows and peas etc, all need plenty of water. Thoroughly and less often is best. Plants in pots suffer shock and do not grow so well, if allowed to dry out completely, but just as bad is overwatering when roots can rot. If uncertain whether a watering regime is correct leave watering until the soil on the top of a pot is dry, water, leave to stand for an hour, and then gently tap the plant out of the pot. The compost should be moist to the bottom. If it is not, and only the top inch or so are wet, then, obviously more needs to be given at each watering. Tapping a clay pot can indicate whether it is dry (a hollow sound) or, if feasible, lifting to test~ its weight is another way.

After the mild winter, pests are rampant. The bright red lily beetle and the black vine weevil beetle are major pests in my lilies at the moment and both need squashing when found - the former can fly, so just knocking them off does no good at all, as they come straight back. They can both do a great deal of damage in a very short time.

Our gardening club enjoyed a weekend of garden visits in the Midlands in June, enjoying such treats as Lord and Lady Carrington's garden, the private garden of Ashwood Nurseries and National Trust Coughton Court and Upton House, all of which can be highly recommended. Those with restaurants or tea rooms, even more so!

Rosemary Smith

Monday to Fridays

Service No:	School Days Only		Not School Days Only	
	59	59	59	59
Maldstone, Pudding Lane, Stop R2	1225	1400	1552	1612
Maldstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	1227	1402	1555	1615
Maldstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	1229	1404	1557	1617
Wheatsharf	1236	1411	1604	1624
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1240	1415	1608	1608
Linton Corner	1244	1419	1612	1612
New Line Learning — Cornwallis	1249	1424	1505	1617
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1252	1427	1609	1620
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1255	1430	1612	1623
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1258	1433	1615	1626
Wormlake Corner	1306	1438	1626	1638
Kingswood, Village Hall	1306	1438	1626	1638
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	1306	1438	1626	1638
Ulcombe, Post Office	1313	1445	1633	1645
Grafty Green, King's Head	1320	1452	1640	1700
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	1320	1452	1640	1700
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by	1320	1452	1640	1700

Monday to Fridays

Service No:	School Days Only		Not School Days Only	
	59	59	59	59
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by	0723	0736	0736	0736
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	0723	0736	0745	0745
Ulcombe, Post Office	0730	0743	0915	1325
Kingswood, Village Hall	0735	0748	0922	1332
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0738	0751	0925	1335
Wormlake Corner	0746	0759	0933	1343
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0749	0762	0936	1346
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0752	0765	0939	1349
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0755	0768	0942	1352
New Line Learning — Cornwallis	0758	0771	0945	1355
Linton Corner	0760	0773	0948	1358
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0750	0763	0949	1359
Wheatsharf	0756	0769	0953	1403
Maldstone, King Street	0758	0771	0955	1405
Maldstone, Chequers Bus Station	0806	0819	1005	1415
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817	0830	1016	1426
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0828	0841	1027	1437

Saturdays

Service No:	School Days Only		Not School Days Only	
	59	59	59	59
Maldstone, Pudding Lane, Stop R2	0836	1241	1525	1755
Maldstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	0838	1243	1527	1757
Maldstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	0840	1245	1529	1759
Wheatsharf	0847	1250	1534	1804
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0850	1253	1537	1807
Linton Corner	0853	1256	1540	1810
New Line Learning — Cornwallis	0856	1259	1543	1813
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0900	1303	1547	1817
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0902	1305	1549	1819
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0905	1308	1552	1822
Wormlake Corner	0908	1311	1555	1825
Kingswood, Village Hall	0912	1315	1559	1829
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0915	1318	1602	1832
Ulcombe, Post Office	0921	1324	1608	1838
Grafty Green, King's Head	0928	1331	1615	1845
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	0928	1331	1615	1845
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by	0928	1331	1615	1845

Saturdays

Service No:	School Days Only		Not School Days Only	
	59	59	59	59
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by	0733	0923	1336	—
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	0740	0930	1343	—
Ulcombe, Post Office	0745	0935	1348	1604
Kingswood, Village Hall	0747	0937	1350	1606
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0753	0943	1356	1612
Wormlake Corner	0756	0946	1359	1615
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0759	0949	1402	1618
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0802	0952	1405	1621
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0807	0957	1410	1626
New Line Learning — Cornwallis	0811	1001	1414	1630
Linton Corner	0815	1005	1418	1634
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0823	1013	1427	1642
Wheatsharf	—	—	—	—
Maldstone, King Street	—	—	—	—
Maldstone, Chequers Bus Station	—	—	—	—
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	—	—	—	—
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	—	—	—	—

Service 59: Maldstone, Pudding Lane, High Street, 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 Road, Heath Road, Church Street, Boughton Monchelsea, Post Office, Chart Sutton, Wormlake Road, Village Hall, Ashford Drive, Chart Sutton, Wormlake Road, Warmingale Cross Road, Chart Sutton, Broomfield Road, Kingswood, Ashford Drive, Charistford Avenue, Caysar 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, Warmingale 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), Caysar Drive, returning via the normal route.

Service 66: New Line Learning — Cornwallis, Heath Road, Four Wens, then same route as Bus 59 to Pye Corner, Lenham Road, King's Road, Headcorn.

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.

An Invitation for your Children

Party in the Garden 21st July
at the Kings Head Grafty Green

In order to be able to cater and organise the party we would like to know how many children will be coming to the party that starts at 4.00 pm. We don't want any disappointed kids.

Please can you fill the invitation slip below; you can bring along cousins, grandchildren and friends; and drop it into the Kings Head, or No 7, Church Road, Grafty Green. Please can you get the invitations in by 14th July. Thank you Paul Neaves.

Children's Party Kings Head - Invitation		
<u>Adults Name</u>	<u>No of Boys</u>	<u>No of Girls</u>

St Edmunds Centre – Platts Heath

Well we had mixed fortunes in June - the whist drive was cancelled due to lack of support. We have decided to give it one more try later in the year with a view to new comers learning how to play.

The rounders match and Bar-B-Que was a great success again this year. The swing band played for our first dance on Saturday and everyone enjoyed the evening including the band. Once again I have to thank Miranda Motley and her friends for a great night.

The Line Dance class is becoming more popular with quite a few new members joining us. So if you want to come along it is every Thursday at 8pm.

The coffee mornings for July are Wednesday the 11th and Wednesday 25th. We do have a lot of toys and drawing/painting books for the children, so feel free to bring them along too during the holidays.

The trustees hope that now the hall has the basic facilities and is pleasant to use, villagers will start to run their own activities. For Platts Heath residents the hire charge is £5 per hour. To book ring me on 858891.

Patricia Dibley Secretary.

Flower Festival

St. John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th July 2007

10am to 5pm

Light refreshments available all day

Buffet Lunches from 12 noon to 2 pm

A new website for walkers in Kent

There's no doubt about it, walking is good for you. It's good for your heart, it's good for your lungs, it's good for the muscle and bone growth of your children and it's good for your feeling of wellbeing! Strong scientific evidence now supports the many benefits to health of regular walking – it is recommended that we take at least 10,000 steps a day.

Studies show that walking can:

- Reduce the risk of coronary heart disease and stroke
- Lower blood pressure
- Reduce high cholesterol and improve blood lipid profile
- Reduce body fat
- Enhance mental well being
- Increase bone density, hence helping to prevent osteoporosis
- Reduce the risk of cancer of the colon
- Reduce the risk of non insulin dependant diabetes
- Help to control body weight
- Help osteoarthritis
- Help flexibility and co-ordination hence reducing the risk of falls

Walking offers a great way to help kids get the active habit. If parents express excitement about the prospect of a walk in the countryside, they are more likely to transmit this feeling to their children. It's important to treat the walk as an exploration or adventure and to go at the child's pace, no matter how often they want to stop and look at things; take treats to eat and plenty to drink; and head for some landmark that will appeal to them such as a castle, a playground, an ice cream van or a boating pond. If children experience walking as part of a fun activity they are more likely to want to go again.

So, how do you find out what is on offer? John Harris, a keen walker, got fed up with the lack of information on walks that were going on in the County. So, he decided that if he couldn't find what he was looking for – he had better create it! So www.walkinginkent.co.uk came into being.

www.walkinginkent.co.uk gives you all the information you need for the best walking in the County:

Guided walks: Local groups who offer guided walks are listed together with links to their web-sites.

Books of walks: There are over 50 books of walks for the County. All the details are here.

Leaflets of walks: Over sixty leaflets are produced around the County, many of them difficult to find. Not any more! www.walkinginkent.co.uk list them all.

Walking groups: Every walking group in the County is listed.

There are also links so that you can check: the weather for your walk, links to other useful sites, how to get to your walk by public transport – and more is being added all the time.

So check out the website and get walking!

Missing Word Puzzle

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

	Find the missing word?
1	_____ Oakley, Wild West sharpshooter.
2	_____ Court, London district.
3	Eric _____, Ernie's partner.
4	Edgar Alan ____, Author.
5	Mississippi ____ Pie, Chocolate Pudding.
6	St _____, Cornish Seaside Town.
7	A _____ Time Ago, Fairy Tale Opening.
8	Rock of _____, A well known hymn.
9	_____ Palace, Famous casino in Las Vegas
10	Michael _____, Author of Paddington Bear

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

I hope you enjoyed last months 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?

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Sword	Jelly	Slice	Fish
2	Driver	Top	Cork	
3	Ringing	Door	Blue	
4	Golden	Spread	Bald	
5	Monkey	Shell	Chest	
6	Rocking	Play	Fly	
7	Suspension	Draw	Rope	
8	Ticket	Day	Tax	
9	Public	Roman	Steam	
10	Dinner	Number	Glass	
11	Lasting	What	Green	
12	Family	Natural	Make	
13	Surgery	Bullet	Bag	
14	Mayor	Land	War	
15	Standing	Book	Mail	
16	Carrier	Hole	Clay	

Many thanks to **Paul Neaves** who set both the Quiz and the Missing Word Puzzle.

summer events around Maidstone

Photo: ASO - Bruno Bade

The Hidden Treasures of Kent

1 June – 9 September,
Maidstone Museum

Maidstone Jazz Festival

House of Fraser Jazz Weekend
23 – 24 June, Maidstone Town Centre

Tour de France Street Party

8 July, Maidstone Town Centre

Uprockin'

11 August, Whatman Park

Contact information

01622 602169

www.tour-maidstone.com



Neighbourhood Watch

At the recent Annual Parish Council Meeting, Police Sergeant Mick Hayes from the Rural Maidstone Neighbourhood Policing Team came along and introduced himself. He informed the Parish Council of the reported crimes for this area. Since the beginning of the year there have been 2 crimes:- 1 in April being theft of Storage Tanks in Elmstone Lane and the other, which for some reason comes under Lenham, was 9 smashed windows in a storage shed on Liverton Hill. He also told us that our local officer is PC Claire Russell who covers Ulcombe, Headcorn & Harrietsham as well as us. Hopefully PC Claire Russell will be attending some of our meetings in the future and we hope to see an increased uniformed Police presence in and around our area.

If you need to report a crime the following numbers could be useful:-

Non urgent crime / or suspicious vehicles etc... (General police number) **01622 690055**.

Kent Police Website - which helps with reporting crime etc... www.kent.police.uk

Crimestoppers - **0800 555111**. Emergency number **999**.

The following report was received from Kent Police with regard to reported crime in the Parish

Crime Figures for Boughton Malherbe

7th May to 14th June 2007

Figures as follows:

- Vehicle interference – 15th May 2007 between 12.30pm and 6.50am in Headcorn Road, Grafty Green. The rear screen of the vehicle had been removed and propped up against a wall. Nothing stolen from vehicle.

From: kcm.maidstone@kent.pnn.police.uk

To: europa.13@btinternet.com

Subject: Ringmaster email

I would like to ask you to be particularly vigilant for the following two crimes.

The theft of leading flashing from roofs. Churches, school or any community building could have a lead roof. If you are suspicious about anyone you see on a roof, if possible please contact the owner of the property and check that they are genuine. If not contact the police on 01622 690055.

Theft from motor vehicles. Please warn your members about leaving property on display in their vehicles. Also, when you lock your car, please double check that it is locked, as we have reason to believe that electronic devices are being used to prevent your car locking.

If you have information that could help the police tackle these crime you can contact the neighbourhood watch Office on 0844 892 0119.

From: kcm.maidstone@kent.pnn.police.uk
To: europa.13@btinternet.com
Subject: Ringmaster email

I would like to raise your attention to the following two incidents.

We are concerned after an elderly person had money taken from her purse in her home by a person who cleaned her windows. The suspect was a white European female, 5' 4", Auburn collar length hair. If you or your members have recently taken on a new window cleaner that fits this description can I ask you to be aware. When you are paying anyone for services they have tendered you, then do this at the door and do not invite them into your home.

We have also had a person going door to door buying antiques. They can be very persuasive and will follow you into your home. They will walk around looking at your belongings and offer to buy them. They can then be very difficult to get rid of. Again, be cautious who you let into your home.

From: kcm.maidstone@kent.pnn.police.uk
To: europa.13@btinternet.com
Subject: Ringmaster email

Trading Standards would like me to warn and inform you of the following incident. A lady has been calling door to door, gaining access to peoples homes by claiming she was doing a bank survey and asking householders for their personal banking details. She had no identity card, just a letter with a telephone number and a registration code. She is described as having an Irish or Scottish accent, heavily built, unclean appearance with shoulder length dark hair and wearing dark clothing. She is believed to have been on foot.

We would advise people to be careful of people cold calling and always ask for identification. If in doubt have the confidence to say no. Take care when giving out personal details. Make absolutely sure of the identity of the person you are speaking to. All similar incidents should be reported to Trading Standards via Consumer Direct on 08454 040506 and the police. For information on your consumer rights, please call Consumer Direct on 08454 040506

Keith Anderson

Road Closure

Some of you may recently have seen the Notice in the local paper from Kent Highways, stating that Headcorn Road, Grafty Green (Liverton Hill) could be closed as and when required between 09.30 and 15.30 Monday to Friday. The Notice states that because there are works proposed to be carried out, the Order comes into operation from Monday 4th June 2007 for 18 months.

I have been in touch with Kent Highways to clarify this statement, and have been informed that because it takes 6 weeks to apply for a road closure it gives them blanket cover for 18 months, and when work is required to be done it will not take so long. Once the work has been arranged, notices will be sent to all homes in the affected area and to the Parish Council giving approximately 1 month's notice of when the road will be closed.

Hopefully this will clear up any misunderstanding.

**Pat Anderson
Parish Clerk**

YOGA

Grafty Green Village Hall

Thursday mornings

9.30 - 11.00

£5 a session

Yoga for stamina, suppleness, strength and stress relief

Mixed Ability Class

Try a 'taster session' if you're not sure

For further details contact Liz Watts on

01622 737321

YOGA FOR GOOD HEALTH

- BALANCING * ENERGISING * DE-STRESSING *
MAINTAINING FITNESS*

Letters to the Editor

This month we have two letters in response to an article in last month's edition of Malherbe Monthly concerning Dogs and their doings written by Maidstone Borough Council's Civic Wardens.

Please find below the two letters and for reference, the article as it appeared last month.

Dear Editor

I'M WATCHING YOU

The article in the June edition of Outlook regarding dog "watch/wardens" rang alarm bells for me when I read it.

As one of the small handful of dog owners who regularly walk our lanes I felt almost personally targeted.

Yes, my little man uses the verges to do his business along with foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, weasels etc. He does **not** use the road having been trained not to.

If messy but bio-degradable verges are a problem to walkers and joggers, perhaps the village should consider erecting signs warning foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, "et al" to **PLEASE NOT USE THEM**, and maybe fund "pampers" for sheep, and how about serving an ASBO on the cockerel that wakes up the village at 4.00am.

Please do not let our lovely village become a community of curtain twitchers, with friends and neighbours encouraged to spy on one another. We live in a rural community, let's live with the foxes, cats, dogs, weasels, badgers, toads and even the cockerel.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Y Fletcher

DOG MESS

I was not happy when I read the 'Message from Maidstone Borough Council's Civic Wardens', in the June issue of Malherbe Monthly. The

suggestion that residents should report dog owners who do not clean up after their dog was particularly disturbing.

It is my point of view that there are two issues here that require discussion i) whether there is a problem at all with dog mess in our village and (ii) whether we as a village community should find it acceptable practice to report on our neighbours.

Based on the fact that I have not seen any dog mess in the village, I do not believe that there is a problem. I note that Woodcock Lane has been particularly singled out and although admittedly I do not walk there very often, my daughter will often jog this route and to date she has not returned with anything unpleasant stuck to her trainers.

I can only guess at what the potential negative consequences of reporting on one's neighbours would be. At the very least suspicion and gossip would result in a wedge being driven into our hitherto very friendly and pleasant community.

I do not know nor care who initiated the Civic Wardens involvement, but already the result has been an offensive article in the magazine and some very ugly signs that do nothing to enhance the beauty of our very special village. Perhaps in future if residents perceive that they have a problem they should first air their grievances in the magazine, and so help prevent 'Big Brother' culture moving into Grafty Green.

Christine Hollingsbee

Don't Let Your 'Best Friend' Spoil your Village

A message from Maidstone Borough Council's Civic Wardens

The council is very concerned about our lanes and open spaces. We want to make sure your village is clean and free of dog mess, so as to give you a better quality of life.

We have received a number of requests from local residents asking the 'Hit Squad' to come and clean your village of dog mess, particularly Woodcock Lane. Dog mess is unsightly and a health risk, especially to children. If caught not cleaning up, the dog owner can face a fixed penalty fine on the spot for £50 or, if prosecuted, a hefty fine of up to £1000. It also wastes a great deal of our resources (and your Council Tax) clearing up all this mess.

We would like to work together with you in solving this problem. We ask that dog owners clean up after their dogs, by using old plastic bags and take it home for disposal. If any dog mess needs cleaning up, please contact the Hit Squad on 01622 602162

If you see a dog owner who doesn't clean up after their dog, please report it – by phoning the Civic Wardens on 01622 602117. They will step up their patrols, put up signs and visit any owner who is breaching the law.

It is generally only a few dog owners who flout the law and don't clean up. If you're one of these think again, we intend to use every power open to us to clean up our environment for you, your children and your neighbours.

Kings Head Party in the Garden
Saturday 21st July

Children's Party and Games from 4pm
BBQ Raffle Tombola
Morris Dancers
Live Music from 7.45pm to 11.45pm

Heaths Countryside Corridor

PRESS RELEASE

Going Potty at Chilston!

Even rain and the occasional rumble of thunder didn't dampen the enthusiasm of families who came to 'Go Potty at Chilston'! Held on Sunday 13th May at Chilston Ponds, Sandway, on land owned by the Heaths Countryside Corridor, the event was an archaeological fun day co-ordinated by the North Downs Young Archaeologists' Club.

Everyone had the chance to make their own pot by hand, just as prehistoric peoples would have done before the arrival of the potter's wheel in the first century BC. Some enthusiasts produced several pots, in an array of different shapes and sizes!

An archaeological illustrator worked with children to produce drawings of pots, both of replica artefacts and of their newly-crafted creations.

The Iron Age living history group, Cantiaci, were on display. Their members explained how pottery was made and used 2000 years ago. Other Iron Age crafts and weaponry were also eagerly handled by visitors.

Lenham Archaeological Group laid out a comprehensive range of finds that have been made in the fields surrounding Chilston Ponds, including pottery, flint tools and bone.

An entertaining and informative day was had by all and many pots will now be gracing window sills in the area! Look out for future events on Heaths Countryside Corridor sites, www.heathsc.co.uk



Christopher (12) and Katie (9) Nelson, North Downs Young Archaeologists' Club members, show off their pots.

Grafty Green Heating Oil Club

Grafty Green has a successfully run Oil Consortium. We now have over 130 members all benefiting from discounted heating oil when ordered in bulk. To keep the Consortium working all members need to order the minimum 500 Litres of Oil at least 3 times a year. I'm sure you'll all agree, oil tankers trundling through our villages 3 or 4 times a year is better than seeing them every week. The word is spreading, as well as Grafty Green and Boughton Malherbe, we now reach out to Ashford, Biddenden, , East Sutton, Harrietsham, Headcorn, Kingswood, Lenham, Lenham Heath, Liverton Hill, Platts Heath, Sandway, Stalisfield Green and Ulcombe.

So if you would like to join, and benefit from cheaper oil, please email europa.13@btinternet.com or phone 858350 for details.

Keith Anderson



MUSIC
at
All Saints, Ulcombe
2007
Concerts at All Saints, Ulcombe

Members of the Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church have endeavoured to produce a varied programme of music in the hopes that at least one or two of the concerts will appeal. All the concerts will start at 7.30 pm and during the interval refreshments will be served. The price of each concert is £7 50

For more details and tickets, please contact either: Mrs Molly Poulter, The Oast, Street Farm, Ulcombe, Maidstone, ME17 1DP. Tel. (01622 842988) **or** The Church Office, Harrietsham Village Hall, Harrietsham, Maidstone ME17 1AP. Tel (01622 850604).

Saturday 20th October – The Sutton Valence Choral Society

This will be a concert with a difference - a Come Sing event. The rehearsal will be in the afternoon when anyone who enjoys singing can come along. The performance will be at 7.30 pm in the evening.

Anyone interested in taking part in singing Faure's Requiem and Vivaldi's Gloria should get in touch with Alexandra Brown on 01622 85379.

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 and 2007 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.boughtonmalherbecp.kentparishes.gov.uk

A huge THANK YOU

As you know, Malherbe Monthly is now well into its 3rd year already. But what many of you may not know is that, without Eddie Brooke, it would never have come in to being. In April, 2004, I had the bright (or so I thought) idea of a parish magazine for Boughton Malherbe, with enough adverts to cover printing costs so making it free for every house in the parish plus some for the surrounding villages in the Platts Heath School catchment area. After two editions I soon realised that this was not possible. Then Eddie came to my rescue. At great cost to himself, both financial and time - he has printed Malherbe Monthly *every* month for 3 years at no charge, without fail, without complaint, no matter how busy, come rain or shine Thanks to his generosity the magazine has made a profit each month, all of which is for the benefit of our community and local good causes. He has been totally committed. Eddie, you are a mate, you are a star, you are amazing. THANK YOU!!!

Chris King

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
Sword	Jelly	Slice	Fish
Driver	Top	Cork	Screw
Ringling	Door	Blue	Bell
Golden	Spread	Bald	Eagle
Monkey	Shell	Chest	Nut
Rocking	Play	Fly	Horse
Suspension	Draw	Rope	Bridge
Ticket	Day	Tax	Return
Public	Roman	Steam	Baths
Dinner	Number	Glass	Plate
Lasting	What	Green	Ever
Family	Natural	Make	History
Surgery	Bullet	Bag	Plastic
Mayor	Land	War	Lord
Standing	Book	Mail	Order
Carter	Hole	Clay	Pigeon

	Find the missing word?
1	ANNIE Oakley, Wild West sharpshooter.
2	EARL'S Court, London district.
3	ERIC MORCOMBE, Ernie's partner.
4	EDGAR Alan POE, Author.
5	MISSISSIPPI MUD Pie, Chocolate Pudding.
6	ST IVES, Cornish Seaside Town.
7	A LONG Time Ago, Fairy Tale Opening.
8	Rock of AGES, A well known hymn.
9	CAESARS Palace, Famous casino in Las Vegas
10	Michael BOND, Author of Paddington Bear



MAKING THINGS HAPPEN

This could be the motto of so many of BibleLands Project Partners. The **Shamms El Birr Centre, Cairo** is one such example of where one man's vision has become a reality. From small beginnings as a school for blind women, it has become a thriving centre for children and adults with visual impairments and children with mental disabilities.

Dr Morcis is a man of outstanding vision, whose work is motivated by his genuine love and affection for the wellbeing and development of those in his care. He aims to promote the independence of each child as much as possible and continues to support them after they have left the Centre. Six hundred people have passed through the Centre and Dr Morcis remembers each one.

There are currently 65 children here with a range of mental and physical disabilities, of whom 43 are blind. All receive an education that is best suited to their particular area of need. Through a variety of activities, they also develop their own interests and are taught life skills that build their self-esteem and enable them to go on to have independent lives.

The Centre is a great Christian witness, supporting people of all faiths, with a focus on inclusion. This is true of its approach to education, family or the community. Rehabilitation programmes help them to respond to disability in the best way possible. To help support the families of children at the Centre, one of Dr Morcos' recent initiatives is to establish group therapy sessions for the parents. These enable people to share their stories about the issues that they face and to explore possible solutions.

BibleLands has recently sent £9000 to pay for a new minibus for day-to-day transport and medical emergencies.

Richard Jones
BibleLands Regional Representative

From the Registers

Sunday 13th May, at Lenham St. Mary, baptism of Eleanor Louise Morris

Monday 14th May, at Harrietsham, St. John the Baptist, wedding of Guy Lincoln Torre Smith and Angela Karen Afredita Oakley-Hill

Thursday 24th May, at Charing Crematorium, funeral of the late Hilda Ogde of Lenham

Wednesday 30th May, at Lenham St. Mary, funeral of the late William Raines of Lenham

Friday 1st June, at Lenham, St. Mary, wedding of Jason O'Connell and Caroline Michelle Hunt

Tuesday 5th June, Lenham St. Mary, funeral of the late Anita Finch of Lenham

Saturday 9th June, at Lenham, St. Mary, wedding of Kevin Halls and Joanne Louise Boniface

Saturday 9th June, at Lenham, St. Mary, wedding of David Richard Marshall and Alison Newrick

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services - July 2007

Date	Time/Location	Service
Sun 1 st July 07	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U	BCP HC CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc
4 th Sunday after Trinity	19.00 U	Taize
Sun 8 th July	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U	BCP HC Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc Fam Svc
5 th Sunday after Trinity		
Sun 15 th July 07	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 CW 1 CW 1
6 th Sunday after Trinity		
Sun 22 nd July 07	08.00 L	BCP HC
Mary Magdalene 7 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30 U	CW 1 - Benefice Service in All Saints Ulcombe
Sun 29 th July 07	08.00 L	BCP HC
8 th Sunday after Trinity	10.30 L	CW 1 - Benefice Service in St. Mary Lenham

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)

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

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

Phone 01622 850711 or email
christine.kings@btinternet.com