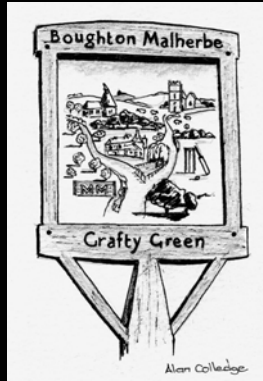


# Malherbe Monthly

Free

Number 20

March 2006



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Sandy Bruce Lockhart	890651
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	858348 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 Sue Burch	858350 850381
Incumbent	Revd Don Irvine (email: <a href="mailto:revdonirvine@uwclub.net">revdonirvine@uwclub.net</a> )	859466
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders (email: <a href="mailto:churchoffice@lenvalleybenefice.org.uk">churchoffice@lenvalleybenefice.org.uk</a> )	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: <a href="mailto:Christine.kings@btinternet.com">Christine.kings@btinternet.com</a>	850711
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 April edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 ([mf.hitchins@virgin.net](mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net)) by 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Front cover: Church Road Grafty Green.

## News from St. Nicholas Church

### Christmas Cards

Thank you to everyone who brought their old Christmas cards to the Village Shop for Demelza House Children's Hospice. When I checked with Demelza House that it would be all right to take the cards over to them, I was told they were not collecting cards any more; the project had proved to be not worthwhile. So I took them to Tesco's where The Woodland Trust had set up a collection point, so the cards did go to an organisation that will make good use of them. Demelza House still want our foil, so keep saving that please. Thank you Rob and Hazel for acting as our collection point.

### Bicycles for Bombay

Sister Christabel has sent a letter of thanks, a copy of which can be seen on the Shop's Notice Board.

### Lent Lunches

The Lunches start on 1st March 12.00-2.00p.m. Entry by Donation. The first one will be at the Old Rectory, Boughton Malherbe where we will be entertained by Vanessa Goodwin & Gerda Holt.

8th March	Sylvia Evans	Liverton House, Liverton Street
15th March	Pat Anderson	Foxes Earth, Grafty Green
22nd March	Sally Alexander	Bowley Farm, Sandway
29th March	Brenda Perks	Lenham Road, Platts Heath
5th April	Joan Davidson	Ivy House Farm, Liverton Hill,
12th April	Audrey Wickens	March Farm, Grafty Green

### Kneelers

I have now received several new Kneeler Kits from Jacksons of Hebden Bridge. If anyone would like to sponsor one of these or maybe work one please get in touch with Joan on 850210.

## **Garden Safari**

We are hoping to organise a Garden Safari this Summer perhaps in June. Are there any gardeners out there, who wouldn't mind opening their garden, in aid of the Church? We are hoping to install a new Lighting and Heating system later this year. Contact Joan if you are interested; number as above.

**Joan Davidson**

## **Bus Service 59 on Saturdays** **Grafty Green - Maidstone via Ulcombe and Kingswood**

Good news! The Saturday service is to continue beyond the end of March with Kent County Council funding a contract for its continued operation. The operator on Saturdays from 8th April will be Nu-Venture rather than Arriva, but the timetable for Grafty Green will be very similar to the present one. Full details next month.

In the meantime, Arriva will continue to provide the Saturday service up to April 1st, and the £2-50 fare offer is also continuing up to that date. (There was apparently a problem on a couple of weekends in February which meant that drivers were unable to issue the lower fares but I am assured that this has now been put right by Arriva).

The above only applies to Saturdays - the Monday to Friday service will continue as now and will also continue to be operated by Arriva.

**John Collins**

## **Grafty Garden Cuttings – March**

Spring seems to be arriving later this year, but at last the yellows of the aconites, primroses and daffodils are brightening our days, whether the sun shines or not.

The rain that has been falling gently all day will help to bring up a water table that is at least a metre lower than it should be at this time of year, but it will require much more before the reservoirs start to fill. Everything in the garden seems to have grown overnight and the insects are out in force, which the birds love. Their songs filled the air this morning and the Goldcrests are back in the Norway spruce, busily eating all they can find.

Jobs for the month include: complete the pruning of roses, buddleias, and large flowered clematis and the clearing of the dead stems of perennials. Also tidy away any leaves that have refused to rot over winter and continued to fly around the garden to heap themselves in odd corners.

Tomatoes, leeks, celery, cucumbers, herbs, melons and capsicums (sweet peppers), can all be sown in a heated glasshouse. Early potatoes should have been 'chitted' and now have compact green shoots, ready for planting out at the end of the month, provided the ground is warm enough. Likewise parsnip seed and onion sets can go in but if the ground is too cold, delay sowing. It is far better to sow later than have everything rot and crops will soon catch up. Beetroot, carrots, broad beans, sprouts, turnips, peas and radish can all be sown under cloches.

This is a good time to do a garden makeover. We are tidying up at the front of our cottage, taking out old stakes and a hedge that really does not deserve the name. The old penny that came up with the roots is dated 1889, so we feel that it is about time we did do something. I am also taking out *Nerine Bowdenii* and Japanese anemone, each a victim of their own success in that they were

smothering out themselves and each other. The book says clumps of Nerine need separating every 5 years or so, but as they can sulk for two or three years before blooming again, I think I would leave them longer than that. They can be planted with their noses above ground, almost anywhere but very dry or very wet would not suit. Their pink blooms in autumn are a joy, but if cut for indoors, their perfume is terrible, as I discovered years ago when I took a bunch to someone in hospital and wondered why they were less than thrilled to receive them!!

**Rosemary Smith**

**Short Monthly Quiz – Answers at the back (don't look first!)**

1. What sea creature has three hearts and eight tentacles?
2. What short slang word for a child is also the name for a young goat?
3. What does a caterpillar evolve into before taking flight?
4. What is the national flower of Wales?
5. Are tigers native to Africa or Asia?
6. Which amphibian hosts the muppet show?
7. Anaconda and cobra are both species of what?
8. What four-letter word connects a dollar and a male rabbit?
9. The leaves of the eucalyptus tree are the staple diet of which Australian marsupial?
10. How many teeth does an Aardvark have?



Lenham Community Centre  
Fundraising Committee

Publicity – Barbara Dominy  
01622 859986

The next event to be held at the Community Centre,  
Groom Way, Lenham will be

An evening with

***The Invicta Singers***

Performing a variety of music from pop to classical

on

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March

At 7:30pm

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Tickets £6.00

From Lurcocks of Lenham or  
Goldsmiths Fine Art, Lenham

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

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	Corn	Group	Gun	<b>Pop</b>
2	Boy	Cat	Thumb	
3	Form	Gear	Ten	
4	Elbow	Service	Waiting	
5	Cane	Daddy	Plum	
6	Dry	Glass	Sweet	
7	Figures	Robin	Trip	
8	Digger	Leaf	Rush	
9	Castle	Fit	Sake	
10	Back	Light	Time	
11	Bowler	Doctor	Off	
12	China	Funny	Idle	
13	Dish	Opera	Soft	
14	Mixed	Pan	Savoy	
15	King	Peeled	Tiger	

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



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

mid kent water



### There is a total hosepipe ban in place until further notice for all domestic customers.

On average, we each use 165 litres of water every day for all our domestic needs:

Flushing the toilet	=	<b>45 litres</b> (7-10 litres per flush)
Personal washing and bathing	=	<b>50 litres</b>
Drinking/cooking	=	<b>15 litres</b>
Laundry	=	<b>25 litres</b>
Cleaning/dishwashing	=	<b>20 litres</b>
Garden watering/washing cars	=	<b>10 litres</b>

On average, we each use 165 litres of water every day for all our domestic needs.

Join us in a partnership to help save water - small changes to your daily routine can result in big savings

Here are a few simple ways you can save water in the home and garden:

- Don't leave the tap running when you brush your teeth. A family of four could **save a bathful of water a day**.
- Fix any dripping taps. A dripping tap can waste **25 litres of water a day**.
- Take a shower instead of a bath. The average shower uses **30 litres** of water but a bath uses **80 litres**.
- Don't clean and peel vegetables under a running tap. A tap left running for **10 minutes uses nearly 100 litres of water**.
- Make sure you have a full load for your washing machine/dishwasher rather than a half load. Each cycle of a machine uses up to **100 litres of water**.
- Fit a water butt in the garden to collect rain water. Plants prefer rain water.
- There is no need to water well established trees and shrubs. They are generally drought proof, with a searching root system that will extract water from deep in the soil.
- Water directly around the roots of plants. Watering the leaves is wasteful as a high proportion evaporates.
- Don't water in the heat of the day. The water will evaporate before it reaches the roots. The best time to water is late afternoon or evening.

For further information on the total hosepipe ban you can visit our website at [www.midkentwater.co.uk](http://www.midkentwater.co.uk) or call our customer helpline on **0845 8 50 60 60**.

## **Grafty Green Heating Oil Club**

Most of you are probably aware that Grafty Green has an Oil Club. We now have about 70 members all benefiting from cheaper domestic heating oil. I have extended the boundary to cover Lenham, Sandway, Platts Heath, Liverton Hill, Ulcombe, and East Sutton.

Having oil delivered in bulk benefits everyone including the environment, not so many heavy noisy tankers clogging up our roads and the countryside.

To make the club work we all need to at least top up with the minimum 500 Litres or more at the same time, giving us maximum discount. It's easy, theoretically the more oil I order the more money we save. At the beginning of January the supplier delivered nearly 50,000 Litres and that was only about 35 members participating, 40 or 50 needing oil would have pushed the price even further down. Generally we save around 3 to 4p per Litre. So if you think it's for you please email me at [europa.13@btinternet.com](mailto:europa.13@btinternet.com) or telephone 858350. The Oil Club is non-profit making.

**Keith Anderson**

## **Grafty Green Gardening Club**

Tuesday 7th March - Grafty Green Gardening Club will be hosting a talk on 'Fuchsias' given by Mr. G. Puddefoot who holds the national collection of fuchsias. 7.30 pm in the village hall. All welcome.

Bookings for the trip to Norfolk in July have nearly filled all the places. If you would like to go and need details, please contact Sue Burch on 850381.

**Sue Burch**

## **Harrietsham Family History Group**

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2006 a trip to the Family Record Centre in London has been arranged.

At the centre you view census returns from 1841 to 1901 (ten year intervals), Indexes of birth, marriage and death from July 1837 to 2004, and wills prior to 1858.

Nearby (five minutes walk) at The London Metropolitan Archives you can see the records of many London Churches, including baptisms, marriages and burials. Also available are many records of Local Councils, covering school admissions and workhouse records.

The coach will leave the car park at Harrietsham Community Centre at 8-30am and leave London at about 3-45pm

It is advisable to bring a packed lunch with you - there is a place to sit and eat.

COST £11/12, according to numbers on the coach.

Please contact Frank Long on 01622 850863 to book a seat. Book early to avoid disappointment

### **A DIARY DATE**

The Kent Police Male Voice Choir are giving a concert on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at St John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham. Book the date now, further details later

**Frank Long**

## **St Edmunds Centre Platts Heath**

Just to bring all our readers up to date with our efforts for our community hall.

We are at present negotiating a lease from the church. This is required of us before the Maidstone Borough Council and the Kent County Council will make any grant towards the refurbishment of the St Edmunds Hall.

During 2005 we applied for Trust status and were granted it in September. This also assists with applying for grant money.

Our application to the Hatch Charity was successful and they have pledged the most generous sum of £2,000. The Lenham Parish Council have also pledged £2,500. The Maidstone Borough Council have agreed a grant of £11,865 provided the Kent County Council agree to grant double that sum and also provided we produce a signed lease.

We have also applied to the Awards for All lottery scheme and hope to hear from them by the end of February.

When we had the survey carried out the building was declared sound. However it does need considerable repair work done and Twenty-First Century amenities. The architect has made some plans and the builders quotes came in. The overall cost of the project will be £48,000.

This will provide a disabled access ramp to the front of the building and a fire exit with disabled access to the rear of the building as well as a toilet with disabled access and a kitchen - we do have a cold water supply and sink at present. To combat the damp which has been quite a problem in recent years there will be a damp course put in and the rotten windows will be replaced or repaired and painted depending on what each needs.

If we can raise enough funds it has been recommended by the architect we install storage heaters which would keep an ambient temperature during the winter months. The walls are very thick and therefore like all churches hold the cold and create condensation with the existing wall mounted electric fires.

Any villagers who can offer either their skilled work i.e:- Electrician, plumber, plasterer and painter or a donation, it would be very much appreciated. We are all working to provide this village and its school with a pleasant little hall which can be used for a variety of purposes and a sense of community. Somewhere that friends can meet and enjoy one another's company.

**Tricia Dibley, Secretary  
Trustees of St Edmunds Centre**

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

Please find below the dates of when the weekend freighter service stops near your home during March and April

#### **Ulcombe**

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March: 11:15 – 12:15 -: Lodge Gardens (cul-de-sac)

#### **Grafty Green**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April: 13:30 – 15:15 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

#### **Platts Heath**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March: 14:15 – 15:45 -: Green Lane – side of road

## Answers to the Quiz and Link Word Puzzle

Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Corn	Group	Pop
2	Boy	Cat	Tom
3	Form	Gear	Top
4	Elbow	Service	Room
5	Cane	Daddy	Sugar
6	Dry	Glass	Sherry
7	Figures	Robin	Round
8	Digger	Leaf	Gold
9	Castle	Fit	Keep
10	Back	Light	Switch
11	Bowler	Doctor	Spin
12	China	Funny	Bone
13	Dish	Opera	Soap
14	Mixed	Pan	Grill
15	King	Peeled	Prawns

Question	Answer
1	Octopus What sea creature has three hearts and eight tentacles?
2	Kid What short slang word for a child is also the name for a young goat?
3	Butterfly What does a caterpillar evolve into before taking flight?
4	Daffodil What is the national flower of Wales?
5	Asia Are tigers native to Africa or Asia?
6	Kermit the Frog Which amphibian hosts the muppet show?
7	Snake Anaconda and cobra are both species of what?
8	Buck What four-letter word connects a dollar and a male rabbit?
9	Koala Bear The leaves of the eucalyptus tree are the staple diet of which Australian marsupial?
10	None How many teeth does an Ardvardk have?

## **From the Registers**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January**, at Lenham, St Mary, funeral of the late Patricia Mannering.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January**, at Lenham, St Mary, Memorial Service for the late Roger Milligan.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January**, at Lenham, St Mary, funeral of the late Roy Vinten.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January**, at Lenham, St Mary, baptism of Angelica Taylor.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January**, at Charing Crematorium, funeral of the late Edward (Tubby) Neaves of Lenham.

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**, at Charing Crematorium, funeral of the late Thelma Gregory of Harrietsham.

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**, at Charing Crematorium, funeral of the late Joyce Brown of Lenham.

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**, at Lenham, St Mary, funeral of the late David Farrington.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**, at Ulcombe, All Saints, funeral of the late Jenny Balston.

## Bits 'n Pieces

Lent Groups. This year, as in the past, there will be an opportunity to join one of number of groups meeting weekly throughout Lent, either in the daytime or in the evening, to follow a short study course. This year's study is called "*Attitudes*" and is based on the Beatitudes, the sayings of Jesus as recorded in Chapter 5 of St Matthew's Gospel. Lent begins at the very start of the month so, if you are interested, please contact Michelle in the Benefice Office for details (Tel: 01622-850604).

Saturday 4th March 2006 at 6pm in Canterbury Cathedral - The African Mass ~ Missa Luba. Come to a celebration of commitment to Fairtrade in an evening full of energy and inspiration as Canterbury Cathedral is filled with African songs and sound. Diocesan children will welcome us with song and drums, there will be speakers about Fairtrade and Massed Choirs from churches and church schools in the Diocese will sing the beautiful African Mass 'Missa Luba' (The soloist will be Angeline Kanagasooriam). There will also be an opportunity to learn some African songs. This will be led by Music for Change. This is a Canterbury based charity which promotes understanding and respect between peoples and cultures through music. The evening will also feature the premier performance of a work written especially for this event by Anita Memmott of the Maridadi Singers. Central to all this will be elements of worship following the structure of the Missa Luba. No tickets are required but the Cathedral asks that you make a booking so they know how many to expect. Bookings via Fiona Taylor: 01227 595667 or [fiona@meteors.demon.co.uk](mailto:fiona@meteors.demon.co.uk)

Tuesday 7th March 2006 - Ploughman's lunch with Guest Speaker. Bishop Stephen Venner, Bishop of Dover will talk on "*God, me and us*" starting at noon in '*Shalom*' in Maidstone Community Support Centre, Marsham Street. Suggested contribution £3.00, to include refreshments; no booking required. Enquiries: 01622 683878 (day) 738508 (evenings).

Saturday 25th March 2006 at 7.30pm, concert in Ulcombe, All Saints. The all-ladies Thursday Choir will be making a return appearance to sing in Ulcombe Church on 25th March. The choir is acclaimed for the variety of their



programmes. This year they will be presenting a programme of beautiful sacred music, ranging from Purcell to Mendelssohn and Rutter. There will also be solo, violin and organ items. Tickets, price £6, are available from Molly Poulter (842988) or Jean Davis (842983) or at the door. As always, wine and nibbles will be served during the concert.

Sunday 26th March 2006 - Mothering Sunday. Each of the four churches in the benefice will be celebrating this very special day with a service of family communion and the gifting of posies of flowers. This day honours motherhood and, as we ALL have mothers, it is totally inclusive.

Tailpieces on Motherhood *“A mother holds her children’s hands for a while;  
their hearts forever”*

*“A mother is someone with whom you may not always see eye-to-eye,  
but is someone who will always walk with you arm-in-arm.”*

*If you would like to find out more about Church services or activities please  
contact either the Revd Don Irvine (859466) or the Revd Fiona Naylor (853919)  
or the Benefice Administrator, Michelle Saunders (850604).*

**Revd Don Irvine**

**The Len Valley Benefice**  
**Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe**  
**Sunday Services - March 2006**

Date	Time/Location	Service
Sun 05 Mar 06	08.00 L 08.00 H 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 15.00 H 18.30 U	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc Baptism Taize
1st of Lent		
Sun 12 Mar 06	08.00 L 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 15.00 ? 18.30 L	BCP HC Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1 Baptism BCP EP
2nd of Lent		
Sun 19 Mar 06	08.00 L 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 18.30 BM	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 BCP EP
3rd of Lent		
Sun 26 Mar 06	08.00 L 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 18.30 H	BCP HC MS CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 Informal
Mothering Sunday		
4th of Lent		

**Look Forward: Sun 16 Apr 06 - Easter Day**

## 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)  
CW 1 = Common Worship (Order One) Holy Communion  
Informal = Evening worship in an informal style

**Many thanks to Eddie Brooke for printing this magazine - It is very much appreciated**

If you would like to advertise in Malherbe Monthly and reach the whole of Boughton Malherbe, Grafty Green, Liverton Street, Platts Heath and Internet via [boughtonmalherbe.com](http://boughtonmalherbe.com)

The monthly costs are:

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

Phone 01622 850711 or Email [christine.kings@btinternet.com](mailto:christine.kings@btinternet.com)