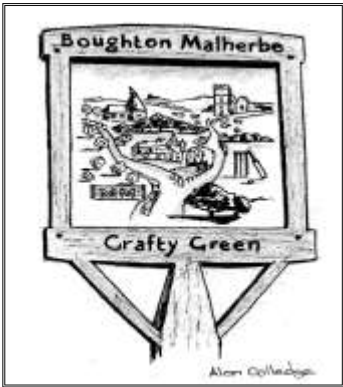


Malherbe Monthly

Number 153
April 2017



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Jenny Whittle	734897
Borough Councillors	Martin Round Shellina Prendergast shellinaprendergast@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 07818 048234
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	859549 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Chris King email boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com	850711
Village Hall bookings and other matters	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@gmail.com Mobile 07990 574214	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	Sue Burch	850381
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Priest in charge	Vacant email: vicar@lvb.org.uk	858195
Associate Priest	Mille Hart (Weds - Sun) email: revmilliehart@lvb.org.uk	297296
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Karen Yardley	858208
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20pm by Post Office	01580 754300
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 **May** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th April**

Front Cover: Spring is here- new born lambs in a field on Church Road Boughton Malherbe. Photo courtesy of Christine King

News from St. Nicholas Church

Morning Prayer will be held on the first, third and fifth Tuesdays of the month at St. Nicholas, Boughton Malherbe and on the second and fourth Tuesdays at All Saints Ulcombe. Everyone is very welcome to join these sessions.

Bible Study/House Groups will be held at Weirton Villa, Grafty Green on Thursday mornings. For further information please contact Joan Drury on 01622 853766.

Lent Lunches have started well with our collection for Christian Aid. People have come along and enjoyed homemade soup and fresh bread with a choice of flavours. We have three more arranged. Entrance is by donation and run from 12.00 until 2.00p.m.

29th March Sally Alexander, Bowley Oast East Sandway

5th April Vanessa Goodwin, The Old Rectory, Boughton Malherbe

12th April Emma Stirling, Rain Farm, Eastwood Road, Ulcombe

Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at St. Nicholas 7.30p.m. on 12th April, 2017

Maundy Thursday: On Maundy Thursday there will be service at St. Nicholas to commemorate Christ washing the Disciples' Feet the night before the Crucifixion. It starts at 7.30p.m.

Good Frida: An Hour of Devotion before the Cross will be held at 2.00p.m. until 3.00p.m. at St. Nicholas Boughton Malherbe.

Easter Day: A service of Holy Communion will take place at 9.30a.m. to celebrate Christ's Resurrection from the dead to atone for our sins. Coffee and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Gentlemen's Breakfast will be on 29th April at 8.00a.m. at the Dog and Bear Lenham when a full English will be served and there will be a speaker. Ring Sarah at the church office on 01622850604 or James Hodgkinson on 01622 850137 to reserve a place.

Date for your Diary: Confirmation will be held at St. Nicholas on 17th May at 7.00p.m. Please come and give the candidates your support - there are two young ladies from St. Nicholas.

Joan Davidson

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"Dover Bill" -
the Highwayman!**



**Traditional Sunday Lunches
Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers**

**Booking Advisable
01622 850259**

Children's Room Beer Garden

Weekly Yoga Classes In Grafty Green Village Hall:-

"Stay flexible" is my term's theme

Wednesdays at 7pm and Thursdays at 9.30 am
New term starts 1st and 2nd March for 9 weeks £54
Drop in at £8 a session

Each class is an hour and a half giving time to prepare and warm up the muscles for more intense stretches, and time for mindfulness, breathing technique and a deep relaxation.

For more information call me on 850381

Unwind, relax but yet energise – the magic of yoga!

Susan Burch

Grafty Green Gardening Club has been busy planning our contribution to the village fete on 2nd of September. We will be running some competitions which we hope you will enter; there are **cash prizes!**

- Three onions – largest by weight and girth
- Three onions – most artistically displayed
- Three runner beans – longest
- Three runner beans – most artistically displayed

Get planting!

- A hand tied posy made up of herbs and edible flowers known in medieval times as a 'tussie mussie'.

Entry forms available on the day – staging at the fete from 1pm.

For children (three age groups – under 8, under 12 and under 16)

- The largest diameter sunflower head.

Ulcombe and Platt's Heath Schools are taking part but if your child or grandchild does not go to either of those schools and would like to take part please let me know and I will provide the sunflower seeds and entry form.

Sue Burch 850381

Grafty Green Gardening Club – Programme Of Events

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
Jan 10	AGM and Sarah Morgan	Alpines in landscape design
Feb7	Tim Ingrams	Hellebores
March 7	Nikki Gammans	Bumblebee Conservation
April 4	Alison Marsden - and Spring Show	Front gardens – making the most of your house
May 2	Steven Edney	Salutation Garden
May 6	Plant Sale 10am on the village green	
June 4	Sunday afternoon Garden Safari around our village	
June 9 -11	Weekend away Somerset, Walnut Tree Hotel, North Petherton,	
July 4	Boldshaves, Woodchurch	
August 1	TBA	
Sept 5	Tram Hatch	
Oct 3	Stephen Harmer	History of Sissinghurst Garden Autumn Show
Nov7	Fiona Wemyss	Blue Leaf Plants
Dec 5	Meal	

April meeting news & Spring Show - On April 4th we will be hosting our Spring Show and also a talk by Alison Marsden on Front Gardens - how to make the most of your house. As usual the evening event is open to everyone. For non-members there is a small charge of £2.00 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits and an opportunity to socialise and ask questions of our speaker and Show Judges.

I am pleased to announce that we are fully booked for the weekend away to Somerset in June and final payment (cheques to be made out to Grafty Green Gardening Club) is due this month (April). Please send all payments to Doreen Hulm our treasurer.

Tim Ingrams who spoke to us all in February about hellebores is opening his lovely garden at Copton Ash again on Sunday April 9th and is well worth a visit. Details about this and other gardens to visit this month are in the Yellow Book.

Meanwhile we are looking forward on 4th June to Celebrating our 20 years birthday with a Garden Safari in and around Grafty Green.

Tip of the Month - Time to sow those tomatoes, sweet corn, courgettes and main crop potatoes. For flower lovers Pieris is a bushy evergreen shrub to look out for. It bears hanging clusters of urn-shaped flowers that open from dark red buds.

Carole Frost - Secretary - Grafty Green Gardening Club (01622) 757536.

Village Hall News

www.graflygreenvillagehall.co.uk

I hope you all enjoyed the recent MexFest – I'm only sorry I couldn't be there to enjoy it with you. Your support for these events is much appreciated, not least because it generates the cash we need to pay our bills and enables us to continually improve our lovely little Hall.

For instance, most recently, local handyman Gary Brooker has draught-proofed the inner door to the Hall – which is particularly important if you are lying on your yoga mat at that end – and installed a water softener for us.

The softener operates on the hot water system and should prevent the hot-tank furring up. (We took a bucket-full of scale out of the tank last year, when the hot water suddenly stopped running altogether!) It will also prevent the urn and kettle furring up, provided they are filled from the HOT tap. So I would ask everyone who uses the urn and kettle always to fill from the hot tap, even if the immersion heater has not been on and the water is not hot. If we use the cold tap, we won't be getting value from our softener and the scaling-up problems of the past will only return, I'm afraid.

Now, a new idea! A suggestion has been made that we might utilise the land at the rear of the Hall as a mini allotment for villagers. The area is unused at present and can become a bit of a wasteland if untended. The soil is poor, but the idea is that the Village Hall and Gardening Club would assist anyone interested to create raised beds (eg using sleepers filled with compost) in which they could grow whatever they wished for their own use.

Perhaps your own garden is dedicated to flowers or is purely a children's play area – or perhaps your children would like their own flower or vegetable plot – or perhaps you would just like to garden more convivially with like-minded neighbours, sharing ideas, labour and produce. If so, do contact me on the email address below to express an interest in principle.

This patch of land should be used for something! It would be quite expensive to level, pave and equip it as a sitting-out area (we've thought of that before) but if you have any other ideas for using the land, I'd be pleased to receive them.

Finally, a date for your diary (I assume you already have the fete written in for 2 September). On **Tuesday 9th May** at 7.30 we will be holding our **Village Hall Committee AGM** at the Hall. Do, please, come along and have your say on the way the Hall is run, the fees we charge, the things we spend our money on, the events we organise, and so on. Better still, why not offer your services as a committee member? We'd love to have some new faces on the team, particularly younger folk and folk new to the village who could bring a new perspective to our deliberations.

Contact me if you'd like more info, or just turn up on the night – you can be assured of a warm, friendly welcome.

Or, if you would like to help on a particular project but not commit to an on-going role, here's an idea: We need help to run our fete – it's too big a job for the Hall Committee alone – so why not offer to lend a hand with that? Any assistance, large or small, on the day or beforehand, would be much appreciated. Indeed, the fete won't happen unless someone like you lends us a hand. So do contact me or Jon Thompson (01622 851351)... please! We need to know now if the proposed fete this year is viable.

Richard Pilborough, Hall Committee Chairman.

Email pilborough@graftypilborough.plus.com

News from Helen Whately - Your MP

No more Hobnobs, ginger nuts or custard creams for me, I've given up biscuits for Lent. I'm also trying to exercise at least once a week – although my definition of exercise may have to include running from my office in Parliament to the division lobby for votes.

It's probably no surprise that I spend much more time working on healthcare than I spend looking after my own health. I've been on rounds with care workers, visiting care homes, and speaking to a whole mix of people involved in health and social care to understand how we can make the system work better. Hospital staff tell me this has been the worst winter they can remember, with more patients coming to A&E than ever before. And shortages in community nursing and social care making it difficult to discharge patients, so hospitals have been exceptionally full.

Before the Budget I spoke to the Chancellor about the pressures on social care and asked him to find more money. I'm pleased that he listened and committed £2 billion, with £1 billion up front this year. For Kent, that'll be an extra £26 million in 2017/18 – enough to make a real difference.

But we also need a long-term plan for the care system, as people live longer and often with complicated health conditions. Part of the answer has to be health and social care working closer together and helping people stay out of hospital. There is work going on with exactly this aim, under the umbrella of the "Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Plan". One of the ideas being discussed as part of this is a new Medical School in Kent – seizing the opportunity provided by the Government's commitment to create 1500 new medical school places.

A Kent Medical School would enable us to train the doctors we need, attract the brightest and best to work in our hospitals, and be an important boost to Kent's life

sciences industry - making Kent a centre of excellence. I've been meeting Ministers to seek their support for this plan.

In the budget the Chancellor also talked about investing in infrastructure to support economic growth, with money going towards 'pinch points' in the road network. I'm lobbying for some of that funding to come our way, as traffic is making life a misery for many in Maidstone and surrounding villages like Langley, Bearsted and Downswood. Too many people tell me how the daily grind of sitting in long queues, being late for work and delayed getting home is becoming unbearable. At the same time, bus services are being withdrawn from growing villages like Langley. Nobody denies the need for more housing in the area, but with traffic so often at a standstill, it's wrong to continue building without improving the infrastructure.

We also need a new local primary school by 2018 otherwise children could miss out on a school place close to home. I've been urging Kent County Council and the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to move as quickly on this, and they have now earmarked a site on the Kent Medical Campus near Bearsted. This progress is welcome, but I'm worried that the EFA suggest they are choosing between a primary school and a special school. In fact, we need both. I've heard from one parent from Maidstone whose child was only offered a place at a special needs school in Dover; life is difficult enough without having to make that kind of daily journey. I'm meeting the Schools Minister Lord Nash to enlist his help to make sure we get not just one but both schools in time for September 2018.

As ever, if there is anything I can do for your please do get in touch. My contact details are below.

Helen Whately
MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

I work for you. If you have a problem you think I can help you with, please contact me or visit me at one of my surgeries

House of Commons,
London, SW1A 0AA

www.helenwhately.org.uk

Tel: 020 7219 6472;
Email: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

A DATE NOT TO BE MISSED...

ORCHIDS PRESENT A NEW & EXCITING EVENT

‘A KENTISH KITCHEN’

The Tithe Barn, Lenham

Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th August 2017
10am – 4pm

This indoor event will take part in the largest 14th century Tithe Barn in the country, situated in the beautiful village of Lenham. Following the great success of previous Mid-Winter Markets at the barn (this event is being held again on 18th & 19th November 2017), we are pleased to present you with this chance to join us to celebrate what the producers of Kent have on offer and exceptional treasures on show created by our local makers.

Delicious homemade food and entertainment will be available throughout the day. This amazing barn is rarely open to the public so the opportunity to soak up the traditional atmosphere is not to be missed.

For further information please contact Sharon Prior at Orchids on 0776 401 401

Kings Head Pub Grafty Green

Curry & Quiz

Saturday 8th April 7.30pm

Call Bev on 01622 850259 to book

April Music notes

All the music events I have found this month happen to take place in churches. This is not just a reflection on the lack of a good concert hall in this area, but also a recognition by our churches of the need to encourage the public to make use of these splendid buildings set in the midst of our communities, beyond just their function as places of worship. Use leads to acceptance of responsibility for looking after these ancient structures, and a wider sharing of that responsibility is much to be desired.

Enough of philosophy, here is the list:

- Saturday April 1st, 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Mill Street, Maidstone, ME15 6YE, Maidstone Choral Union sing Bob Chilcott's new musical setting for the *St. John Passion*, together with part III of Handel's *Messiah*. Tickets 01622 726193.
- Sunday April 2nd, 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Mill Street, Maidstone, ME15 6YE, Maidstone, Sutton Valence Choral Society perform Haydn's *Harmoniemesse* and Handel's Plague Choruses from *Israel in Egypt*. Tickets: 01622 861313
- Thursday 6th April, there is a lunchtime concert (12.30-2.15) at St. Dunstan's church, Stone St., Cranbrook, by international musicians Richard Carver (Oboe) and Christopher Dance (piano). Concert starts at 12.00, refreshments available from 12.30pm. Free admission.
- Friday 14th April (Good Friday) There will be a performance of Stainer's *Crucifixion* at St. Mary's church, Chart Rd., Sutton Valence. Admission free, retiring collection in aid of Demelza House. (There will probably be other performances in the area – keep an eye open for publicity!)
- Saturday 22nd April, 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Mill Street, Maidstone ME15 6YE, Maidstone Wind Symphony's concert is entitled "A symphony of songs" and includes works by Grainger, Mahler, Mackey and Doss sung by soprano Helen Bailey. Tickets and enquiries 01732 366500

For the stay-at -homes, I recommend the performance at Kings College Cambridge of Brahms *German Requiem* with the BBC symphony orchestra. The concert itself is at 7.30pm on 14th April, but check your paper for the actual broadcast time.

Brian Hardy

Grafty Gourmet

This spicy prawn and chorizo jambalaya recipe is ready in just 30 minutes.

Prawn and chorizo jambalaya

150g piece of chorizo, skinned & diced
1 red pepper, deseeded and sliced
1 yellow pepper, deseeded and sliced
1 onion, finely sliced
2 celery sticks, finely sliced diagonally
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1 red chilli, finely chopped
Leaves from a few fresh thyme sprigs
200g of long-grain rice
227g can of chopped tomatoes

700ml of vegetable or chicken stock, hot
½ tsp of Tabasco sauce, plus extra to serve
200g of raw tiger prawns, peeled and deveined
4 spring onions, trimmed and finely sliced
Lime wedges, to serve

1. Cook the chorizo in a frying pan over a medium-high heat, stirring occasionally, for 3-4 minutes. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen paper.
2. Add the peppers, onion, celery, garlic and chilli to the pan and cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes, until softened slightly. Stir in the thyme and rice, cook for 1 minute, then add the tomatoes, stock and Tabasco and bring to the boil. Cover, reduce the heat to low and simmer very gently, stirring occasionally, for 12 minutes, until most of the liquid has evaporated. Season to taste.
3. Stir in the chorizo, prawns and spring onions and cook for 1 minute. Serve with Tabasco and lime wedges.

Grafty Green Short Mat Bowls Club

New Members Always Welcome - Join Us

Every Tuesday at 2.00pm in the Village Hall, Gentle exercise, easy to learn, loan bowls available

Further information - Chris Wheal 01622 858100

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

From the Minutes (taken by Cllr Galton) of a Meeting of Boughton Malherbe Parish Council held on Monday 6th March 2017 at 7.30 pm in Grafty Green Village Hall

Public session:

The issue of Manholes and other defective road items were raised and discussed. All to be discussed with KCC Roads Dept. by BMPC at a meeting on 20th March

MBC Report:

Shellina Prendergast stated that the MBC Enforcement department was still very short staffed and unable to cope with complaints which must be made through the MBC Portal to ensure they are logged.

Headcorn Neighbourhood Plan has been rejected.

The Maidstone Borough Plan is unlikely to be approved until June/July.

A serious issue is the fly tipping along all roads/ verges and it is important to write to Alison Broom, copied to Helen Whately MP. A particular issue is recent tipping of laughing gas cylinders in Headcorn Road from Hillside into Eastwood Road.

Shellina agreed to write an article about this subject for the Malherbe Monthly.

A further issue was insurance for litter picking organised by parish councils, because other councils had found they were not covered by insurance as discovered at Ulcombe. Our BMPC Clerk should check with our own insurers Came & co.

Cllr Turner agreed to write to Alison Broom copied to Helen Whately, and speak to Peter Titchener at Ulcombe about insurance experience.

KCC Report:

None. The Chairman expressed the grateful thanks of the Parish Council to Jenny Whittle for all her help and support over the last 10 years as she is retiring from her role in KCC at the end of April.

Local Policing/Community:

Police Report

Very little reported. No Crimes since last report. Written report on record. It was agreed that there had actually been two crimes of theft reported.

Community Warden Report

Very little reported except an incident of scam mail. Volunteers are sought to help senior citizens learn computer skills. Written report on record.

Highway and Footway matters:

Liverton Hill The problems of traffic on the hill continue, disappointment was expressed at the poor response of the public to joining Shellina Prendergast last Saturday for a photo shoot.

Ditches, Gullies, Potholes All to be discussed with KCC Highways on 20th March. The road south of the GGC site is flooding again, action needed where a 4" drain is fed by a much larger one. KCC drain clearing team were out on 22nd February at junction with Crumps Lane but problem not resolved.

HGV Signage Installation is progressing but not yet finished.

59 Bus: Cllr Collins reported no change since last report. The next bus group meeting is on 3rd July to discuss the Saturday service but no plans to change the 59 service.

Choose and approve Boughton Park road names: All names suggested to date were not considered to be appropriate and there was no enthusiasm for two roads with different names. It was agreed that the best compromised was to call the whole development Boughton Park and simply give the house/office numbers on the road name signage. e.g. BOUGHTON PARK 1 – 14.

The postal address for the first property would be:

1 Boughton Park
Headcorn Road
Grafty Green
Maidstone
ME 17 2AT

This means the location and post code will still be the same as for the old Garden Centre. The numbering will have to be adjusted to account for the offices which is up to Quinn Estates. This solution was proposed by Cllr Collins for reply to the MBC letter dated 27th January 2016, seconded by Cllr King, unanimous agreement.

Clerk Applicants There have been four applications. All four will be invited to an interview in the afternoon on Wednesday 22nd March (subject to GGVH availability) between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm., allowing for half hour interviews. When each confirms availability they would be given a time to arrive. Proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Allum, unanimous agreement

Finance

To note the balance at the Bank The account update was circulated.

The account balances were NatWest £28031 92
Santander £500.00

Income since last meeting – None

Bank Reconciliation (attached) – Seen and signed by Cllr Collins

Any cheques to sign – signed as follows:

St Nicholas Church £500.00
GG Village Hall £168.00 for Village Hall Hire
G Rees £244.00 for Village Green fence repair
CPRE £36.00 for membership

The payment to the Village Hall was calculated to be £20.00 Short. This was noted by Cllr Turner (Village Hall Treasurer) to be added to the next invoice for use of the Hall.

The payment to CPRE was in response to a recent request from CPRE for our annual

subscription due before the next B M Parish Council Meeting.

Authorisation of any payments since the last meeting :

Payments to the following were approved:

R. Britcher £560.00 for tree lopping
R. Smith £200.00 for care of the Green
R. Tew £144.99 for Christmas Tree
C.King £63.86 for Stationery

Correspondence:

Letter dated 17th March from the Pensions Regulator reminding us of BMPC pension responsibilities and giving action required by dates: 1st May 2017
12th June 2017
2nd October 2017

.An estimate in sum of £2112.00 + VAT from Duke Contractors Ltd for replacement finger post sign on Village Green. It was agreed to refer this item to an extraordinary Parish Council meeting ASAP because it was in excess of £1000.00, beyond which a competitive tendering process was required. It was agreed Cllr Turner would check with KALC if we could take the money from The Henry Town Fund (kept separate from the precept/ services scheme account) without a tendering process. This item to be raised at meeting on the 20th March with KCC roads to check out any problems.

Further information:

Cllr Turner will ask Gavin Reece to fix the replacement litter bin outside the church. Bin currently in possession of the Clerk since purchase.

The following items are not on this agenda and need to be discussed at the proposed extraordinary meeting, as requested by Cllr Galton by circulation to all other councillors prior to this meeting:

Discussion and approval for purchase of books for councillors guidance.

Discussion and approval of limits on disclosure of surgery requests from residents and related matters.

Discussion and approval for councillors to contact Quinn on behalf of BMPC when they see Boughton Park heavy lorries passing through Grafty Green.

Additional item: Discussion and approval for Cllr Galton to write to the MBC Case Officer and Quinn about the Boughton Park external lighting, and deal with matters arising. If necessary to copy Rob Jarman, Martin Round, and Shellina Prendergast into correspondence.

Meeting to be arranged ASAP.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting, together with the Annual Parish Meeting, on Monday 8th May in Grafty Green Village Hall.

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

'GDC Charity Dance Party for Animals Asia' a Success

GDC School of Dancing held a Charity Dance Party and raised over £850 for the charity Animals Asia. Animals Asia were founded in 1998 and work to end the barbaric bear bile trade, which sees over 10,000 bears kept on bile farms in China, and around 2,400 in Vietnam. They also work for animal welfare for cats and dogs, and in zoos and safari parks. The charity is one close to the heart of a pupil at the school and so Vice-Principal Emma Day, offered to run a Zumba Fitness 'dance-a-thon' to help their cause.

Sarah Dawson, the Mid-Kent Animals Asia Support Group's coordinator said, "To be honest I was expecting £200-£300, so was amazed that we are now over £850! We danced for 2 hours with a 15 minute break, it was great fun"

Emma Day, who has been a Zin Zumba instructor since 2014, led the group of 15 through the two hour Zumba Fitness session. "It was a great opportunity for me to mix my two loves, Animals and Dancing. Everyone worked so hard and I am so impressed with the amount we raised, especially for a small dance school from Lenham like ours. Just goes to show that small can be mighty!"



Two ladies who participated in the event, Lynne and Karen said, "We both had a great session - it was so good to do a Zumba workout again! The teachers were friendly and welcoming and so very kind to have organised the morning event for the bears. We cannot thank them enough! Emma, of course, was a very inspiring instructor! Thanks, too, to all the class participants who helped to raise such a wonderful amount for Animals Asia."

"We would also like to thank The Bow Window in Lenham for supplying us with some refreshments that helped get us through the day. It was nice to have the support from another business in Lenham" Emma, GDC

Men and women are welcome to join a Zumba class at Lenham Dance Studio, Wednesdays at 8.15pm. Or look out for more classes to be added soon.

The school also teaches Ballroom and Latin to children and adults. If you would be interested in learning to dance or get fit, we have beginner's classes as well as offering one-on-one sessions bookable throughout the week. Just visit www.gdcschoolofdancing.co.uk or call 01622 850 800. You can also find GDC School of Dancing on Facebook



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



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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Clown	Flea	Piccadilly	Circus
2	Piano	Poetry	Song	
3	Green	Juice	Quick	
4	Back	Drum	Heart	
5	All	Dark	Middle	
6	Fox	Over	Puppet	
7	Drive	Dung	Stag	
8	Hutch	Warren	Peter	
9	Bulb	Street	Sun	
10	Cook	Danish	Puff	
11	Bin	Disposal	Land	
12	Area	Matter	Squirrel	
13	Cue	Graph	Pilot	
14	Away	Broad	Iron	
15	Package	Bank	Camp	
16	Paper	Soles	Suzette	

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Ringo _____, Drummer with The Beatles
2	_____ Von Trapp, Heroine of a famed musical
3	Queen of _____, Visitor to King Solomon
4	_____ Lindbergh, Early aviator
5	Bertie _____, Dim-witted gent created by P G Wodehouse
6	The _____ King, Disney film and stage show
7	_____ and Lee, Singing duo who sang 'Welcome Home'
8	Dr _____, Richard Chamberlain's vintage TV medic
9	_____ Wednesday, First day of Lent
10	London _____, Airport that borders Essex and Herts



2 Course Dinner, Stay & Breakfast from £100_{pp}

Not had a chance to try one of our amazing new rooms yet? Well, now's the time. From now until the end of March 2017 we are offering our new double occupancy rooms from £100 per person. That includes champagne, a two course meal in the restaurant and breakfast. Available Sunday-Thursday, excluding bank holidays and the Christmas and New Year period.

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Call us to book and quote MMM when booking to make sure you get the necklace.

Good Friday Friday 14th April

At The Who'd A Thought It we will be serving an extensive seafood menu* on Good Friday, and will have live music in the evening too. Make sure to book to avoid missing out. *Don't worry meat eaters, there will be steaks too.



Who'd A Thought It.
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To book your table, please call

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All our yesterdays ... Liverton Hill View



The St Edmunds Hall, Platts Heath, will be hosting a Quiz night.

Friday 7th April, doors open at 7 for a 7.30 start.

Teams of up to 6.

£10 a table.

Prizes for the winning & losing team!

Please bring your own drinks & nibbles.

To book a table call Karen Yardley on 01622 858208

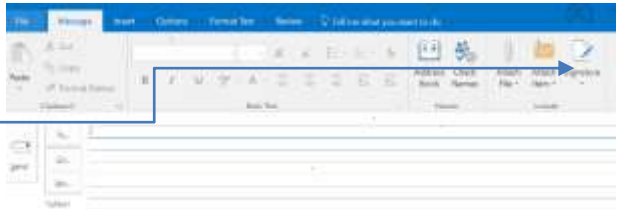
Look out for our next social evening in June, an evening of Clairvoyance. Details to follow soon.

Grafty Geeks

Outlook – Email Signatures

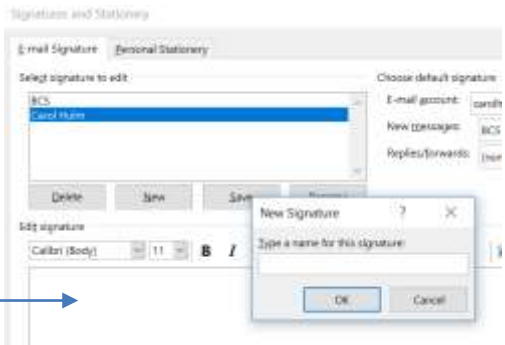
If you use Outlook for your email and you are fed up with keep typing the same signature at the end of each email, it is possible to set up an automatic email signature, as follows:

From the New Message page in Outlook, select the signature option



Select a name for your signature and then type the signature in the Edit Signature section.

Once saved you can say that this will be your default signature and when you create a new message this signature will appear in all your new emails.



You can have more than one signature, which can be selected to be used in your email but you can also select the signature that is most common as a default as follows:

Select the email signature that you wish to make your default and select what type of emails will get this automated email.

You can decide if you want this for just New messages or messages that you reply to or are forwarded.



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

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Lenham Family Festival

If you haven't done it already, then don't forget to put the Lenham Family Festival in your diaries!

The Lenham Family Festival is an annual event that takes place in Lenham over a weekend in June. The aim of the Festival is to provide a fun event that brings the whole community together, is affordable for families, and will raise funds for the chosen charities that are selected each year.

If you are a music lover there will be plenty for you to enjoy. A wide range of musical styles will be covered over the course of the Festival with:

- a live music event at Lenham Social Club on Friday 9 June
- numerous acts on Saturday 10 June both inside and outside Lenham Community Centre
- music from Sixpenny Piece during the market in Lenham Square on Sunday 11 June
- The City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra concert on Saturday 17 June

We now have more information on the concert on 17 June. A larger orchestra is returning with a programme of accessible classical music consisting of the Alice Suite by Jacob Bride and works by Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn and Fauré. The Alice Suite consists of music and dance based on Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland", and the orchestra will be joined by children from Lenham Primary School for this lovely work.

As well as the music, there will be plenty to see on Saturday 10 June, with various dance acts and other entertainment taking place in Lenham Community Centre. If food is your thing then you won't be disappointed. We will have burgers, crepes, cakes and ice cream available to purchase, all washed down with a drink from the bar run by Lenham Social Club which will sell both alcoholic and soft drinks. Stalls selling all kinds of other goods will be in the Community Centre car park if you like shopping and there will be activities for children of all ages.

Would your club, society or your business like to have a stall at the Festival? It could be the perfect way to showcase it to the general public to gain more members or promote your products. The Lenham Family Festival is always a very well supported and the footfall is high, so please let us know if you would like to have a stall and be part of this community event in aid of the Katy Piper Foundation and Lenham Primary School.

Festival Committee meetings will now be taking place on the last Monday of each month at 7.15pm in the Appleton Room at Lenham Community Centre. If you are interested in becoming involved, you will be most welcome.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

If you are not able to join the Committee but would like to be involved in a smaller way, we always need volunteers to help out on the main day of the Festival with a variety of tasks, none of which are particularly onerous. Even if you can only volunteer an hour of your time, it will be much appreciated and it is always great fun and very rewarding being part of a community event such as this. You will probably find you get much more out of it than you need to put in! If you would like to be involved in this way, please contact Gail on 01622 850126. She will be compiling a list of names and contact details of willing helpers to be contacted nearer the time.

Look out for further details in each month's edition of Malherbe Monthly Magazine but most importantly...

Make sure you put these dates in your diaries now!!! You don't want to miss this exciting event.

Heart of Kent Hospice

Bluebell Walk
Sunday 30th April
Harrietsham Village Hall, ME17 1JX

Get Behind Heart of Kent Hospice by taking part in its annual Bluebell Walk following a traditional 6 mile walk amongst the bluebells on the North Downs and through some of Kent's most beautiful countryside.

You can begin your walk anytime between 8.30 am and 10.30 am. Make sure you grab a hot drink and check out the scenery at our picnic pit stop $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way round the route. Upon your return why not purchase a treat from our ever popular cake stall, peruse the selection of goods at our mini Spring Fayre, and enjoy some light entertainment around the village hall where food and drink will be available.

Discounted early bird entry is now open - £10.00 per adult £3.00 per child - £25.00 per family (2 adults and 3 children). Early bird entry closes on 14th April after which times prices will increase.

For full details and for information about our 'Messages to Heaven' and Bluebell Walk limited edition T-Shirt offers please visit www.hokh.org

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- or click

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

TO REPORT: Litter; fly tipping; abandoned vehicles; dog mess;
noise:

- Call **01622 602202** (Environmental Issues MBC)

or click

<http://www.maidstone.gov.uk/residents/report>

TO REPORT non-domestic Water Leaks:

- Call **0333 000 0002**

or click: <http://www.midkentwater.co.uk>

TO REPORT: Overgrown Footpaths click on:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/report-a-on-a-right-of-way>

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Christian Message April 2017

I wonder how many of you remember the words of Kenneth Wolstenholm as he commented on the 1966 World Cup? Any England football fan who was around at that time must have those words permanently fixed in their memory!

'They think it's all over' he said, and then Geoff Hurst hammered the ball into the German net, completing a remarkable hat-trick, and then came that immortal line, *'It is now!'*

About 2,000 years ago a very different scenario was unfolding. Again, things seemed to be coming to an end, only this time it was a human life, not a football match. A man staggered under the weight of a cross and then groaned in agony as his life ebbed slowly away when he was placed on that cross. For his followers it must have seemed that not just his life but also the hopes and faith they had invested in him were at an end too. Any remaining shreds of hope were laid to rest as they watched him finally being laid in a tomb. *'How can it be?'* they might well have been asking.

I remember a toy one of my children had as a baby. It was an inflatable toy, I think, called 'Bopper Bear.' No matter how hard or how often you knocked it over, it would always bounce back up again. What I remember is how much we, his parents, loved to watch it, it couldn't be kept down! I guess that's why I remember it. And I guess a child might have asked *'How can it be?'*

As for this man, Jesus, who was God's son he just couldn't be kept down either. This was God's plan, to show how hatred had done its worst, but the deep love God has for each one of us just couldn't be kept down.

This was, and is, the resurrection message.

Christ died and is risen! It is as true today as it always was, ultimately, there is nothing and no-one that can frustrate the will of God.

And even though some still try, and many of us ask, *'How can it be?'* Ours really is the God who will triumph, and who gives us the victory.

As we celebrate that resurrection victory this month, may I wish you a very Happy Easter!

Living God, as you rose victorious over death, so may hope, faith and love continue to triumph in my life over everything that might conspire against them. Amen.

Rev Millie Hart

SUTTON VALENCE CHORAL SOCIETY

Spring Concert Sunday 2nd April 2017

On Sunday 2 April, Sutton Valence Choral Society is singing the Plague Choruses from Handel's *Israel in Egypt* and Haydn's *Harmoniemesse*.

In the famous Plague Choruses, the horrible predicament of the Egyptians is depicted by means of very suggestive word-painting in both the vocal and orchestral writing. For each of the plagues – flies, hailstones, frogs and so on – Handel invents a graphic musical image. In *He smote all the first-born* Handel's dramatic use of counterpoint is very noteworthy.

After Haydn's two visits to London in the 1790s, he returned to his position as Kapellmeister and composer-in-residence with the wealthy Hungarian Esterházy family at the Eisenstadt estate; and it was here that he composed his final six masses, one per year, for the nameday festivities of the Princess Esterházy. The *Harmoniemesse* is the last of these masses, composed in 1802, indeed, his last completed composition. The nickname "harmonie" is the term for a wind band, for the woodwind instruments had developed enough by 1802 (and there were players at Eisenstadt able to play them) for Haydn to compose using two of each instrument: flute oboe, clarinet and bassoon.

Sutton Valence Choral Society, with over 95 singers, will be joined by the Beresford Sinfonia and four top-class soloists: Claire Troth, Karl Gietzmann, David de Winter and Andrew Thompson.

The concert takes place at All Saints' Church, Maidstone, ME15 6YE on Sunday 2 April at 7.30pm.

Tickets, priced £13, (£5 for under-18s and those in full-time education), are available from choir members, by ringing 01622 861313, by email at pamela.hipkins@btinternet.com or via the website at www.suttonvalencechoral.com

Sutton Valence Choral Society (Regd. Charity No 1119160) supports Hayley's Heroes

A Flower Festival at the Good Shepherd

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Rectory Lane, Harrietsham, ME17 1HS will be holding a Flower Festival in May. This is to celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday also the publication of the fascinating and unique history of the church which was constructed in 1881. It was built for the use of workers building the section of the railway between Maidstone East and Ashford. The theme of the festival will be the history of the church.

Come and enjoy our floral displays within the peace and tranquillity of our church hidden away in Rectory Lane.

A warm welcome awaits you on **Friday 5th to Sunday 7th May 2017**. 10am to 4pm.

Refreshments available. We regret there is no wheelchair access. Free entry but donations welcome!

For more information contact:
Fr. Geoffrey Pointer Tel: 01622 736100

email: parishpriest@catholic-bearsted.org.uk

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Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – **April 2017**

Sunday 2nd April

9.30 am Lenham: Breakfast service
9.30 am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
11.00 am Ulcombe: Family Worship
11.00 am Lenham: Holy Communion
3.30 pm Harrietsham: GIFT family worship

Wednesday 5th April

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 9th April - Palm Sunday with Palm Crosses for all

8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service
9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion
11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion
11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship
6.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

Thursday 13th April

7.30pm Boughton Malherbe – Maundy Thursday Service

Friday 14th April - Good Friday

10.30am Harrietsham Church: Messy Church

2.00pm Services in all four churches 'An hour at The Cross'

Sunday 16th April - Easter Sunday

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service with Communion
9.30am Harrietsham: Easter Celebration with Communion
9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Easter Celebration with Communion
11.00am Ulcombe: Easter Celebration with Communion
11.00am Lenham: Easter Celebration with Communion

Wednesday 19th April

10.30am Chippendayle Lodge

Sunday 23rd April

10.00am Harrietsham: Joint Len Valley Churches Celebration Service

Saturday 29th April

8.00am Dog & Bear, Lenham: Men's breakfast

Sunday 30th April

10.00am Lenham: Joint Len Valley Churches Celebration Service which will include a celebration of our Godparents'

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Police, Fire And Ambulance Emergencies	999
Police, Non Emergency - (Including PCSO)	101

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NHS Medical Helpline	111
Maidstone & Pembury Hospitals	0845 155 1000
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Headcorn Surgery (<i>out of hours listen to -</i>	01622 890294
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KCC	<i>Emergencies</i>	03000 41 41 41
	<i>Highways</i>	03000 41 81 81

KCC Community Wardens:

<i>Local warden – Stuart Ellesmere</i>	07969 583923
<i>District Support – Dawn Riach- Brown</i>	07773 397125

Fire	<i>General Enquiries</i>	01622 692121
	<i>Home Safety Visits</i>	0800 923 7000
	<i>KFRS Community Volunteer – Chris Wheal</i>	01622 858100

R.S.P.C.A	<i>Emergencies</i>	0300 1234 999
Vet	<i>24 Hour Pet Emergency Treatment Service</i>	01622 734555

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Clown	Flea	Piccadilly	Circus
2	Piano	Poetry	Song	Recital
3	Green	Juice	Quick	Lime
4	Back	Drum	Heart	Beat
5	All	Dark	Middle	Ages
6	Fox	Over	Puppet	Glove
7	Drive	Dung	Stag	Beetle
8	Hutch	Warren	Peter	Rabbit
9	Bulb	Street	Sun	Light
10	Cook	Danish	Puff	Pasty
11	Bin	Disposal	Land	Waste
12	Area	Matter	Squirrel	Grey
13	Cue	Graph	Pilot	Auto
14	Away	Broad	Iron	Cast
15	Package	Bank	Camp	Holiday
16	Paper	Soles	Suzette	Crepe

	Find the missing word?
1	Ringo Starr, Drummer with The Beatles
2	Maria Von Trapp, Heroine of a famed musical
3	Queen of Sheba, Visitor to King Solomon
4	Charles Lindbergh, Early aviator
5	Bertie Wooster, Dim-witted gent created by P G Wodehouse
6	The Lion King, Disney film and stage show
7	Peters and Lee, Singing duo who sang 'Welcome Home'
8	Dr Kildare, Richard Chamberlain's vintage TV medie
9	Ash Wednesday, First day of Lent
10	London Stansted, Airport that borders Essex and Herts



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