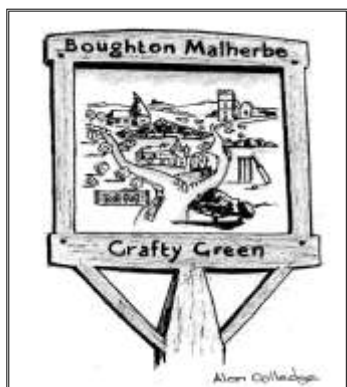


Malherbe Monthly

Number 103
February 2013



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

Useful contact names and telephone N^{os}.

BOUGHTON MALHERBE/GRAFTY GREEN

County Councillor	Jenny Whittle	734897
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
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Parish Council Clerk	Chris King email boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	850711
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Other Village Hall issues	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@btinternet.com	853583
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Priest in charge	Rev: Dick Venn (Sat -Thurs) email: dickvenn@gmail.co.uk	858195
Curate	Mille Hart (N/A Tues, & Sun afternoon) email: mille.hart@uwclub.net	859753
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Office opening times as 9am – 12noon Monday - Thursday	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons - 4.40pm	
St. Edmunds Centre	Karen Yardley	858208
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20pm by Post Office	01580 754300
Weekend Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit!
Anything for the **March** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th February**

Front cover: A snow covered Village Green - 21st January 2013

News from St. Nicholas Church

Ploughman's Lunch: We thank Sylvia Close for holding a Ploughman's Lunch at her home on 23rd January. We all had a most enjoyable time and raised £150 for Church Funds.

Illustrated Talk: Our planned illustrated talk by John Collins with finger buffet supper on 23rd February has had to be postponed. We are hoping to hold it later in the year.

Morning Prayers at St. Nicholas will be on 12th and 26th February at 9.30am.

Village Coffee Morning will be held Ash Wednesday 13th February 10.30-12.00

Lent Lunches: We are planning to hold Lent Lunches again this year. The first will be on the 20th February at Ivy House Farm, Liverton Hill where Joan will be pleased to welcome you. The second is on 27th February at Bowley Oast, Sandway where Sally will be your hostess.

We invite you to arrive at 12.00pm and the Lunch finishes at 2.00pm. We serve a choice of soups (usually more than one helping) with fresh bread and a cup of coffee or tea to finish. Entry is by donation. The monies collected will be sent to Christian Aid as our yearly contribution instead of holding a house to house collection in May.

Ash Wednesday: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 13th February. A service of Holy Communion will be held at St. John the Baptist Church, Harrietsham at 7.30pm.

New Kitchen and Toilet: Work is almost finished on the improvements at St. Nicholas. The toilet is finished except for a baby changing facility, which will soon be in place. The West Door needs to be draft proofed and there are one or two small items which remain to be done in the kitchen.

The removal of four pews and repaving the floor space, which their removal necessitates, now needs to take place. The pews concerned are the three front and the small one by the font. This will give more space, enabling the Priest to conduct weddings, funerals and baptisms without being cramped (as it is at present). For instance: families will be able to gather round the font for a baptism more easily and there will be a bookcase for the hymn books.

Lent Courses will be held again this year called Guides and Guards (Mysteries of Faith). Watch notice boards for venues and times.

Joan Davidson

Ken and Eve Sweet
extend a warm welcome to
The Kings Head
Grafty Green

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



Traditional Sunday Lunches

Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers

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01622 850259

Children's Room Beer Garden



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Grafty Green Village Hall News

On 9th February we have our little 'soiree gastronomique Francaise' but all tickets are now sold. There's always a chance of some being returned, of course, if early bookers are now unable to come, and Robert Turner (850325) is the person to contact if you have tickets you can't use or if you wanted to come but thought you'd left it too late.

In my article in January, I said we would be offering something old and something new by way of entertainment in the Hall this year. The French evening is something new for us (well, new to most of us – those villagers who remember the Napoleonic wars remind me that a French evening was run once before) but our next offering is to be that perennial favourite, the **Beetle Drive!** The date for this is Saturday **20th April**. I will let you know in next month's magazine how to get your tickets.

Then, in May, we plan a *really* special evening! We hope to have a professional comedienne with TV appearances and international performances on her C.V. These people are notoriously tricky to pin down, but we are negotiating with her agent and the prospects currently look good! More details nearer the time.

Finally, if I may be allowed a little self-publicity, my band "Group Therapy" is playing at The White Horse, Sandway, on Friday 1st March (the nearest to Grafty Green that we've yet played) so why not come along and heckle? The pub serves excellent 'throwing veg' as well as good beer and wine. Expect pop songs from the early 1960s to the present day.

Richard Pilborough,
Hall Committee Chairman

Bulky Refuse Collections (Saturday Freighter Service)

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

Grafty Green

Saturday 23 rd March	15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd
Saturday 1 st June	15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

Platts Heath

Saturday 23 rd March	14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane
Saturday 1 st June	14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane

Ulcombe

Saturday 30 th March	09:25 – 09:55 -: Lodge Gardens
Saturday 8 th June	09:25 – 09:55 -: Lodge Gardens

Grafty Green Gardening Club - 2013 Programme

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

The February meeting is on Tuesday February 5th. Our speaker will be Steve Harmer who will talk about the History of Gardening.

Members who are coming on the weekend away to the 3 Counties Show and other gardens in May are advised that the balance of payment for this event will be due at the March meeting.

Further details from Sue Burch on 850381 or Rosemary Smith on 850526

- Membership to the gardening club is only £5 for an action packed year
- Regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month in the village hall at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated £1 for members and £2 for visitors.
- The club enables members to swap plants/seeds, share ideas and improve their growing skills.

Meetings are friendly and informal; visitors are always welcome; refreshments included.

County Councillor Jenny Whittle report for Malherbe Monthly



The recent snow has battered our roads and a number of potholes have emerged recently. Kent has nearly halved the time taken to fix a pothole from an average of 25 days in 2011 to just 14 days last year. On top of this improvement, safety critical defects are often made safe within the same day. We are now about to embark on a countywide blitz to tackle an expected rise in potholes following the recent severe winter weather. Under "Find and Fix", gangs tackle

every fault they find, rather than just those that are safety-related, typically carrying out up to six times the amount of work than would normally be done. The pothole campaign will be launched immediately when the weather conditions are suitable and I will work closely with the Maidstone Highways Team and the Parish Council to ensure that Broomfield and Kingswood's potholes are repaired quickly. It follows previous "Find and Fix" action, where Kent invested in high-quality road repairs, then protected this investment by sealing and surface-dressing the roads – an approach backed by the Automobile Association.

I have taken up concerns about the **no.59 bus service** relating to the age and quality of the vehicles and poor timetabling that gave users of this service insufficient time in Maidstone to do shopping and enjoy leisure time before boarding on the return bus. I took this up with Arriva and the 1320 service from Grafty Green to Maidstone will be reintroduced and a commitment to upgrading the service with new double deckers as from March which will enable those in wheelchairs and mobility vehicles to travel comfortably. KCC put additional funding in this service which was under threat as it is rightly considered to be vital provision in an area poorly served by public transport.

I have had a request from the Parish Council to install a weight limit sign on Headcorn Road and deter HGVs from using Liverton Hill. County Councillors receive a £25,000 annual Member Highway Fund to spend on such schemes; my allocation for 2012-13 is already fully committed. If I am re-elected at the County Council elections on 2 May, I pledge to fund this signage from the 2013-14 fund to enhance the quality of life of local residents (the County Council goes into a "purdah" election period from 25 March until 2 May when the fund cannot be spent).

I hope this is helpful. Please do contact me if you need my help (Tel: 734897; email: jenny.whittle@kent.gov.uk, address The Cottage, Sutton Street, Bearsted ME14 4HP).

Jenny Whittle

Mondays to Fridays

Service No	School Days Only		School Days Only	
	59	66	59	59
Maidstone, King Street	1220	See	1610	1725
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Stn, Stop J4	1222	Note	1612	1727
Wheatsheaf, Loose Road	1229	1	1619	1734
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1233	....	1623	1738
Linton Corner	1237	....	1627	1742
Cornwallis Academy	....	1505	....	....
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1242	....	1632	1747
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1245	1509	1635	1750
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1248	1512	1638	1753
Wamlake Corner	1251	1515	1641	1756
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	1259	1523	1649	1804
Kingswood, Village Hall	....	1525	....	1806
Ulcombe, Post Office	1306	1530	1656	1811
Grafty Green, Kings Head	1313	....	1703	1818
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	....	1535	....	....
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by	....	1544	....	....
Sutton Valence, The Harbour	....	1549	....	....

Saturdays

* 59 59 59 59			
0838	1241	1525	1755
0840	1243	1527	1757
0847	1250	1534	1804
via	1254	1538	1808
Sutton	1258	1542	1812
Road	....	....	....
and	1303	1547	1817
Largely	1306	1550	1820
....	1309	1553	1823
0859	1312	1556	1826
0907	1320	1834
0909	1322	1604	1836
0914	1327	1841
0921	1334	1848
....
....
....
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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, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

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

Sundays & Public Holidays*

Service 59 does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays.

NOTES

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

2

Grafty Green - Kingswood - Chart Sutton - Maidstone

Mondays to Fridays

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

Saturdays

* 59 59 59 59			
0733	0923	1336	....
0740	0930	1343	....
0745	0935	1348	1604
0747	0937	1350	1606
0753	0943	1356	1612
0756	0946	1359	via
0759	0949	1402	Largely
0802	0952	1405	and
....	....	....	Sutton
0807	0957	1410	Road
0811	1001	1414
0815	1005	1418	1624
0820	1013	1426	1632
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CODES

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Email: nkhairedesign@hotmail.co.uk

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Grafty Green Village Hall on
Tuesday 19th March 2013

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

Parish Emergency Plan

The committee set up to produce an Emergency Plan has now met for the first time. This is a community project initiated and supported but not run by the Parish Council which has only one representative on the committee.

The committee comprises

Ron Galton (chairman)	Tel. 01622 850369	E-mail galton@gotadsl.co.uk
Pat Anderson	Tel. 01622 858350	E-mail europa.13@btinternet.com
Chris Wheal	Tel. 01622 858100	E-mail cwcancare@aol.com

If anyone else wishes to join us they are very welcome

The emergency services would normally deal with emergencies but in exceptional situations local organised backup could prove a vital asset if activated via an Emergency Plan. Such a plan could also prove valuable when the emergency services are not involved or unable to attend quickly enough or at all. All parishes are being encouraged to have an Emergency Plan.

One of our first tasks is to identify local residents who are willing to be called upon to assist in an emergency. If anyone is willing to volunteer their services, particularly if they have skills or equipment that might be of benefit in an emergency would they please get in touch with any member of the committee.

An emergency could be anything from being cut off by snow to a plane crash and the resources we have in mind to be able to call upon during and even after an emergency are:

Anyone with special skills (e.g. first aid, counselling)

Anyone with a 4x 4 vehicle and /or special equipment (e.g. tree and / or metal cutting equipment, tractor, generator, temporary lighting)

Anyone prepared to help with welfare (e.g. preparing refreshments, giving comfort, helping in the emergency centre)

Anyone prepared to be a general helper and assist in any way upon request.

Anyone with a facility that could help emergency services (e.g. a pond or a swimming pool to supplement the fire brigade water supply)

We would also like to hear from anyone who may be elderly or with a disability, might feel at risk in an emergency and appreciate support. This could simply be a phone call to check you are OK or having a few groceries or medication delivered if you cannot venture out for several days after a heavy snow fall. For you that could be an emergency. The information you provide will be completely confidential and only available to the Emergency Plan Team.

An emergency plan can only work with the help of community volunteers, so please come forward and volunteer. All we need is your name, tel. no, E-mail address and what you can contribute. We hope that our plan will never need to be put into action, but not to have a plan when needed could be a disaster.

Thank You.

The Parish Emergency Plan Committee.

The Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas will perform
at Sutton Valence School on Thursday, 21st March 13 at
7.30pm

£18 per head. email Chris Parkinson on

cfqparkinson@tiscali.co.uk

or ring him on 01622 858132 for details and to apply for
tickets.

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News from Ulcombe Village School

Ulcombe's Growing Population ... of Snowmen

January has seen an exciting and eventful start to the year with the weather being at the forefront of our thinking. The snow certainly provided us with a topic of conversation as the month progressed. Many found getting about difficult, though all of the staff were in school everyday, even when only half of the children could make it. This is a tremendous testament to the determination of the staff team to do their best for the children in Ulcombe.

Our topic for Term 3 is Food, Glorious Food. With that in mind we were delighted to welcome the Billingsgate Seafood School to Ulcombe. Read on to find out what the children did and what they learnt.

January is also the month when parents have to select their school places for children starting in Reception in September. Important information is below.

Don't Tell Dr Who!

Anyone who saw the Christmas edition of Dr Who may have been slightly alarmed by the increasing number of snowmen across the School Field in January. Alternatively, on-lookers may have hoped to see Raymond Briggs's Snowman or Snow-dog come to life and fly over the village.

Thankfully all of these can remain in the imagination. The population surge was simply down to children having fun in the snow during their break times. The children, of course, learn by being out in the snow in many ways. Just making a snowman's body is a science experiment on its own, but the children also learnt how to take care of themselves in cold, wet and slippery conditions. Whilst the snowmen may not last, we hope the lessons learnt will always remain with the children, helping them to remain safe and well.

Billingsgate Market Comes To Ulcombe

Billingsgate Market is the largest inland fish market in Europe. On Friday 25th January the market came to Ulcombe in the form of its own Seafood School. We were very grateful to the Billingsgate team for coming to see us while our topic is 'Food, Glorious Food!'

The children were encouraged to think about how fish gets to our plate so we can enjoy a delicious, healthy meal, but still leave plenty for the next generation. There was some hands-on work, as well as the chance to taste foods such as prawns, a smoked mackerel dip or a fishy roll. We hope all of the children enjoyed finding out about a source of food which has always been so important to our island nation (not just as something to go with chips).

Ulcombe Goes To Morrisons

Also as part of our work on the topic of food, Owlets class will be heading to Morrisons in Maidstone during the first week of February to find out how the store works. We hope they will even get the chance to prepare doughnuts, by filling them with jam. I wonder if anyone will bring one back for me ...

Mike Fenton Returns To Ulcombe CE Primary School

Looking further ahead, some of you may remember Mr Mike Fenton, who was Deputy Head Teacher here thirty years ago. He is coming back on Monday 11th March. This time it is for the morning to teach all of the children how to play the 'Autoharp'. He is the leading expert on this instrument and has played around the world. In fact he is a member of the Autoharp Hall of Fame!

Everyone, including our friends and neighbours, are welcome to come along for a short concert at 9.05am (for about half an hour). He will then lead workshops with the infants and the juniors, before finishing with a concert for parents, in which children from Tawny Owls and Barn Owls Classes will perform. We look forward to seeing you there, learning about this wonderful instrument.

Library Update

We continue to push forward with our planned extension. This will house a library, and will also include a toilet suitable for disabled visitors and members of the school community. The current delay is caused by the need for additional and unexpected legal documentation to enable KCC, the Diocese of Canterbury and UK Power Networks to work together to move the electricity sub-station.

With a purchaser lined-up for the site it is hoped that the legal issues can be resolved as quickly as possible and so precipitate the completion of selling the disused adventure trail by KCC as quickly as possible. This will, as you know, fund the long-awaited extension.

Friends of Ulcombe School

FUS have been planning activities for 2013. The first event will be the St. Valentine's Disco on Thursday 14th February, after school. The children are already looking forward to putting on their party frocks and dancing shoes.

In Term 4 we will be celebrating Mothering Sunday and the Easter. We look forward to enjoying the different activities that these events bring. Looking ahead to the summer, FUS have already set the date for the Summer Fayre. Please put Saturday 22nd June in your diary, as it would be fantastic to be joined by all of our friends and neighbours.

The Next Ulcombe School Friends' Dinner

You are cordially invited to the next Friends' Dinner, when we will be celebrating Mothering Sunday on Wednesday 6th March. For those of you who are yet to attend, this is a chance to have a roast dinner in school, prepared by our very own School

Cook and served by the children. The after-dinner entertainment is from the children, showing off what they have been learning in class. On this occasion the children will be showing and telling us all about their mums.

Invitations will be coming out soon, but if you do not get one, please do not think we have deliberately left you out. Simply contact the school and we will be only too pleased to add you to the list.

Charity Corner

At Christmas many of you will know that we were raising money for Demelza Children's Hospice in different ways. Collections after the performances of The Supersonic Lamb and the Christmas Service were added to money raised by staff who are taking part in a 'Share-a-Card' scheme. The final total was £135, which is a wonderful total for our small school. Very many thanks to everyone who has contributed for this tremendously worthwhile cause.

Choosing a School for September 2013

Do you know anyone who is looking for a school for their child in the future? Children who were born between September 2008 and August 2009 should be starting school during the coming academic year. The deadline for applying for a school place for next September has now passed. More information is available in school and online at www.kent.gov.uk. If you or anyone you know would like help to complete an application, please contact the School Office.

Best wishes

Mr V Hampton, *Head Teacher.*

Neal's Yard Remedies Organic require Consultants, for party plan and Therapists. A fantastic opportunity for therapists to use award winning products in their therapies and to sell them to clients as an extra income stream. Voted best organic brand 2012. Earn extra income; enjoy flexible hours; set your own goals; your own free replicated website; pay an initial joining fee of £95 for your kit, beauty products and enough brochures and paperwork to start your very own business.

Join February and receive a free product gift. No minimum order value requirements. Order online when convenient to you. Free training and ongoing support available.

Contact **Tracey** 07718751828 www.uk.nyrorganic.com/shop/tracey1

Yoga Classes Grafty Green Village Hall

Yoga Classes – Dip in opportunity!

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

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

Classes are on Wednesday evenings 7 – 8.30 during school term times and on Thursday mornings 9.30 – 11. The investment is £8 to dip in or block booking works out at £6 a session.

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

St. Edmunds Centre

The St Edmunds Centre Carol Singing was a success, with many faces turning out, together their wonderful voices raised over £150, fantastic! Well done Fellow Platts Heathers!

Our New Years Eve party proved very popular, with more people coming than ever before! We raised a grand total of £200, which we will be donating to a local charity. A great night was had by all, the walls were rocking!

What's on?

We are pleased to inform you that the toddler group has started again, Thursday mornings, 10 - 12. All welcome.

Yoga - Tuesday evenings 8pm

Drama (Children's) Wednesdays - 3.45 - 4.45

Line Dancing - Thursdays 8pm

Yoga - Friday morning - 9.30 - 10.30

If you would like to hire the hall, or require any information regarding the clubs, please call 858208

The White Horse - Sandway

A traditional public house

We would like to wish you all the very best for 2013

New menu for the New Year

A Lunch time special

*Open Tuesday to Friday between 12 and 3 where you
can enjoy two courses for £10.*

Steak Night on Tuesdays

Two steaks for £25

Live music on the first Friday of each month

February's band - Tim Hain & the Jam Side Up

March's band - Group Therapy

April's band - Topaz

Function hall available to hire

The White Horse, Lenham Heath Road, Sandway

01622 859511 - whitehorse@freehouse.sandway.com

<http://www.freehouse.sandway.com>



Music Notes, February 2013

After a fairly quiet January, February is bursting with local musical events. In my list I have included the pantomimes at Leeds and at Hollingbourne, because while they are theatrical productions, music is a very important element and the performers work hard at this aspect of their presentation. – and its all good traditional fun!

- Fri 1st Feb at 7.30pm and Sat 2nd Feb. at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, LADS Pantomime "Cinderella" in Leeds & Broomfield Memorial Hall. Tickets on sale Sunday afternoons in the village hall, 3-4.30pm.
- Saturday 2nd February, 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone. Maidstone Symphony Orchestra's concert includes Rachmaninov's *Piano Concerto No.2* (soloist Ching-Yun Hu) and Nielsen's *Symphony No.4*. Tickets 01622 735830.
- Wed-Sat 6th – 9th Feb, Hollingbourne Pantomime "Humpty Dumpty" in Hollingbourne Village Hall. Evenings 7.45pm; Sat matinee 2.30pm. Tickets from Christopher's village shop, Hollingbourne.
- Sunday 17th February, 3.30pm at Sutton Valence School – Sutton Valence Music Society continue their 39th season of Professional Chamber Concerts with Greg Tassel (tenor) and Jonathan Wikeley (piano). Tickets at the door. Info 01233 756672
- Saturday 23rd February, 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone. Maidstone Choral Union joins with Maidstone Wind Symphony to present a grand concert of choral and orchestral music. The works to be performed include the *Choral Suite* from Carl Jenkins's *Armed Man*, and the *T-bone Concerto* with guest trombone soloist Brett Baker. This combined effort by two of our leading local groups is a "special" which is not to be missed. Tickets 01622 726193.

If the weather this month turns out too awful to allow you to get out, I would remind you that the six part series on the history of Western music from Gregorian chant to Gershwin presented by Howard Goodall on BBC 2, which started on 25th January, continues on Fridays. I would add the radio 3 controller's Choice for the month – Monday 11th Feb at 1.00pm, radio 3, the recital at Wigmore Hall by pianist Khatia Buriatishvili.

Brian Hardy

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AMY YARDLEY
Movement Direction by
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Zenda

It's 1956 and the movies have finally reached Tollinghurst Village Hall. An excited audience awaits a showing of 'The Prisoner of Zenda', but can Malcolm Storey's second hand projector really bring Hollywood to Tollinghurst?

Wednesday 27th February at 7.30pm

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH Leeds

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Bookings: 01622 842915 (daytime/eve) or email bjhardy@theiet.org

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Grafty Gourmet

This makes a great dinner on these Wintery nights. The muffin topping is great alternative to suet dumplings, and a lot lighter too.

Muffin Topped Beef Stew

For the stew:-

500g braising steaks , cut into bite-sized chunks

2 tbsp plain flour , seasoned with pepper and a little salt

2 tbsp olive oil

1 large onion, finely chopped

450g carrots , cut into chunks

2 large parsnips , cut into chunks

1 bay leaf

2 tbsp sundried or regular tomato paste

300ml red wine or extra stock

450ml vegetable stock

For the topping:-

225g plain flour

3 tsp baking powder

140g cheddar , coarsely grated

2 tbsp olive oil

150ml milk

Method

1. Heat oven to 150C. Toss the beef in seasoned flour. Heat the oil in a large frying pan. Fry the beef over a high heat until browned all over - it's easiest to do this in batches. Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside

2. Add 2 tbsp water and the onion to the pan, stir well over a medium heat, scraping up the crusty bits from the bottom of the pan. Lower the heat and fry gently for 5 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally until the onions have softened.

3. Tip in the carrots, parsnips and bay leaf, then fry for 2 minutes more. Add the mixture and the beef to a casserole dish. Stir in the tomato paste, wine, and stock. Cover and cook in the oven for 1¾-2 hrs until the meat is tender. Take out of the oven and increase the temperature to 190C.

4. To make the topping, sieve the flour and baking powder into a bowl and add half the cheese. Mix olive oil and milk, then stir into the flour to make a soft, slightly sticky dough. Add more milk, if necessary. Spoon the dough over the meat and vegetables, sprinkle with the remaining cheese and bake for a further 15 minutes until golden, risen and cooked through



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Our new 1-hour individual sessions during the week (known as 1-2-1) have proved to be very popular. We are therefore going to continue during the winter months on the following dates:

FEBRUARY	MARCH
Monday 4 th	Tuesday 5 th
Wednesday 13 th	Friday 15 th
Tuesday 19 th	Wednesday 20 th
Thursday 28 th	Thursday 28 th

There are 3 x 1-hour slots available between 9am – 12.30pm
(9am-10am) – (10.15am-11.15am) – (11.30am/12.30pm)
on each of the above dates.

Call us to book a slot and provide your phone number and email address together with an idea of how we can help you.. We will also ask for you to pay the price of £10 prior to your session, by cheque, or by popping into the Telecottage where bookings can be taken and confirmed.

The list below is not exhaustive but provided to give everyone an idea of some the topics which can be covered.

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

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

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Martin _____, Actor in Men Behaving Badly
2	____ Rum, who won the Grand National three times
3	Wild at _____, TV series set in a South African game park
4	_____ Haley, Played the Tin Man in the Wizard of OZ
5	Keith _____, Keyboard player with Greg Lake and Carl Palmer
6	The _____ Show, Radio comedy with characters Major Bloodnok and Eccles
7	Richard _____, English entrepreneur
8	Dock _____, George Dixons patch on London's dockland
9	University _____, TV quiz show
10	The _____ _____ Itch, Film with Marilyn Monroe

St. Edmunds Centre - Film Club

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

25th January. Ice Age 4

There is not a Film night during February.

22nd March. Breakfast at Tiffany's

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

24th May. Warhorse

The Prisoner of Zenda

A theatrical presentation of this swashbuckling adventure

Will be made by the

Chalkfoot Theatre Arts Group

At Leeds Church

At 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th February

Tickets £9 (students £8) with £1 discount for booking before 19th Feb..

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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Patient	Knock	Set	Out
2	Tower	Alarm	Work	
3	Slippers	Fitter	Magic	
4	Coat	Ape	Aunt	
5	Tape	Short	Up	
6	Local	Therapy	Telescope	
7	Window	Floor	Junk	
8	Finger	Toe	Felt	
9	Special	Sound	Side	
10	Standing	Mail	Tall	
11	Officer	Thief	Cash	
12	Pavement	Portrait	Trapeze	
13	Breaker	Black	Cap	
14	Silent	Dancing	Business	
15	Rate	Certificate	Day	
16	Dead	Paper	Fly	

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Egerton Telecottage Computer Centre has been selected by BT for a year's free broadband under its Community Connections Scheme. This means that we can now offer a free training session to anyone who wants to learn about computers or to use the Internet for the first time.

Our charges are usually very affordable- whether it is for a class or a one to one session on any subject of your choice - the latter costing £10 an hour. With the free broadband, we can help anyone who has not had any training before to get to grips with a computer completely free of charge so they can enjoy all the benefits of the Internet - whether it is internet shopping, keeping in touch with old friends or seeing pictures of grand children who live abroad. Our friendly volunteer tutors are here to help you gain confidence and learn new skills in the comfort of a purpose built computer centre in the heart of the village of Egerton. We also run a drop in clinic on Saturday mornings where you can get advice of technical problems and use the internet or office facilities.

The Community Connections scheme is an important part of BT's "Get IT Together" programme, which aims to make the benefits of the internet available to as many people and organisations as possible. A large number of voluntary groups applied on line for the BT Community Award Scheme and Egerton is one of only three groups in Kent selected for the free broadband offer.

**For more information on the free tuition or to book other training sessions
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Grafty Green Short Mat Bowls Club

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The February Night Sky

The **Sun** is in the constellation of Capricornus at the beginning of February, and moves into Aquarius.

New Moon occurs on Sunday 10th February, and **Full Moon** is on Tuesday 26th February when between the constellations of Sextans and Leo.

Mercury rises in the southeast just before sunrise in the constellation of Aquarius, so again will not be easy to see in the twilight.

Venus rises in the southeast just before sunrise in Capricornus, and might still be possible to see as the 'Morning Star' in the early morning sky.

Mars again rises in the southeast at sunrise, so will not be visible this month.

Jupiter is well placed for viewing this month. It is high in the southeast in the mid evening in the constellation of Taurus, and is visible until the early morning when it sets in the northwest. Though a telescope you should be able to see the dark and light bands together with the **Great Red Spot**. It may also be possible to see, even through binoculars, Jupiter's four major moons.

Saturn rises in the southeast just around midnight, and is very low on the southern horizon. It will not be easy to spot this month.

Last December I promised to keep you up to date with the latest news from NASA's Mars Curiosity Rover. A geochemist and a planetary geologist from Aberdeen University and the Natural History Museum have reported that rocks from the huge McLaughlin crater on Mars may contain the strongest evidence yet of life on the planet. In their study, published in the Nature Geoscience journal, they have assessed the crater, created by a meteorite that crashed into Mars, flinging up rocks from miles below. It is said that there could be bacteria or even fungi at sub surface levels, which would not survive on the surface, owing to the radiation and the freezing temperatures. I will continue to keep you informed.

John Maunder



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Christian message February 2013

Last month MBE's were awarded to some; CBE's to others. Those more highly esteemed can look forward to being addressed as 'Sir' or even 'Dame.' Important people. In England, as anywhere else, our society is studded with those who enjoy more status than others. Some wear bizarre clothes which signify their importance. Members of the Order of the Garter wear elaborate robes which distinguish them from ordinary mortals.

The Church of England, too, is prone to dress its more 'important' officials in elaborate clothes which it is hard to imagine its founder wearing despite the fact that he is a priest forever. Archbishops, bishops, archdeacons process in a variety of robes including, for bishops, mitres and gloriously embroidered copes.

Next month the Rt Rev Justin Welby will exchange the attire of a Bishop for that of the Archbishop of Canterbury. An important man. But how important is an Archbishop? How do non-robe wearing Christians compare?

The answer is simple. I believe that in God's eyes the Archbishop is no more important than any other follower of Christ whatever their denomination, race or social status.

This is not a radical idea dreamt up in the bath. It is a statement based on Biblical truth. There are at least two ways in which Justin Welby is the same as you or me. Consider first the words of the Apostle Peter. Following a vision from God he said, 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts those from every nation who fear him.' No favourites! The whole story can be read in Acts chapter 10.

Secondly all Christians have been given the same task. The Archbishop's aim, albeit in a new environment, is the same as that of all Christians: TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN.

Let's pray for ourselves to be faithful in offering the life giving knowledge of Christ to others. Let's pray for the Archbishop that in his more varied ministry he will do the same. We are fellow workers. God's kingdom is the one place where all are equal.

Joan Drury



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Women's World Day Of Prayer.

Friday, March 1st 2013.

St. Mary's, Lenham 10.30am
All Saints Church, Ulcombe 7pm

I was a stranger and you welcomed me

Women's World Day of Prayer is a unique organisation; truly interdenominational and truly international, it speaks with the voices of women from all corners of the globe. Involvement in WWDP creates a network of Christian women on a worldwide scale which also reaches into our local community. On Friday, March 1st after months of preparation men and women will be gathering to celebrate using a programme of worship prepared this year by women in France.

When the women of the French Committee met to work on the material for 2013, the theme chosen for them became close to their hearts: I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME. The service they have written for us has a strongly French feel and flavour.

We envisage a great annual wave of prayer, rising with the sun over the island of Samoa and then sweeping across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas, until it comes to rest in American Samoa some 36 hours later. By then services will have taken place in over 170 countries.

All are welcome to attend, men and women and people of all ages. Please make a note in you diary for Friday, March 1st.

Posada

Posada means Inn in Spanish. There was no room in the inn at Bethlehem for Mary and Joseph two thousand years ago. This advent we have been making room in our homes for the figures of Mary and Joseph. They have been passed round houses in Ulcombe, Kingswood and Grafty Green to remind us of the real meaning of Christmas. Perhaps next December you would like to house them for a night?

Mary Parkinson.

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

3rd February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

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

10th February – Sunday before Lent

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
09.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion
11.00am Lenham Morning Worship
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion
6.30pm Boughton Choral Evensong

17th February – 1st Sunday of Lent

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

24th February – 2nd Sunday of Lent

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

Messy Church

The next session of Messy Church will take place in Lenham Church on Saturday 16th February from 4 to 6pm. There will be the usual menu of craft, prayers, singing and tea. Dads, Mums and children are invited to come. Ring Helen Venn on 01622 858195.

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Patient	Knock	Set	Out
2	Tower	Alarm	Work	Clock
3	Slippers	Filter	Magic	Carpet
4	Coat	Ape	Aunt	Great
5	Tape	Short	Up	Measure
6	Local	Therapy	Telescope	Radio
7	Window	Floor	Junk	Shop
8	Finger	Toe	Felt	Tip
9	Special	Sound	Side	Effects
10	Sounding	Mail	Tall	Order
11	Officer	Thief	Cash	Petty
12	Pavement	Portrait	Trapeze	Artist
13	Breaker	Black	Cap	Ice
14	Silent	Dancing	Business	Partner
15	Rate	Certificate	Day	Birth
16	Dead	Paper	Fly	Weight

	Find the missing word?
1	Martin Clunes , Actor in Men Behaving Badly
2	Red Rum , who won the Grand National three times
3	Wild at Heart , TV series set in a South African game park
4	Jack Haley , Played the Tin Man in the Wizard of OZ
5	Keith Emerson , Keyboard player with Greg Lake and Carl Palmer
6	The Goon Show , Radio comedy with characters Major Bloodnok and Eccles
7	Richard Branson , English entrepreneur
8	Dock Green , George Dixons patch on London's dockland
9	University Challenge , TV quiz show
10	The Seven Year Itch , Film with Marilyn Monroe



VALENTINES DAY

FEBRUARY 14th

Roast Vine Tomato & Red Pepper Soup, topped with Thai Basil
Broccoli & Stilton Tart, on a bed of Mixed Salad with Red Onion Chutney
Pan-Fried King Scallops, on a bed of Minted Pea Puree



Herb Crusted Rack of Lamb, a Fondant Potato with a Rosemary & Redcurrant Jus
Pan-Fried Wild Sea-Bass fillets, on a bed of creamed Leek & crushed New Potatoes
Wild Mushroom Tagliatelle, topped with Rocket & Parmesan shavings



Strawberry & Champagne Cheesecake, served with Ice-Cream
Double Chocolate Mousse, Chocolate Sauce & whipped Cream
Warm Treacle Tart, served with Clotted Cream



Cheese Board selection for 2 with a glass of Port each

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