



# Malherbe Monthly

Number 39  
October 2007



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Lord 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	To be announced	
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders (email: churchoffice@lenvalleybenefice.org.uk)	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Thursday afternoons at approx. 3.30 by Post Office	
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: <a href="mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net">mf.hitchins@virgin.net</a>	858937
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 November edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 ([mf.hitchins@virgin.net](mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net)) by 15th October

Front cover: Satisfied customers enjoying a Cream Tea at St Nicholas Church Boughton Malherbe. – Picture courtesy of John Collins

## **News from St. Nicholas Church**

### **Cream Teas**

The Cream Teas ended the season in two very successful Sunday afternoons. Friends old and new came along to enjoy a last chance of sampling our delicious teas and enjoy the late summer sunshine. Many, many thanks to all those who supported these afternoons and a big thank you to the team of ladies, headed by Sylvia Close, who came together each week to provide the teas. They were working in not the most ideal circumstances as we have no water laid on in the Church, so water has to be brought in each week. Sally's scones were to their usual high standard and a big thank you to our generous fruit suppliers for the jam - may we call on you again next year, please. Thanks also goes to the Traylings, who don't live in the Parish, but support us by coming along to put out the chairs and tables with Janet Collins and then help to serve the teas. This year Janet made us some pottery numbers for the Tables, so we don't get in a muddle with the orders! We have raised a princely sum of over £1,500 this year. Well done everyone - that should make the Treasurer smile!

### **Harvest Festival**

Our Harvest Festival is to take place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am. The Service will be led by the Reverend Tony Old who has been leading Services for us during the Interregnum. We will be decorating the Church for Harvest on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm and if anyone has some produce to give, please bring it along then or let a member of the PCC know and we will collect it. The Sunday School will be bringing their Gifts on the Sunday morning and after the Service the Produce will be auctioned and the monies raised will go to Charity. We hope to see you there.

### **Harvest Supper**

The Harvest Supper is to take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 for 8.00pm Tickets are available from Grafty Green Shop and Joan on 850210, priced at £7.00. There will be a 4 Course Meal, licensed bar and a Raffle. We will be entertained after the meal by Jack Grace, which will most likely be the last time we shall have him to entertain us as they will be moving away to a well earned retirement. We shall miss you all and wish you well in your new home.

### **Farewell to the King Family**

We owe a debt of gratitude to the King Family. Christine and Tony King came to Grafty Green 15 years ago and joined in with village life from the start. Over the years they have been involved with many of the village fund raising events. When you start to remember what they have been involved in the list is quite a long one. There were the Village Fetes in which they both had a hand, even organising it one

year when Chris was heavily pregnant with Thomas; the millennium celebrations and village parties; hall fund raising; Tony setting up the village web site. Chris started the Malherbe Monthly News when we no longer had Outlook to circulate our news and to broadcast our fund raising events - in fact Chris was still responsible for selling the advertising space in the MM News until a few weeks ago. Tony has been our Church Clock winder for many years, taking over from Bill Hoad when he found it too much. Chris joined our Church Choir very soon after moving here, singing Alto with Beverley. Tony has served on the Board of Governors at Platts Heath School for several years now. Carol Singing was another thing they all joined in as a family even when Tony was far from well two years ago.

Thank you for all you have done for the Village during your time with us. We wish you all well and happy in Ireland and hope Thomas enjoys his new school and does well in his future life.

### **Church Clock Winder**

Because Tony King is leaving us for the Emerald Isle we have a vacancy - the job is winding the Church Clock once a week. If it is wound regularly it is much easier to wind than if it is allowed to stop, when it requires more strength to wind the weights up to their full height. Is there someone out there who would be willing to do this for the village? (You do not have to be a Church going person.) We would be very grateful if someone felt able to do this little task for us all. Please ring either of the Churchwardens - Kenneth on 858348 or Joan on 850210. Thank you.

**Joan Davidson**

### **Malherbe Monthly Magazine**

This magazine can now be viewed on the Internet via the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Web Site. As well as the current edition, all back issues for 2006 and 2007 can be viewed. You even get the front cover in colour!!!

This web site also hosts all the minutes of Parish Council Meetings and give details of up-coming events in the Village Hall. The below link will get you there:

**[www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk)**

## **Maidstone Borough Council – News Release**

Release Date: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Ref No: RJA/070907

### **Post Office consultation extended**

Consultations on Post Office closures have been delayed by two weeks to allow district councils to supply facts and information which could save some branches from the threat of closure.

Maidstone Borough Council had condemned the Post Office's latest proposals for public consultation about branch closures, even before the consultation had begun. Maidstone's Cabinet Member for Community Services, Cllr Mike FitzGerald, had protested to the Programme Director of Post Office Limited that a letter seeking background information needed by the Post Office to form its proposals was not received by the council until September, some two months after the Post Office claim to have sent it.

Following an urgent meeting convened by the borough council with the Post Office, Post Watch and other district councils, Sue Huggins, Programme Director of Post Office Limited, agreed to delay the start of the six week public consultations in Maidstone and throughout Kent by two weeks until 2 October.

The consultation follows the Post Office's announcement to close 2,500 of its 14,300 branches throughout England, as part of the need to modernise and reshape the network. The Post Office will introduce minimum access criteria, including that 99% of the population will be within three miles, and 90% within one mile of the remaining branches.

The postponement will allow the council to prepare all the information needed on future building and other developments in the borough. Cabinet Member for Community Services, Mike FitzGerald, said: "We have already started to put our case to the Post Office and this extra time will allow us to make the best possible case to support the retention of Post Offices throughout the borough."

**Ends**

## **STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS**

### **Grafty Green Post Office:**

As you may be aware (see above Maidstone Borough News Release) the Post Office is reviewing the viability of all Post Offices in the country and Kent is one of the first areas where this is happening. On 2<sup>nd</sup> October the Post Office issued a list of those Post Offices that it considers should be closed. You will be pleased to hear that Grafty Green Post Office is **NOT** on that list and hopefully this will mean the continuation of postal services in the village together with the shop.

However we should not be complacent as we are all aware that circumstances can change and to be sure that the Post Office and the shop remains open we should use it as much as possible – as the old adage goes – **Use it or lose it**

## **Advertising In Malherbe Monthly**

The publication of this magazine is only made possible with the kind support of its advertisers. Since the commencement of the magazine, advertising has been undertaken by Christine King but she is now moving to pastures new and I would like to thank her for all the effort she put into this task; without her this magazine would have floundered a long time ago. However this does leave a space (or opportunity) for a new person to come forward and assist the editor in managing the advertising side of the magazine.

This would involve contacting current and new advertisers, preparing the adverts and managing the invoicing side of things. For all this effort you will be paid the princely sum of £0.00 per year. Not a lot I grant you, but you will have the satisfaction of keeping a local magazine on its feet and my grateful thanks.

I can be contacted on 01622 858937 or by e-mail: [mf.hitchins@virgin.net](mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net)

**Mike Hitchins - Editor**

## Grafty Garden Cuttings - October

I will try to answer two questions that I have been asked recently:

1. How to store marrows and squashes?

Place something like a piece of old tile under each one, to lift them off the damp soil, then leave them on the plants for as long as possible. Allow the plants to die right back. If the skin is hard and sounds hollow when tapped, the bine can be carefully pulled away, leaving a stem connected to the fruit which will rot much faster if this is not done, then store on a shelf in a frost-free shed or garage with some air circulation. Check regularly and use as needed through the winter. An axe and plenty of muscle may be required to hack through the skin by the end of the year though! I take no responsibility for any injuries sustained!!!

2. Should the leaves be removed from tomato plants?

Like us all plants need food and water in order to live. As we all learnt at school, leaves make food by a process called photosynthesis, whereby light energy (sunlight) is used to form sugars from carbon dioxide and water. Therefore, if the leaves are all removed from a plant, it fails to thrive. A tomato plant will not continue producing more fruit and those already formed, will probably ripen almost simultaneously. The leaves should only be removed once they are yellow and past their useful life, or they become diseased. This usually happens from the bottom up, so they can be taken away as the trusses mature to let in more light, to aid ripening. This year has been particularly bad for disease and my plants did not crop as heavily or for anything like as long as usual.

If disease has struck, it is best to burn or bin any remaining debris, disinfect the greenhouse thoroughly and change the soil (if plants are placed directly into a border, as mine are).

Lack of rain during August and September has caused the ground to dry out like concrete. The cracks have increased in size, number and depth and only our trees and shrubs prevent the earth from slipping down to the back door when it does rain. One benefit to the plants, no slugs, but this does not help the thrushes or hedgehogs. The former have left, and the latter have been starving. One little one has been foraging on the rockery, in daylight. I spent some time hunting slugs and worms to feed it, but as ever, when you actually want a slug or ten, they are nowhere to be found. Inside the rims of water butts can be quite productive: shame hedgehogs cannot quite reach that far. I failed dismally as a hunter of hedgehog food, so had to resort to cat food, which was munched up with relish.

The trip to Brogdale was a great success and our thanks go again to Tom and Maria La Dell and all the staff there, especially our excellent guide Ted and those who catered so brilliantly in the restaurant. The food was delicious. A visit enjoyed by all who went and a day out to be recommended.

**Rosemary Smith**



### PROGRAMME FOR 2007

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

**Mondays to Fridays**

Service No.	School Days		Net School Days	
	Only	59	59	59
Maidstone, Pudding Lane, Stop R2	1225	1400	1552	1612
Maidstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	1227	1402	1555	1615
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	1229	1404	1557	1617
Wheatshaf	1236	1411	1604	1624
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1240	1415	1608	1608
Linton Corner	1244	1419	1612	1612
New Line Learning — Cornwalls		1505		
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1249	1424	1617	1617
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1252	1427	1620	1620
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1255	1430	1623	1623
Warmlake Corner	1258	1433	1626	1626
Kingswood, Village Hall		1438		
Kingswood, Asford Drive	1306	1523	1634	1646
Ulcombe, Post Office	1313	1530	1641	1653
Grafty Green, King's Head	1320	1537	1648	1700
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle		1535		
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by		1544		

**Saturdays**

Service No.	School Days		Net School Days	
	Only	59	59	59
Maidstone, Pudding Lane, High Street, King Street, Chequers Bus Station, Romney Place, Lower Stone Road, Upper Stone Road, Mill Street, High Crescent, Hayle Road, College Road, Mill Street, High Street, King Street, Loose, Linton Road, Linton Cross Road, Heath Road, Church Street, Boughton Monchelsea, Green Lane, Heath Road, Four Wents, Bishing Road, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Warmlake Road, Warmlake Cross Roads, Charway Street, Broomfield Road, Kingswood, Asford Drive, Charlesford Avenue, Caysar Drive, Gravelly Bottom Road, Lenham Road, Ulcombe Hill, Ulcombe, The Street, Pye Corner, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green	0836	1241	1525	1755
Boughton Monchelsea, Green Lane, Heath Road, Four Wents, Bishing Road, Amber Lane, Chart Sutton, Warmlake Road, Warmlake Cross Roads, Charway Street, Broomfield Road, Kingswood, Asford Drive, Charlesford Avenue, Caysar Drive, Gravelly Bottom Road, Lenham Road, Ulcombe Hill, Ulcombe, The Street, Pye Corner, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green	0840	1243	1527	1757
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0847	1250	1534	1804
Linton Corner		1254	1538	
New Line Learning — Cornwalls		1258	1542	
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion		1303	1547	1817
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn		1305	1550	1820
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head		1309	1553	1823
Warmlake Corner		1312	1556	1826
Kingswood, Village Hall		1604		
Kingswood, Asford Drive	0907	1320	1834	1848
Ulcombe, Post Office	0914	1327	1841	1848
Grafty Green, King's Head	0921	1334	1848	1848

**Mondays to Fridays**

Service No.	School Days		Net School Days	
	Only	59	59	59
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by		0723		
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle		0736		
Grafty Green, King's Head	0723	0723	0915	1325
Ulcombe, Post Office	0730	0730	0922	1332
Kingswood, Village Hall	0735	0735	0927	1337
Kingswood, Asford Drive	0738	0737	0929	1339
Warmlake Corner	0746	0808	0935	1345
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0739	0809	0938	1348
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0742	0750	0941	1351
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0745	0753	0944	1354
New Line Learning — Cornwalls		0820	0949	1357
Linton Corner		0750	0758	0820
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0756	0802	0953	1400
Wheatshaf	0758	0806	0955	1402
Maidstone, King Street		0810	0814	1005
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0808			
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817			
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0826			

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Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle		0745		
Grafty Green, King's Head	0723	0723	0915	1325
Ulcombe, Post Office	0730	0730	0922	1332
Kingswood, Village Hall	0735	0735	0927	1337
Kingswood, Asford Drive	0738	0737	0929	1339
Warmlake Corner	0746	0808	0935	1345
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	0739	0809	0938	1348
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	0742	0750	0941	1351
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	0745	0753	0944	1354
New Line Learning — Cornwalls		0820	0949	1357
Linton Corner		0750	0758	0820
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	0756	0802	0953	1400
Wheatshaf	0758	0806	0955	1402
Maidstone, King Street		0810	0814	1005
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0808			
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817			
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0826			

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Maidstone, Chequers Bus Station	0808			
London Road, Somerfield Hospital	0817			
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0826			

**Sundays and Public Holidays\***

Service 59 does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays.

**NOTE**

1. The Saturday buses are provided on behalf of Kent County Council by Nu-Venture (Tel: 01622 882288), NOT Arriva.

**CODES**

— These buses are provided on behalf of Kent County Council. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the appropriate County Council, Gbison Drive, West Malling, Kent ME19 4QG.  
 \* - Special arrangements apply over the Christmas and New Year period and at Easter. Please watch for announcements.  
 R - Sets down only upon request by passengers boarding at or before Loose Road, Plains Avenue.

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

Maidstone Borough Council has now issued the timetable for this service up to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2008. Please find below the dates of when the weekend freighter service stops near your home during this period:

### **Grafty Green**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan: 13:30 – 15:15 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

### **Ulcombe**

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct: 07:45 – 08:30 -: Lodge Gardens

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec: 11:15 – 12:15 -: Lodge Gardens

### **Platts Heath**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Green Lane

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec: 14:15 – 15:30 -: Green Lane

### **Lenham**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov: 09:00 – 10:15 -: Lenham Heath Rd - Junction Boughton Rd

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan: 07:45 – 08:45 -: Lenham Heath Rd - Junction Boughton Rd

## The October Night Sky

To enable you to get your bearings, you will need to locate Ursa Major, known as The Plough. The two end stars point to Polaris, The North Star, which will give you the direction of north.

Before discussing the planets, I would like to mention the moon. The moon was Full on 26th September, and by the beginning of October it is on the wane. It rises in the north-east in the late evening and is high in the southern sky at dawn. In the evenings it is a good time to view the moon at a phase, as the craters clearly stand out along the edge of the umbra. Full Moon occurs on 26th October, and rises in the east at sunset.

Now for the planets, those who wish to view Mercury will be disappointed, as it cannot be seen this month. Venus, however, is a spectacular 'Morning Star' and rises in the east in the early hours and is high in the south-eastern sky at dawn. You should have no difficulty seeing Mars. It rises in the north-east in the late evening and gets earlier every day. Its reddish-orange colour will get brighter during the month. It is not the best month to view the giant planet, Jupiter, which can be seen low in the south-west at sunset, and sets just after the sun. You will have to be an early riser to see Saturn, which rises in the early hours and is well up in the south-east by dawn. You will see it just left of the much brighter Venus.

While on the subject of the planets, many of you will know that the list we were all taught at school has changed. Back in August 2006, the International Astronomical Union voted to overrule the advice from their expert committee, and restrict the 'classical' planets in the solar system to eight. Poor old Pluto has been demoted to a mere 'Dwarf Planet' joining Eris, Ceres and the as yet unnamed 2003.UB313, together with all the others waiting to be discovered.

The new list of planets starting closest to the sun is therefore, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. All we need now is a new mnemonic to cover this new list. How about this rather witty one, which appeared in the papers, I am sure the author will not mind if it is repeated here:

"Multiple various erudite mnemonics jettison severely undersized nonentity".

**John Maunder**

# EXCITING NEW SEASON AT EGERTON'S FILM SOCIETY



Egerton's Film Society is back with a new season of current and classic movies, most of which use the full wide screen and Dolby 5.1 surround sound facilities which make the films shown at Egerton's Millennium Hall a real "evening at the cinema" experience. Starting on 27<sup>th</sup> September with a screening of Alan Bennett's acclaimed "The History Boys", the Autumn season is the usual mix of classic and popular cinema. As before, there will be a licensed bar and light refreshments.

A special evening on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Humphrey Jennings, who is widely considered Britain's greatest documentary film-maker. He is best known for his short films from the World War II era which beautifully evoke everyday heroism, combining poetic observation with subtle yet intense national feeling. To mark Jennings' centenary, the Film Society are screening four of his finest short films, newly restored by the BFI National Archive, including "Words for Battle" with images of wartime Britain - ranging from idyllic landscapes to bombed-out cities - accompanied on the soundtrack by stirring passages of poetry and prose spoken by Laurence Olivier, and "Listen to Britain", an exhilarating montage of the sights and sounds of wartime Britain. Memorable scenes include the crowded floor of the great ballroom at Blackpool, Flanagan and Allen singing 'Underneath the Arches' in a workers' canteen, and Myra Hess playing Mozart in the National Gallery.

Other films on Egerton's silver screen this autumn season include the American comedy "Little Miss Sunshine", the French classic "Manon des Sources" - sequel to the much appreciated "Jean de Florette" screened earlier in the summer, the seasonal romantic comedy "The Holiday", and probably Doris Day's best musical "The Pyjama Game".

The Society's AGM will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September at the Millennium Hall at 7pm before "The History Boys" is screened. All members (and potential members) are invited to attend. At the AGM members will be invited to suggest films for inclusion in the 2008 programme. Membership of the Film Society is only £6 a year with students and over 60's paying £3.50. All are welcome to join the Society and to attend the screenings.

For further information about the Egerton Film Society call 01233 756592

## **St Edmunds Centre – Platts Heath**

Duffrey Robinson has been working hard on the hall again this month preparing for the winter weather in areas the builders were not employed to do. With a limited budget, even after grants, there were a number of jobs left to do.

Ray Canning has volunteered to install the storage heaters for us at the end of October before the winter sets in. September saw the return of the morris dancers and table tennis club and of course the school after the summer break. The last coffee morning was in September and we will start them again next April. Line dancing continues on Thursday evening at 8pm; beginners welcome - entrance £2.50.

As advertised in the September copy we are holding our first quiz night in the hall on Saturday 6th October at 7.30pm with our very own John and Helen Nye as the quiz masters. Anyone who went to the St Mary's quiz will know what an enjoyable evening John makes it.

Our harvest supper is on Friday 19th October 7.30 - there may be some tickets left but we need bookings by 6th October.

Brian Fuller will be organising a Whist Drive next month (open to beginners) and it is hoped this will start a Whist Drive evening once a month in Platts Heath. So if you are interested in learning to play and socializing with fellow villagers do look out for our flyer inviting you to join us.

Unfortunately the "Platts Heath Platter" has had to be cancelled due to lack of performers. The next School Nurse Drop-in Clinic is Wednesday 10th October from 9am-11.00am.

**Patricia Dibley Secretary**

## **Grafty Green Heating Oil Club**

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

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

**Keith Anderson**

## **HARVEST SUPPER**

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 19<sup>th</sup> 2007 AT 7.30PM**

**TRADITIONAL FISH AND CHIPS**

**ST EDMUNDS CENTRE PLATTS HEATH**

**TICKETS £6**

**NUMBERS ARE LIMITED AND TICKETS MUST BE PAID FOR**

**BY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2007**

**CALL TRICIA 858891 OR DUFF 850463**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN GLASSES AND DRINKS**

**Missing Word Puzzle**

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

	Find the missing word?
1	_____ Campbell. Super Model.
2	Lewis _____, English F1 driver.
3	John _____, Flatfish with a mild delicate taste.
4	_____ Close, Actress in fatal Attraction.
5	Clark _____, Matinee idol seen as Rhet Butler.
6	_____ Grant, Notting Hill actor.
7	_____ Train, Spook fairground ride.
8	Dolly _____, Country & Western singer.
9	Sir _____ John, Pop Knight.
10	Quiche _____, a pasty dish.

## **Harrietsham Cricket Club**

### **Christmas Quiz**

**Harrietsham Village Hall**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

**7pm for 7.30pm start**

Pete Jones returns as quizmaster to bring you his yuletide cheer.  
Food (Ploughman's) and light refreshments provided.

Please BYO for anything stronger to warm you up!  
Tables up to 8, tickets £7.50 per person.

Book now to avoid disappointment.  
Call either Alex Hubble on 07734058571  
or Rod Martenstyn on 07958956938

## Reflections of yesterday and today !!

My husband and I have been married for just 50 years - it seems an awful long time. And, indeed, 1957 was a different world. I was paid 30/- (£1.50) for a 42hr. week in an office in Sittingbourne and my husband earned £5 a week working in the local paper mill. In those days when you got married you had a pay rise, mine went up by 5/- (25p) per week and my husband's rose by a whole £! WOW!

Our first house cost £900 and the mortgage was £6 per month and when I had my first baby, like most office workers, I gave up work. Mind you, I don't think I would have had time anyway. All the washing had to be done by hand or in a boiler, no disposable nappies then, and I had to shop every day as we had no fridge or freezer. Our main form of transport was the local buses. The conductors would always help with the baby/pushchair/shopping and, if you were doing a big shop, you left baby and pram outside of the shop. I never heard of either going missing, although I did come out of Woolworth one day to find my year old son eating a bar of chocolate. I have never been too sure whether someone gave it to him or he helped himself from a passing shopping bag!

Television was only available at certain times and almost every home had a relay (rented wireless). We all knew when the gasman had called - all of the housewives paid in the corner shop with their piles of pennies and shillings given in rebate. (We were always overcharged by the Gas company but the rebate was like winning the lottery). And the price of the main items of food was the same everywhere thanks to Retail Price Maintenance. Cake could be bought by the pound weight in Woolworth and their biscuits too were sold by weight in paper bags.

So, after half a century, are things any better than they were? I'm not sure. Is life easier for the young Mums? Definitely. Do Dads spend more 'quality time' with their children? I think so. Are the children happier, better behaved, kinder, and brighter? The jury, I think, is still out on that one. But then this is only my opinion and I AM getting a bit long in the tooth now.

**MH - a local resident**

## **Family History Research**

The ground floor of the Family Record Centre at Middleton Street, Islington, which houses the indexes for births, marriages and deaths is closing on the 31st October 2007, this is five months earlier than the original date given. It is now moving to Kew in Surrey. There will be some records, on microfiche, on the first floor

The census returns on the first floor will remain open until March 2008 when it too moves to Kew.

Some reasons for the move are given as falling numbers of visitors, only 11% of certificates are being ordered in person and that the building is required for use to house staff when the office in Pimlico shuts

I will keep you informed when I get more information, but any queries that you have please telephone the Family Record Centre on 020 7392 5307 during normal office hours.

**Frank Long**

## **Come and Sing**

On Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of October there will be a special concert in Ulcombe Church. This is a Come and Sing event when the Sutton Valence Choral Society will be leading anyone who wants to take part in singing Faure's *Requiem* and Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

There will be rehearsals in the afternoon from 3 pm till 6 pm in the church. Then everyone will go down to Ulcombe's village hall for tea from 6 pm till 7. 15 pm. Tickets, price £8.00 for participants and £7.50 pm for visitors.

If you would like to take part in singing, please contact Mrs Alison Brown for more details and application forms, Her address is: Chegworth Manor Farm, Chegworth, Maidstone, Kent ME17. Her email address is: [alex@chegworth.net](mailto:alex@chegworth.net). Her phone number is 01622 853791.

Tickets for the concert can also be obtained from the Church Office (01622 850604) or from Molly Poulter (01622 842988) or at the door.

**Molly Poulter**

## **Ulcombe History Society**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm  
Ulcombe Village Hall

Tom Hart Dyke, author and broadcaster, will be talking to the Ulcombe History Society about his time in South America when he and a friend were captured by guerrillas on the borders between Columbia and Panama.

Believing he was rich because he lived in Lullingstone Castle, the guerrillas kept the two young men hostage for nearly a year hoping his parents would pay a very large ransom. In fact, they were quite hard up and did not have the money to pay the ransom.

The guerrillas kept him constantly on the move, and though he was daily expecting to be executed, he never stopped his plant collecting, which was the reason he was in Columbia.

One night when he was sure he would be executed the next morning he dreamed up the idea of making a world Garden at Lullingstone.

The History Society is open to anyone. Do come along. It promises to be an interesting evening.

**Molly Poulter**

## **Books, Books, Books!!!**

The Great Leeds second-hand Book Fair takes place again on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November, from 10.00am until 2.30pm**, in St. Nicholas' Church, Leeds. An absolutely massive selection will be available – hard back, paper back, fiction and non-fiction, hobbies, children's books, travel, history, study-guides- also a selection of music on sheets, and on records, tapes and discs. Prices are absolutely rock-bottom, as we must clear stock. Refreshments will be available to keep you going while you examine the books.

**Make a note in your diary NOW!**

All profits go to church funds. Further details 01622 842915.

**Brian Hardy**

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

I hope you enjoyed last months link word here is another  
to rack your brains – Paul Neaves

The answer to number 1 has been filled in – can you solve the rest?

	<b>Word 1</b>	<b>Word 2</b>	<b>Word 3</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	Boat	Cycle	Way	<b>Motor</b>
2	Digger	Leaf	Medal	
3	Art	Corn	Socks	
4	Civil	Native	Twister	
5	Horse	Solar	Struggle	
6	Card	Carpet	Flag	
7	Chief	Tax	Ticket	
8	Road	Wart	Wash	
9	Board	Dip	Grater	
10	Bran	Twin	Margarine	
11	Blue	Love	Story	
12	Level	Liner	Witness	
13	Lunar	Painter	Gardener	
14	Baldwin	Guinness	Smart	
15	Miss	Side	Thing	
16	Job	Out	Knowledge	

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

# Back to School?



When the new school year starts in September, how about doing some learning for yourself? Brush up your computer skills or make a start in learning how to use a computer and take advantage of the Internet for anything from shopping to researching your family history.

Over 80 people from local villages used Egerton Telecottage computer centre last year to take a course for the first time and enjoyed the friendly, informal atmosphere in our purpose built computer centre. One of our enthusiastic students has taken nearly every course offered and her skills have been admired by friends and family! We are non-profit making and run by volunteers with computer expertise.

A range of courses are planned in the autumn on the dates shown below. New ideas for this year are making best use of Outlook software for emails and appointments and a "Music on the NET" course- showing how to download tunes from the best sites to your IPOD. If you are interested in these or any of the courses shown below, please contact Alison on 01233 756366 for further information.

## Evenings - 8-10pm:

Sept 12<sup>th</sup>/Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Digital Photography** - 4 weeks (Wednesdays)

Sept 13<sup>th</sup>/Oct 4<sup>th</sup> - **Internet** - 4 weeks (Thursdays)

Oct 17<sup>th</sup>/Nov 21<sup>st</sup> - **Desktop Publishing** - 6 weeks (Wednesdays)

Oct 18<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> - **Clean up your Computer** - 2 weeks (Thursdays)

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> - **Email** - 2 weeks (Mondays)

Nov 1<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> - **Basic Excel** - 4 weeks (Thursdays 7.30/9.30pm)

## Daytime - 10am-12noon

Sept 18<sup>th</sup>/Oct 9<sup>th</sup> - **Basic IT** - 4 weeks (Tuesdays)

Oct 16<sup>th</sup>/Nov 6<sup>th</sup> - **Basic Word Processing** - 4 weeks (Tuesdays)

Nov 20<sup>th</sup>/Dec 11<sup>th</sup> - **Intermediate Word Processing** - 4 weeks (Tues)

## Neighbourhood Watch Notices

From: <kcm.maidstone@kent.pnn.police.uk>  
To: <europa.13@btinternet.com>  
Subject: Ringmaster Email  
Date: Thu, 6 Sep 2007 11:38:12 +0100

I would like to make you aware of a company trading under the name of Facia Finish UK. They are driving a White Ford Transit Van with a 02 plate. They are using rather heavy sales tactics and Trading Standards would like you call in with any information on this company.

Also, there is a concern on telephone calls from people who allege to be from the Office of Fair Trading and asking for personal detail, e.g Bank account detail. You should always take care in giving any personal information over the phone as these people can use the information for identity theft or to run up bills or commit crimes using stolen details.

If you do have information please me in the Neighbourhood Watch Office on 01622 604395.

Many thanks  
Lorraine

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From: <kcmadministrator@kent.pnn.police.uk>  
To: <europa.13@btinternet.com>  
Subject: Ringmaster Email  
Date: Wed, 12 Sep 2007 14:36:21 +0100

Dear co-ordinator please see the below article on key Link. The article wishes to address a number of questions that have been asked about the service. The chairman of each of the counties NhW Associations will be having a presentation by the project leaders in the near future so as to help ensure a better understanding of Key Link and they in turn can accurately report back

to you.

Who's looking after your home or Business when you are away at work or on holiday?

Kent Key Link will ensure that Kent Police are aware of who to contact should anything untoward happen to your property, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This new service is not focused on house alarm holders; it is more about a total property management service that is live and accurate as you want to make it.

For only £20.00 per year (residential customers) or £25.00 per year (businesses) you can benefit from:

- Quick, easy and secure immediate on- line registration for your home or business
- Let us know your preferred service providers
- Receive up to date crime alerts and reminders via your email
- 24/7 on-line update facility to advise us when your property will be vacant i.e. if you are away on holiday or out at work all day in keeping with our ever changing lifestyles and pace of life.
- All year round service, live on Kent Police Data Command System

Don't just tell your neighbour.

- Do you commute?
- Are you out at work all day/night?
- Going away on holiday?
- Do you have anyone elderly or disabled living at your address?

Tell us so we can make sure you get a customised response according to your personal situation. This allows Kent Police to work more effectively alongside other emergency services and to make better use of time and resources. Who does your neighbour tell if they are away? How do any of the emergency services know which neighbour is holding your personal information? Kent Key Link are fully insured and policy compliant.

- Kent Key Link is a not- for- profit organisation working in partnership with Kent Police to provide a: secure on-line database for key holder and property information. All profits will be made available for rural, business and residential communities to bid for towards crime prevention initiatives.
- You should still register with Kent KeyLink if you would like Kent Police to have access to your key holder details.
- Kent KeyLink offers a wider range of services and many more benefits than

purely key holder availability. As soon as the emergency services are notified of an incident at your premises the Force Communications Centre will call your nominated key holder and your preferred service provider to make the necessary repairs no matter what time of the day or night. Quite often these things occur in the early hours of the morning and let's face it, not all the neighbours need to be woken up to locate the key holder information.

This new system came into effect in July 2007, so act now to get the benefit of this unique service.

How Do I Register?

That is easy, just log onto [www.kentkeylink.co.uk](http://www.kentkeylink.co.uk) or call Tiffany or Nina on 01622 636326 to find out more.

## **Maidstone Borough Council – News Release**

Release Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Ref No: RJA/070910

### **Park and Ride Express on its way to Maidstone.**

Maidstone's Park and Ride services could be set for a £10 million cash injection from the Government. The money, part of a £50 million 'growth point' bid to Communities and Local Government, would herald the start of a second generation of more environmentally sustainable Park and Ride services in Maidstone.

The first of the new Park and Ride Express services could operate from Langley Park Farm. It would replace the recently closed Coombe Quarry operation with a much bigger and more sustainable service. Coombe Quarry was too small to be cost effective and too close to town to do anything for the environment.

Cabinet member Tony Harwood explains: "The new Park and Ride Express services would be exemplars of good practice. We'll be looking to use the most fuel efficient and environmentally friendly buses. A new Sutton Road site would be big enough and far enough away from town to remove substantial numbers of cars from the congested approach roads into Maidstone, where most pollution is caused. Everything will be considered, including things like energy efficiency, lighting,

landscaping, drainage and water use, to make sure that the service is truly sustainable and an example of best possible practice".

The bid also includes the replacement of the Sittingbourne Road Park and Ride site and improvements to the Willington Street and London Road sites. And Maidstone's new Park and Ride Express services would be completed with a new A229 site north of the town to serve commuters and shoppers from the Medway towns.

Maidstone can apply for the massive injection of government money as a result of becoming a growth point. Council Leader, Fran Wilson, explains why the council took that decision: "All groups on the council saw the benefit to the town of becoming a growth point. We agreed to take another 1,800 houses over 20 years, taking our total to 10,080, so that we could apply for extra funding to deal with existing infrastructure problems and plan for the extra houses that were inevitably coming our way. Time has proved us right because other neighbouring towns have been allocated more houses than had been agreed but are unable to bid for growth point money".

The bid which was agreed by the Cabinet on Wednesday September 12<sup>th</sup> includes £9 million for High Street ward regeneration such as a new Heritage Quarter and tourist attraction, the regeneration of Knighttrider and Lower Stone streets, a realignment, of Upper Stone Street and regeneration around Wren's Cross.

Another £5 million is earmarked for improvements to public spaces in Maidstone town centre; while Maidstone Museum could be set to receive £3.7 million for an east wing extension. A new £20 million Library and History centre is also included in the plans.

At a cost of £5.4 million a small business enterprise hub, working closely with the Federated Academy of New Line Learning schools, would create 60 easy-in/easy-out units to stimulate entrepreneurial culture.

Other projects to be put forward are - a new green infrastructure strategy for the whole borough, an integrated water strategy, better pedestrian routes, a marketing initiative to sell Maidstone and a business skills initiative.

Sustainability and the improvement of air quality in Maidstone underpin all of the bids.

**Ends**

# **Maidstone Borough Council – News Release**

Release Date: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Ref No: RJA/070918

## **Makeover for Maidstone Museum**

Maidstone Museum and Bentrif Art Gallery got an early birthday present from the Heritage Lottery Fund today, with Stage One pass of £1,999,000 for plans to develop the East Wing. Maidstone council leader, Fran Wilson, says the money will be put to very good use: "This is excellent news and a tribute to all the hard work put in by our bid team. We've got a fabulous collection and this will provide an exciting, modern setting to show off more of our exhibits to more people".

The popular museum, which celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday next year, is one of the oldest museums in the UK. Today's news will help Maidstone Borough Council carry out Phase II of their work to showcase even more of the 600,000 objects in its collections and transform the visitor experience for the 83,000 people it attracts each year. Dan Daley, Cabinet Member for Culture is confident that visitor numbers will continue to grow: "The award comes at a time when the museum has been breaking all records for attendance with its fascinating range of new exhibitions, The grant will enable us to embark with confidence on an ambitious programme to make the Museum even more attractive in the coming years"; he said.

Plans include the construction of two extensions to the museum, housing a new entrance and orientation area to welcome visitors. Facilities such as toilets, a shop, cloakrooms and a café providing visual access to a previously unseen Tudor facade of the building will also be developed. Maidstone's Tourist Information Centre will be relocated to the museum entrance.

The extensions will also allow refurbishment and reorganisation of the galleries and storage areas to be undertaken. Combined with the creation of two new temporary exhibitions galleries, this will increase display space by 30% and enable many items to come out of the store cupboards. Objects to go on display thanks to the refurbishments include material from the most important collection of Japanese art held by a museum outside London. A rare Solomon Islands canoe, which is currently stored in the loading bay, will be used as an eye-catching centrepiece to the new museum entrance.

The museum's education activities are currently over subscribed but the extensions will provide two new education spaces for schools and adult learners, allowing the education activities to grow.

Access for visitors with disabilities or prams will be much improved with level access to the museum's facilities provided for the first time. Disabled toilets and a baby changing area will be introduced.

The project forms Phase II of a larger master-plan for upgrading the museum. Phase I, the refurbishment of the West Wing, was completed with the help of a £253,000 HLF grant in 2003.

Sustainability has been one of the main considerations. Tony Harwood, Maidstone's Cabinet Member for Environment explains; "The Museum is one of our landmark buildings. It demanded an exciting architectural design and we insisted upon cutting edge environmental technology, from a ground heat pump to solar panels in the roof the new wing will set the standard for energy conservation and sustainability. That ethos will be extended throughout the project. Landscaping will include native Cherry, Lime and Field Maple trees and a commemorative Oak, as a memorial to the last action of the Battle of Maidstone in the nearby St. Faith's churchyard in 1648."

Maidstone has now received 53 HLF grant awards to date, totalling over £8.4million. Sheena Vick, Heritage Lottery Fund Manager for the South East, commented: "This popular museum houses a treasure trove of collections and today's news sets Maidstone Borough Council on their way to transforming the way history is brought to life for visitors."

Simon Lace, Museums & Heritage Manager, said; "We're delighted that the Heritage Lottery Fund has chosen to support our project. Their help will be vital in allowing us to create 21<sup>st</sup> century facilities for the ever increasing number of people who visit our fantastic museum and wish to enjoy our outstanding collections."

**Ends**

## **Maidstone Symphony Orchestra**

Conductor Brian Wright, will perform on Saturday 13th October 2007 commencing at 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park, Maidstone. The programme consists of three works:

- Elgar/Payne - Pomp & Circumstance March No.6
- Sibelius - Violin Concerto, Soloist Jennifer Pike
- Elgar - Symphony No.2

The season opens when two anniversaries will be celebrated - Elgar's 150th birthday with the high emotion of his 2nd symphony, plus the splendid new 6th Pomp and Circumstance March completed by Anthony Payne. Also, in this 50th year after Sibelius' death, favourite former BBC Young Musician, Jennifer Pike, plays his passionate Violin concerto.

Season tickets are available from the Membership Secretaries on 01622 736392 for five concerts at £40, £64, and £80. Single tickets are £10, £16 and £20, seats for children or students with a student card £5, available from the Membership Secretaries paid for and collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall, or from Maidstone Leisure Centre on 0845 1552277 when payment can be made by credit card.

This concert is sponsored by The Friends of Maidstone Orchestral Society.

## **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October – The Sutton Valence Choral Society**

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

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

## Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	<b>Word 1</b>	<b>Word 2</b>	<b>Word 3</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	Boat	Cycle	Way	Motor
2	Digger	Leaf	Medal	Gold
3	Art	Corn	Socks	Pop
4	Civil	Native	Twister	Tongue
5	Horse	Solar	Struggle	Power
6	Card	Carpet	Flag	Red
7	Chief	Tax	Ticket	Inspector
8	Road	Wart	Wash	Hog
9	Board	Dip	Grater	Cheese
10	Bran	Twin	Margarine	Tub
11	Blue	Love	Story	True
12	Level	Liner	Witness	Eye
13	Lunar	Painter	Gardener	Landscape
14	Baldwin	Guinness	Smart	Alec
15	Miss	Side	Thing	Near
16	Job	Out	Knowledge	Inside

	<b>Find the missing word?</b>
1	Naomi Campbell, Super Model.
2	Lewis Hamilton, English F1 driver.
3	John Dory, Flatfish with a mild delicate taste.
4	Glen Close, Actress in fatal Attraction.
5	Clark Gable, Matinee idol seen as Rhet Butler.
6	Hugh Grant, Notting Hill actor.
7	Ghost Train, Spook fairground ride.
8	Dolly Parton, Country & Western singer.
9	Sir Elton John, Pop Knight.
10	Quiche Lorraine, a pasty dish.

## **From the Registers**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August**, at Harrietsham, St. John the Baptist, wedding of Matthew Andrew Lander and Victoria Anne Cunningham

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August**, at Harrietsham, St. John the Baptist, wedding of Michael Brian O'Dell and Amy Louise Atkins

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August**, at Lenham, St. Mary, wedding of Christopher - Marc Hay and Samantha Christine Smith

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August**, at Lenham, St. Mary, Baptism of Ella Rose O'nion

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August**, at Harrietsham, St. John the Baptist, Baptism of Harry Frederick Putland and Emily Phoebe Putland

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September**, at Lenham, St. Mary, wedding of Paul Anthony Ian Clephane and Sarah Catherine Upchurch

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September**, at Boughton Malherbe, St. Nicholas, wedding of Simon John Bessant and Lucy Clare Humphrey

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September**, at Lenham, St. Mary, Baptism of Rebecca Ann Cook

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

Date	Time/Location	Service
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> October  18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U 19.00 U	BCP HC CW 1 Harvest Thanksgiving Harvest Family Service CW 1 Harvest Family Service Taize Service
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> October  19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U	BCP HC Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc CW1
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> October  20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L 09.30 BM 09.30 H 11.00 L 11.15 U 18.30 BM	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 BCP EP
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> October  Last Sunday after Trinity	08.00 L  10.30 U  18.30 H	BCP HC  CW 1 - Benefice Service in Ulcombe All Saints Informal

## Key

### Parishes / Churches

L: Lenham  
BM: Boughton Malherbe  
H: Harrietsham  
U: Ulcombe

### Services

BCP HC = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Holy Communion  
BCP EP = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Evening Prayer  
Fam Svc = Family Service (not Communion)  
MS = Morning Service (not Communion)  
CW 1 = Common Worship (Order One)  
H = Holy Communion  
Informal = Informal! (not communion)

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

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

Phone 01622 858937 or  
email [mf.hitchins@virgin.net](mailto:mf.hitchins@virgin.net)