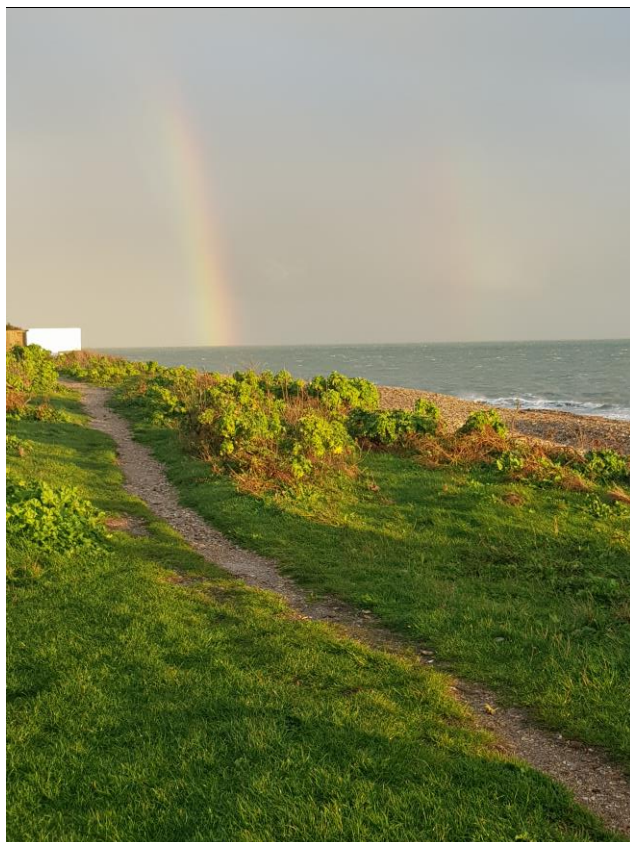


Malherbe Monthly

Number 196
November 2020



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast Shellina.Prendergast@kent.gov.uk	07970 461160
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Karen Chappell-Tay karenchappelltay@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 07918 675619
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	Chris Hume email boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	07972 630555
Village Hall bookings and other matters	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@gmail.com Mobile 07990 574214	853583
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Sue Burch	850381
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Priest in charge	Dr John Huggins email: vicar@lvb.org.uk	850280
Curate	Charlotte Coles	07805 092823
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield	07500 895831
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday at approx. 3pm by Post Office	01580 754300
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

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

Front Cover: A double rainbow over the sea

News from St. Nicholas Church

The Porch at St.Nicholas remains open, as always, to be a welcoming place for private prayer and quiet reflection. The main church building and its facilities are still closed, other than during services, for now. Any changes will be posted on the notice board.

Morning Prayer is said daily in the parish, on-line, at 9.30am. Feel free to join in on any day. Contact Rev. Anne Price on 01622 924963 or revanne@lvb.org.uk. for more information. If you have prayer requests please contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev. Anne Price or the churchwardens at any time and prayers will be said in Morning Prayer time.

All other regular events are still 'on hold'. Safety measures and restrictions are increasing as Covid-19 infections are rising rapidly countrywide, but we will keep you informed as, and when, we can make positive changes. Sorry and sad to have to keep repeating this information month after month.

Services at St. Nicolas have continued as advertised, and we have now been worshipping inside as the summer weather is behind us.

Harvest Festival celebration was well supported, with almost as many people as we could safely have in the building. Sandra Pilborough provided two lovely pedestal flower arrangements and there were the usual decorations of wheat and fruit, though more subtle than in previous years.

We have enjoyed the chance to hear our choir during services now, but it is difficult to hold back and not sing along behind our face coverings in the congregation! That is definitely not allowed!

There were many gifts of non-perishable foods and very generous donations amounting to £100 for Christian Aid, our harvest charity this year. Thank you. The food donations have been delivered to the Maidstone Care Centre for their food bank.

Pauline, our Director of Music for the benefice, produced a video showcasing the musical talents of a number of members of the four church choirs, including John and Susan Collins, Doreen, Beverley, and many others well known to us all. Many thanks for the work Pauline and her team did in filming this for us and for all the work she does in the benefice week by week.

November Services at St. Nicolas are as follows:

Sunday 1st at 9.30am Communion
Sunday 8th at 10.15am Remembrance Day Service
Sunday 15th at 9.30am Communion

Thank you to all those who do so much to help and support our community.

Eco-spot We are really enjoying, and benefitting from, the bumper crops of hedgerow and woodland fruits and nuts this year. Kenneth says the oak trees are dropping huge amounts of acorns too. Mushrooms also in abundance. Anne and Charlie have gathered basket after basket of sweet chestnuts and sloes. Guess what we will be eating and drinking this Christmas! Bottles of sloe gin already in storage and chestnuts have been roasted, skinned, pureed and frozen. Blackberries also in the freezer. A feast for everyone and the wildlife will be well set up and 'tubby' to get through the winter as well! Hope you can enjoy these gifts too.

Sally Alexander

Yoga with Susan' in Grafty Green Village Hall

Yoga enhances your well-being in so many ways – it's not just a physical practice.

The next term starts first week of November on Wednesday evenings at 7 and Thursday mornings at 9.30. Both my classes are full at present but I am able to offer zoom sessions on Wednesday mornings at 9.30 or Thursday evenings at 7. These sessions have been very popular so if you would like to join me – just ask and I can let you have an invitation – phone 850381 or 07803 962339.

There will be an occasional Saturday practice on 5th December at 10 and I have spaces for this session.



STONEBRIDGE ACCOUNTING
ACCOUNTS AND TAX SUPPORT
FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND SMALL BUSINESS
Tel: 01622 851542

Nature notes about Bees courtesy of Daisy Meadows

BEE FACT; on average in its lifetime, a single bee will produce just half a teaspoon of honey

BEE FACT -To make one pound of honey, bees fly 90,000miles ...equivalent to flying three times around the world

BEE FRIENDLY Bees are foraging for two things when they visit our plants

1. Nectar - which is loaded with sugars; the main source of energy for a bee

2. Pollen - which provides the fats and proteins to ensure bees have a balanced diet.

To attract bees, it is important when planting flowers to plant native species that would grow naturally in your area as F1hybrids and exotic species are usually sterile and sometimes harmful to them. Also try to avoid using any pesticides in the garden as this will make it a healthier place for bees as opposed to areas with commercial crops. It is important to provide plants that flower at different times throughout the year so that there is an available source of nectar for overwintering queens and workers who may emerge on warmer days in winter to forage.

While there are many flowers to choose from, here is a list of some pollinators which have gained recognition from the RHS and look lovely in the garden Jan/Feb - Hellebores, Snowdrops, Winter Aconites Feb/March /April - Crocuses particularly purple varieties, Lungwort, Perennial Wallflower March/May - Apples/fruit trees, Euphorbias, Hawthorn June / July /August - Salvias, Rudbeckia, Echinacea, Lavender, Verbena Bonariensis Sept/Oct - Sedum Nov/Dec - Ivy/Mahonia

BEE FACT ; Bees have been pollinating plants and producing honey for at least 150 million years *So plant a bee friendly garden and help ensure they are around to keep up the good work!*

More about bees next month!

Scam Notice

If anyone receives an Email from Cllr Ron Galton and the sending address is executivescommittee95 **Please do not open it** and delete it. It is a scam or worse.

Ron Galton

**Boughton Malherbe
Parish Council
Contact Details**

Ron Galton, Chairman

- Tel: 01622 850369

ron@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Robert Turner

- Tel: 01622 850325

robert@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Barry Adams

Nick Eastwood

Chris Hume, Parish Clerk

- Tel: 07972 630555`

boughtonmalherbecpc@gmail.com

**A short update from the Parish
Council:**

The Parish Council continues to operate under Covid 19 restrictions. Meetings will therefore continue to be held by teleconference. Dates for the remainder of the council year are:

**2nd November 2020
25th January 2021
8th March 2021**

Helen Whately

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

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

House of Commons,
London, SW1A 0AA

www.helenwhately.org.uk

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



WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to become School Governors for the ASPIRE Federation

We are a Federation of four rural Primary Schools in Kent - Kingswood, Leeds and Broomfield CE Primary, Platts Heath and Ulcombe CE Primary Schools.

Governors come from a wide range of different backgrounds, and we are currently looking for a dedicated person to join our Governing Board.

We value energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role, all sharing one common interest, the best possible education for the children at our Federation Schools and anyone is very welcome to apply.

School Governors need a variety of transferable skills and experience, as well as an everyday knowledge of internet skills and modern technology as much of our work is currently done virtually in these unprecedented times. We also use a bespoke online Governance system.

This is a voluntary position open to all members of the local community, including parents or guardians of children currently at any of the ASPIRE Federation Schools.

If you would like a chance to make a difference to the children in our schools by ensuring they all reach their full potential.

Please contact Sam Branchett, Office Manager, for further information and an application form and the Chair of Governors will be happy to call you for an initial informal chat

Email: office@platts-heath.kent.sch.uk **or call:** 01622 850316
no later than 13/11/2020

HOLLAND & HOLLAND ROOFING **LTD**

Flat Roofing Specialists

"Installers of high performance flat roofing systems"

Our quotes are free of charge and arranged at a time
that's convenient for you

All work is Insurance backed guaranteed

Contact

T: 01622 842 069

M: 07939583618

E: office@hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk

W: www.hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk

Members of the
Confederation of Roofing Contractors (CORC)

ALL FiX **Plumbing & Heating**

CIPHE David Jenkins

ciphe.org.uk
**REGISTERED
PLUMBER**

T: 01622 851186

M: 07914 380521



Bathroom Installations	Tiling
Drains & toilets serviced	Odd jobs
General domestic plumbing	No job too small
Hot water cylinders	Fully insured
Heating and radiators	FREE quotes
Kitchen installations	No call out charges
Repairs and installation	Friendly professional advice
E: info@allfixplumbing.co.uk	W: www.allfixplumbing.co.uk

BARRY WHEBLE **PLUMBING**

Tel: 01622 260568

Mobile: 07768 945705

Blocked Drains, Dripping Taps
Burst Pipes, Boilers
Central Heating, Appliances
Power Flushing

**THE LOCAL PLUMBER YOU'LL
RECOMMEND**

All areas covered
24 Hours / 7 Days
No Call Out Charge

Gas Safe Registered Gas Installer
No: 68640

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

Booking Advisable
01622 850259

Children's Room Beer Garden



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council on Monday 20th October 2020, 7.30pm held by teleconference

Present: Cllrs R Galton (Chair); R Turner; B Adams; N.Eastwood
Clerk Mr Chris Hume

Cllr Galton opened meeting at 7.30pm

1. **Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it.** - none
2. **Apologies** – no apologies for absence received
3. **Declarations:**
 - Any lobbying** – none declared
 - Any interest in items on the Agenda** – none declared
 - Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests** - none declared
4. **Public Session** - Chris Wheal was in attendance but did not speak to the meeting
Mike Hitchins, who was unable to attend, had submitted two questions in advance which were read out and answers were provided as follows:
 1. *Has the Parish Council ever received any **assurance or otherwise** from Kent County Council that the proposed Traffic Calming Scheme for Grafty Green will be effective in slowing down the traffic.*
The answer agreed was No.
However, Councillor Eastwood reminded the Council that KCC had said that. "I also wanted to reiterate that all 3 options being over-runable will not be very effective in slowing vehicle speeds". The Clerk pointed out that this statement was intended to indicate that our scheme does not provide any physical structures which raise the road level which, in turn, guarantee that traffic slows down to navigate them.
 2. *Does the Parish Council believe that this scheme is **value for money** in the light that the Parish Council does not know the exact cost of the scheme or of the ongoing maintenance and does it think it is **prudent** to approve a scheme where the true costs are unknown.*
Answer - It is not possible to measure Value for Money, for example using Cost Benefit Analysis, when the benefits are not quantifiable. There is no numerical evidence available of the benefits of such schemes according to KCC.
5. **Traffic Calming** – it was agreed that:
 - (i) The Independent Internal Auditor will be commissioned to review the decision to commence the traffic calming scheme based on the KCC estimate and advise whether the decision is financially prudent and consistent with sound risk management
 - (ii) It was agreed that the Council will create a "Repairs Fund" to finance future maintenance of the traffic calming features and this will be funded by an annual budget contribution and potentially a contribution from the Quinn donation. The Independent Internal Auditor will be asked to advise how the Repairs Fund should best be financed.
 - (iii) A draft response to the Malherbe Monthly editorial, previously circulated, was agreed subject to the following amendments and clarifications:
 - Remove the second paragraph
 - Add reference to granite sets in the answer to point 3.

- Remove the reference to the Doddington scheme in the answer to point 4
- Seek clarification from KCC regarding (a) the final payment and whether this is, in effect, a fixed price (b) whether any costs have been incurred above the payment of £3,815 already made up to the point of the final payment

6. Further information – none

The meeting closed at 8.46pm

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Traffic Calming Scheme

The October edition of Malherbe Monthly contains an Editorial expressing the views of the editor. The Editor did not ask the Parish Council for comment before publication. Please read our response below before you react to the Editorial.

3rd Para. The £71,495 cost includes all design & planning costs to date. The £61,870 is to implement the scheme. Hence there is no increase in the overall estimated cost. With regard to the **six** specific points made:

1. *As the Parish Council are proposing to spend this large sum of money which in effect is all our money, would it not be diligent for the parishioners to be consulted on this expenditure. It involves spending well in excess of 70% of the Quinn money on one project.*

Answer - In 2018 the Parish Council invited residents to suggest how they would like the council to spend the Quinn Estates donation. Traffic Calming was suggested by several residents in this exercise. The Parish Council has addressed all the suggestions made in this exercise except the purchase of the Village Green, which is not currently an option, and may never be so. The Parish Council has consulted extensively on the scheme and various options have been discussed at length at Parish Council meetings - with large numbers of residents present. This process has led to a comprehensive scheme with wide support which can be funded from The Quinn Donation. If we now decide to spend less money we will have a less ambitious scheme, which may not have the same level of support. **Members of the public are invited to write to the Clerk with their views on whether they support spending 70% of the Quinn donation on this scheme or not. If an overwhelming majority are against spending this much the Council will reconsider.**

2. *Does it seem right that the Parish Council has agreed to proceed with this project in the light of the costs being estimated and may well increase as the project is undertaken. This exposes the Parish Council to unknown*

expenditure which may be unaffordable. Would any of the us undertake a project where we do not know how much it is going to cost?

Answer - KCC is unable to provide a fixed price at this stage as there are a few more design actions, and a road safety audit, to be completed. However, they assure us that the final price will only vary slightly from this estimate. In any event, the council can re-think in the unlikely event that the final price is greatly changed. The Council has been asked to pay in advance, therefore there is no risk of the price changing once the scheme has commenced.

- 3.** *In addition to the initial cost of the project it is understood that any future maintenance of the scheme would be the responsibility of the Parish Council. As this is an unknown figure how will the council fund this?*

Answer -The Council has agreed to establish a repairs fund which will comprise the remaining £11K of the Quinn donation plus an annual contribution from the budget. KCC say the features should not require replacement or maintenance for 5-10 years. The Council has opted for the hardest wearing red tarmac surface and granite setts to prolong their lifespan. It should be noted that accidents resulting from the scheme design and construction will be KCC responsibility

- 4.** *Has the Parish Council sought assurance from Kent County Council and the Highways authority on whether this proposed scheme will have the desired effect of actually slowing down the speed of traffic passing through the village? Does it have any evidence this type of scheme actually works and has the council been advised on the viability or not of the scheme?*

Answer - KCC has little research evidence on the effectiveness of such schemes. East Farleigh has recently introduced a scheme with red tarmac strips and traffic surveys show a modest decline in speeds. However, it is fair to say that there is little research evidence to suggest the impact of our scheme either way. However, as we are unable to have speed bumps or physical chicanes in our scheme, as we have no street lights, there is very little alternative, except to do nothing. This is clearly not supported within the village on the basis of consultation.

- 5.** *The scheme also brings to the village a lot of Red coloured road markings which to some may seem to be unsightly in a rural village.*

Answer - Red tarmac has been on the drawings of the first and final schemes during consultation. No adverse comments were received. In addition, the council has chosen a scheme which majors on the granite set "chicanes" which are more in keeping with the village and have been mentioned by people in the village in the context of the Doddington scheme as a desirable approach.

6. *This scheme also raises the question of spending a large sum of money on one project that will have no material effect for the parishioners that do not live in the village and will not benefit from it. To them it may seem unfair that a majority of the money received from Quinn is being spent on a project that they personally derive no benefit from and in addition may not have the desired effect of it actual slowing down the traffic.*

Answer - No adverse comment was received from residents living outside the village during consultation. They nearly all use Headcorn Road. When developments are finished in Lenham/Headcorn it will be too late to do anything and we will not have a scheme to build on as circumstances change. The Parish Council asked the views of all residents of the Parish in 2018 regarding priorities for the use of the Quinn donation. Traffic Calming was one of the priorities identified in this survey. Other suggestions have either been implemented – village hall improvements, Platts Heath School Improvements, Lighting the passage by the Kings Head, or reviewed and deemed unviable.

REPORTING PARISH HIGHWAYS and ENVIRONMENT PROBLEMS

TO REPORT: Potholes; broken signs; traffic signal faults;
overgrown trees or hedges

- Call **03000 418181** (Highways Issues - KCC)

- or click

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

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

- Call **01622 602162** (Environmental Issues MBC)

or click

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

TO REPORT non-domestic Water Leaks:

- Call **0333 000 0002**

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

Traffic Calming Editorial - October Issue Malherbe Monthly

Living at the end of the village where 60mph should become 30mph, and regularly walking Headcorn Road I am both very aware of the speeding issues and have been equally supportive of initiatives to bring about improvement.

Having seen the Parish Council announcement to go ahead with a scheme with a now announced estimated at £72,000 I do now share the reservations expressed in the October Malherbe Monthly editorial.

* Rural traffic calming measures, of the type planned for Grafty, are well documented for often not resulting in desired benefits leading to total disappointment amongst villagers wherever.

* £72,000 estimated cost, with the potential for extras, for me is questionable being a high-stake gamble which may not deliver much, if any benefit - average speeds may drop by as little as 2 or 3mph, will do nothing regarding the real speeders, nor traffic volumes or lorries.

*A fairly similar scheme in East Farleigh also costing £72,000 introduced a year ago is about to be evaluated. Not wanting to pre-judge but there are indications that the novelty of the virtual humps quickly passed so is this to be another scheme delivering very marginal benefits, if any?

* The Parish Council will be responsible for ongoing maintenance costs - walking Headcorn Road between Woodcock Lane and the speed limit signs at the southern end of the village (in fact down to Eastwood Road, visually the road and surface is showing varying levels of degradation (some potentially serious) therefore the Parish could end up bearing costs which should be KCC's. Historically Headcorn Road was resurfaced to just beyond Woodcock Lane, and from Eastwood Road all the way to Headcorn but the gap between the two simply left deteriorate. Much of the proposed calming is to be done on this stretch of road.

Whilst previously backing proposals in principle, that was very much without a published cost, and now a cost of £72,000 and perhaps somewhat more, plus ongoing maintenance costs I do now have serious reservations as there is so much uncertainty about potential benefits - if it was say £25,000 probably worth a punt.

Clearly within the Parish Council the decision has not been unanimous with 3 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstaining. Given the previous consultation was about a scheme in principle, the amount of public money now at stake and potential dubious end benefits should there not be a final a simple village wide vote, not to revisit any scheme details but to mandate the initial cost of £72,000 or more together with future maintenance costs with a simple yes / no majority decision?

Whatever the decision, implementation will need the closest scrutiny to avoid spiralling or runaway costs which the contracting industry is renowned for.

Chris Wheal

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

	Find the missing word?
1	_____ Dixon, Britain's Got Talent judge
2	Jodie _____, Actress in Silence of The Lambs
3	_____ Christie, Writer who created Poirot
4	Maggie _____, Played the title role in The Lady in The Van
5	_____ Estefan, Singer with The Miami Sound Machine
6	The _____ Twins, Pop Trio who recorded Doctor! Doctor!
7	_____ Grundy, Nursey rhyme character who was born on a Monday
8	Annie _____, US sharpshooter who was in Buffalo Bills West Side Story
9	____ Miller, Music Hall star nicknamed The Cheeky Chappy
10	Lady _____, Flamboyant American pop star

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Number	Paper	About	Round
2	Penguin	Purple	Moth	
3	Common	Sixth	Fashion	
4	Stately	Mobile	Help	
5	Recognition	Therapy	Free	
6	Narrow	Valve	Fire	
7	Tender	Cloth	Pork	
8	Control	Solar	Show	
9	Bread	Sugar	Bear	
10	Country	Inside	Bus	
11	Football	House	Night	
12	Participation	Captive	Studio	
13	Cottage	Board	Say	
14	Centre	Optic	Raw	
15	Dressing	Payment	Eider	
16	Biscuit	Organ	Beer	

Grafty Geeks -Transferring Photos from your Phone to a PC

There are many ways to move your photos from your phone to a computer, organise them so you can find them later and get them backed-up in case your computer fails.



Well, all of this can be done by using one of the online cloud storage services. Cloud storage is a service model in which data is transmitted and stored on remote storage systems, where it is maintained, managed, backed up and made available to users over the internet. Users generally pay for their cloud data storage on a per-consumption, monthly rate. Depending on the devices you have, you may have been offered different services for example, Google Drive, OneDrive (Microsoft), iDrive (Apple), Dropbox. There are many, so you might wish to do some research to find the best one for you.

Once you have selected a Cloud Storage provider

On your phone go to the Photo Gallery, and select settings. There are different options available for different phones, but you are looking for options to Synchronise photos. You will be asked to confirm the provider of your choice. Once you have completed this synchronisation, all the photos in your phone's Gallery will be uploaded to the Cloud storage. They are instantly available on your computer as soon as you have taken them. You can synchronise phone photos, as well as your photos received via Whatsapp. The albums in your phone gallery are available in your Cloud storage application. When you first do this synchronisation, ensure you are doing it when you are on the WiFi, as it will cost you to do this via Mobile Data. It may also take some time if you have many photos.

There are more options available for organising your photos in the Photo App, than are available in the phone's Gallery, you can also select to set the system to the phones into an order by people in the Search feature.

There are two really good reasons to use Cloud Storage.

- 1) You can access your photos from any device connected to the internet, this means that you no longer need to copy your photos from you phone to the computer before you can print them for example. It also means that you and view them on a bigger screen.
- 2) The best-known cloud storage services offer a secure online alternative to backing up data to a hard drive, so you will no longer need to copy your photos to a disc, and also means that do not have to worry if your computer fails, because your photos can be accessed from any device connected to the internet.

COVID-19 update from KCC Cabinet Member, Shellina Prendergast



I hope this newsletter finds you well. Following the introduction of the new three-tier local alert system last week, Kent remains at the medium risk level. Thanks to your amazing actions over the last few months we are not, thankfully, seeing the growth of cases being tackled in the north of the country.

But this is a critical time for Kent.

With the increase in cases in some areas of the county causing concern, it's vital that every single one of us sticks to the guidance to avoid additional restrictions being imposed on our lives and any further impact on our economy, jobs and livelihoods.

I urge you to take part in our [budget consultation](#), if you haven't already done so. It has never been so important for us to understand people's priorities for themselves, their families and the communities they live in as we set the most challenging budget that the authority has ever seen.

There is no doubt that some difficult decisions lie ahead about where we reduce our spending. That's why we want to hear your views on how we should allocate resources and which services you most need and value.

Please take care and continue to do what you can to protect your loved ones and everyone around you. Let's all play our part - and keep the number of COVID-19 cases in Kent as low as we possibly can.

As always please take care, keep safe and stay healthy.

Shellina Prendergast

KCC Cabinet Member for Communications, Engagement and People

Grafty Green Gardening Club

Programme 2020

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
7 th January	AGM and Kevin Tooher	Winter Interest
4 th February	Dr. Tim Ingram	Snowdrops
3 rd March	Jacqueline Anthony	National Garden Scheme – how it works
7 th April	Spring Show, Lucy Adams from Doddington	Dry Gardens
Sat 2 nd May	Plant Sale, on the green if fine and in Hall if wet	
Sat 9 th May	Coach outing to Leonardslee	
Sat 13 th June	Garden Safari	
7 th July	Outing (own transport) to Sandgate Castle Community garden	
4 th August	Visit to Doddington House Garden	
1 st September	Autumn Show & Floral Art Competition for Margaret Hoad Prize	
11 th – 13 th Sept.	Weekend away in Herefordshire, Cotswolds Wildlife Park & Gardens, Moores Meadow Gardens, Stockton Bury Gardens, Oxford Botanical Gardens, staying at The Penyard Hotel, Ross on Wye,	
6 th October	Ian Gray, Mammal Society	Hedgehogs
3rd November	Simon Ginnaw	A Year in Mote Park
1 st December	Social and Quiz	

Grafty Green Gardening Club – update

On November 3rd Simon Ginnaw will be making a ZOOM presentation on '**A YEAR IN MOTE PARK**'. We are grateful to Simon for giving us the opportunity to continue to enjoy our winter talks in this way. This will be the first time we have arranged a zoom meeting for members and we are keen that as many of you as possible can join in.

In our gardens:- we can continue with winter digging and clean or recycle old pots and trays. Bare-rooted trees, shrubs and roses can be planted now and tulip bulbs put in. In the kitchen garden continue to lift and divide rhubarb crowns and winter-prune fruit trees and bushes.

Carole Frost - Secretary - Grafty Green Gardening Club



MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL'S PROPOSED GARDEN COMMUNITY AT LENHAM HEATH: YOU WILL BE AFFECTED!

It is 'crunch time' in November as Maidstone Borough councillors will be making their decisions on which submissions for potential new housing sites across the borough will be included in their next Local Plan.

SOHL has been gearing up its campaign to lobby councillors. This is a final push to persuade them to 'throw out' the Garden Community proposal before Maidstone's next spatial strategy is approved by the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Committee.

How will it affect you?

This development will affect everyone - it is not just the residents to the east of Lenham who will be affected, but all those living in the surrounding villages will feel the impact of the scheme with increased traffic on the roads and pressures on local facilities. The development will start just 0.6km from the edge of Lenham village.

Gridlocked roads – the A20 will see a 700% increase in traffic. Small country lanes will be used by heavy vehicles.

Junction 8 access at peak hours will be at a standstill – with no new motorway junction, traffic on the Leeds Castle roundabouts and surrounding roads will become more congested at peak times.

Overcrowded secondary school – MBC's proposal does not include building another secondary school.

Local health services – no new surgery is planned in the development. With another 8,000 people (at the minimum) living in the area, it will put more pressure on already overstretched GP services and increase waiting times.

Environment/climate change – this would be a car-dependent development. Car emissions and pollution will increase to unhealthy levels.

Our local countryside will be destroyed – once it is gone, it is gone forever.

Our communities will never be the same - once development starts, we could be looking at 10,000 houses being built.

30 years of building – if the proposal is approved, the building may start as early as 2027 and continue past 2050.

Read more about the masterplan and SOHL's appraisal of it on our website at www.saveourheathland.co.uk

If Heathlands goes through, we need everyone to respond to the public consultation in December 2020.

Public consultation on the Local Plan will take place in December and will focus on the Council's preferred strategy (Regulation 18b). This means the Council will be asking for residents' views on whether future developments should be built close to towns or in more rural areas across the borough.

If the Heathlands Garden Community is still in the Local Plan Review, we need you to stand up and make your voice heard. This will be the time to put your letter writing skills into practise and make sure the Council knows your views on the scheme.

You will find more guidance on our website at www.saveourheathlands.co.uk

Kind regards

SOHL Committee

Grafty Gourmet

These are simple to make and can be quite addictive. Choose the strength of the hot sauce in the dip to suit your own taste. I would add a little at a time until you get the spice that is right for you. These are also perfect to make in an air fryer, as the outside becomes nice and crispy.

Spicy Chicken Meatballs with Spicy Mayo Dip

For the Meatballs:

1 tablespoon of vegetable oil
1 lb of minced chicken
1 large egg
½ cup of freshly grated Parmesan
¼ cup of panko breadcrumbs
2 tablespoons of soy sauce
3 cloves of garlic, minced
1 teaspoon of ground cumin
A pinch of salt

Freshly ground black pepper
Crushed red pepper flakes

For the Dipping Sauce:

½ cup of mayonnaise
2 tablespoons of hot sauce (such as Nando's Piri Piri)
2 teaspoons of clear honey
½ teaspoon of ground cumin

Oven Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180° and grease a large baking sheet with vegetable oil.
2. In a large bowl, combine the chicken, egg, Parmesan, breadcrumbs, soy sauce, garlic, and cumin. Season with salt, pepper, and a pinch of red pepper flakes. Roll mixture into 16 meatballs and place on prepared baking sheet.
3. Bake until golden and cooked through, about 15 minutes.

Air Fryer Method:

1. In a large bowl, combine chicken, egg, Parmesan, panko, soy sauce, garlic, and cumin. Season with salt, pepper, and a pinch of red pepper flakes. Roll mixture into 16 meatballs.
2. Working in batches, place the meatballs in the basket of the air fryer in a single layer. Bake at 180° until golden and cooked through, 12 minutes, flipping halfway through.

For the Dipping Sauce:-

1. In a medium bowl, combine the mayonnaise, hot sauce, honey, and cumin and mix well.
2. Serve meatballs with spicy mayo for dipping.

Music Notes for November 2020

As I write this at the very beginning of October the only local concerts in sight are the u-tube performances put on by Sutton Valence Music Society. The second in the series, which I publicised last month, has not yet taken place. The third, for November, is not yet publicised. I hope it will happen because the one I have seen and heard – the September concert - was superb. The Sutton Valence School concert hall sounded a bit echo-ey without a significant audience, but the playing was excellent.

That first concert is still available, the youtube link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56kxTthfWeI> and can be watched by anyone for free, though The Society would welcome a donation of £15 if you watch the concert; that seems very fair as they have all the costs of arranging the concert. I strongly recommend it. For payment arrangements email suttonvalencemusicsociety@gmail.com.

It is no consolation to would-be audiences, but I believe some local choirs and music groups are experimenting with rehearsals within the limits of the virus restriction – amongst other things that means sitting or standing well apart, which doesn't help the musical aspects. Still. It may help to keep music alive in our area and who knows, it may eventually lead to concerts..

Apart from the ever-widening range of streamed concerts on youtube BBC iPlayer currently offers the 2020 proms; for the first time every one of the last two weeks of proms concerts was filmed, broadcast live and is now available on iPlayer.

On the radio BBC3 and Classic *FM* continue to provide a continuous programme of good music. My recommendation for November is a concert from Milton Court, London, broadcast on radio 3 on 5th November at 7.30pm. If you are not too busy with fireworks this looks to be a varied and interesting programme which includes Brahms *Requiem* and works by Amy Bryce and Bernstein.

The musicians dictionary continues in lockdown:

Brass: What musicians from Yorkshire get paid with.

Brian Hardy

PROUD TO BE SERVING THE
COMMUNITY SINCE 1965

A.W.COURT FUNERAL DIRECTORS



Your fully independent, family owned,
Funeral Directors, serving the local
community with compassion and the highest
standards of service and professionalism.

With our 24-hour emergency service,
we are only a telephone call away.

At the earliest stage possible, you will
speak directly with one of our experienced
Funeral Directors, who will be there to help,
support and guide you through the whole
of the funeral process.

Golden Charter 
Funeral Plans

Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, Maidstone,
Kent ME17 2AP.

01622 850840

Email – enquiries@awcourt.com

Website – www.awcourt.com



A.W. Court is a Trading Division of
West & Coe Ltd, 602 Rainham Road South,
Dagenham, Essex RM10 8YP.



Harrietsham Computers

Computer Problems?

Need an upgrade

or a new machine?

Just want some extra tuition?



For local, friendly, experienced
Help, call Mike Cuerden at

01622 859442 or

07963 020092



No call out fee
Reasonable rates
Private &
Commercial Work
No job too small



HOUSEKEEPING

all aspects of housekeeping and gardening
undertaken

We are an experienced and reliable cleaning and
home maintenance business.

Our clients can choose from a daily, weekly, fortnightly
or one off cleaning service ranging from general
domestic cleaning to site washing / ironing and
provisions shopping to holiday house checks and
garden or window box maintenance.

We also provide an 'at home' care service for the
housebound, elderly and your pets!

We are a small and dedicated team and we pride
ourselves in our efficient, honest and friendly service.

AMY MCLAUGHLIN

07813 030 527/01622 851562

amy.mclaughlin@hotmail.co.uk

D.FLISHER ROOFING

*Free winter check on roofs
Roofing repairs, ridge & hips
checked*

*Moss cleaned off roofs
Gutters & window frames
cleaned*

Chimneys re-pointed

**Call Dave for a quote on
01622 850659 or 07941 324286**

Mower Plant Services

Sales Service Parts Repairs
Accessories

Walk Behind Mowers, Ride on Mowers,
Lawn Tractors, Brush Cutters, Water
Pumps, Hedge Trimmers, Chainsaws,
Snow Blowers, Generators, Leaf Blowers

Parts for all Garden Machinery available.

Give us a call or come and visit our
friendly staff to arrange the service/repair
of your garden machinery or perhaps we
can help you choose something new.



Sunpatch Farm, Headcorn Rd,
Smarden, TN27 8PJ

Tel: 01622 890046

Email: sales@mowerplantservices.co.uk
www.mowerplantservices.co.uk

Open Mon – Fri 8.30am-5.30pm, Sat 8.30am – 1pm

philip INDEPENDENT
ESTATE
AGENT
Jarvis

Your friendly, local estate agent,
specialising in the sale and letting of
village and country properties.

**If you are looking to move
in the near future
call us now.**

T: 01622 858241

W: www.philipjarvis.co.uk

A: 1 The Square, Lenham, Kent ME17 2PH

E: homes@philipjarvis.co.uk

Cybereye Security Electrical Services

RING MARCUS SHEPARD ON

01622 858612 or 07821776334

ALARM SYSTEMS CCTV FIRE ALARMS

AUTOMATED GATES VIDEO/AUDIO ENTRY SYSTEMS

EXISTING SYSTEMS REPAIRED AND MAINTAINED

ALL ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

DOMESTIC AND COMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS

PART P CERTIFIED

FREE QUOTES

FULLY INSURED

24 HOUR CALL OUT

Seasoned Logs from Local Coppice for Sale

*Clean Burning, Kiln Dried
Cut to size and delivered*



*Variety of logs suitable for
open fires or log burners*

**Contact Norman on
077333 28715**

Invicta Chimney Sweep



**No Mess
No Dust
No Fuss**

- All types of Chimneys swept and smoke tested
- Certificates Issued
- Pots, Cows, Bird Guards etc.
- Birdnest Removal
- Chimney Repairs

**Fully
Insured**

01622 632641

0798 854 9010

www.invictachimneysweeps.co.uk



**MAIDSTONE
LANDSCAPES
& PROPERTY
SERVICES Ltd**

BrettApproved
PAVING EXPERTS YOU CAN TRUST

*Less 15% discount
with advert* and 20% over 55's
cannot be used with other offers
ad must be mentioned at time of estimate

LANDSCAPING- Drives, Patios, Pathways, Brick/Stone Walls, Block/Stone Paving, Tarmac, Decking, Fencing, Turfing, Ponds, Water Features, Garden Clearance, Sheds/Summer & Play House Bases, Tree Surgery etc.

BUILDING WORKS- Extensions, Porches, Conservatories, Garages, Groundworks, Roofing, PVC Windows, Doors, Soffits, Fascias, Floor/Wall Tiling, Decorating etc

FULLY INSURED/WORK GUARANTEED. VERY PROFESSIONAL/FRIENDLY SERVICE
Top Quality Materials/Workmanship from design to completion - FREE ESTIMATES

Tel: 01622 851222 Mob: 07786 07 01 07

www.maidstonelandscapes.com

LOOK: Please check our reviews and other companies you may use at www.uktc.org

Established: 1990 Director: M. Potter



Quiet Time at the Computer Centre

Following the stringent measures of the Government's lockdown in March, the Egerton Computer Centre's Saturday morning computer clinic came to an abrupt halt, and since then the Computer Centre has been closed.

The committee agreed that the popular Saturday morning sessions would not re-start until the pandemic crisis has passed and things return to normal. As the pandemic lockdown and subsequent measures continue, some of the volunteers involved have growing concerns about what might happen in the future. Currently, the Computer Centre doubles as the Parish Council office, with the Parish Clerk working there on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The 'pop-up' Post Office uses the lobby of the Centre two days each week (Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon, to coincide with the Farmers' Market). Occasionally, small meetings also take place using the room, but its original use as a computer training centre ceased some time ago.

At present, the future of the Saturday morning computer clinic is uncertain, and depends very much on the ongoing support of computer-literate volunteers. As stated above, there will be no further sessions until the current restrictions are finally lifted, but the continued use of the Computer Centre in its present form will very much depend on the circumstances prevailing when things finally return to normal, whenever that might be.

Christian Message November 2020 - Testing Times

One of the hardest verses in the Bible for me has often been 1 Corinthians 10:13. In the New English Bible version it reads: **No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.**" He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand.

I realise that it has seemed hard because it is so often miss-quoted as God not letting us suffer more than we can bear. It's a lovely thought but with colleagues, students, friends and relatives who have suffered depression, been suicidal or actually taken their lives, it certainly doesn't always seem that way.

Context is everything: The verse is about avoiding sin and that being a Christian does not exempt us from temptation. There is evil out there to avoid and there are consequences to the way in which we behave. The desire to give in and do wrong can be very great indeed but in response the Bible offers reassurance that overcoming temptation is entirely possible. This is quite different from finding ourselves in bad situations. This doesn't mean we will never suffer or that people who are facing huge difficulties are necessarily doing wrong.

When too many things need doing at once, I know that I can feel panic just when I need to remain calm. My coping mechanism is to write a list, make a timetable and organise things into small manageable chunks, just as I encourage my students to do: "Don't try to conquer the world, just do the one thing you are doing at that moment."

Why didn't God save my university friend or my husband's cousin from suicide? Well, he did save my university friend many, many times in the help and support he received from friends and professionals over the years, but we all have free will and ultimately this meant that he did the one thing that he had been feeling for many years, was the only real route left open to him.

Many are the times I have thought 'If only he had rung and talked that night as he had done so many times before' but his suffering was such that he didn't want anyone to stop him. When another friend recently rang me to say he had tried to take his own life and failed, I literally ached at the thought of how much he, too, must have been suffering lately, but then leapt for joy that the Lord sent an elderly couple to his rescue just at the right moment.

The phrase '**No man is an island**', made famous by John Donne, may be a cliché but it's a jolly good one. Our humanity is about relationships and we all need each other. Jesus taught us, simply, to love each other.

God does intervene if we let him. We can turn to him at any time and in any place and, generally people do want to be there for us. Whatever you are feeling or thinking during this very unusual and difficult year, please don't suffer in silence, or alone. **Please pick up a phone and contact a family member, a friend, someone from Church, a local helpline of professional services.**

Pamela Cuerden

No man is an island

*No man is an island entire of itself; every man
Is a piece of the continent, a part of the main;
If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe
Is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as
Well as any manner of thy friends or of thine
Own were; any man's death diminishes me,
Because I am involved in mankind.
And therefore, never send to know for whom
The bell tolls; it tolls for thee.*

John Donne

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – November 2020

Sunday 1st November

- 9.30 am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
11.00am Lenham: Leading ourselves through the garden with Communion
11.00 am Ulcombe: Morning Worship

Sunday 8th November

- 9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion
9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service
10.15am Boughton Malherbe: Remembrance Service
10.30am Ulcombe: **Outdoor** Remembrance Service
10.50am Lenham: **Outside** short act of remembrance at the War Memorial
10.50am Harrietsham: **Outside** short act of remembrance at the War Memorial

Sunday 15th November

- 9.30am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion
11.00am Harrietsham: Morning Worship
11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd November

- 9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion
9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service
11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 29th November

- 11.00am Creative Services** to be held at each of our churches

Our weekly **online services** will also continue throughout **November**.
Please contact the church office on churchoffice@lvb.org.uk or 01622 850604 if you
would like to receive the weekly email with the links to our Sunday worship.

Grafty Green Stores and Post Office

We needed to reduce our opening hours when the coronavirus came. This seems to have worked well. We thank you for your cooperation.

No one knows the future. We aim to open more but would like to keep to the present opening times as the definite lights- on / door- unlocked times and would encourage our customers to use these if possible. Outside these times, some of the time we will operate a door locked/ ring bell system, but you may have to wait a few minutes.

There may be those who, maybe for medical reasons, would want to come outside the advertised times to avoid being near others, or because the times are not possible. This could be arranged by contacting us.

graftygreenstores@gmail.com

01622 859435

Minimum opening times

MON 9-11, 3.30 – 4.30

TUE 9-11, 3.30 – 4.30

WED 9-11

THUR 9-11, 3.30 - 4.30

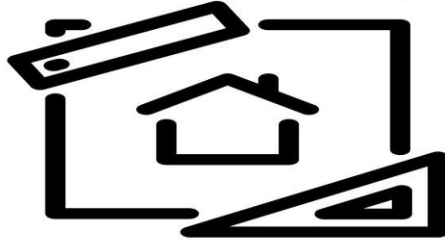
FRI 9-11, 3.30 – 4.30

SAT 9-11

Food

Homeless Care still need donations of food for their work with the homeless. There is a box for gifts of food in Grafty Green village stores. Many thanks to all those who have given food in the past.

Joan Drury



K.P Decorating

K.P Decorating Services

- Exterior decorating
- Interior decorating
- Floor and wall tiling
- Laminate Flooring
- General house maintenance

For a free quote and to discuss exactly what you need give us a call on: 07956455720 or visit our website www.kpdecoratingservices.com

ONLINE • ON TABLET
ON MOBILE

COLES GROUP

VALUERS, LETTING
& ESTATE AGENTS

1% SELLING FEE +VAT

10% MANAGEMENT FEE +VAT

01622 763322

www.thecolesgroup.co.uk

POP UP BUTCHERY



FRESH AND
FROZEN MEAT
DIRECT FROM
THE FARM



HIGHLAND BEEF

JOINTS, STEAKS AND BURGERS, BRAISING
STEWING MINCE, RIB JOINTS AND MORE



HEBRIDEAN LAMB

FILLETS, RACK, LEGS, CHOPS, NECK,
SHOULDERS, BURGERS AND MINCE



RARE BREEDS PORK

STEAKS, CHOPS, JOINTS,
SAUSAGES AND BACON

PLEASE CALL THE FARM
ON 01622 844491

ROUND OAK FARM, HENIKER LANE,
SUTTON VALENCE, ME17 3ED

Emergency and Help Contact Details

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

Ambulance 999 note: an **aed** 'public access **defibrillator**' is sited and available 24/7 at the premises (in porch) of A.W. Court in Headcorn road. Ambulance 999 control centre will give 999 callers the lock code, if appropriate, to access the **defibrillator**.

First Aid Support – when **an ambulance has been called using 999** - Interim emergency support (first aid and AED defibrillator), prior to arrival of paramedics / ambulance, may be available (not 24/7) by calling Chris Wheal on 01622 858100 -this is a voluntary 'good Samaritan' facility for residents. It is hoped a SECAMB (ambulance) community first responder scheme may start in future

NHS Medical Helpline	111
Maidstone & Pembury Hospitals	0845 155 1000
William Harvey Hospital	01233 633331
Headcorn Surgery (<i>out of hours listen to -</i>	01622 890294
Lenham Surgery <i>recorded messages</i>)	01622 858341

Electricity (UK Power Networks)	
<i>Emergencies and Power Cuts</i>	0800 783 8866
	or 01243 508866

Water <i>Emergencies</i>	0333 000 0002
Southern Water Foul and Waste Water drainage/Flooding	0330 303 0368
Calor Gas <i>Emergencies</i>	08457 444999
KCC <i>Emergencies</i>	03000 41 41 41
<i>Highways</i>	03000 41 81 81

KCC Community Wardens:

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

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

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

Maidstone Borough Community Protection - **01622 602202** – Noise, neighbours, Smoke, Travellers. Environmental Services – **01622 602162** – Fly tipping, Street cleaning, Litter, Bins, dead animals

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Number	Paper	About	Round
2	Penguin	Purple	Moth	Emperor
3	Common	Sixth	Fashion	Sense
4	Stately	Mobile	Help	Home
5	Recognition	Therapy	Free	Speech
6	Narrow	Valve	Fire	Escape
7	Tender	Cloth	Pork	Loin
8	Control	Solar	Show	Panel
9	Bread	Sugar	Bear	Brown
10	Country	Inside	Bus	Lane
11	Football	House	Night	Club
12	Participation	Captive	Studio	Audience
13	Cottage	Board	Say	Cheese
14	Centre	Optic	Raw	Nerve
15	Dressing	Payment	Elder	Down
16	Biscuit	Organ	Beer	Barrel

	Find the missing word?
1	Alesha Dixon, Britain's Got Talent judge
2	Jodie Foster, Actress in Silence of The Lambs
3	Agatha Christie, Writer who created Poirot
4	Magie Smith, Played the title role in The Lady in The Van
5	Gloria Estefan, Singer with The Miami Sound Machine
6	The Thompson Twins, Pop Trio who recorded Doctor!
7	Soloman Grundy, Nursery rhyme character who was born on a Monday
8	Annie Oakley, US sharpshooter who was in Buffalo Bills West Side Story
9	Max Miller, Music Hall star nicknamed The Cheeky Chappy
10	Lady Gaga, Flamboyant American pop star

WARNING

CCTV IN OPERATION



Tel: 08000 199622

www.amiga.co.uk

CCTV | Intruder Alarms | Access Control | Fire