

Malherbe Monthly

Number 74
September 2010



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Jenny Whittle	734897
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	858348 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Pat Anderson	858350
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Incumbent	Rev: Dick Venn email: dickvenn@gmail.com	858195
Associate Priest	Marian Bond, available Wednesday-Sunday	07966 442181
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20 by Post Office	01580 754300
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mf.hitchins@virgin.net	858937
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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 **October** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mf.hitchins@virgin.net) by **20th September**

Front cover: Liverton Hill - where the hill narrows to effectively a one way route

News from St. Nicholas Church

Cream Teas

Cream Teas will continue for the first two Sundays, 5th and 12th. They have been very successful with many new customers coming along to sample our delicious scones and jam. The jam has been very popular with customers buying a jar or two to brighten up their tea and toast in the winter months. On the 12th it has been suggested that we give our takings to the Pakistan Flood Appeal, so make sure you come along for one last time this year and help us to make a good amount to give to the Appeal.

Many thanks for all the support that you have given us during this summer.

Morning Prayers

Morning Prayers will resume on the first Monday morning in September and each Monday morning during the winter; so if you have anyone for whom you wish prayers to be said, please leave a note in the Prayer Request Box in the Porch at St. Nicholas or let Joan Drury or Sally Alexander know your request.

Friends of Kent Churches Bike Ride and Hike

On Saturday 11th September the Friends of Kent Churches will be holding their annual Bike Ride and Hike. It starts at 10.00am and finishes at 6.00pm. This enables churches to stay open between these hours for riders and walkers to visit as many churches as they can with sponsorship from friends and family to raise money for the upkeep of Churches in Kent. The monies are sent to the Friends who keep half and return the other half to the church that raised it. We need walkers and riders for this event. Sponsorship forms are available from Joan on 01622 850210.

The people who are the 'Welcomers' in the Churches are able to seek sponsorship too - see Sylvia Close and sponsor her for St. Nicholas.

Back to Church Sunday

Back to Church Sunday or Come as you are Sunday is a national event which this Benefice is taking part in on Sunday 26th September at 9.30am. Look for the Posters to find out more.

Also on 26th there is a Confirmation Service which will be held at Holy Cross, Bearsted at 3.00pm where Bishop Trevor Wilmott will be confirming Candidates from the North Downs Deanery, which is our Deanery. Everyone is welcome.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival is on the 10th October. There will be a service in the morning at 9.30am when children are encouraged to bring gifts of vegetables and fruit etc., to say thank you to God for his goodness to us during the year. This 2nd Sunday is when we have choral Evensong at 6.30pm and we will auction the produce after the Service at which we will serve coffee and biscuits. The proceeds from the auction will go towards Demelza House Children's Hospice as usual.

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper will take place on Saturday 16th October in the village hall at 7.30pm. There will be a licensed bar, good food and excellent company. We are hoping that volunteers will offer help with the preparation to lighten the load for the small band of helpers. There will be plenty of washing up too. If you can help please ring Joan on 01622 850210.

More details will be in next month's magazine.

Joan Davidson

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Meryl _____, Oscar winning actress and sang in Mamma Mia
2	_____ Betty, US sitcom with America Ferrera
3	Adrian _____, Fictional Diarist
4	_____ to Heaven, Classic Led Zeppelin track
5	_____ and Ivory, No 1 hit for Stevie Wonder & Paul McCartney
6	Richard _____, Actor who played Victor Meldrew
7	_____ Price, Model whose alter ego is Jordan
8	Eddie _____, Former racing driver who hails from Northern Ireland
9	_____ Girl, 1985 top ten hit for Madonna
10	_____ De Vil, Villainess from 101 Dalmatians

ALL-FIX PLUMBING

Home maintenance & repairs

David Jenkins



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The Kings Head Grafty Green

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



Traditional Sunday Lunches

**Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers**

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Thank you to my good Samaritans - on 12 August I had a fall from my pony Elle; her shoes were shiny and we slipped on the slope to Coldbridge Lane. I came off big time. Luckily I was found by folk who knew me, unconscious and they were able to stop traffic running over me! Thank you Peter and Pauline.

Many people stopped to help and I want to say a **'big thank you'** to you, There was the lady who lead Elle home - thanks whoever you are. The lady who was a nurse who helped the paramedics and the man who left a pillow for my comfort. I am bowled over by your kindness.

I suffered a broken collar bone, a grazed leg and concussion which will put my activities on hold for a while but I will mend.

Sue Burch - telephone 850381

Contact Details for Local Police Officers

Your Local Police Officers can be contacted at Maidstone Police Station on 01622 604392, or stop us when you see us patrolling the village !!

PC Paul Kemslet and PCSO Siobhan de Burca

E-Mail: maidstonerural.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk

Dazzle

Dazzle is a new after school activity for Primary School children held in the Village Hall, Grafty Green on Friday afternoons at 3.45pm for an hour. At the moment Dazzle has 9 children attending between the ages of 4-10 years.

It is hoped that by coming along to Dazzle and taking part will increase the children's self confidence while having fun. They do light hearted drama and have just presented a production of Peter Pan to an audience of parents and grandparents. The children helped with many of the roles that putting on a production involves such as selling tickets and programmes to the audience as they arrived and the drinks and popcorn during the interval. Several of the children had 2 or 3 parts to play in the production, which was enjoyed by all of those present.

The new Term starts – Friday 10th September, 2010

Time: 3.50pm – 4.50 pm.

Price: £3.50 per Session

Call: Gail Kelly on 01622 850671 for more details.

Village Coffee Morning

There will be a Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on Wednesday 8th September, 10.00-12.00pm.

Do come along for a Coffee and a chat in congenial company, we also serve homemade cakes and biscuits. See you there.

Memories

It started with a question about the dental history of my family. I had to say I did not know much. We lived in a Victorian terraced house with no bathroom. Therefore I did not have a toothbrush until I was about twelve when my Plumber Dad turned one bedroom into a bathroom and toilet. The first visit to a dentist was after an accident on my bicycle when I broke my two front teeth aged about thirteen.

The lavatory was in the back yard attached to the house, but out the kitchen door round the side of the kitchen, scary after dark. The bath was in the kitchen with a big wooden hinged cover over it which served as a table top when the bath was not in use. Both were plumbed into the mains though.

We heated the water in a big gas boiler which had to be filled by bucket loads of water from the sink, until my Dad put in a gas geezer over the bath and sink. In the winter the gas oven was lighted to warm the kitchen before having a bath. So until the bathroom was installed we cooked, washed and bathed in the kitchen and knew no different, this meant dental hygiene was not thought of much.

Remember this was back in the nineteen fifties after the war years had destroyed quite a lot of homes including the one my family had lived in. The washing took my Mum all day and the boiler was how she heated the water to do it with a thing to push the washing through between two rollers turned by a handle on the side to squeeze the water out of it, called a mangle. She used to dip all my dresses in starch making them so stiff after ironing they stood up on the floor by themselves. She never knew how I hated it as the armholes were so hard and rough they rubbed the top of my arms raw. My brothers' necks got the same treatment from their shirt collars.

We did not have TV but listen to the radio almost all day, my sister's favourite programme was "Music while you work" usually bands played popular melodies. On Sundays there was "Two way Family Favourites" which played requests for the men serving overseas in all three services, they listen in their camps while the families at home listen over Sunday lunch.

I could go on but it would become very boring for those too young to remember, but maybe I have stirred some nostalgic memories for some.

Tricia Dibley

News from Platts Heath Primary School

The end of term was the usual flurry of activity and I think we were all glad to see the start of the Summer Holidays.

We were lucky with the weather on Sports Day with fun had by all. The Juniors treated us all to a fantastic performance of 'Alice the Musical' which they performed at Egerton Village Hall for us. For many it was the first time they had been on the stage as all the rehearsals took place at school and at St Edmunds but they gave everyone a great show and excelled with their singing and acting.

The whole school were able to enjoy meeting some different animals when the infants enjoyed a trip to Wild Wood and the juniors had a day at Port Lympne.

We held a Celebration Assembly and said goodbye to Mr Priddle, presenting him with gifts and a card made by the children. Our new headmaster, Mr Anscomb, who also attended, was given a very warm welcome.

This was the first year that the school presented the Norma Jones award. This is an award given to a Platts Heath school pupil in memory of Mrs Norma Jones who taught at Platts Heath School for over 20 years but sadly passed away in 2009. Any child could be nominated by any member of school staff. We had about 15 nominations for a range of reasons such as being cheerful, being polite and helpful, for good academic progress and each nominee was presented with a certificate. The Norma Jones award was presented to Anthony Kerry Wright in Year 5 – congratulations Anthony!

As the term drew to a close we said goodbye to our Year 6 pupils – a very emotional affair! We wish them every success in their new schools and would love to hear how they are getting on.

During the summer holidays the school has been a hive of activity with a band of volunteers who have worked tremendously hard decorating the school ready for the new academic year. We would like to extend a big thank you to all those who have helped.

We look forward to welcoming you all back and saying hello to the new Reception Class and Mr Anscomb.

If you would like to visit the school, please telephone to make an appointment on 01622 850316.

Fiona Reeves

Jenny Whittle - News from County Hall



Following on from my last piece in the *Malherbe Monthly*, I am pleased to report that Kent Highways has agreed to introduce a 30mph speed limit from the top of Liverton Hill (just before the Liverton Hill sign) to cover a considerable number of homes and will stop about 200 yards from the top. This will be subject to the outcome of a three month statutory consultation period (a Traffic Regulation Order will be advertised in the local press). The existing national speed limit will be retained to cover the bends of the Hill. Many of you reading this may think that it is a ludicrous decision if the "straight" part of the Hill is going to have a lower speed limit but the bends will remain unaltered. Be assured, however, that I have taken on board KCC officer's advice that a 15-20 mph speed is appropriate for those bends and drivers need to use their common sense when navigating bends. I would also hope that on descending the Hill, it is unlikely that drivers will go at 30mph only to put their foot on the gas when they reach the bends! My view at this time is that we should see how effective the reduced speed limit is in action and review whether a lower speed limit will need to be put in place for the bends (e.g. a 20mph sign?). Better signage will also be installed to alert drivers that the Hill narrows and the need to approach with care.

The Find and Fix pothole blitz is continuing. If there are any outstanding potholes that you believe need repairing, please do let me know and I will alert our highways team.

The KCC Cabinet Member for Highways, Nick Chard, recently met with Transport Minister Theresa Villiers **calling on better rail services for Maidstone** and for restoration of the **Maidstone East-London Bridge service**. The rail franchise for Kent is due for renewal in 2012, but Southeastern could be granted an extension to 2014. A rail summit arranged by KCC in March will be followed up by another meeting in the Autumn to lobby government to improve rail connections across the county.

In order to reduce the enormous public spending deficit, KCC will need to take around £340m of savings from a controllable budget of £1.4bn (excluding schools) over the next four years. Whilst just over half of this will be found from restructuring, better procurement and general efficiencies, that still leaves a significant sum to find. The recently published HM Treasury's *Spending Review Framework* document poses a number of questions that are similar to those that helped the Canadian government radically reduce public expenditure. The questions among others include: does the activity provide substantial economic value, can it be targeted to those most in need and can it be provided at lower cost or more effectively? Kent County Council's 84 elected Members including myself are considering these questions in every area of activity we are involved in and are identifying ideas for savings and spending priorities. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please do let me know.

The battle to **protect maternity services at Maidstone Hospital** continues with a public meeting arranged by the Kent County Councillors representing the borough of Maidstone. A public meeting will be held at Maidstone Leisure Centre on 9 September at 7.15pm. It will be chaired by BBC Kent Radio presenter John Warnett, with speakers including Hugh Robertson MP and Helen Grant MP, Paul Carter (Leader, Kent County Council), Chris Garland (Maidstone Borough Council), local NHS representatives, local GPs and campaign group MASH. Having a packed meeting will send a strong message to the Strategic Health Authority that Maidstone's maternity unit needs to retain consultants on standby to assist women who experience complications during labour. Please do come! If we lose consultants, expectant mothers in Maidstone could be transported to Pembury, Medway or Ashford - yet the borough's population is growing and needs a fully staffed maternity unit to cope with local demand.

Please do contact me if you need my help or advice

Jenny Whittle

County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East

Deputy Cabinet Member for Learning and Development

✉ jenny.whittle@kent.gov.uk

☎ 01622 734897 (h) or 07855 767968 (m)

Save the Date Message

Christmas Quiz
Grafty Green Village Hall

Date: 4th December 2010 - Time: 7.30pm

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOUGHTON MALHERBE HISTORY SOCIETY

Update on our book of the history of the Parish.

Following a recent generous donation of £3000 from the Malherbe Monthly Magazine and a grant of £2500 from the Parish Council the society now has secured sufficient funds to publish the book on the history of our Parish in full colour.

We have a growing list of potential orders which should generate surplus funds to give back to the Parish Council for the benefit of the Parish after a free copy is provided to every household and all financial obligations are settled.

You will be contacted as soon as the cost is available to confirm if you do wish to purchase. Our thanks go to everyone who has supported us in this venture.

Ron Galton



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Update on Lenham Valley Business Association

I would like to thank Malherbe Monthly Magazine for allowing the LVBA to update everyone each month. Many of the businesses in the area are advertisers in local magazines and members of the business association, and gradually, more and more advertisers are proudly showing the LVBA member logo on their ads. You may have even seen the new window stickers on doorways to premises and shops as well as larger versions on traders vans and vehicles.

Being a member of any group carries with it certain responsibilities like promoting the association any time and place you can. Putting the logo on websites, ads, on stationery, business cards, leaflets and promotions, putting the stickers up (and monthly posters) and giving out handouts to encourage as many people as possible to join the group and help it continue to increase revenues for members.

When it first started the organising committee were careful to create an association that would help and assist businesses throughout the membership no matter their size or problem. So far all questions have been answered, many seeking help have found the help they have received has been far more than they expected. Inevitably there will be fall off in member numbers as some business cease to trade or move away, and, for whatever reason, fail to renew membership, so we need to ensure that numbers are not just maintained but continually increased to allow new ideas and promotions to benefit the whole area. We are open for new ideas and talent and volunteers.

There were other similar organisations in Kent that started out before LVBA, some have failed to live up to their promises, others have realised just how much time and effort goes into producing this type of business association and maintaining the level of services. It is our intention to continue to shine above the others and whilst we have learned from the mistakes of others we are not above recognising and duplicating good ideas for the benefit of Lenham, Harrietsham and the surrounding areas. The committee are discussing plans for the future.

We understand that we cannot possibly develop in the way we need to with the few organisers we have, the way forward is to set up sub committees with specialist knowledge in specific areas. If you are interested in helping your community then please come forward. You may be a director in a big company, or a sole trader, you might even be retired or maybe just starting out in business and realise that you could get help as well as give it. Our number is 01622 820841. Our AGM is on 5th October so contact us soon.

Free networking meeting non members welcome: Thursday 2 September the White Horse in Sandway. 6pm until 8pm. Check out the website for full details.

Alan Reading, LVBA Chairman

The Grafty Gourmet

This is a very simple, yet surprisingly tasty meal. It's something that I made up using what limited ingredients I had at the time, because I hadn't been shopping. Like most good recipes, the simple ones are the best. Any pasta could be used in place of spaghetti if you prefer.

Spicy Sausage Spaghetti

Serves 2

6 Good Pork Sausages, cooked and sliced into ½ cm slices

A hand full of Spaghetti

1 Onion, chopped finely

½ Large Red Chilli, chopped finely

1 Clove of Garlic, crushed

½ Cup of Vegetable Stock

2 Tablespoons of Tomato Puree

1 Teaspoon of dried Basil

¼ Cup of grated Strong Cheddar Cheese or Parmesan

1. Place the spaghetti in boiling water and simmer for 10 to 12 minutes. Make sure the water is bubbling all the time, as this will prevent the pasta from sticking together.
2. Sauté the chopped onion, chilli and garlic in a little butter and olive oil, in a frying pan, until the onions soften. Make sure the oil is not too hot, as this will burn the chilli and garlic. The idea is to get the flavour of the chilli and garlic into the oil.
3. Add the sliced cooked sausages, vegetable stock, dried basil and the tomato puree and stir to combine the ingredients evenly.
4. Drain and add the cooked spaghetti to the sauce over a low heat and stir, until the pasta is evenly coated in the sauce.
5. Serve on warm plates with a good sprinkling of strong cheddar or parmesan cheese.

St Edmunds Centre Platts Heath

Now the holidays have started a band of volunteers are in the process of decorating the inside of the hall. Many hands make light work and they have done a wonderful job. It is great to see the enthusiasm of the younger members of the community working together. So thank you, Karen, Angie, Rebecca, Kate, Bruce, Duffrey and Bob. Thanks also to Chris who has done a great job on the garden too.

We are also having tarmac laid on the fire escape route this month which will also make access to the garden easier too.

Karen and her band held a craft day for the children at the start of the holidays and raised more money for our funds; they plan to hold another one during half term in October.

Our Harvest Supper will be held on Saturday 9th October 2010 at 7pm it will be a cold buffet and desert £6 per person. Phone Tricia on 858891 or Duffrey On 850463 to book your tickets.

The Line dancers keep going but do need some new members Thursday evenings 8-9pm. Black Dragon Academy Karate Club still meet 4.45-6.45 on Monday afternoons for the children anyone interested should telephone Mrs Thursting on 01634 320238.

Anyone interested in starting up a club in the hall or booking it for private parties call me on 858891 or Duff Robinson on 850463.

Secretary Patricia Dibley

Back to Church Sunday! "Come as you are"

Everyone is invited to come "back to church" on Sunday 26th September. Each Church in the Benefice will be having a special friendly and accessible service to welcome you. Do come, whether you are a regular, or someone who used to come to church but got out of the habit, or perhaps have never been much but would like to give it a try.

Service times are as follows:

St John the Baptist, Harrietsham at 9.30am
St Nicholas, Boughton Malherbe at 9.30am
St Mary, Lenham at 11am
All Saints, Ulcombe at 11.15am

All are welcome and there will be refreshments after each service.

Mondays to Fridays

Saturdays

Service No	School													
	59	59	59	66	School Days Only	School Days Only	Not School Days	School Days Only	59	59	59	59	59	59
Maidstone, King St, Stop L2	0948	1227	1402	.....	1555	1555	1615	1700	1750	.....	0838	1241	1525	1755
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Stn, J4	0950	1229	1404	.....	1557	1557	1617	1702	1752	.....	0840	1243	1527	1757
Wheatshaf	0957	1236	1411	.....	1604	1604	1624	1709	1759	.....	0847	1250	1534	1804 R
Loose, Loose Rd/Old Loose Hill	1001	1240	1415	.....	1608	1608	via	1713	1803	.....	via	1254	1538	.....
Linton Corner	1005	1244	1419	.....	1612	1612	Sutton	1717	1807	.....	Sutton	1258	1542	.....
Cornwallis Academy	.....	.....	.....	1505	.....	.....	Road	.....	.....	.....	Road	.....	.....	.....
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	1010	1249	1424	.....	1617	1617	and	1722	1812	.....	and	1303	1547	1817 R
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	1013	1252	1427	1509	1620	1620	Langley	1725	1815	.....	Langley	1306	1550	1820 R
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1016	1255	1430	1512	1623	1623	.....	1728	1818	.....	.....	1309	1553	1823 R
Warmlake Corner	1019	1258	1433	1515	.....	1626	1636	1731	1821	.....	0859	1312	1556	1826 R
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	.....	1306	.....	1523	.....	1634	1646	.....	1829	.....	0907	1320	1604	1834 R
Kingswood, Village Hall	1024	1308	1438	1525	.....	1636	1648	1739	1831	.....	0909	1322	.....	1836 R
Ulcombe, Post Office	.....	1313	.....	1530	.....	1641	1653	.....	1836	.....	0914	1327	.....	1841 R
Grafty Green, Kings Head	.....	1320	.....	.....	.....	1648	1700	.....	1843	.....	0921	1334	.....	1848 R
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	.....	.....	.....	1535	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Headcorn, opp. Millbank Lay-by	.....	.....	.....	1544	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

CODES

* - These buses are provided on behalf of Kent County Council by Nu-Venture (Tel:01622-882288) NOT Arriva. If you have any comments or suggestions, please write to the Transport Integration, Kent County Council, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4QG.

R. Sets down only upon request by passengers boarding at or before Loose Road, Plains Avenue.

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Grafty Green - Kingswood - Chart Sutton - Maidstone

Mondays to Fridays

Saturdays

Service No	School Days Only	School Days Only	Not School Days	School Days Only	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Headcorn, Millbank Lay-by	.....	.....	.....	0736	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grafty Green, Pig & Whistle	.....	.....	.....	0745	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grafty Green, Kings Head	0720	.....	0723	.....	0915	.....	1325	.....	.....	1703	.....	0733	0923	1338
Ulcombe, Post Office	0727	.....	0730	0750	0922	.....	1332	.....	.....	1710	.....	0740	0930	1343
Kingswood, Village Hall	0732	.....	0735	0755	0927	1027	1337	1440	1440	1715	.....	0745	0935	1348
Kingswood, Ashford Drive	0735	.....	0738	0757	0929	1029	1339	1442	1442	1717	.....	0747	0937	1350
Warmlake Corner	0743	.....	0744	0801	0935	1035	1345	1448	1448	1723	.....	0753	0943	1356
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	via	0739	0747	0804	0938	1038	1348	1451	1451	1726	.....	0756	0946	1359
Boughton Monchelsea, Cock Inn	Langley	0742	0750	0807	0941	1041	1351	1454	1454	1729	.....	0759	0949	1402
Boughton Monchelsea, Albion	and	0745	0753	.....	0944	1044	1354	1457	1457	1732	.....	0802	0952	1405
Cornwallis Academy	Sutton	.....	.....	0820	.....	.....	.....	1507	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Sutton
Linton Corner	Road	0750	0758	.....	0949	1049	1359	1502	1509	1737	.....	0807	0957	1410
Loose, Loose Rd/Old Loose Hill	.....	0756	0802	.....	0953	1053	1403	1506	1513	1741	.....	0811	1001	1414
Wheatshaf	0756	0800	0806	.....	0957	1057	1407	1510	1517	1745	.....	0815	1005	1418
Maidstone, King Street	.....	0810	0814	.....	1005	1105	1415	1518	1525	1753	.....	0820	1013	1426
Maidstone, Chequers Bus Stn	0808	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
London Rd, Somerfield Hospital	0817
Tonbridge Rd, Oakwood Park	0826

Sundays & Public Holidays*

CODES

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Service 59 does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays.

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Grafty Green Gardening Club

Date	Topic	Speaker
5 th January	AGM – Best of Kent slide show	Robert Canis
2 nd February	Bee Keeping	Mrs. Barbara Harris
2 nd March	Growing Vegetables	Mr. Andrew Fletcher
6 th April	Spring Show History/making walking sticks	Mr. Dennis Worcester
10 th April	15% off at Rumwood Nursery 9.30 – 4.30	
4 th May	Visit to Turkey Mill	
25 th –27 th June	Weekend visit to Dorset, staying Norfolk Royale Hotel Bournemouth. Gardens: Stourhead (NT), Abbotsbury, Kingston Maurwood, West Dean	
6 th July	Mere House, Mereworth	Andrew Wells
3 rd August	Belmont House, Throwley	Head Gardener
7st September	Autumn show - Iceland/wild flowers	Sue Buckingham Wild flower expert
5 th October	Nuts and Seeds	Tom Hart Dyke
2 nd November	Kent Gardens Trust	Elizabeth Cairns
7 th December	Christmas Social with entertainment	Geoff Doel and Mick Lynn

Tuesday 7th September - The speaker is Sue Buckingham who will give a talk on flowers from Iceland. Sue is extremely knowledgeable about wild flowers and can be heard on BBC radio 4 'Home Planet'.

The evening is also the Autumn Show and the classes for the show are as follows

Flower Classes:-

1. One stem of any blue variety of flower(s).
2. One stem of a white flower(s).
3. Three roses (hybrid Tea type)
4. One stem of cluster rose
5. 'Daisy Dreams' vase of any type of daisy flowers.
6. One vase of annuals (not more than 12 stems)

Vegetable Classes & Fruit:-

7. 3 carrots
8. 5 tomatoes
9. 9 runner beans
10. The Largest Leek
11. 3 beetroot
12. Plate of blackberries (12)

Craft

13. Collage of petals/leaves/grasses .A5 size
- 14: Potted plant (6" pot maximum size) of Fuchsia

Yoga classes in Grafty Green Village Hall

Wednesday evenings - 7 - 8.30 pm

Term starts Wednesday 1st September - 20th October
and

Thursday mornings 9.30 - 11.00 am

Term starts Thursday 2nd September - 21st October

The term will run for eight weeks and the fee is £40. Drop in students £6 per session. If you are able to make any of these dates and would like to join in please give me a call -

Sue Burch - 01622 850381, email:burch1997@aol.com

Mobile: 0780 3962339

Bring balance and harmony into your daily life, reduce stress and feel great.

Neighbourhood Watch

Over the past year or so there has been a great deal of discussion at a regional and national level about changing the NhW (Neighbourhood Watch) logo that we have all used since NhW was first launched in this country in 1984.

Kent County NhW Association held a unanimous position that it was the best known logo in the country even amongst criminals and that it would not be in the interest of NhW to change it. There would also of course been financial implications to changing things such as signs and stickers. The South East Region, (Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and Thames Valley) were united in opposition to these changes as indeed were a number of other regional groups.

I am pleased to say that the Design Council who were engaged by the Home Office, to, amongst other issues look at changing the logo have now recommended to National NhW that the logo should **NOT BE CHANGED**.

I felt that it was important to bring you up to date with this important bit of news.

May I also say a special thank you to the board of Kent County NhW Association who I know championed objection to the change at both regional and national level.

PC Mick Wright
County Watch Liaison Officer.

NEWS from Maidstone Borough Council

Beware of bogus callers

Maidstone Borough Council wants residents to be on their guard if they receive a telephone call from someone saying they are from the council, and asking for credit or debit card details so that they can reimburse a council tax overpayment.

Maidstone Borough Council does not operate in this way and advises anyone who receives such a call NOT to give any debit or credit card details. Revenues manager, Stephen McGinnes says: "If possible, make a note of as much information as you can, end the call and then telephone Consumer Direct on 08457 585497 and the Police on 01622 690690 to report the incident."

The advice follows an incident today (Friday August 27) when a resident refused to give the details requested and called the council to check if they had received a bogus call.

Kent Trading Standards

Kent Trading Standards has received a report from a consumer who received an unsolicited call from a trader claiming he had detected a fault on their computer. The consumer allowed the trader access to his system to download software. The consumer then found out that the service would cost an exorbitant amount.

The caller did not give the name of the business and they called from a 0207 (inner London) number.

Kent Trading Standards are warning consumers to be wary of these types of calls. If in doubt, end the call. Please report such callers to Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06 who will be able to recommend traders from our good trader scheme "Buy With Confidence" or visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

These traders have been thoroughly vetted and audited by Trading Standards officers and are only approved if they meet our strict criteria for membership.

Kent Trading Standards has received a report from a consumer who received an unsolicited call from a man with an American accent stating that the consumer had won a holiday and to press an option in order to claim the prize.

Pleaser be wary of these types of calls. There is reason to believe that the business is based in Florida, USA. If you are in any doubt hang up. Be especially aware if they are asking for personal details, bank accounts or a fee before they will process your "prize".

Remember, if it sounds too good to be true it usually is.

Please contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06 or go to www.consumerdirect.gov.uk if you need further advice on your consumer rights, or you want to report any businesses or incidents you have concerns about

The September Night Sky

The Sun is in the constellation of Leo at the start of September, and moves into Virgo on the 17th.

The Autumn Equinox occurs on Thursday 23rd September, when the Sun crosses the celestial equator. At this point, night and day are of equal length. After this the Sun moves into the southern half of the sky, and I'm afraid that for the next six months the nights are longer than the days.

New Moon occurs on Wednesday 1st September, when it appears in the constellation of Taurus. Full Moon is on Thursday 23rd September. The September Full Moon is often called the "Harvest Moon", because it continues to rise around sunset for several evenings, allowing farmers to work long after sunset. At the end of the article I will be returning to the Moon. (not literally)

Mercury is at inferior conjunction (almost directly in front of the Sun) on 3rd September, and by the end of the month it will start to become visible, with difficulty, in the eastern sky at dawn.

It is unlikely that we will be able to see Venus this month as it is very low in the south-western sky at sunset, and sets only minutes after the Sun.

Like Venus, Mars is low in the south-western sky at sunset, and therefore it is very unlikely we will be able to see the "Red Planet" this month.

Jupiter is the only planet well placed for viewing this month. It can be seen due south at midnight about 30 degrees above the horizon. Relative to the stars it is moving south-westwards in the constellation of Pisces. Through a telescope the disc of Jupiter can clearly be seen, together with the dark and light cloud bands and some of the four major moons.

Saturn is at superior conjunction (almost directly behind the Sun) on 1st October, and will therefore not be visible this month.

You may have read recently that the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter has discovered cracks in the surface of the Moon. Scientists believe that this is caused by the cooling of the Moon's interior, and calculate that its radius has reduced by around 100metres (320ft) in the relatively recent lunar past. (within the last billion years) They are saying that stargazers are unlikely to notice any change in the size of the Moon in the near future.

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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, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 can be viewed. You even get the front cover in colour!!!

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

www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk



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

I hope you enjoyed last month's 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?

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Keeper	Treaty	Time	Peace
2	Railway	Heavy	Light	
3	Cottage	Cloth	Cake	
4	Fresh	Force	Bag	
5	Spray	Machine	Fire	
6	Break	Keel	Song	
7	Ferry	Cable	Park	
8	Modern	Office	Lamp	
9	Sun	Square	Television	
10	Board	Room	Pin	
11	Health	Last	Ski	
12	Touch	Cause	Soul	
13	Neck	Cup	Bow	
14	Brother	Term	Way	
15	Postcard	Motion	Big	
16	Necklace	Diver	Barley	

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- Wire Netting & Barbed Wire
- Cement & Timber
- Shotgun Cartridges
- Key & Glass Cutting
- Wallpaper Books/Fabrics
- Calor Gas & Camping Gas
- Pet Food & Sundries
- Cake Tins for Hire (novelty, numbers etc)
- Plumbing

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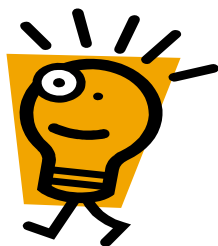
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Our next group of lessons (using Word 2007/2010, Picasa and a desk top publishing package) has now been arranged for the period September to December, as follows:

HOW TO GET STARTED (from the very beginning!)	13 th and 20 th September	10am/12 noon.
HOW TO GET ON LINE (for the very first time!)	4 th and 11 th October	10am /12 noon
HOW TO GET PHOTOGRAPHS FROM CAMERA TO PC	22 nd and 29 th September	7.30pm/9.3 0pm
HOW TO EDIT PHOTOGRAPHS	13 th and 20 th October	7.30pm/9.3 0pm
HOW TO EMAIL PHOTOGRAPHS	3 rd and 10 th November	7.30pm/9.3 0pm
HOW TO GET STARTED IN WORD	30 th September and 7 th October	7.30pm/9.3 0pm
HOW TO DO MORE IN WORD	21 st and 28 th October	7.30pm/9.3 0pm
HOW TO PRODUCE A NEWSLETTER	5 th and 12 th October	10am/12noon
HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN GREETINGS CARDS	26 th October and 2 nd November	10am/12 noon
HOW TO USE THE INTERNET	15 th November	10am/12 noon
HOW TO USE SOCIAL NETWORKS	22 nd November	10am/12 noon
HOW TO PRODUCE A CALENDAR	6 TH and 12 th December	10am-12 noon

We can also look at additional classes to cover such subjects as How to use eBay, How to use files and folders, How to shop on line, etc. if there is sufficient interest. And for everyone who wants to find out about their ancestors:

FAMILY HISTORY AFTERNOON on Saturday 18th September -
2/4pm

Come along a find out how to get started on your family tree.

Please ring our booking clerk Sylvia Tillman on 07523 182994 who can give you full details of our very reasonable costs, which start from as little as £7.50 for a 2 hour session, and any other information you may need. And don't forget about our drop-in clinic – every Saturday from 10am to 12 noon – technical help and advice, or just come and have a chat and a coffee.



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Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)

Maidstone Borough Council have made a number of changes to the Weekend Freighter Service. From the 21st August this year, the freighter service will operate on a Saturday only to improve efficiency and reduce cost, however the number of sites visited remains unchanged. Streamlining the service and re-planning the route also reduces the amount of miles we have to drive, so also reduces the CO2 emissions.

Waste collected by the freighter is taken to landfill so therefore we can no longer accept garden waste, large bulky items or household waste (from wheeled bins or black sacks) as there are better ways of treating this waste in Maidstone. Many items can be recycled at the household waste recycling centre in Tovil.

If you have a large amount of garden waste you can book a bulky collection (as long as it is suitable contained in builders bags etc) or take it to your local household waste recycling site where it will be sent for composting. Alternatively, you may wish to hire a garden bin.

The service is provided for the collection of certain items of rubbish that cannot be put out with your weekly refuse collection or recycled, such as an old bicycle, broken rotary washing line, old fitness equipment such as bikes and rowing machines, old carpet and underlay, home furnishings and bric-a-brac, DIY waste such as broken tiles, plumbing, radiators etc. We will also accept broken or small items of furniture and plastic items such as broken garden chairs and toys.

We will accept wood and metal but it would preferable to take these materials to the household waste recycling centre in Tovil where they will be sent off for recycling.

Important Information

Only freighter staff are authorised to load items into the vehicle. For your own safety you must remain outside the cordoned area, children must be kept away from the freighter at all times.

In busy periods, it may be necessary to queue to hand over your bulky items, abusive behaviour towards staff will not be tolerated. Please approach the vehicle from the side and always be aware of moving traffic. Please do not leave items on the pavement or road before or after the Freighter visits.

Freighter operatives have the right to refuse to accept waste particularly if it is hazardous, can cause damage to the vehicle or cause danger to the public, such as: Flammables, Large quantities liquids/powders, Paints/Oils, Lighting tubes, Vehicle parts/batteries/tyres etc, Commercial waste, Garden waste, Large bulky items including sofas, Clinical waste and Asbestos

Plasterboard can no longer be collected by the weekend freighter or household bulky collections, this is due to the acid produced when land filled. Waste plasterboard should be taken to the household waste recycling centre in Tovil.

Electrical Items

We can no longer collect electrical items such as fridges, televisions, monitors etc. Under European legislation we'd have to provide a separate vehicle to continue to collect these items. We will accept other old electrical appliances such as vacuum cleaners, microwaves etc, however we would prefer it if you could take them to the household waste recycling centre in Tovil where they will be recycled. You can also dispose of electrical appliances through our paid for bulky collection service.

Grafty Green

Saturday 9 th Oct	15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd
Saturday 18 th Dec	15:15 – 15:45 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

Platts Heath

Saturday 9 th Oct	14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane
Saturday 18 th Dec	14:30 – 15:10 -: Green Lane

Ulcombe

Saturday 16 th Oct	09:25 – 09:55 -: Lodge Road
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The Great Leeds Book Sale

This is by way of advance notice – the Great Leeds Book sale will be held this year on 20th November. We will not only require your presence on the day, to buy your year's supply of books, but we also need helpers throughout the preceding week (15th-19th), to unpack, sort and arrange, so please make notes in your diary now, before other conflicting engagements take up your valuable time.

It is clear that the fame of the sale has is now established, as we receive books for stock throughout the year, but be assured, if you have surplus books in good condition, we would love to take them; just deliver them to the South Porch at the church any day after 9.30am, when the church door is normally open. May I presume to make a couple of reservations however?

*Firstly, by all means put the books in boxes or bags, but not so many in one container that we can't lift it without damaging ourselves or the container, and not thrown in so roughly that good books are spoiled , covers bent back, or bindings broken

*Secondly, books in good condition we are very pleased to take, but unfortunately we cannot take second hand toys, back copies of magazines, or jumble. Save them for the next church boot sale!



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Christian Message September 2010

Being a member of Maidstone Street Pastors, I have seen my fair share of drunken revellers enjoying the nightlife our town has to offer. We all know that you get the happy drunk, the sad drunk & the aggressive drunk. We also know that there is a culture in our society today whose motto is " yeah it's the weekend, time to get completely hammered ". Now none of this shocks me, as I am sure there are a few of us out there who, if we are honest, can say, " yep been there, done that, got the t-shirt "!

After spending just over a year in this Ministry, the biggest thing that has struck me is that so many of our young people feel that they are unworthy of God's love. I think the most frequent question all of our teams get asked is " why would you give up your own time to help us? " Well the answer is simple; we do it because we care and because we want to take God's love onto the streets of our town. It is not our remit to quote chapter & verse from the Bible, but to be there when needed and hold out a helping hand. We take a slow walk around the town looking out for the confused & vulnerable, help those separated from friends, look after those who are a little worse for wear and generally make sure people are safe from harm. It can be very rewarding at times and at others it can be frustrating, but it has taught me a very valuable lesson. That lesson is about time and the way we rush through life.

It bugs me why so many feel so unworthy, and humbles me how grateful they are for the time we spend with them, no matter how short. It has made me look at myself and how I go about my daily life. To spend 6 hours a month with the Street Pastors is all fine & dandy, but as anyone who has ever been shopping with me can tell you that I hit that town like a whirlwind! Focused solely on what I need & where I need to go. It had never really occurred to me before, that in fact there are confused & vulnerable people on our streets at daylight hours as well as nighttimes! So now when in town I do try to take a slower walk around the shops and take more notice of the people around me. Sometimes even a smile and a good morning as you pass by can be enough to lift the spirit of someone who is lonely or feeling a bit down, and lets them know that they have been noticed. I do wonder if small gestures such as this could go some way to making the people we come into contact with feel just a little more worthy about themselves, then they will not feel the need to drown their sorrows in the spirits of a destructive nature.

**God's Blessing
Angie Collins**

Music Notes - September

The lunchtime concerts at All Saints' church Maidstone will be held again every Thursday in September at 1.05pm. Remember that entrance is free, with a retiring collection. Light refreshments available but you can bring your own lunchtime sandwiches! I would particularly recommend the organ recital on 30th September, which will be given by David Flood, the organist of Canterbury Cathedral, The collection for that concert will be for the cathedral restoration fund. Details of all the lunchtime concerts can be obtained from 01622 843298.

Another top quality organ recital this month will be at St. Clement's church Sandwich, 7.30pm on 18th September. Stephen Cleobury CBE will give a Gala Recital on the 1995 Nicholson organ. Stephen is an eminent recitalist and choral director, but his role as Director of Music at Kings College Cambridge and the famous "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols" is broadcast worldwide. Tickets are available on the door at £7 (with concessions.) Advance tickets and further details can be obtained from Julian Sampson 01227 721697 or sampson@supanet.com

Brian Hardy

The Dover Road 2.

(An extract from a late 1920's edition of the "Newnes motorists touring guide")

" Through Gravesend, we come past Denton and Milton to Chalk and Gadshill. That hill was famed long before Dickens came to live at Gadshill Place. "Gads" it is explained was the name for rogues and footpads, in the long ago. Here it is that Shakespeare placed the scene in which Prince Hal, Falstaff, Pains and their gang robbed the merchants and the flea-bitten carriers.

Through the long-drawn streets of Chatham and up the steep Chatham hill we go. That weird structure on the crest of Chatham Hill is "Jezreel's tower", the remains of the unfinished temple of that old sect, the Jezreelites. Passing Rainham, we come to the real open country for the first time. It is a land of pear and apple orchards, merging as we go past Newington and Key Street, through Sittingbourne, into hop-gardens."

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – September 2010

5th September 14th Sunday after Trinity

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
8am Harrietsham Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Family Praise Service
9.30am Boughton Malherbe BCP Holy Communion
11am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Family Praise Service

12th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

8am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Morning Worship
11am Lenham Morning Worship
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion
6.30pm Boughton Malherbe Choral Evensong
7pm Holy Cross Bearsted Taize Service

19th September 16th Sunday after Trinity

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

26th September 17th Sunday after Trinity

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

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Keeper	Treaty	Time	Peace
2	Railway	Heavy	Light	Sleeper
3	Cottage	Cloth	Cake	Cheese
4	Fresh	Force	Bag	Air
5	Spray	Machine	Fire	Gun
6	Break	Keel	Song	Even
7	Ferry	Cable	Park	Car
8	Modern	Office	Lamp	Post
9	Sun	Square	Television	Set
10	Board	Room	Pin	Drawing
11	Health	Last	Ski	Resort
12	Touch	Cause	Soul	Lost
13	Neck	Cup	Bow	Tie
14	Brother	Term	Way	Half
15	Postcard	Motion	Big	Picture
16	Necklace	Diver	Barley	Pearl

	Find the missing word?
1	Meryl Streep, Oscar winning actress and sang in Mamma Mia
2	Ugly Betty, US sitcom with America Ferrera
3	Adrian Mole, Fictional Diarist
4	Stairway to Heaven, Classic Led Zepplin track
5	Ebony and Ivory, No 1 hit for Stevie Wonder & Paul McCartney
6	Richard Wilson, Actor who played Victor Meldrew
7	Katie Price, Model whose alter ego is Jordan
8	Eddie Jordan, Former racing driver who hails from Northern Ireland
9	Material Girl, 1985 top ten hit for Madonna
10	Cruella De Vil, Villainess from 101 Dalmatians

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