

Malherbe Monthly

Number 71
June 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
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 **July** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mf.hitchins@virgin.net) by **20th June**

Front cover: Platts Heath Primary School

News from St. Nicholas Church

Marriages

On April 17th at St. Nicholas the marriage of Samantha Medlock and Laurence Davis took place. Samantha is a local girl and her parents live in Grafty Green having moved here from Ulcombe quite recently and Laurence is in the Army, soon to be posted to Germany where Samantha is hoping to join him. We wish them a long and happy life together.

On May 2nd the marriage took place between Adele Hobden and Keith Jarvis. This couple were able to marry at St. Nicholas under the new ruling that I mentioned last month. Unfortunately, the weather did its worst and it rained hard all day, but that did not dampen any ones spirits and a lovely service was conducted by Rev: Marian Bond. The reception was held at Chilston Country Hotel. We wish Adele and Keith a long and happy life together; they have already returned to see us at Boughton.

Coffee Morning

The Village Coffee Morning will be held on Wednesday 9th in the Village Hall 10-00-12.00noon. Coffee and biscuits and perhaps one of Sally's lemon drizzle cakes. There is no charge but donations would be appreciated. Come along for a chat with pleasant company.

Cream Teas

We are hoping to start our Cream Teas again on Sunday July 11th 2.00-5.00pm. The Teas consist of 2 freshly made scones served with fresh strawberry jam, cream and butter and a pot of tea or coffee. Let's hope that we have some good weather this year, so we can sit in the Churchyard and enjoy the Sunshine.

Thanksgiving Service

Pentecost fell on Sunday 23rd May and we had our Family Service at which we welcomed little Faye Jezard. She was blessed and we gave thanks for her birth. Faye was very well supported by all her family. The service was lead by Joan Drury and the Vicar Dick Venn preached.

Morning Prayers

Each Monday morning Prayers are said in St. Nicholas at 9.30am-10.00am except on Bank Holiday Mondays. Prayers are said in all the churches once a week - Ulcombe is Tuesday's, Lenham on Wednesday's and Harrietsham on Thursday's. Friday is Dick Venn's day off.

Funeral

On Friday 21st May we said good-bye to Ann Cutting at her funeral at 11.30am. Ann had lived in the area all her long life and the last 47 years she lived in Sandway. Ann was 96 years old and she had been a very faithful member of St. Nicholas Choir until ill health prevented her from attending. Her daughters Angela and Sylvia and their families attended the Funeral Service and Ann was the first person to be laid to rest in St. Nicholas Churchyard for some time. Our most sincere sympathy goes to Angela and Sylvia and all the family.

Joan Davidson

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Steamboat _____, The first animated film to star Mickey Mouse
2	_____ Chuzzlewit, A character in a book by Dickens
3	The _____ of May, A H E Bates book and TV programme
4	Dennis the _____, Cartoon Character
5	A _____ Nights Dream, A Shakespeare play
6	The _____ Chef, The first TV show from Jamie Oliver
7	_____ Cube, A puzzle toy
8	Quality _____, Chocolate assortment
9	_____ Winfrey, Talk or chat show host
10	Basic _____, A 1992 film

ALL-FIX PLUMBING

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David Jenkins



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**Ken and Eve Sweet
extend a warm welcome to**

The Kings Head Grafty Green

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



Traditional Sunday Lunches

**Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers**

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01622 850259**

Children's Room Beer Garden

Charing Crematorium

Situated in 12 acres
of peaceful lawns and woodland garden.
Kent's first crematorium has served the public
for over 50 years.

Our help, advice and experience on all matters
relating to cremation is freely available to you.

Kent County Crematorium PLC
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Charing, Ashford,
Kent.

☎ 01233 712443

Malherbe Monthly Magazine

In order for this magazine to exist, we have to thank the advertisers who provide the finance in the form of advertising revenue. From this income the magazine has to cover all its costs in terms of paper and LaserJet Ink toner. Additionally we needed to purchase new printers as they get a lot of usage each month. Any excess revenue is held in a bank account to be used as and when new printing equipment is required and to hold a reasonable surplus in case of lower advertising income in the future.

In the early days of the magazine, when advertising revenue was low, we were in the very fortunate position of having the magazine printed by a printing firm that was owned by Eddie Brooke and he very kindly did not charge for the printing. In that period we accumulated a reasonable surplus.

Since July 2007 the printing of the magazine has been done in-house and subsequently we have had to bear the cost of printing in terms of paper, ink, printers and folding/stapling equipment. We have increased our advertising income in recent years and now have sufficient funds available, not only support the magazine, but also to start thinking about donations to worthy local causes.

I am pleased to announce that the magazine has made its first donation of £1000 to Platts Heath Primary School. We hope to make other donations in the future as and when other worthy projects require funds to progress. The magazine is distributed free to the Parish of Boughton Malherbe, Liverton Street and Platts Heath and it's to this area that we will focus our attention when considering donations.

Mike Hitchins
Editor Malherbe Monthly

Platts Heath Primary School

The Governors of Platts Heath Primary School are pleased to announce that they have been successful in the recruitment of a new Headteacher, Mr Piers Ancomb, who will start on 1st September. This follows the announcement of the retirement of the current Headteacher Mr Ian Priddle who has been with the school for the past ten years. A full tribute about Ian will appear in next month's issue.

The following letter has been received by the Parish Clerk in response to reports that have been made to the RAF concerning low-flying Chinook helicopters being observed within the parish



SO3 Engagement & Flying Complaints
Royal Air Force Odiham

Hook
Hampshire
RG29 1QT
Tel: 01256 367489

Unfortunately night flying is always a sensitive issue, but an essential part of a pilot's training. Whilst we are fully aware of the environmental impact of aircraft operations, we endeavour to minimise nuisance to our neighbours in the local community as much as possible. However, squadron pilots must remain current on night flying techniques, and operational and training requirements will necessitate some flying through the night period.

You can be assured that the crews conduct their sorties within the prescribed regulations, and that all flights are pre-authorised. Each sortie is thoroughly planned by the crew and must be approved by the Duty Authorising Officer. We do not conduct flights unnecessarily, or with disregard for the public. We only carry out the minimum training to meet our training requirements. We are acutely aware of the disturbance caused by the Chinook, and we continually strive to balance this with our mandate to provide the British Army with the safest means of transport for our troops in high threat ground zones. Care is always taken in choosing the clearest and safest routes and we do routinely avoid over-flight of towns and large villages. In our continued efforts to minimise nuisance to the local populace existing procedures and routes are continually monitored and reviewed with regard to noise abatement and the sensitivities of the community in which we work and live.

As you are no doubt aware, there is a continuing presence in the Gulf region and we have crews out in Afghanistan where they are operating in dangerous and volatile environments. It is therefore essential that they practice in the UK, so the ability to operate under threat is second nature.

NEWS FROM ULCOMBE'S VILLAGE SCHOOL

We are at last starting to see the sunshine in this, the summer term, as it used to be called. As always, it seems we will be kept on our toes with the many and varied activities and events. Improvements are also planned, which we are sure children and adults will appreciate. The start to the term could hardly have been more unusual with both Mrs Owens and I caught up in the travel chaos that affected so people. My thanks, of course, go to the staff team who worked hard to make sure that as much as possible carried on as normal, but also to friends of the school in the village who offered to help.

Thank you to all of the parents who sent back the parental surveys. It has been very interesting and informative to receive your feedback. Well done to Mrs May, who won the prize draw.

In the News

After the last month's Village Newsletter went to print, on Saturday 24th April, the school's football team took part in the annual Lenham tournament. We played six games winning one, drawing four and losing one. With several Ulcombe shots hitting the post during the morning the team were really very unlucky not to progress through to the semi-finals. Well done to the team for playing and representing the school so well!

Owlets have started swimming this term, and they are thoroughly enjoying their weekly trip to Mote Park. Tawny Owls had a great trip to the Canterbury Environmental Education Centre on Tuesday 27th April. The trip included taking a walk along the River Stour. The children learnt that the Stour has its source near to Ulcombe, in a back garden in Lenham, and meanders its way through Ashford, Canterbury and Sandwich, then finally to its mouth at Pegwell Bay. They also completed a variety of activities on the topic of water and rivers. This was also the first educational visit for which we have been able to use the local schools' minibus. The rules and regulations on who can drive it are very strict, so it is great that Mr Sheehan and Mrs Sharp have recently been able to complete the necessary training.

SATs are very much in the news at the moment. We carried out these tests for children in Year 6 in the middle of May, despite the boycott that has affected schools across the country.

Clubs

The range of clubs on offer is again very good. We have a wide variety from Athletics and OAA, through to chess and ICT. Unfortunately Cricket Club has not been possible as planned, because Leeds and Broomfield Cricket Club have been unable to get a coach to run this. However, we have been able to hold some sessions which have been enjoyed by those who have come along.

Looking Forward

As May comes to an end, many of Tawny Owls will again be on their travels. Our Residential Adventure will take the lucky ones overseas ... to the Isle of Wight. We have already had a get-together with the children from our school and the other schools we have invited to join us. There has also been a parents' information session. We will be setting off on Friday 28th May for three nights, whilst for everyone else Friday 28th will be the last day of the term. We will all be back at school on Monday 7th June for Term 6.

Making Things Better

We are expecting that the playground will be re-laid during the forthcoming week long break. We are very much looking forward to our first playtime on the new tarmac. We are still waiting to hear more from the DfE (formerly the DCSF) regarding the planned extension. Events of the last few weeks for central government would appear to have delayed any decision, but we hope to hear from the new government in the coming days or weeks.

Other Exciting Events Still to Come

Looking ahead to Term 6, there are a few dates to put in your diary in the summer. The next Ulcombe School Friends' Dinner will take place on Friday 25th June. Some of you will receive an invitation directly, but please do not feel that if we have not been in touch that you are not invited – this is an open invitation to all of our friends in the wider community. This time we are extending the invitation to include fathers and grandfathers of children at the school, as this is during the week following Fathers' Day. If you would like to join us for lunch and entertainment provided by the children please make sure you book this with the School Office by Monday 7th June at the latest.

Our Sports Day and Summer Fayre will take place on Saturday 26th June from 11th June from 11am. As usual this will be a fantastic event, and it will be great to see everyone there. After the children have shown off their sporting talents, we will be able to enjoy a range of stalls including refreshments and games. Two weeks later, on Saturday 10th July, the Friends of Ulcombe School will be hosting the second F.U.S. Summer Ball. This was an enormous success last year, and everyone who went had a great time. If you want to know more contact the School Office or any of the FUS committee.

The Summer Production is pencilled in for the week beginning Monday 12th July. Please put Thursday 22nd July in your diary. We will start this day, the last of the school year for pupils, at All Saints Parish Church for our Leavers' Celebration. It would be fantastic to see friends from the wider community sharing this celebration with us.

Finally, just a quick advert for another event coming up, which you may have already read elsewhere in this newsletter. On Saturday 12th June Ulcombe Cricket Club is hosting its annual tournament, but with plenty of extras to make it even more special.

This will be 'Cricket for Life' raising money for Cancer Research. Cancer is something which has affected almost every family at some point so this is, undoubtedly, a very worthy cause. Please do come along and take part in the raffle and enjoy the refreshments, whilst cricketers try to emulate Pietersen and Flintoff with varying degrees of success.

Best wishes, as ever,

Mr V Hampton, Head Teacher

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

Police Surgeries in your area

Please find the dates for our police surgeries. We are bringing our Mobile Police Station out to the Farmers Market in Headcorn.

Headcorn Farmers Market 9am - 12pm

Saturday 12th June 2010

Saturday 10th July 2010

Ulcombe Primary School 2.30pm – 4pm

Thursday 24th June 2010

Headcorn Primary School 2.30pm – 4pm

Thursday 6th July 2010

The Grafty Gourmet

This recipe comprises of Chicken marinated in spices, served with a traditional yoghurt sauce. They can be grilled or for an even more authentic taste, put them on the BBQ.

Authentic Turkish Chicken Shish Kebab

Makes up to 20 kebabs

4-6 chicken breasts
20 Cherry Tomatoes
2 Red Peppers

For the yoghurt sauce:-

150g plain Greek yoghurt
1 clove of garlic, peeled and grated
1 tablespoon chopped flat-leaf parsley
A squeeze of lemon juice
A pinch of Salt

For the marinade:-

1 cup plain Greek yoghurt
1 tablespoon paprika
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
4 garlic cloves, minced
Juice of 1 lemon
6 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
1/2 cup grated onion

- 1.** Combine all marinade ingredients in a bowl. Dice chicken into 2cm cubes and add. Cover & marinate in fridge for 6 hours or overnight.
- 2.** De-seed Peppers and chop into 2cm squares. Thread the chicken, tomatoes, and peppers onto wooden skewers.
- 3.** Cook for 7-8 minutes each side or until the chicken is thoroughly cooked and golden brown. Turn the kebabs frequently and baste with the marinade from time to time until evenly cooked.
- 4.** For the yoghurt sauce, simply mix the yoghurt, grated garlic, parsley, lemon juice and salt in a bowl. Serve with the kebabs.

Smarden Open Garden Weekend

**Saturday and Sunday
19th & 20th June 2010
1 pm to 6 pm**

Programme with Map £6 in advance
from Post Office and Village outlets
(£7 on the day)

8 lovingly tended gardens
Vintage Car Rally (Saturday)
Classic Car Rally (Sunday)

See the Village from the Church Tower (£2)

Hear and try the Mini Bells on Sunday afternoon

Teas and Homemade Cakes at the Dragon House and Charter Hall

Plant Stall at The Charter Hall

History Society Exhibition at the Charter Hall

Enquiries 01233 770237

Friends of Smarden Church

Registered Charity Event

Neighbourhood Watch

This is a joint crime and community message from Maidstone & District Neighbourhood Watch and Mid Kent Maidstone Police. We would like to inform you of the following information for your area.

We have again seen an increase in the theft of plant pots and other garden ornaments, particularly in front gardens. This is a usually crime trend for this time of the year and we would like to warning you to secure any desirable objects in the hope that we can prevent any further crime. If you can secure them to an object that cannot be move, such as a wall or a fence then do so. There have also been incidents in previous years where solar light have been taken, they are usually just stuck in the ground with a spike and easy to remove, consider cementing them into the ground.

If you have any information in connection with this messages or you would like to talk to anyone please call Lorraine on 01622 604395.

Update on Lenham Valley Business Association

It's been a busy time for nearly everyone recently with a general increase in work volumes and with a further flurry of marketing activity for those finding themselves not quite in that situation. One of the things about a local business association it provides a chance to compare notes, ideas that work and, maybe more importantly, those that don't.

Several members have been too busy to come to all the networking meetings, one particular person reported being so frantic at the moment he hadn't had time to join the LVBA - he has now! Growing your business volume to produce funds to enable you to take on another person isn't at the front of all owners minds, more often it is about maximising profits, earning more but not having to spend 12 hours a day and 7 days a week doing it. A way of moving forward without spending even more to take someone else onto the payroll.

Many individuals can advise business owners how to save money, which areas to reduce the spend, where to increase the investment and generally how to market their product or service to best advantage. The twenty first century has created many new methods to assist companies with ways to reach out to a virtually previously unobtainable market, already searching to purchase. Like it or not the web and all its' technology is here to stay. Many LVBA members are already developing experience that is worth listening to. It really is dangerous, particularly if you are in business, to bury your head in the sand and carry on untouched by it.

Christmas? Already - in June? Well no, not quite, but it is on our minds at LVBA because we have been studying tourism for some time and are actively looking to increase tourists to Lenham. Not just from overseas but also from the surrounding areas. The Art Show does a brilliant job of attracting visitors from all over to the Tithe Barn, we are glad to report that many visitors, while they are here make use of the village facilities. Do you support them back?

LVBA and the Christmas Light Committee have been putting their heads together ready for Sunday 5 December and the grand Lenham Lights switch on. It is hoped this year will be better than ever, more to do, more to see, and all for longer. But (of course!) we need your help. If you're a school talk to us about a lantern procession, if you're a large business then help us with sponsorship, if you are just one person help us with the benefit of your talent. Lenham needs you and here's your chance to make the day special for everyone, especially the children.

Networking meetings - see Parish notice board.

Tuesday 6th July at 7.15am it is another breakfast at the Lime Tree. There is no meeting in August. Check out the website for full details. www.lenhambusiness.co.uk

Alan Reading, LVBA Chairman

Mondays to Fridays

Saturdays

Service No	59	59	59	66	59	59	59	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	Langleigh	1725	1815	Langleigh	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
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	Langleigh	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	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.

3

Yoga classes in Grafty Green Village Hall

Wednesday evenings - 7 - 8.30 pm

Term starts Wednesday 9th June - 13th July
and

Thursday mornings 9.30 - 11.00 am

Term starts Thursday 10th June - 14th July

The term will run for six weeks and the fee is £30. 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.

Following on from the HUGE success

of previous events...

All are welcome at the forthcoming

♪ Karaoke Night ♪

At St Edmund's Hall, School Lane, Platts Heath

On Friday 4th June at 7pm

Bring your Own Drinks and Nibbles

Suggested Entrance Donation of £5 per person

All proceeds go to the St Edmund's Centre Fund
(thank you for supporting this great local facility)



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	
25th –27th 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
7 st 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

We are a very sociable bunch and love to welcome new members. The fee to join is £5 for the year and a small entry fee of £1 on the door for events attended.

There is no meeting this month. However the Club's annual weekend of garden visits takes place on the 25th - 27th June. The coach will leave Grafty Green Post Office at 08.30 and will pick up at Lenham and the Hilton Hotel In Maidstone.

The July meeting on Tuesday 6th is a visit to Mere House Mereworth, home of ex MP John Wells. Those wishing to go should ring Irene Ayling on 01622 842507 to book a place. The list has to be submitted two weeks beforehand. ID **MUST** be taken (Passport or Photo driving licence) and we meet at 6.30pm at the venue.

The June Night Sky

At the start of June the Sun is in the constellation of Taurus, and moves into Gemini on the 21st. New Moon occurs on Saturday 12th June, and will be visible in the north-western sky at sunset. Full Moon occurs on Saturday 26th June, in the southern constellation of Sagittarius.

It will not be possible to see Mercury this month, as it is at superior conjunction (almost directly behind the Sun) on 28th June. Again this month Venus is visible in the western sky as soon as it starts to get dark, and sets in the northwest in late evening. The "Evening Star" is so brilliant, it can even be seen in the twilight sky.

Mars is high in the western sky at dusk and sets in the northwest after midnight. This month the "Red Planet" appears about the same brightness as Regulus, but shines with a steadier more orange light.

Jupiter rises in the east around midnight, and should be visible low in the southeast at dawn. The giant planet is less brilliant than Venus, but can still be seen even against a brightening sky. Saturn is high in the south-western sky at dusk and does not set until well after midnight. The three planets, Saturn, Mars and Venus make a line from left to right across the evening sky. The famous rings can only be seen through a telescope.

Some of you may have read that Japan has successfully launched the world's first spacecraft drawing its energy from a huge solar-powered sail. The spacecraft, named 'Ikaros', which stands for Interplanetary Kite-Craft Accelerated by Radiation of the Sun, works on the same principle as a yacht. Once in space the 66ft ultra-thin sail will be unfurled, and solar particles from the Sun will hit this sail and propel the spacecraft towards Venus. As the force acts continuously in a resistance-free environment, the craft will eventually be able to reach speeds 10 times greater than any conventional rocket. The spacecraft will also have solar powered engines, which will be used primarily for steering. Scientists believe that Ikaros will take six months to reach Venus.

The technology is widely considered to be crucial for space travel in the future, with laser light replacing sunlight as the ultimate aim.

John Maunder

The below is a copy of the front page of the Lenham Parish Magazine from exactly 60 years ago - June 1950. On the opposite page is an extract of some of the adverts the magazine carried in that issue !!!

Lenham Parish Magazine.

Vicar: Rev. O. F. R. STRICKLAND, B.A. (Phone: Lenham 252.)



Churchwardens: { W. R. Boorman, High Street, Lenham.
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St Edmunds Centre - Platts Heath

Secretary's Report 2010 - St Edmunds Centre AGM

I would like to thank you all for attending this evening and to welcomed and introduce three new committee members this year. They are Karen Yardley organiser of the Little Angels Toddler Group, Kate Stansfield and Anna Fraser. These ladies are in the process of bringing us into the 21st century with their ideas. One of which is the Karaoke night on 4th June and another is to-nights presentation of the agenda.

Unfortunately Margaret Mori has stepped down as chair person this year as she is enjoying a yearlong visit to her family in Australia. So I have to thank Karen Taylor our vice chair for chairing to-nights meeting. As Karen also wishes to step down tonight we are now looking for a new chair and vice chair.

Our mother and toddler group have proved popular and brought a number of bookings for children's parties too. Karen Yardley and the other mothers have also organised a fun day when the weather proved inclement for outdoor activities during the school holidays. They also plan one for the summer holiday too.

Mrs Thursting of the Black Dragon Academy of Karate and Kickboxing has changed the club day to Monday evenings 4.45 - 6.45 for the young members of the village.

Once again I have to thank the very popular quiz masters John and Helen Nye who never fail to entertain us on quiz nights and help raise much needed funds.

Also thanks to Mike and Jenny Yendle our volunteer gardeners who help with the hard work and from time to time also donate some of the plants.

The Morris Dancers continue to use the hall during the winter months and the Line dancers throughout the year.

Platts Heath School has again used the hall for a variety of activities however we will be saying goodbye to Ian Priddle this year as he is retiring from the school.

Besides keeping us on the straight and narrow with the books our treasurer Duffrey Robinson continues to carry out the day to day maintenance of the hall. I would therefore like to thank him on behalf of the rest of the committee for all his hard work.

Finally may I thank those villagers who continue to support us in our efforts to make St Edmunds a much needed community centre for us all in this time of financial difficulties?

Our next events are a Karaoke night 4th June and a rounder's match/BBQ on Sunday the 20th June.

The Line dancers keep going but do need some new members Thursday evenings 8-9pm.

Black Dragon Academy 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

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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	Speech	House	Fancy	Free
2	Milk	Cup	Fly	
3	Unknown	Home	Book	
4	Cooker	Blood	Group	
5	Branch	Effects	Extra	
6	Meeting	Beads	Mat	
7	Crunch	Note	Card	
8	Landing	Witch	Air	
9	Sand	Mile	Wall	
10	Towel	Room	Acid	
11	Birthday	Politics	Pooper	
12	Bound	Magic	Short	
13	Hole	Plant	Shot	
14	Cake	Meal	Wild	
15	Mother	Shattering	Worm	
16	Donor	Grinder	Pipe	

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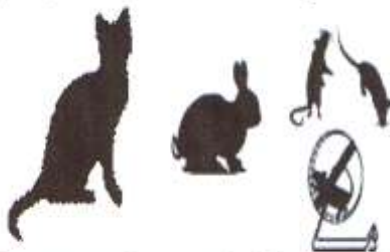
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SUTTON VALENCE CHORAL SOCIETY

SUMMER CONCERT 2010

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of Sutton Valence Choral Society

Sutton Valence Choral Society celebrates its 20th birthday on Sunday 20th June, 2010, at 7.30pm, in All Saints' Church Maidstone with the first work the choir ever performed in public, Mozart's Requiem. Musical director Bryan Gipps conducts the choir and a quartet of internationally acclaimed soloists, accompanied by the Beresford Sinfonia, in this special concert, which also includes a performance of Handel's Dettingen Te Deum.

BAHIYA CASSIDY (Soprano) Bahiya's international experience in concert and oratorio includes Handel's *Messiah* in Oman in the presence of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, and numerous other choral works such as the challenging Bach Cantata *Jauchzet Gott in Allen Landen*. Bahiya was educated locally at Bedgebury School near Goudhurst before training at Trinity College of Music, London.

KATE SYMONDS-JOY (Alto) Kate returns to the SVCS concert platform after performances with the choir in 2009 and earlier this year in Rochester cathedral for Beethoven's 9th Symphony. Kate was educated at Cambridge University, and at The Royal Academy of Music, studying with David Lowe, Lillian Watson and Audrey Hyland, and winning the Michael Head Prize for English song, the Edna Balesford Prize and the Worshipful Company of Musicians Silver Medal.

JEFFREY GRAY (Tenor) is currently a Deputy Lay Clerk at Rochester & Canterbury Cathedrals. He has toured France, The Netherlands, Hungary and the USA with these choirs in recent years and will be going to Malta and Sweden with Rochester Cathedral Choir this summer. He has recorded and broadcast for the BBC and Classic FM on numerous occasions. After leaving Oxford University where he read Music, he sang in Worcester Cathedral Choir for four years and until recently was a Gentleman of the Chapel Royal at Hampton Court.

GERARD DELREZ (Bass) Gerard has appeared at the London South Bank concert halls, all over UK and abroad. Concert engagements include Mozart's Coronation Mass at St. John's, Smith Square with the Orchestra of The Age of Enlightenment, Handel's Messiah in Rouen and Mozart's Requiem in Santiago de Compostela, Mendelssohn's Elijah in Winchester Cathedral and the Verdi Requiem in Arundel Cathedral. Amongst many choral society engagements he has worked with Basildon Choral Society, Sussex Festival Choir and Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society.

Tickets are £10, available in advance from Sharon Music, 65 High Street, Maidstone, ME14 1SR (Tel: 01622 761649), or by ringing 01622 842269.

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Maidstone Borough Council has now has issued the new timetable up to 15th August 2010. The main difference is that all Grafty Green times will be on a Sunday and the freighter will only be here for 45 minutes – so get there early. Additionally there will be no service for collecting electrical items .i.e. no separate freighter to pick up items such as TV's, monitors, etc.

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Sunday 13 th Jun	14:15 – 15:00 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd
Sunday 8 th Aug	14:15 – 15:00 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

Platts Heath

Sunday 13 th Jun	11:15 – 12:15 -: Green Lane
Sunday 8 th Aug	11:15 – 12:15 -: Green Lane

Ulcombe

Sunday 13 th Jun	12:30 – 13:15 -: Lodge Road
Sunday 8 th Aug	12:30 – 13:15 -: Lodge Road

Lenham

Sunday 14 th Jul	14:15 – 14:45 -: Lenham Heath Road - Boughton Lane
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Music Notes, June 2010

I had much more to choose from this month in terms of good local concerts, but unfortunately for those who like orchestral concerts, they are all choral events! Note that the Maidstone Music festival opens on 13th June, and while I don't have full details yet, next month there will be a full programme available from the festival. Meanwhile, here is my selection for June:

- Saturday June 12th – Rochester Choral Society concert, at Rochester Cathedral. Programme includes Rossini's Stabat Mater. Details 01634 844122
- Sunday June 13th 7.30 at All Saints' Church, Opening concert of the Maidstone Music festival Works include the ever-popular Fauré Requiem and Carter's Te deum. The choir is led by The Maidstone singers. Details of any items in the festival from 01622 664108
- Sunday June 20th 7.30 at All Saints' Church Maidstone, Sutton Valence Choral Society's 20th anniversary concert includes Mozart's Requiem and Handel's Dettingen Te deum. Tickets 01622 761649
- Saturday July 3rd 7.30pm at Mote hall, Maidstone, Maidstone Choral Union's Summer concert is entitled "A night at the opera" and includes a wide selection of popular opera music. However, in line with the custom of recent years the Summer Concert will conclude with some traditional "prom" items! Tickets 01622 726193

Brian Hardy

Christian Message June 2010

"Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.....This I command you, to love one another." (John 15:13-14, 17)

This quotation from John's gospel came to mind as I heard of the deaths of yet more British soldiers in Afghanistan. Coincidentally this news came on the day when we remembered, in our daily prayer, those men and women who died for their faith as martyrs in the 15th. and 16th. centuries. These two events cause me to ask, what am I prepared to die for? Could I, would I, be prepared to die for my Christian beliefs?

In England, thank God, we are none of us likely to be called on to give up our life for our faith. Sadly this is not true for Christians in other parts of the world. In Iraq, India and some parts of Africa, amongst other places, although seldom mentioned in newspapers or on television or radio, Christians are subject to persecution and murder by their neighbours. Churches and homes alike are destroyed by those who would see Christianity destroyed in their particular part of the world.

Whilst death and destruction are not being used in this country against Christians yet there still seems to be an attempt, by some, to bring about its demise. We have seen attempts to force faith schools to teach sex education in a way incompatible with their churches' teachings, so called 'equality legislation' appears to be geared to prevent Christians from exercising their right to protest against things they believe to be wrong and any story, however incorrect, that appears to show a church leader in a bad light is seized upon and given banner headlines.

Whilst it is sadly true that we, as Christians, do not always live up to the standards we profess to believe in, it is equally true that many of us strive to fulfil the demands of our faith and are deeply hurt when others fail and bring religion into disrepute.

These musings bring me to the inescapable question, what as a Christian am I prepared to do to defend the faith? What can I do? Which brings me back to the quotation at the head of the article ".....love one another". That is the central command of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; that is what we are called to do. To love the other when the other does not love you, to love our enemies and not just our friends, this is how we show the worth of our belief and, in so doing, how we may overcome the current antipathy to Christianity.

Prove the value of Christianity by living out Christ's command day by day; love one another.

**Rev. Cyril Durbin
(Deacon)**

Informal service

Come and enjoy informal praise and worship at 6.30pm at St John's Church, Harrietsham on Sunday 27th June, and learn about the work of the Maidstone Street Pastors. Everyone Welcome.

Cafe in the Church

Wednesday nights from 6.30pm until 8.30pm starting 16th June. Activities, chat, music. Come and chill out in St Mary's Church, Lenham, and get to know some other young people.

Parish Visiting

Rev Marian Bond is responsible for organising parish visiting. The contact in our village is Joan Drury. If you, or anyone you know, would like a friendly visit from one of the team do ring her on 01622 853766.

The Dover Road

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

"We are, in tracing the Dover Road, on the ancient Watling Street, that road which, in common with many another Roman Highway, was based upon an already-existing trackway. It is a superstition that Roman roads are always and inevitably straight. They are straight within limits, but are generally re-aligned, according to the needs of the case, upon certain points, in varying lengths. Between Dartford and Strood the Roman road, in order to avoid the low-lying lands beside the Thames, which were on the straight line, was taken over the hill of Swanscombe. At some remote period this stretch of ancient road, which branches off to the right on the common of Dartford Brent, was deserted. The climb over the steep hill was too much for mediaeval travellers, and as in the meanwhile the Thames-side lowlands would appear to have become less water-logged, the Dover road was deviated that way, through John's Hole, Horns Cross, Greenhithe, Northfleet, Gravesend and Milton.

The long-deserted Roman road has in recent years been again adopted, and, after the completion of great engineering works, involving deep road-cuttings, was reopened by the Prince of Wales in 1924. The chief object of this reconstruction was to provide a direct – and still more – a clear route; for the riverside way through Gravesend is alike narrow and congested."

Brian Hardy

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9.30am Boughton Malherbe Holy Communion
11am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Family Worship
7pm Taize Service Ulcombe

13th June 2nd 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

20th June 3rd 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

27th June St. John the Baptist

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

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Speech	House	Fancy	Free
2	Milk	Cup	Fly	Butter
3	Unknown	Home	Book	Address
4	Cooker	Blood	Group	Pressure
5	Branch	Effects	Extra	Special
6	Meeting	Beads	Mat	Prayer
7	Crunch	Note	Card	Credit
8	Landing	Witch	Air	Craft
9	Sand	Mile	Wall	Stone
10	Towel	Room	Acid	Bath
11	Birthday	Politics	Pooper	Party
12	Bound	Magic	Short	Spell
13	Hole	Plant	Shot	Pot
14	Cake	Meal	Wild	Oat
15	Mother	Shattering	Worm	Earth
16	Donor	Grinder	Pipe	Organ

	Find the missing word?
1	Steamboat Willie , The first animated film to star Mickey Mouse
2	Martin Chuzzlewit , A character in a book by Dickens
3	The Darling Buds of May, A H E Bates book and TV programme
4	Dennis the Menace , Cartoon Character
5	A Mid Summer Nights Dream, A Shakespeare play
6	The Naked Chef , The first TV show from Jamie Oliver
7	Rubik Cube , A puzzle toy
8	Quality Street , Chocolate assortment
9	Oprah Winfrey , Talk or chat show host
10	Basic Instinct , A 1992 film

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