

Malherbe Monthly

Number 262
June 2026



**Public Meeting regarding Development of Land
on Woodcock Lane
Thursday 28th May at 7pm in the Village Hall
See further detail inside**

Useful contact names and telephone numbers

County Councillor	Sarah Emberson Sarah.Emberson@kent.gov.uk	
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Ziggy Trzebinski ziggytrzebinski@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 07852 492770
Member of Parliament for the Weald of Kent	Katie Lam katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk	01580 388344
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	email.boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	
Village Hall General Enquires	Sue Birch Email: burch1997@aol.com	07803 962339
Gardening Club	Doreen Hulm	850287
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Craft Group	Jan Carter	850898
Yoga	Sue Burch	07803 962339
Farmers Market	Tara Musson info.graftygreen@gmail.com	
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Pilates	Cheryl Stubbs email: c.stubbs8@btinternet.com	07852 602369
Art Class	Cathy Hill email: cathyonthehill@hotmail.com	07927 045708
Tai Chi	Rhonda Bailey	07985 001782
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield Mobile 07500 895831	
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday PM fortnightly from January 6 outside the village hall, variable time	07976 435217
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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 sent to the Editor Carol Hulm via email (carolhulm@gmail.com) by **18th June (earlier due to operation)**

Local Interests and Announcement Page

Those of you looking for interesting facts about our Parish can find some interesting chapters in the two Boughton Malherbe books shown on the cover of the April magazine. The chapters include “What’s in a Name”, Ghosts, Smugglers, Myths, Legends, and a few Facts. As well as many facts about the history of the buildings and surrounding areas, farming, transport, how it developed, at war, and at play.

Here’s a little snippet from the What’s in a Name chapter.

“The true origin of the names are probably lost in time, but what we do know starts with the Norman Conquest. The Domesday Book records the anime as ‘Boltune’ or ‘Boltone’ and at the same stage later in the name became ‘Bocton’.

The Parish could have once been the centre of a larger community than today because Bocton has a rather grand meaning.

‘Boc’ is Saxon for charter. ‘ton’ is Saxon for a town. This may be a clue to the pre-Norman name for which we have no real evidence. However, Boc subsequently became an Old English term for “Beech Tree” and Boughton is a derivation of Bocton meaning ‘farmstead where beech trees grow’. A Further interpretation of Boughton is ‘a site amongst trees’

So perhaps we are all now living on what was once farmland where lots of beech trees grew and we know that the great forest which existed here contained mainly oak and beech.



The books are £10 each or £15 if bought together, please contact John Collins on 01622 850213 or email wjcollins@btinternet.com. Proceeds will go to the Parish Council.

I am looking for volunteers to write a regular article of interesting local facts about our parish for future editions. Please contact me on 07990 574214 or email carolhulm@gmail.com.

New members welcome to join us for weekly bowls session in the Village Hall on Tuesdays at 2.15 pm.

Beginners welcome, loan bowls available to get started.
£ 4 per session. Contact Joan Marriott 07503 568874.



Grafty Green Wanderers Cricket Matches for June:

Sunday 21st June – Frittenden at the Frittenden Cricket Club – 1.30pm
Wednesday 24th June – Smarden – 6pm



LEN VALLEY HEALTH WALKS

Why walk?

Walking is good for both your physical and mental health

To keep your heart, lungs, bones and muscles strong

To maintain a healthy weight. To be more energetic

To reduce stress and depression. To meet new people

To enhance your sense of wellbeing

Plus, it's free!

Walking is an easy, gentle way to get active and stay active – and it's never too late to begin!

Our walks are on Wednesday afternoons, and Thursday and Saturday mornings. We have walks for all abilities

The Lenham Stroll on Wednesday afternoons is aimed at those who have difficulty walking due to recent operations, other health problems or age. We walk in and around Lenham village at a speed suited to everyone. We finish at the village tearooms for tea and a chat.

Thursday morning walks start from in and around the Len Valley. There is a medium walk of approximately 2 - 2½ miles at a moderate pace and a longer walk of approximately 3½ miles at a faster pace.

Saturday morning walks start from different venues and are 3½ - 4 miles long and at a faster pace.

Come and join our friendly sociable group and enjoy the beautiful countryside we are so lucky to have on our doorstep.

Grafty Green Wanderers Cricket team and their nick names

Players who played on 2 nd May	Players who did not play on 2 nd May
James Iles - Baby Face	Dean Cutbill - Scratchin Tendulkar
Jack Geary - The Prof	Jake Russ - No Fuss Russ
Paul Stapley - The Brickie	Matt Smith - Mini Me
Niall McNulty - The Ginger	Rob McNeill - The Gorgeous one
Gary Thompson - Road Runner	
Steve Legon - The Leg	*****
Dave Ryan - Dangerous	The two Ollie's haven't been attended training yet so don't have nicknames yet...
Ada Hook - The Hook	
Mark Tomlinson - The Benidorm Swinger	Ollie Brooks
Jay Bray - Amiga Man	Ollie Robinson
Nick Eastwood - The Chairman	
Steve Peter - The Fireman	
Matt Iles - The Beef	
Josh Pankhurst - Panks	

Grafty Green Wanderers go into battle with Little Chart – 2nd May 2026

The Grafty Green Wanderers arrived at the Little Chart, a beautiful cricket ground surrounded by historic Kentish buildings which were regularly featured in the TV series, The Darling Buds of May. The Growlers camped themselves by the cricket pavilion as the two captains strolled to the middle to undertake the time-honoured coin toss. Little Chart won the toss, deciding to field, set a very tight field inviting the Wanderers to strike balls to the boundary.

The Wanderers opening pair of The Prof and The Chairman strode to the crease. Little Charts opening Bowlers produced some accurate bowling and runs were hard to come by. The Prof managed a great boundary before being caught for 8 runs and was then followed by The Brickie who had scored a quick single before being caught leaving the Wanderers at 15 for 2 off 6 overs. The Leg joined The Chairman before both of them were dismissed in the 9th over leaving the Wanderers 21 for 4. Dangerous put on a couple of runs before being clean bowled and the pressure was now definitely on as Baby face was joined at the Wicket by The Ginger. The Ginger swung the bat with gusto before being clean bowled for 11 runs. Unfortunately, The Hook lost his wicket without scoring leaving the Wanderers at 45 for 8 off 17 overs. Amiga Man quickly got into the flow hitting 30 runs off the last 3 overs. Baby face finished with 18 not out with the last 4 batsman putting on 69 runs in the last 8 overs to give the Wanderers a final score of 82 for 8.

The Wanderers also set a tight field and The Benidorm swinger, our highly tanned overseas player, opened the bowling, his white pearlescent teeth glistened in the sunlight like a Colgate advert as he thundered in for his opening over. Only 2 runs off the first over, a great start. The Road Runner bowled from the other end and Little Charts opening batsman drove the ball to mid-on and feeling the ball was way past The Hook, decided to set off down the wicket. The Hook leapt to his right, scooped it back to The Gingers waiting hands to remove the bales, a truly magical run out. In the next over The Benidorm swinger delivered a tantalising delivery which the batsman drove towards the Chairman who took the catch beautifully to leave Little Chart at 8 for 2 after the 3rd Over. For Little Chart, P Patel was now striking the ball lovely, one of which thundered through the outfield and bouncing past the Growlers into deep undergrowth

beyond. 60 years ago, a dog called Pickles famously found the missing World Cup trophy, today another canine hero was born. Lady Cutbill leapt to her feet and released her trained cocker spaniel, Lola, who dutifully retrieved the ball, saving the day and allowing the match to continue. Little Chart's middle order steadily fell every 3 or 4 overs with "Amiga Man" catching A. Hall off his own bowling before trapping another plum LBW. "The Leg" bowled beautifully only giving away 15 runs off his 4 overs. Patel finally fell for 28 to a catch by Amiga Man off the Brickies bowling leaving Little Chart at 60 for 6 with 4 overs remaining and The Brickie with great bowling figures of 17 for 1 off his 4 overs. There was some fabulous athletic fielding by the Wanderers but alas it wasn't going to be a Wanderers victory as in the final throws of the 18th over Little Chart reached 84 to win the match. Man of the Match for the Wanderers was Amiga Man having taken 2 wickets for 16 runs and scored 30 runs not out.

After tea both sides took the field for the second match with The Wanderers fielding. Panks took the new ball and delivered an excellent first over for the loss of only 1 run. In the next over Road Runner took the first wicket which was caught by The Fireman much to the delight of his wife who said, "he's going to dine out on that all year!" In his second over the Road Runner took his second wicket with a great catch from Amiga Man leaving Little Chart at 6 for 2 after 4 overs. Panks then clean bowled the No 4 batsman. Little Chart were now 3 down for only 9 runs and Panks finished with some outstanding bowling figures of 5 for 1 off his 4 overs. The new batsman, Craig and Matt swung the bat and rushed between the wickets taking as many singles as they could despite some heroic fielding by The Wanderers. Craig then skied a ball which flew stratospherically high into the air above The Hook at mid-on. He stared into the sky trying to focus on the ball, the Growlers screamed at The Prof to run the 8 yards and take the catch as wicket keeper, alas he stayed put, the ball hit the ground, a missed opportunity as Craig went onto score 37 runs. Craig, Matt and Sam put on 88 runs between them before Matt was caught off the bowling of The Benidorm swinger and Matt finally fell to the last delivery of the day from The Beef who had figures of 7 for 1 off his 3 overs. Little Chart finished at 117 for 5.

The Little Chart strike bowler opened the bowling taking both opening Wanderers batsman for ducks and then had Amiga Man caught after he who scored a quick 15 to leave the Wanderers at 20 for 3 off 7 overs. With their father umpiring and their mother joining the Growlers, the Two Iles brothers joined each other at the wicket, it was a touching family moment, but could it be destined to be an Iles family charge to victory? They run between the wickets as if their lives depending on it putting on 44 runs before Baby Face was run out and The Beef was clean bowled leaving the Wanderers at 64 for 5 off 13 overs. Victory was still very possible however the Little Chart Bowlers had other ideas, perfectly keeping their ball line and length. The Road Runner made a quick 8 before being clean bowled and The Chairman went quickly without scoring. The Prof made a quick single before being caught. All hope for victory had faded as The Leg and The Benidorm swinger tried to score some runs in the final 2 overs before the innings finished with The Leg being caught and the Wanderers score finishing at 75 for 9 off the 20 overs. The Wanderers man of the Match was The Beef with bowling figures of 7 for 1 off 3 overs and scoring 24 runs.

Report written by Dean Cutbill

Public Meeting regarding Development of Land on Woodcock Lane Thursday 28th May at 7pm in the Village Hall

Local residents are invited to attend a public meeting regarding a proposed development for 9 custom-build homes on Woodcock Lane. Esquire Developments will be sharing a public consultation leaflet to all residents next week and will be available at the meeting to answer your questions.

This precedes rather than replaces the formal parish council consideration of planning applications which will follow if and when Esquire makes an application.

As the clerk is away, please direct queries to Nick - nicholas.eastwood.bmpc@gmail.com, 01622 850330



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

Thank you to everyone who attended the Boughton Malherbe Annual Parish Meeting, and also to the many clubs and societies who provided written reports for the evening. Copies of these reports can be viewed on the Boughton Malherbe website.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an important opportunity for residents to meet with the Parish Council, hear about what has been happening in the village, and share ideas or concerns about the future of Boughton Malherbe. It is also a valuable chance for our clubs and societies to showcase the activities, achievements, and events that have taken place over the past year, highlighting the vibrant community spirit within the village.

As always, we would love to see even more residents attending not only the Annual Parish Meeting but also our regular Parish Council meetings throughout the year. Dates for the 2026/27 meetings are published on our website, and everyone is welcome to attend.

We appreciate that people lead increasingly busy lives, but we would be very interested to hear any suggestions that might encourage more residents to come along to future meetings. Perhaps a different start time would help, whether earlier or later in the evening or a particular topic for discussion, maybe even the lure of tea and cake! Whatever your ideas may be, the Parish Council would be keen to hear your thoughts.

Finally, a date for the diary. As we know summer evenings fill up quickly, the Parish Council, together with Sarah Emberson, our County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East, hopes to hold a surgery prior to the Parish Council meeting on 6th July. This will provide residents with an opportunity to speak directly with Sarah about any local issues or concerns they may have. The exact time and format are still to be arranged, but please keep the date in mind if there is anything you feel Sarah may be able to assist with.

You may also have heard the good news that KCC Transport has agreed to fund the 59 bus service for the coming year. A small timetable change will be published shortly

Maidstone Borough Council

Headcorn and Sutton Valence Ward 2025/2026 Annual report for Parishes

It has been a very busy year for both ward councillors. Martin Round, Mayor of Maidstone 2025 to 2026, has been, since his inauguration, the busiest Mayor yet. Many events to attend, awards to make, charity events and all of the other functions have left him with very little spare time in his diary. Ziggy Trzebinski has therefore taken on a lot of the ward matters that Martin would normally take on.

So, turning to MBC, it has been an interesting, if somewhat frustrating year, with a Green and Lib Dem alliance running the administration. MBC is spending £7.5 million on de-carbonising Maidstone House which is only worth £4million. The cost is likely to increase, and the start has already been delayed. With a bit of luck, it may not happen and the money can be better spent elsewhere. There have been one or two other odd decisions costing the taxpayer money, but your ward councillors have consistently complained about the lack of money being spent in the rural areas, when the Town centre and urban areas seem to get all the benefits. At the same time the Town centre is less and less popular and it needs more investment in businesses rather than flowerpots.

We have also been hi-jacked into debates at full council on fourteenth century witches, Palestine, rights of rivers and other subjects which are really not related to the smooth running of Maidstone Borough Council. There is an underlying lack of understanding in the new administration of their responsibilities to Borough residents, which should be their main concern.

Turning to our rural areas one of the subjects we are involved in is the appalling littering that we have to put up with. At the April full council meeting we have proposed a motion for consideration to tackle this along with Fly-tipping.

Ziggy Trzebinski sits on the Licensing and the Audit committee, as well as the full council, and attends most of the meetings of the five Parish Councils in the ward, other meetings allowing.

There have been a large number of planning issues, both large and small, in which we both have been involved. MBC finds itself in a very difficult position right now being well behind on their housing targets, which have also just increased from around 1200 a year to 1400 a year. The consequence of this is that developers will put forward un-suitable sites and get permission to build. If MBC refuse, then they are likely to succeed on appeal if we are behind on our targets. At the same time, we do not want to see any further development in our countryside and push back on developments unless they bring significant benefit to the community, and when we say significant, we mean significant. Un-authorized field invasions are also top of the priority list, and we are giving this subject our full attention and engaging with the parties that are required to stop them, including our MP.

Looking forward we have local government re-organisation coming next year. Not a bad idea to have a one-stop shop so you can go to your local councillor on any subject rather than having to decide if it is MBC or KCC you need to talk to. We feel very uncomfortable with the way it has been handled however, with Kent having more than 7 options to be considered by the government. We hope they choose the best one for Kent rather than the most politically advantageous to them.

We will continue to look after the interests of all of our residents and please do not hesitate to get in touch with us should you need to.

Martin Round
Ziggy Trzebinski



Katie Lam MP's Weald of Kent Awards 2026

One of the things I love most about being the MP for the Weald of Kent is that it genuinely is one of the most special places in the country. Our farms, village shops, pubs and cafés, growers and producers are some of the best in Britain, and I'll always do whatever I can to support them.

That's why I'm so pleased to open the nominations for the Weald of Kent Awards 2026, my annual celebration of the very best of our corner of Kent. There are five categories: Local Hero of the Year, Independent Shop of the Year, Local Business of the Year, Farmer, Grower or Producer of the Year, and Pub, Café or Restaurant of the Year.

The awards recognise everyone from individuals and community groups who go above and beyond, to the businesses, pubs, cafés and producers that make the Weald such a special place to live.

Across the Weald, there are so many people and groups who work quietly and tirelessly to hold our villages and parishes together. Alongside them are brilliant businesses that work around the clock and which stand out as some of the best in Britain, even when the pressures on them have never been greater.

Last year, we received more than 100 nominations and over 1,000 of you cast your votes. I'd love to beat that this year. There's so much to be proud of in the Weald, and I'd love for more of the people who make the Weald what it is to get the recognition that they deserve.

So, if there's a local business that's gone the extra mile, a farm that grows particularly delicious fruit, or a community hero that deserves recognition, please do nominate them. You can do so at www.katieforkent.com/weald-of-kent-awards and nominations close on 13th July at 5pm with voting to begin shortly after.

Let's use this as a chance to celebrate everything that makes the Weald so special, and the people and businesses who help keep it that way.

Village Hall News – June Newsletter

Since last month's newsletter the Gardening Club held their popular Annual Plant sale at the hall which appeared to be well supported and both the village hall which is a registered charity and the Parish Council have held their annual general meetings. Here in addition to the regular events held at the hall is a taster of what is coming up.

Craft Group Community Event Saturday 11th July 10:00am – 1:00pm

The craft Group which meets at the village hall every Friday morning between 10 am and 12 noon will be hosting a free community event on Saturday 11th July where you can come along and they will demonstrate and give you the opportunity to have a go at a range of crafting skills including knitting, crochet, sewing, dyeing, decoupage, diamond art, floristry, embroidery and spinning. There will be activities for young and old to try whilst enjoying tea and cake so if you would like to learn a new skill with our friendly crafters please come along. The event is free but please contact Wendy on wendywooelellis@aol.com or 07983543840 to register for the event so that the crafters can ensure that they have enough tea, coffee, cake and crafting kits for everyone to enjoy. A good time is sure to be had by all.

Christmas Craft Fair Weekend Saturday & Sunday 21st & 22nd November 2026 10am to 2pm

A date for your diaries - we have set the dates for the Christmas Craft Fair weekend at the village hall when you can buy a wide range of interesting locally sourced gifts for loved ones for Christmas, enjoy a natter with friends over a cup of tea and homemade cake, (and a bacon sandwich on Sunday!).

That's all for this month but as always if anyone has any bright ideas on how the hall can further be used for the communities benefit please let me know.

Kind Regards

Jon Thompson

Village Hall Committee Chairman

jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk - 07932 112730 - www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk –
facebookgraftygreenvillage




Grafty Green Village Hall ME17 2BA



Grafty Green Craft Group FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Demonstrations and the opportunity to
have a go and free kits to take home!
Children welcome with a responsible adult



11th July
10.00-1.00

Knitting, crochet, sewing, dyeing,
decoupage, diamond art, floristry,
embroidery, spinning and free tea, coffee
and cake

Please apply for your free ticket by
contacting wendywoeellis@aol.com
or 07983543840 to ensure we
have enough tea, coffee, cake and
kits.



CHRISTMAS



**CRAFT
FAIR
21st and
22nd
Nov 10-2**



SAVE THE DATE
Visit both days so you don't
miss a thing!

**GRAFTY GREEN
VILLAGE HALL
ME17 2BA**



**TEA COFFEE
AND CAKE ON
SATURDAY**

Tea coffee and bacon
sandwiches on
Sunday



GRAFTY GREEN **FARMERS MARKET**

EVERY FRIDAY, 1-3 P.M.
GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE HALL



Come along and enjoy a wonderful selection of local produce, home-baked treats, crafts, and more — all from your friendly local traders!

Are you a trader?

We're currently looking for producers, particularly those offering bread, cheese, or meat products to join our market community.

For more details, please contact:
[**info.graftygreen@gmail.com**](mailto:info.graftygreen@gmail.com)

Grafty Green Village Hall

Bookings 07803 962339

Regular Weekly Events

Yoga – mixed ability Susan Burch 07803 962339	Mondays and Thursdays 9.30 – 11am Wednesdays 7 – 8.30pm
Pilates Cheryl Stubbs 07852 602369	Tuesdays 9.30 – 10.30 am
Post Office	Tuesdays 12.45 – 2.15pm Thursdays 11.15 – 1.15pm
Coffee morning	Tuesdays 12.00 – 2.00pm
Short Mat Bowls Joan Marriott 07503 568874	Tuesdays 2.30 – 5.30pm
Dance Fit Sharon Harris 01622 890170	Wednesdays 11 – 12.30pm
Tai Chi Rhonda Bailey 07985 001782	Thursdays 2.00 – 3.00pm
Craft Group Janis Carter 01622 850898	Fridays 10 -12.00pm
Art Class Cathy Hill 07927054708	Alternate Wednesdays 1 – 3.30pm Alternate Thursdays 7-9pm
Farmer's Market Tara – grafygreen.info@gmail.com	Friday 1- 3pm

Regular Monthly Events

Gardening Club Doreen 01622 850287	First Tuesday 7.30 - 9pm
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The Grafty Gourmet

This is another simple but tasty recipe. Simply toss together the sirloin strips, crunchy vegetables and ginger with a quick oyster and soy sauce dressing.

BEEF & SHIITAKE CHOW MEIN

Ingredients

400g of sirloin steak, fat removed
1 tablespoon of cornflour
generous pinch ground white pepper
1 tablespoon of oyster sauce
125ml of sunflower oil or vegetable oil,
plus 1 tablespoon
250g of dried egg noodles (4 nests)
150g of beansprouts
3 spring onions, trimmed and shredded
lengthways
100g of mangetout
100g of shiitake mushrooms, sliced
3 garlic cloves, chopped
15g of fresh root ginger, peeled and grated
or finely chopped

For the sauce

½ teaspoon of sugar
1 tablespoon of oyster sauce
3 tablespoons of soy sauce
pinch ground white pepper
2 spring onions, finely sliced on the
diagonal (to serve)

1. Cut the sirloin steak across into thin slices. Put the slices in a bowl, sprinkle over the cornflour and white pepper, then mix well. Add 2 tablespoons of water, the oyster sauce and 1 tablespoon of the sunflower oil.
2. In a separate bowl mix the sauce ingredients together with 100ml of water and set aside.
Cook the noodles following the pack instructions and drain well. Heat about 100ml of the oil in a pan and when hot, add the drained noodles and fry them until crispy. Remove from the pan using tongs and keep warm.
3. Add the remaining oil to the pan and stir-fry the beef over a high heat until cooked through, 2–3 minutes. Add the vegetables, mushrooms, garlic and ginger and continue to stir-fry for a couple of minutes, then add the sauce and allow it to bubble and thicken.
4. Divide the noodles between four bowls and pour the steak mixture over them to be mixed with chopsticks by the diner. Serve topped with the sliced spring onions.

Meetings are held in Grafty Green Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm unless stated otherwise. Entry for guests £4. Bring your plant and seed swaps! Membership £5 - contact Doreen Hulm (Treasurer) 01622 850287

Programme for 2026

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
June 2	Outing - Pimphurst Farm, Bethersden TN26 3EE	
July 7	Outing - Barnfield Cottages, Wormshill, ME9 0TU	
July 24 - 26	Weekend away – Walmer Castle, Great Dixter, Butlers Farm House, Herstmonceux Castle and grounds, Driftwood, King John’s Nursery, Goddards Green. Dinner bed and Breakfast at Landsdowne Hotel, Eastbourne	
August 4	Outing to Jungle Garden at Wye	
September 1	Autumn Show and Catriona	Romney Wools
October 6	Chris Stewart	The hop bine and hop pickers of Kent
November 3	Stephen Harmer	La Claire the Story of Jersey’s lost garden
December 1	Social and creative activity	

Here are some gardening jobs for June

- Plant out tender vegetables if not already done so.....courgettes, sweetcorn, tomatoes, beans, cucumbers and chilies and peppers
- Plant out summer bedding in containers or beds
- Sow beetroot, carrots, lettuce, radish and French beans in the veg plot
- Sow hardy annuals in spaces in borders
- Pull out or hoe off weeds
- Begin to harvest veg.....early potatoes, radish and young carrots
- Prune spring flowering shrubs
- Lift spring bulbs when foliage has died down if you need the space and can't leave in the ground. Store the bulbs in boxes in a well-ventilated space
- Trim evergreen hedges/shrubs/topiary

Yoga classes in Grafty Green Village Hall

Monday and Thursday mornings 9.30 till 11

Wednesday evenings 7 till 8.30

New course of yoga practices commences week beginning 1st

June for 9 weeks - £54

'Drop in £8 a session' call Sue Burch (British Wheel of Yoga teacher) on 07803 962339 for more details.

Yoga can be powerful as well as gentle; getting to know what your body needs through a regular practice; for more information please give me a call.



**19th June, Ladies Ascot Day
live betting, 2 course Lunch with a Glass
of Champs.
£45 per person.
Prizes for best dressed**

**Ulcombe History Society
2026 programme**

January 20th Guy Bartlett

“British women in aviation”

February 17th Derrick Parkes

“The Emperor Justinian: his reign and legacies”

March 17th Ed Adamson

“Kentish clerical errors”

April 21st Melanie Gibson-Barton

“Suffragettes and Suffragists - votes for women”

May 19th Adam Taylor

“Islands of the Medway Estuary”

October 20th Bertie Pearce

“Wonder workers and the art of illusion”

November 17th Ed Adamson

“Making and faking of ghost stories”

December 8th Imogen Corrigan

“The goose is getting fat”

**We meet at Ulcombe Village Hall, 7 for 7.30 pm.
Guests are always welcome, admission £4**



COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

Need help with your iPad or tablet?
Struggling with Windows?
Lost your emails?
Can't find your photographs?



join us at
our popular Saturday morning clinic
between 10am and 12 noon at

EGERTON COMPUTER CENTRE

THE MILLENNIUM HALL

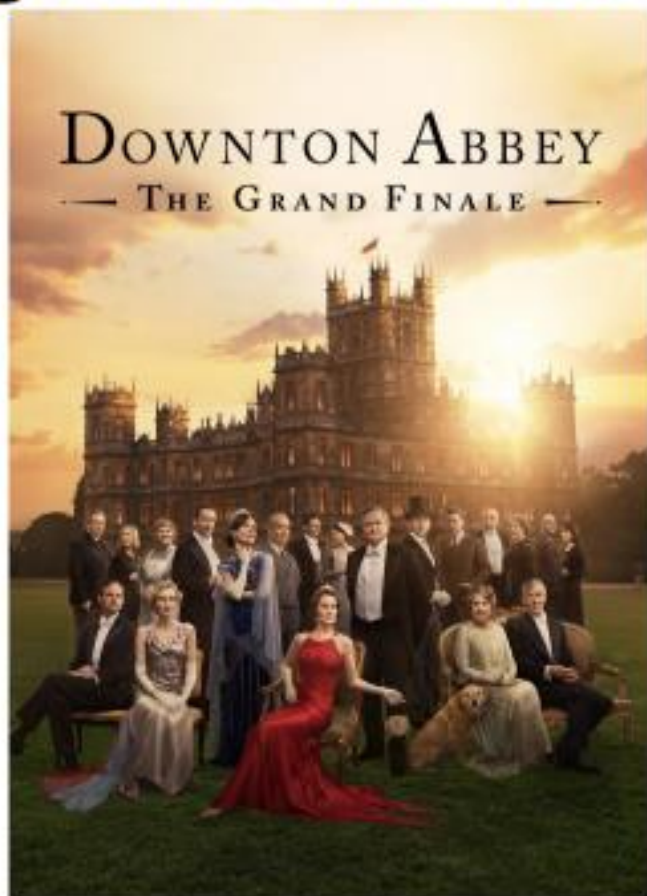


GET IN TOUCH

 instructor@egerton-kent.co.uk

 www.egerton-kent.co.uk

Egerton Film Society



EGERTON MILLENNIUM HALL

THURSDAY 25th June 2026

Doors 7.00pm - PERFORMANCE 7.30pm

Admission £6.00

Email: egertonfilm@btinternet.com for more information



Light Refreshments and Licensed Bar.

Save the Cinema

Friday, June 12th

Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00

Running time: 1 hr 49 mins, directed by Sara Sugarman

A comedy drama, a feel-good story – and it actually happened! That’s our June performance, **Save the Cinema** (12, 2022). Set in Wales in 1993, the film tells the story of how the local ‘Lyric’ cinema is doomed to closure – until local hairdresser and youth theatre leader Liz steps in and embarks on a campaign to stop the closure. She even enlists Steven Spielberg to assist with a special cinema performance. The wonderful Samantha Morton stars as Liz and she’s supported by a great British cast which includes Jonathan Pryce. This is a real charmer, just the thing for a summer evening, so do come along and share it with us.

Our July performance is our audience choice for the season. We celebrate Steven Spielberg’s 80th birthday with **Catch Me If You Can** on Friday, 10th July – come and join us for this fun film starring Leonardo DeCaprio and Tom Hanks.

Please get in touch for more information or to join our mailing list.

Admission: Adults £5, under 16s £2; cash only, card payments not accepted.



lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com



www.lenhamfilmclub.org



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We thoroughly enjoyed our Basking Babies 'Nurture Me' course. It was great to learn massage and reflexology techniques to help with common complaints such as teething and colds. Me and my baby were so relaxed after each session. It was lovely to get to meet other mums and babies, and be able to chat over a cup of tea each week.

News from St.Nicholas Church – June 2026

Recently we have made the journey to Yorkshire for the funeral of a beloved friend of more than 65 years. We had shared many major milestones, with laughter and never-failing friendship. A relationship that lasted, despite the distance and separation, always the same, however long the time lag. We will miss that.

So many friends have experienced such a loss recently and we share their sadness. There are aspects of being at funerals that are important, helpful, and healing, especially the opportunity to talk and share memories, meet friends and relatives, even checking how those closest may be coping. In Yorkshire it was a non-stop chance, over a cup of tea, to hear stories of so many family members and the impact she had made in their lives.

Usual reminders

No changes here! The church porch continues to be open at all times, with the opportunity to make a hot drink, get out of the rain, admire the view, read the bible, request a prayer, and make use of the mini food bank, if needed. There is the larger food bank at the back of St.Mary's church in Lenham, open from 10.00am - 4.00pm daily.

If the kettle needs topping up, or the dog bowl, there is a cold tap at the back of the building, just follow the path round past the West door.

The main church building is open for services, (see the notice boards), cleaning, meetings etc. If you would like to visit at other times, please contact the churchwardens for a key.

Lenham Mother's union visited the church on May 13th, for their monthly meeting. They were interested to hear the history of the tomb of Sir Edward and Lady Margaret Wotton. We enjoyed hosting them and the chat over a cream tea.

Cream Teas. A reminder of the dates for our Cream Teas;
19th and 26th of July,
2nd and 9th of August.

As usual, they take place from 2.30-5pm. Looking forward to meeting everyone again.



Outdoor tidying and indoor spring clean.

We are hoping to make progress in sprucing up the church, both inside and out. We are suggesting a possible Saturday, or two, later in the year. Obviously, we would be providing refreshments etc. We will be spreading the word for ideas and give more information. Hoping friends will join in, possibly with a tool or duster!

Farewell

We send our prayers and condolences to Mair and the family of Irene Ayling, whose funeral took place in Ulcombe church on the 6th May.

Looking forward to the hot weather we are promised in a few days, despite the need for more garden watering. May everyone's plants thrive and look as beautiful as those at the Chelsea Flower Show this week. Isn't nature amazing!

Sally Alexander

Len Valley Benefice June 2026



Everybody is welcome

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

1 John 4 v7 (part)

Wednesday 3rd June

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Harrietsham: Chippendayle

Sunday 7th June

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Harrietsham: Morning Worship

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 14th June

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Morning Worship

6.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

Sunday 21st June

8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Ulcombe: Morning Worship

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

Sunday 28th June

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion Service at St Mary's, Lenham

*Please note that during **June** some services may need to be altered or cancelled at short notice due to circumstances beyond our control.*

Christian Message - June 2026

Making Space for Love

Many of us will have heard stories about moments when someone has encountered the love of God. Or perhaps this is something that we have experienced for ourselves. Sometimes those moments are dramatic, other times they are a quieter assurance of “I know that I am loved.”

Whether you’re a Christian or simply curious, that longing to be known and loved is something we all share. Yet, for most of us, life has a way of crowding out the actual awareness of being loved. Work becomes demanding, family life is full on, and even good things can further fill over stretched attention.

This isn’t to say that everyday life is somehow separate from God. Christians believe He is present in all of life. But learning to recognise His love in everything often begins by intentionally making space for Him.

Like any relationship, love grows best through time spent together. For Christians, that might mean prayer, reading the Bible, or simply pausing to reflect. These things aren’t about earning God’s love, but about being open to receiving it.

In Psalm 63:2-5, David says to God:

² *I have seen you in your sanctuary
and gazed upon your power and glory.*

³ *Your unfailing love is better than life itself;
how I praise you!*

⁴ *I will praise you as long as I live,
lifting up my hands to you in prayer.*

⁵ *You satisfy me more than the richest feast.
I will praise you with songs of joy.*

In this ancient psalm, David tells God, “Your love is better than life itself.” It’s a staggering claim and it points to something deeply sustaining.

Perhaps the invitation is simply this: to slow down, even briefly, and consider the possibility that we are loved more deeply than we have ever realised. And then to learn, little by little, to rest in that love.

In practice, this can start very simply. It might be taking a few quiet minutes in the morning with a cup of tea and telling God, “Thank you for your love. I receive it today.” Sometimes you may feel something, sometimes you may not. Christians trust that God’s love is real, regardless of how it feels in the moment.

If life has brought disappointment, then a suggestion like that may be met with an understandable hesitation. We can be sceptical and wonder if it would just be a waste of time. But the invitation of Christianity is not just to believe in the love of God as an idea, but to make space and experience it for ourselves.

By Ben Doggett, Pathways Church

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Police, Non-Emergency - (Including PCSO) **101**

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Headcorn Surgery (*out of hours listen to*) **01622 890294**
Lenham Surgery (*recorded messages*) **01622 858341**

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