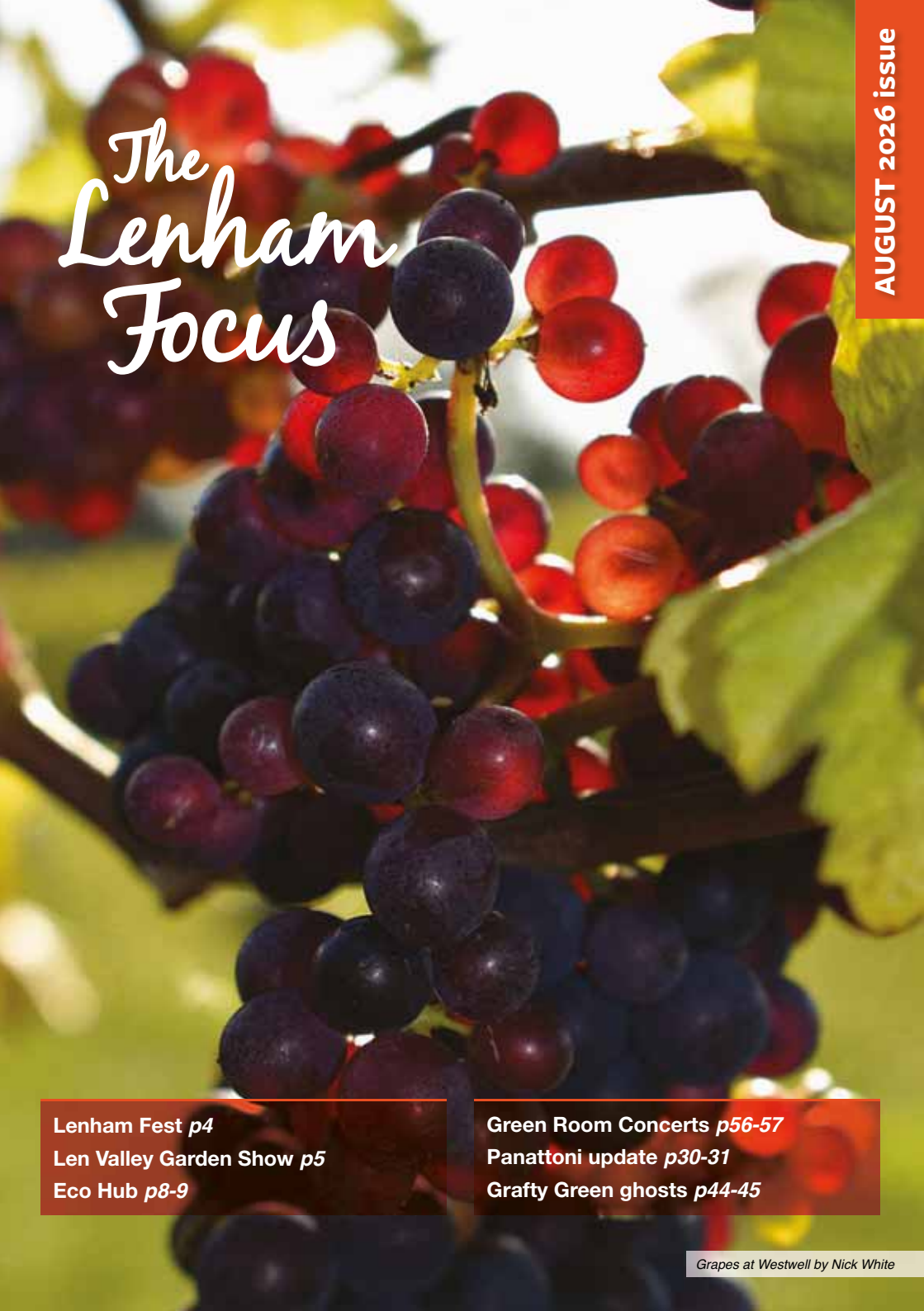




The Lenham Focus

AUGUST 2026 issue

Lenham Fest *p4*

Len Valley Garden Show *p5*

Eco Hub *p8-9*

Green Room Concerts *p56-57*

Panattoni update *p30-31*

Grafty Green ghosts *p44-45*

FOCUS is also online at
www.lenhamparish.org.uk
 (Click on 'Lenham Focus')

Editorial

How many of the 20 events covered in last month's *FOCUS* did you attend?

And there are plenty more in this coming month too – such as the big **Lenham Fest** right at the start of the month, the annual **Len Valley garden show** on the 22nd and the **Lenham Meadows Trust cheese and wine invitation** on 6th, as well as your regular clubs and societies. Don't miss the wonderful **Green Room** concerts in the Tithe Barn. The 3-day programme is on between 28th and 30th August – see details and booking information inside this issue.

Email the editor if
 you have an entry
 for next month's
 'What's On' page...

Remember, these are put on for your benefit and entertainment. If you choose not to attend, or if volunteers cannot be found to organise them, there's no guarantee they will continue. This is sadly brought home to us with the announcement that the Lenham Film Club will cease to operate after the September showing – because they're unable to get helpers to keep the show on the road. If you think you can assist with any of our local groups, please get in touch, either directly to the group concerned or by dropping me an email.

Are you aware of the tails of highwaymen, smugglers and ghostly happenings in Grafty Green? See the article about the King's Head in Grafty Green and make up your own mind!

David Jackson
 Editor

Volume 33 Edition 8 (August 2026)

Circulation 2,300 to Lenham Village (plus shops, library, pubs etc.), Lenham Heath, Platts Heath, Sandway, West Street, Woodside Green, Warren Street and to various Harrietsham, Grafty Green and Boughton Malherbe outlets.

Copy Deadline:

By 1st of the preceding month to editorialslf@outlook.com or by phone/text on **07714 311008**. Photos of the village and local events are welcome.

Published by Lenham Focus

The Lenham *Focus* is published by Lenham *Focus*, a Company Limited by Guarantee, Reg No. 10870314.

Opinions expressed are those of the contributors, not the publishers; the publishers accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions; the publication of advertisements does not constitute an endorsement.

Authors of articles and advertisements are responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions. The *Focus* may forward comments or complaints directly to an author of any article and seek a response. Readers have the opportunity to a 'right of reply' in the *Focus* provided they are fully identified.

Advertising Rates and Sizes (H x W)

(approx including borders). PDF format (300dpi) preferred.

1/8 Page (45x61mm) <i>Landscape</i>	£13
1/4 Page (92x61mm) <i>Portrait</i>	£21
1/2 Page (92x123mm) <i>Landscape</i>	£38
Full Page (185x123mm) <i>Portrait</i>	£69
Special requests/inserted leaflets	POA

Editorial and Advertising: David Jackson
editorialslf@outlook.com or 07714 311008

Finance: Sue Summers
lenhamfocusinvoices@gmail.com

Proofing: Jayne Hewish

Distribution: Jon Snapp 07971 249137

Designed & Printed by: fuzzmedia.co.uk

We welcome your input and comments please email me at editorialslf@outlook.com

WHAT'S ON

AUGUST

Here's a quick look at the events around Lenham in the coming month. There may be more information inside.....

Got an event you'd like included next month? Send an email to the Editor.

- **Every Friday during spring and summer:** Westwell Winery 'Pizza Fridays' 4pm - 9pm. **Venue:** Westwell Wine Estates, Charing. **Cost:** Varies – check website.
- **Every day to 31 Aug.** *Little People, Big Dreams.* **Venue:** Leeds Castle. **Cost:** Included in entry ticket price. See: www.leeds-castle.com/events for details.
- **Saturday 1, 10am – 4pm:** *Lenham Fest.* Live music, food, games, tug o' war, teddy bears' picnic. **Venue:** Tithe barn, Lenham. **Cost:** £2 adults, children FREE.
- **Sunday 2, 12pm – 6pm and 8:30pm – late:** *Country Fest with live music, cocktails, food, games.* **Venue:** The Wishful Thinker, Lenham. **Cost:** Early session FREE. 8:30 session £25pp. Book at www.elitepubs.com
- **Friday 7, Evening Karaoke.** **Venue:** Lenham Social Club. FREE
- **Saturday and Sunday 8-9, Motors by the Moat.** **Venue:** Leeds Castle. **Cost:** Included in entry ticket price. See: www.leeds-castle.com/events for details.
- **Sunday 9, Roger Titmuss Mini wood-turning lathe event.** **Venue:** Kent Loves... High Street Lenham. FREE
- **Sunday 9, am.** *Julie Gallagher's demonstration of sustainable products and practices.* **Venue:** Lenham Country Market in the village square. FREE
- **Friday 14, 7:30pm.** *Film Club – 'The Penguin Lessons'.* **Venue:** Lenham community centre. **Cost:** £5 adults; £2 under 16's.
- **Tuesday 18, Evening Quiz.** **Venue:** Red Lion pub. **Cost:** £1:50pp.
- **Friday 21, Evening Quiz.** **Venue:** Dog & Bear pub. FREE entry
- **Saturday 22, 2pm-4pm:** *Len Valley Garden Show.* **Venue:** Lenham Community Centre. FREE ENTRY. Refreshments available from 1:30pm. Raffle ticket draw at 4pm.
- **Saturday 22, 7pm:** *Live music from Ancient Orange.* **Venue:** Lenham Social Club. FREE
- **Monday 24 – Tuesday 25, 10am – 3:30pm:** Kids art lab and café. **Venue:** Charing scout hut. **Cost:** Free – booking essential. Contact Janet67996@aol.com
- **Thursday 27, Evening Quiz.** **Venue:** Lenham Social Club. FREE entry
- **Friday 28 – Sunday 30, Green Room Festival featuring the James Taylor Quartet, Alistair McGowan, the London Community Gospel Choir, West End Encore, 'Bach to Baby' + local food & drink and classic cars.** **Venue:** The Tithe Barn, Lenham. **Cost:** Tickets available from: www.greenroomconcerts.com
- **Saturday 29, Live music.** **Venue:** The Wishful Thinker. **Cost:** See www.elitepubs.com
- **Sunday 30, Wine Fair.** **Venue:** Wildshark winery. **Cost:** See www.elitepubs.com
- **Sunday 30, Evening Live music from Seani Pout.** **Venue:** Red Lion pub. FREE
- **Monday 31, K Bop Show.** **Venue:** The Wishful Thinker. **Cost:** Tickets online from: www.elitepubs.com



LENHAM FEST

A DAY OF FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE!

JOIN US AT THE TITHE BARN, LENHAM
SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST

10AM - 4PM

£2 ENTRY ON THE GATE FOR ADULTS
KIDS GO FREE!

TEDDY BEARS
PICNIC

TUG OF WAR
COMPETITION

GAMES

PENALTY
SHOOT OUT

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD &
DRINK

TREATS &
REFRESHMENTS

& LOTS
MORE!



**NO PARKING
ON SITE**

Please use nearby public parking
and park considerately of our neighbours.

Bring your friends,
bring your picnic,
and join the fun!

DOG FRIENDLY EVENT
DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON LEADS

LEN VALLEY GARDEN SHOW

SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST 2026

2.00 pm – 4.00pm

Lenham Community Centre

Entries open to all in the Len Valley Area



FLOWERS ● VEGETABLES ● PRODUCE ● TEAS

Organised by Lenham Gardening Society

Affiliated to the Kent Federation of Horticultural Societies
and to the Royal Horticultural Society

Refreshments served from 1.30pm

Raffle tickets on sale – draw 4pm



Lenham Meadows Trust

Countryside and community

An exciting new acquisition

The Lenham Meadows Trust is delighted to announce the latest addition to their ever-growing portfolio of land under their ownership or management.

Following months of discussions and negotiations, a new parcel of land located at the West side of Fairbourne Lane, Harrietsham has transferred from The Fairbourne Lane Management Company to the ownership of the Lenham Meadows Trust. The land, comprising around three acres, is a lovely green space – mainly wooded with some natural pathways across the land, and stretches all the way up to the Lenham Road – as shown on the diagram below.



Danny Matthews, Chair of Lenham Meadows Trust, says: 'This is an important addition to our stock of land and entirely consistent with the aims of the Trust to maintain and manage open green spaces for local residents to enjoy.'

'We are already considering the next steps on how to make this land fully accessible to visitors for generations to come and will be making further announcements as soon as our plans are finalised.'

This new acquisition makes it even more important for YOU to support the Trust by becoming a 'Friend of the Trust' and /or by adding your name to our list of people willing to get involved in protecting our village open spaces.

To get in touch and for more details, contact **enquiries@lenhammeadowstrust.org** or scan the QR Code.



Please email us if you'd like to know more about the Trust or to join our mailing list. Follow us on social media for the latest news, details of events and photos of our projects



enquiries@lenhammeadowstrust.org



www.lenhammeadowstrust.org



@LenhamMeadows

Kent Loves...

Handmade gifts by local artisans

A vibrant little shop, packed with work from over 90 local designers and makers! Based in the heart of Lenham at 11 High Street.

Unique gifts, handmade art, homeware, jewellery and so much more.



Events at Kent Loves:
Sun 9th Aug - Roger Titmuss,
Mini Wood Turning Lathe
Sun 13th Sept - Made in the
Malthouse, Clay Workshop

Open 7 days a week!
9:30am - 5pm
10am - 4pm (Sunday)



Follow us on social media
for recent updates!



**LENHAM
ECO HUB**

GOOD FOR YOU. GOOD FOR THE PLANET. ♥

**FAITH
-IN-
NATURE**
REFILL STATION

Miniml
REFILL STATION

Frenchic ♥
Furniture Paint
Beautiful, durable paint for
your home & furniture.

BrewBix
UPCYCLED BOTTLE TREATS
Good for your dog.
Good for the planet. ♥

BATTERY RECYCLING
Recycle your batteries here
and help power a greener future. ♥



The Lenham Eco Hub at Kent Loves...

11 High Street, Lenham. Now open 7 days a week

Nestled in the heart of Lenham at Kent Loves... on the High Street, the Lenham Eco Hub is a community-focused initiative designed to make sustainable living simple, affordable and accessible. Created to help reduce single-use plastic waste and encourage environmentally conscious shopping habits, the Eco Hub offers local residents and visitors a practical way to make greener choices in their everyday lives.

At the centre of the Eco Hub is a refill station featuring products from trusted eco-friendly brands including Faith In Nature, Frenchic Paint and Miniml amongst others. We also have a battery recycling station. Customers are encouraged to bring their own containers or purchase infinitely reusable bottles in-store, then refill them with household and personal care essentials as needed. This simple approach helps cut down on packaging waste while allowing shoppers to buy only the quantities they require.

Local resident, Julie Gallagher is a huge advocate for sustainable products and practices, who says: "I'm delighted to find that Kent Loves..., not only a hub for local crafters, are now dedicated in promoting and supplying eco-conscious products to our local community! I'm an avid supporter of using refill and reuse products, and was so pleased to find out they have adopted this ethos, using carefully selected sustainable brands.'

'It makes it easier for people like me to choose products that are kinder to both us and the planet, and I hope more local



residents join me in supporting Kent Loves... as they continue to expand their eco product range and embrace a more sustainable way of living. We can all play a part with one small swap at a time!

You will see Julie's demonstration at the Lenham Country Market on 9th August.

More than simply a shop, Kent Loves... hopes that the eco hub demonstrates how local communities can play an important role in tackling environmental challenges. By making sustainable alternatives readily available in the village centre, it helps residents make greener choices without compromising on convenience.

As awareness of environmental issues continues to grow, the hub stands as a practical example of how small businesses

and local communities can work together to create lasting positive impact for both people and the planet.

Jo Glazebrook, owner of Kent Loves... was asked about what she felt the hub could do for the local community: "Our eco hub initiative reflects Kent Loves' wider commitment to supporting local

communities, independent makers and sustainable practices. We're already known for showcasing handmade gifts, crafts and products created by talented Kent-based artisans and Kent Loves... provides the perfect home for an initiative that combines environmental responsibility with local enterprise."



**LENHAM
FILM CLUB**

at Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

Friday AUGUST 14TH

**Performance begins 19.30,
doors open 19.00**

***Running time 1 hr 52 mins,
Directed by Peter Cattaneo***

Who'd have thought that a single penguin could have such a remarkable effect in the middle of a country at war? Come along to see its story on Friday 14th August in the charming comedy drama **The Penguin Lessons** (12, 2024). Tom (played by Steve Coogan) is a disillusioned English teacher at a school in Argentina during the 1976 coup when he rescues the penguin from an oil-slicked beach. Tom was not expecting his good deed to turn his life upside down, or that the penguin would start to have a positive effect on the whole school. Based on a real-life memoir, do share this feel-good story with us.

Our September film on Friday 11th, is also based on a real-life story – a very different one though. It's **Michael** (12, 2026), covering the extraordinary career of pop superstar Michael Jackson. And what a story that is. Don't miss it.

The Penguin Lessons

We're extremely sad to have to confirm to you that Lenham Film Club will cease to operate at the end of the current season. Our September performance will be our final film.

Our team is facing significant changes; our Chair and Secretary have left the village and several others on our team are no longer in a position to contribute as they once did. We're very grateful for the support of the new team members who have joined us recently, however, there are simply not enough people on the team to keep the club running smoothly every month. We've tried to resolve this problem for some time and despite exploring a number of avenues to see if others would take on running the club, we've not been able to get the required assistance.

The club began in February 2019 and even though we had to take an enforced break due to Covid, we've put on 73 performances to date! We're very grateful to everyone who has come along and supported the club over the last 7 years.

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



lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com



www.lenhamfilmclub.org



[@lenhamfilmclub](https://www.facebook.com/lenhamfilmclub)



Harrietsham
GARAGE & MOT

MOTs

Harrietsham Garage & MOT offers annual servicing, cambelt, clutch, brake, battery replacements, diagnostics, MOT testing, air-con re-gas, tyres and mechanical repairs. All costs are agreed before work begins, and every service includes a 12-month warranty.

Located next to Harrietsham Train Station, we provide customer parking and an MOT viewing area with complimentary coffee. We look forward to welcoming you and taking care of your vehicle.



Repairs



Tyres



Diagnostics



Servicing



Brakes



Wet Belts



01622 859 580

www.harrietshamgarage.co.uk

Unit 4, Station Road Industrial Estate, Harrietsham, ME17 1JA

Monday	8am - 5pm
Tuesday	8am - 5pm
Wednesday	8am - 5pm
Thursday	8am - 5pm
Friday	8am - 4pm
Sat/Sun	Closed



COUNTRY CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES

Come and visit us in store for a warm, friendly welcome,
stocking all your needs for outdoor pursuits



Our store is open 5 days a week visit us at
Ashford Road, Badlesmere, Kent ME13 0NX
Wednesday - Sunday 10am - 4pm | 01233 742700
info@inthecountry.co.uk www.inthecountry.co.uk

**FAMILY
FUN!**

Headcorn Southern Model Show[®]

5 & 6 September 2026

Gates open 09:30am

BUY TICKETS ONLINE NOW



SCAN FOR TICKETS

Tickets will be available to purchase on the gate



**Aircraft - Boats - Cars - Scalextric - Railways
Rock Crawlers - Mini Hot Air Balloons - Simulators
Drones - Fireworks - Pyrotechnics - Night Flying
Trade Stands - Crafts - Bring 'N' Buy
Have a Go - Food Stands**

Danny and Liz head North

Many villagers will know Danny Coorsh and her partner Liz Cocker personally through their contact with them in Lenham – but even if not, the chances are that you have benefitted from their amazing work as volunteers across a wide range of groups and activities.

For example, as Chair and Secretary, they are the force behind the hugely successful **Lenham Film Club** which began in February 2019 and ends next month with the movie **'Michael'**, based on the life of Michael Jackson. Sadly, despite the large investment of time and money in running the club, it will then close down as successors willing to continue to organise and manage the monthly events have not been found.

But that's not the only volunteering that Danny and Liz have been involved in. They were both Trustees or Management Committee members of the Lenham Meadows Trust and helped tirelessly in organising the annual Apple Pressing fun days, quiz nights and other events, as well as their valuable input in the Trust's day-to-day operations.

Plus, Danny was an active member of the Friends of St Mary's Church, helping ensure its continued heritage. And, of course, she was a valued member of the Lenham *FOCUS* management team, carrying out interviews, helping with the design and content and proof-reading of the monthly magazine.



The photograph above shows Danny and Liz in the Red Lion pub where they celebrated their Lenham lives with friends from the various groups. The picture shows Liz holding a mock 'Oscar' and Danny with a framed plaque listing all the movies they've presented over the past 7 years.

We thank them on behalf of all the organisations and villagers for their amazing work. They will be missed. And we do, of course, wish them every success in their big move North, to Newcastle. Their gain – our loss.





The Friends of
St Mary's Church, Lenham

THE ANNUAL VILLAGE BARN DANCE, 19TH SEPTEMBER

Hot on the heels of last month's Jazz event, it is time to grab your partners because the ever-popular Annual Village Barn Dance returns on **Saturday 19th September! The dance takes place in the beautiful** setting of the Tithe Barn, Lenham ME17 2QD and is set to be a great night as usual, with dancing to 'Whirling Skirmish' and instructions from their excellent caller. The dance is great fun for all ages, no experience is necessary. We'll of course be holding our magnificent raffle during a break in the dancing, with a huge selection of prizes donated by local businesses.

Tickets for the dance are £15 for adults and £5 for under 16s; they are on sale now, cash only, from Kent Loves... 11 High Street, Lenham. Bring your own drinks & nibbles or order supper from Chequers Fish Bar. Doors open at 19.00 and the dancing begins at 19.30. There

will be some parking available at the barn, however there is also parking in and around the square. Tickets always sell quickly, so round up family and friends and get your tickets before they are gone; checked shirts and cowboy hats are optional!

The Friends of St Mary's is a registered charity, set up with the single purpose of preserving and maintaining our Grade I listed church building, so that it can stand at the centre of the village for future generations. Events like the Barn Dance are vital in helping us raise funds to be able to fund our work, like the recent major renovations to the tower roof. Please email us if you would like to sign up to receive regular updates about our latest projects or if you would like to become a member. You'll also find more information and a membership application form on our website.



www.friendsofstmaryslenham.org



[@FriendsofStMarysLenham](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofStMarysLenham)



enquiries@friendsofstmaryslenham.org

Charing Arts presents...

KIDS ARTS LAB & CAFE for fun, art & crafts activities
MONDAY 24 AUGUST and **TUESDAY 25 AUGUST** at the
Scout Hut. For ages 4 - 12, 10am-12/1.30-3.30pm.

Parents and carers support their children for fun activities
inspired by monsters, caterpillars and sunflowers.
FREE event; **booking essential**.

To book, contact Jan: janet67996@aol.com



N B CARPENTRY

Specialists in bespoke storage solutions and custom garden structures



Crafted with precision and care, we bring your ideas to life with expert woodworking for both style and function.

GET IN TOUCH TODAY!

07734 411600

nbcarpentry2000@outlook.com



**Helen
Whately MP**

Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent

*I work for you. If you
have a problem you
think I can help you
with, please
contact me.*



SCAN TO SIGN UP
TO MY NEWSLETTER

House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

0207 7219 6472

@ helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk



helenwhately.org.uk

IRELAND LANDSCAPES



All types of Hard & Soft Landscapes
Patios and Paving Roads and Drives
Concrete bases Stable bases
Fencing and Gates Turfing
Jungles cleared

**RING PAUL ON 01622 844605
or 07767 683747 for free estimate**

SERVICE LIST

- Oil Tank Install
- Oil Boiler Install
- Powerflushing
- Hot Water Cylinders
- Emergency Oil Transfer
- Air Source Heat Pump Install



Oakley
& Co Heating

Oil Fired Specialist

01622 910 149

www.oakleyheating.co.uk

info@oakleyheating.co.uk



Tèlīsà
特里萨
Tai
Chi
Optimal Fitness Lifestyle

***Strengthen your body;
find Inner Peace.***

**Tai Chi class at
Lenham Community Centre.
Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm.
All welcome.**

Classes also available in Maidstone.
Workshops and private tuition also
available in my Studio in Biddenden.

For more information contact
Theresa 07734 108683
telisataichi@gmail.com
www.telisataichi.co.uk

Professional Jet Washing & Exterior Cleaning

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



PATIO'S, DRIVEWAYS, ROOFS, GUTTERS, AND MORE



**CALL US
TODAY!**

07989382986

Kentkerbappeal@gmail.com





MASTER FLOORS

CARPET

VINYL

LUXURY VINYL TILES

LAMINATE

ENGINEERED WOOD

Telephone: 01233 22 11 66 Mobile: 07974 227690



Family run business

25 years experience

www.masterfloors.co.uk

Exciting News at Lenham Nursery

Sally Barr reports

Back in March, Lenham Nursery had an OFSTED inspection and weeks later we received the amazing news that we were one of the very few nurseries to receive a rating of STRONG in ALL areas!

The inspector looked at the children's achievement, behaviour, attitudes, their welfare and wellbeing. The nursery was also inspected on its curriculum and teaching, as well as inclusion, its leadership and governance.

Of course, we're thrilled with this result, and the trustees would like to acknowledge and thank the staff who work tirelessly to keep the nursery working at such an impressive level during some challenging times.

Sarah and the team were commended on their knowledge of the children, on their organisation of the inviting and effective learning environments, on how they monitor and reflect on the children's progress; in summary "Managers and staff are dedicated, committed and passionate about the quality of care and teaching they provide for children."

If you're interested in finding out more and reading the whole report please scan the QR.



Nurseries continue to struggle to deliver this level of education and care as the sector remains underfunded by the government. We receive money per child for 15 or 30 hours per week (depending on their age and parents' circumstances) but this is not enough to cover all of the staff wages, national insurance, pension contributions, rent, utilities, resources etc...



The way that we have made ends meet in the past has been to have opening hours that extend beyond the "funded" hours and charge parents an amount that helps to cover our costs. We are no longer able to do this, meaning we are continuously looking at different ways to make ends meet. If parents need us to be open earlier or later in order to support their needs, please talk to the staff at the nursery and we will do our best to accommodate (if it is financially viable).

On this matter, the nursery is planning another fundraising event which we would encourage everyone to attend! **We are working closely with the Wishful Thinker organising an exciting Quiz Night/ Q&A event with some sporting celebrities.** Please keep an eye out on our social media and around Lenham with more details to follow soon. The date for your diary is Friday, September the 18th.

We're still waiting to hear if we are going to receive some money from our CIL bid, which would enable us to start our Big Build project. Meanwhile, we have been looking at other ways of extending our current provision so we can build on our success. Once again, anyone who is interested in becoming more involved with the nursery, we are looking for new trustees who are able to volunteer a couple of hours a month.

Please get in touch with Sarah at the nursery at lenhamnursery@btinternet.com

BARN DANCE

For 11-year-olds upwards

Saturday 5th September 6.00 to 9.00pm

Charing Parish Hall



Members - £10 Non-members - £15

11 to 16-year-olds - £3

Bring a picnic and refreshments



Book now 07808 334107 or scan QR





SIZES 30" - 40"



timco
**WORKMAN
SHORTS**

ONLY
£14.95
EXCL. VAT



YOUR CHANCE TO
WIN

**WIN A PREMIUM 2M X 2M POP UP GAZEBO
WORTH £99.95 EXCL VAT**
Come In-Store to enter.

LONG + SHORT SLEEVE



timco
**T-SHIRTS
3 PACK**

FROM
£11.94
EXCL. VAT

SIZES 30" - 38"



APACHE
**WHISTLER
SHORTS**

ONLY
£34.99
EXCL. VAT

SIZES M - XXL



APACHE
**LANGLEY
POLO SHIRT**

ONLY
£12.50
EXCL. VAT

AUGUST 2026 OPEN: MON-FRI 6.45-6.00, SAT 8.00-5.00

**BANK HOLIDAY 31ST - CHARING BRANCH OPEN
8.00am to 5.00pm**



DECORATING



ELECTRICAL



FIXINGS



GARDEN



ROOFING



METALWORK



NUTS & BOLTS



SCREWS



SEALANTS



TOOLS



WOODWORK



WORKWEAR

Looking To Sell or Let Your Property? Experts with Experience of Selling Your Home



Your local Estate Agent is close at hand
in Our Charing Village Office

rightmove

01233 713127

ZOOPLA



PrimeLocation



saddlersresidential.co.uk



ChloeB photography



Weddings • Events • Engagements
• Portraits • Family Portraits •

☎ 07707908283

Facebook icon ChloeB photography

Instagram icon chloeb._.photography

Email icon chloe.brett.photography@gmail.com

Website icon www.chloeb-photography.co.uk



Mick Claydon Carpentry

carpentry

kitchen design

installation

garden rooms & decking

timber & laminate flooring

painting & decorating

shopfitting

general maintenance

FREE ESTIMATES



m.claydon@btinternet.com

07565 036013

35 YEARS
EXPERIENCE



SMALL
PROJECTS
CATERED
FOR

YOUR GARDEN TRANSFORMATION COMPANY

Landscape and Garden Contractors



- Full landscape and design service ■ Pond and lake construction ■ Hedge cutting ■ Winter tidy ups
- Garden, scrub and woodland clearance ■ Decking and pergolas ■ Turfing ■ Seeding ■ All types of fencing
- Paddock maintenance ■ Driveways ■ Full maintenance and grass cutting ■ Paths ■ Jet Washing ■ Retaining walls
- Chipper hire (with operator) ■ Specialists in post and rail installation ■ Land based contractors



- PRUNING & FELLING
- CROWN LIFTING & THINNING
- AWKWARD ACCESS
- STUMP GRINDING
- DEAD & DANGEROUS TREES
- TALL HEDGE REDUCTIONS
- COMMERCIAL GRASS CUTTING
- ALL TYPES OF IVY REMOVAL
- ASH DIEBACK

Call us today on 01795 899246

**24/7
CALL OUT**

email: landandlandscaping@gmail.com www.landandlandscaping.co.uk

LENHAM BALLET SCHOOL

RAD ballet
ISTD tap
ISTD modern
Baby Ballet
Street Dance
Adult Ballet



www.lenhamballetschool.co.uk



lenhamballetschool@gmail.com



07906 314056



LenhamBalletSchool

All this from one plumber!

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Bathroom Installations | Tiling |
| Drains & toilets serviced | Painting |
| General domestic plumbing | Decorating |
| Leaking pipes | Odd jobs |
| Replacement taps | No job too small |
| Kitchen installations | Fully insured |
| Repairs and installation | FREE quotes |
| Power Flushing | No call out cost |

and friendly professional advice



T: 01622 851186 M: 0791 438 0521
info@allfixplumbing.co.uk
www.allfixplumbing.co.uk

*The
Lenham
Focus*

Advertising Space Available

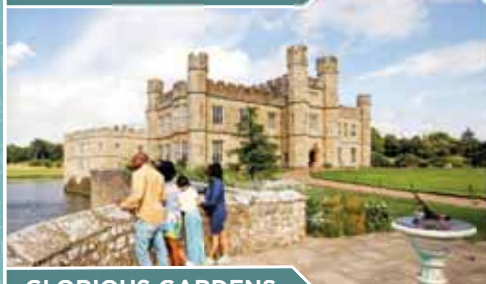


SUMMERTIME

AT LEEDS CASTLE

22ND JULY - 31ST AUGUST

MAGNIFICENT CASTLE



INSPIRING BOOK TRAIL



GLORIOUS GARDENS



MOTORS BY THE MOAT



8TH & 9TH AUGUST

THREE THRILLING PLAYGROUNDS



RELAX ON THE BEACH



ALL OF THIS AND MORE INCLUDED IN
YOUR ADMISSION TICKET

WHY NOT TURN YOUR VISIT INTO A SHORT BREAK?



Thorneloe & Co

Solicitors

Now part of Hallett & Co



Based in Lenham, we are an independent family practice providing a friendly, high quality, personal service tailored to your specific needs.

For you and your family.....

- Wills, Probate and Tax Planning
- Trusts and Estate Administration
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Family Law and Employment Law
- Buying and Selling Your Home
- Court of Protection
- Dispute Resolution / Property Litigation
- Personal Injury

For you and your business....

- Agriculture
- Commercial Property
- Buying or Selling a Business
- Business Contracts / Finance
- Employment Law
- Dispute Resolution / Property Litigation

01622 859 416

Lenham@Hallettandco.co.uk

www.hallettandco.co.uk

St Mary's House The Square Lenham Kent ME17 2PH

Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Registered Number 50485



The Council meet on the first Wednesday of each month.

Our committees also meet once a month.

These are:-

*Finance & General Purposes
Planning & Implementation*

Please see the notice boards and website for the dates of these.

All meetings are held at the Lenham Community Centre at 7:30pm.

Parishioners may attend all meetings.

Contact details: Lisa Westcott

(Clerk) 01622 829034

clerk@lenhamparishcouncil.org.uk

www.lenhamparish.org.uk



**40
Years in IT**



Troubleshooting, repair, malware & virus removal, Wi-Fi, networking



Device setup, data transfer, SSD upgrade, supply new & refurb kit



PC & Mac, upgrades, maintenance, mobile & tablet Setup + much more

Slow PC or laptop? Why not give your old device a boost by upgrading it with a Solid State Drive (SSD)? Give me a call for a quote.

**Lenham Based, I come to you, or drop it off to me
Fast & Friendly Service, No Call-Out Fee**

£25 per ½ hour

(min charge 1 hour)

Call Mark on 07867 90 55 22

Email: mark@mscompserv.com

ICON ROOFING

Refurbishment & Repair Specialist

— A Family Run Business Established 1979 —

Fascias • Soffits & Guttering • Lead Work • Roof Cleaning • Small Repairs, Strip & Re-Tile • Moss Removal Felt Roofing & 3 Layer System Clear & Coloured Coatings

- Chimneys Moss Replant

- Kent Peg Clay Tiles

Ridges Repointed & Rebedded

Lead Work & Valleys

FREE ESTIMATES



IconRoofing27@gmail.com

07304 114603

Checkatrade.com



Window Fix Direct & Kentish Warm Roof is now 'Simply Double Glazing'

Simply Double Glazing: a company you can trust to add value to, maintain, repair and extend the life of your home — with honest guidance on replacement and energy-efficient improvements that make homes warmer, quieter and cheaper to run.

One Trusted Team — Now Under One Name

You may already know us by a different name. Before becoming **Simply Double Glazing**, our work across Kent was carried out under two established businesses:

Window Fix Direct Kent – specialising in window and door repairs, glazing replacement and security upgrades; and

Kentish Warm Roof – focused on insulated conservatory roof solutions and long-term comfort improvements.

Simply Double Glazing offers a locally based company who promise quality workmanship and beautiful results. Serving homes across Kent and South London with trusted window, door and conservatory installations, warm roof upgrades, and dependable maintenance and repairs.

Windows

High-Security, A-Rated Windows in Kent & South London. We supply and install quality windows for homes designed to improve security, comfort and energy efficiency — all fitted with care.



Doors

We supply and install quality doors for homes designed to improve security, comfort and everyday use — all fitted with care.

Clean, smart designs to suit modern and traditional homes with a wide choice of door styles, colours and finishes and secure locking systems for everyday peace of mind

Conservatories

A conservatory or porch should feel like a natural part of your home — somewhere you genuinely enjoy spending time, not just an add-on at the back or front of the house.

At Simply Double Glazing, we take a personal, considered approach to every

conservatory and porch we install, helping homeowners across Kent and South London create spaces that feel comfortable, secure and well suited to everyday life.

Window Repairs & Glazing Replacement

We can help your windows and doors work properly again.

Windows and doors naturally wear over time. Handles loosen, seals fail, locks stiffen and glass can mist — but that doesn't always mean full replacement is needed.

At Simply Double Glazing, we help homeowners repair, maintain and improve existing windows and doors, extending their life wherever possible and offering clear advice when replacement is the better option.

Contact Us

If you'd like to discuss windows, doors, conservatories, repairs or warm roof solutions, we're here to help.

See the advert in this issue of *FOCUS*. Ring now on **01634 789025** or email **info@simplydoubleglazing.uk**



PLOT OR NOT?

If you think your land or property has development potential, why not give us a call without obligation and in confidence.



WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LAND AND PROPERTY WITH DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

Many of our clients retain our services and, in the majority of cases, pay our fees saving property owners significant costs.

Commercial buildings for residential conversion, former public houses, redundant buildings for redevelopment, buildings for conversion or replacement, houses for improvement, large sites on the edge of town, barn conversions, large gardens in residential areas and major regeneration projects.

Contact Stephen Donnelly on
07739 514350 or **01892 579937**
website: sjd-projects.com
email: steve@sjd-projects.com

For regular updates, visit us at
twitter.com/projects

SJD
LAND AND DEVELOPMENT

STORAGE AVAILABLE

20ft
Shipping Containers

Secure Location

Hollingbourne Area

Contact
07922 423286

hobbs parker

Uncomplicated, trustworthy
and confidential advice if you
are selling or letting ■

Ashford: **01233 506260** Tenterden: **01580 766766**

www.hobbsparker.co.uk

INDEPENDENT VETS IN CHARING



OLIVE TREE VETERINARY SURGERY
YOUR PETS, OUR PASSION

TAKING NEW REGISTRATIONS NOW

01233 223400

INFO@OLIVETREEVETS.COM

WWW.OLIVETREEVETS.COM





crafts created with love

Coming Soon

Crochet classes for beginners to advanced in your area.

For more info or to book a space please contact us on 07703 633915

MOWER PLANT SERVICES LTD.

Sunpatch Farm, Headcorn Rd,
Smarden, TN27 8PJ
Tel: 01622 890046



Sales, Service, Repairs & Parts

Main Dealers for Honda,
Mountfield, Stiga & Husqvarna

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

www.mowerplantservices.co.uk



LENHAMCLOCKS

Repairs of Antique and Vintage Clocks
Clocks Bought and Sold



- Clocks bought, sold and repaired
- Watch batteries fitted
- Friendly advice about your clock
- Free estimates
- Insurance quotes

**OPEN THURSDAY to
SATURDAY 9:30am – 5pm**

Contact **Simon Wood** on
07535 417533
or email:
lenhamclocks@gmail.com



Tai Chi and Qigong

Relax, stretch and enjoy at Lenham
Community Centre

Monday 9:30-10:30am ~ Tai Chi

Monday 10:45-11:45am ~ Qigong

Monday 12:00-12:45pm ~ Beginners Tai Chi

Come along and join us: First class free!

For further information and to check
availability, please contact Rhonda

07985 001782

Email: bex.taichi@yahoo.co.uk

www.abundantenergy.uk

Marley Works plans progress

The consultation into plans to redevelop the former Marley Works site has finished and the site's owners, Panattoni, have thanked the residents of Lenham and Harrietsham for their feedback.

The views of the more than 150 people who visited the public exhibition held in the Dog and Bear Hotel in February, and the completed feedback forms have been shared with the project team.

David McGougan, Senior Development Director - South East at Panattoni, said: "It's clear there remains a genuine connection between the Marley site and the community, as we met many former employees and had many constructive conversations with stakeholders, near neighbours and other interested members of the public."

"Redeveloping brownfield sites rather than greenfield was overwhelmingly supported, with 98.5% agreeing. When asked about the site's future use, 81.2% believed it should not become housing, and therefore be retained for employment to help boost the local economy."

Panattoni, which is Europe's largest privately owned industrial logistics and distribution property developer, owns the 70-acre site. It contains more than 1,000,000ft² of buildings and commercial space and is identified as a key employment location within the Borough of Maidstone.



David McGougan, added: "At the same time as receiving a positive reaction from the local community, we've also had enquiries from a number of high-quality businesses interested in setting up an operation here in Kent, all looking for buildings designed to their specific requirements."

A number of residents raised the ongoing concern about the levels of traffic on the A20. When asked, more than 86% of respondents agreed that highway improvements would benefit the local community.

Panattoni anticipated this issue and has been engaging with the Local Highways Authority to discuss any mitigations and improvements that might be required.

David McGougan added: "The regeneration of the former Marley Works offers a once in a generation opportunity to bring it back to life. We will continue to engage with the communities of Lenham and Harrietsham throughout the planning process and beyond."

Panattoni has sought the views of residents on local community projects which could be supported by the development proposals. The top four choices for support are environmental projects, access to public space, skills and training, or well-being and leisure options. Project support will be the subject of ongoing discussions with community groups, including Lenham Meadows Trust.



The feedback will inform and shape the emerging planning application before it is submitted to Maidstone Borough Council.

Visit **www.panattoni-marleyworks.co.uk** for more information about the proposals.



Welcome to Tivoli Blinds

We are a small family run business based in Kent. We offer a **FREE** home measuring service and bespoke made-to-measure blinds for your home or office.

Our prices include fitting as standard by our expert installation team. Whether you're looking for something traditional, stylish or bold, you'll find exactly what you are looking for with us.

With free samples available on request and low prices guaranteed, there really is no need to go anywhere else than Tivoli Blinds!

Contact us:

Email: info@tivoli-blinds.co.uk

Tel: 07906 794273

Visit: www.tivoli-blinds.co.uk

**QUOTE FOCUS FOR 5% OFF
ENTIRE ORDER**

Decked out in style!

At **Andrew French Fencing** we build high quality decks, fences, gates, pergolas and more.

Offering competitive pricing and bespoke solutions so you can relax in the outdoor space of your dreams.

With more than 22 years' experience in the gate manufacture and fencing trade I have a proven track record of delivering quality results for my customers.

From close board or picket to chain link or railings you can be sure your garden will be secure and looking great.

Decking or a new patio can transform your garden giving you the perfect outdoor space for entertaining or relaxing.

I use quality treated deck boards and natural Indian sandstone to give that extra special look. Gates and pergolas can be functional or statement pieces in your garden. Made to measure and customised to your requirements.



**Contact me today for a FREE quote.
Appointments are made to fit your schedule.**

Call 07788 971584 | Email frenchandrewp@live.com | www.andrewfrenchfencing.com



PHOENIX PAINT SOLUTIONS LTD

Water Lane Farm, Harrietsham, Maidstone, ME17 1DE

T: 01622 535538 M: 07830 323233



FREE ESTIMATING, INSURANCE WARRANTY REPAIRS,
END OF LEASE ADVICE AND QUOTES, COLOUR CODING.
WHEEL REFURBISHMENTS AND EXPERT GUIDE FOR ANY REPAIRS.
COLLECTION / DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE
OPEN FROM 7 AM TO 5PM MONDAY - FRIDAY
EMAIL: **OFFICE@PHOENIXPAINTSOLUTIONS.CO.UK**
WEB: **WWW.PHOENIXPAINTSOLUTIONS.CO.UK**

Countryways Quilters and Stitchers

From Pamela Gillard

During August and September we have our summer garden meetings. Four fun meetings hosted by different members of our group. We can't use sewing machines so our projects are hand stitched. In August we will be embroidering small bags that will be filled with lavender to hang in our wardrobes.

Our summer meetings are always rather fluid as we have to think about weather conditions. We used to worry about being rained out but more often now it's about the risk of extreme hot weather warnings. So unless you're a current member on our group chat, dropping in is not

an option. But do come along when we are back in Lenham Community Centre in October.

Come and join us at one of our meetings and try your hand at something new or just enjoy the company, have a chat and a cup of tea. It's an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon.



Our meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of every month except December and we'd love to see you. We meet in the Osborne room in the Lenham Community Centre from 1:30 to 4:30. If you'd like more info on our group or a copy of our 2026 programme, please contact me, Pamela Gillard at 07914 809946 or email moonbeamspinner@gmail.com

Tom Hope



**Colebridge Farm
Egerton, Kent
TN27 9BP**

**T: 01233 756673
M: 07890818783**

E: janehopes321@btinternet.com

- ❖ All forage supplied (hay – straw - haylage)
- ❖ Plant Hire (diggers, dumpers and Telehandlers etc with/without operator)
- ❖ Agricultural contracting (all field work undertaken, including hay making and paddock maintenance)
- ❖ Elements of Garden and landscape care
- ❖ Barn stored hardwood logs (delivery available)
- ❖ Oak off cuts sold in long lengths
- ❖ Hedge cutting flail/rotary (Prompt service)
- ❖ Horse manure loaded and taken
- ❖ Haulage available including Hiab Hire
- ❖ ANYTHING CONSIDERED

Help shape Maidstone's future: Call for Sites launched for new Local Plan



Generated image of a garden city style estate showing development and green spaces together

Maidstone Borough Council is inviting landowners, developers, agents and members of the public to submit sites for consideration as part of the preparation of its new Local Plan.

The 'Call for Sites' is an early stage in shaping how the borough will grow and develop over the coming years. It provides an opportunity for those with an interest in land across Maidstone to put forward sites that may be suitable for a range of uses, including housing, employment, retail, leisure, green space, renewable energy and community infrastructure.

The council is required by national planning legislation to prepare and maintain an up-to-date Local Plan and requires councils to assess and plan to meet their area's housing

and development needs, using a standard calculation method set out by Government. This forms part of a wider national approach to ensure enough homes are delivered across the country to meet housing need.

Preparing a Local Plan allows the council to manage growth in a coordinated way by identifying suitable locations, protecting important landscapes and heritage, and ensuring development is supported by infrastructure such as transport, schools, health services and open spaces. Without an up-to-date plan, there is less local control over where development takes place.

Submissions to the Call for Sites are an important first step in gathering information. However, putting forward a site does not mean it will be considered suitable for

development or allocated in the Local Plan. All sites will be subject to detailed and transparent assessment, including environmental, infrastructure and sustainability considerations.

There will also be opportunities for residents, businesses and communities to comment as the Local Plan progresses through consultation stages.

The council has prepared guidance and submission forms to support anyone wishing to take part in the Call for Sites. All submissions must be made using the official site submission form and should include supporting information such as site plans and details of potential uses.

Cllr Tony Harwood, Maidstone Borough Council Cabinet Member for Planning Policy and Management, said:

“The Call for Sites is an important next step in preparing our new Local Plan. We encourage anyone with an interest in land to submit sites for consideration and help us shape a truly sustainable approach to future residential development within the borough, that safeguards the natural world and our most cherished landscapes.”

Further information, including guidance notes and submission forms, is available on Let’s Talk Maidstone. The deadline for submissions is 23 August 2026.

For enquiries, contact the Strategic Planning Team at Maidstone Borough Council by emailing ldf@maidstone.gov.uk or calling 01622 602000.



LENHAM DENTAL

Begin your smile journey in our newly transformed clinic
How we can help

**General Dentistry
Dental Implants
Whitening
Invisalign
Facial Aesthetics
Sedation**

BOOK NOW
01622 858204
www.lenhamdental.co.uk

@LENHAM_DENTAL

The Canterbury Auction Galleries

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS SINCE 1911

Auctioneers of the rare, the collectible and the exceptional



2026 AUCTION DATES

**13th & 14th
February**

Consignment deadline
19th December 2025

**10th & 11th
April**

Consignment deadline
6th March

**5th & 6th
June**

Consignment deadline
1st May

**31st July &
1st August**

Consignment deadline
26th June

**2nd & 3rd
October**

Consignment deadline
28th August

**27th & 28th
November**

Consignment deadline
23rd October

Have something to sell?

From watches, jewellery, cameras, art and antiques to 20th Century collectibles, we have a strong track record in achieving international saleroom prices.

Contact us today for a free valuation:

Telephone **01227 763337** Email general@tcag.co.uk Visit thecanterburyauctiongalleries.com

K R S Building & Decorating Services



Internal and external decorating

All aspects of building work
from design to build

Kitchen and bathroom installations



Reliable service • Fully insured • Free estimates

Tel: 01622 851126 or 07801 544547



ELECTRICIAN

MGI Electrical

**Installation and maintenance
Advice and Design**

For domestic and industrial needs

07740 783646 or 01622 850055

SR Interiors

Painting & Decorating Services

- Internal and external decorating
- Professional decorating at a competitive price
- Dulux approved, over 30 years experience
- Fully insured

Mobile: 07816 149502

Email: info@sr-interiors.com

Web: www.sr-interiors.com



Lenham Dance Studio is OPEN
Beginners. Medallist. Competitive. Wedding. Social.

Dance like 'Strictly'
Ballroom & Latin Lessons for ALL
Following all current Guidelines
PRIVATE LESSONS
GROUP LESSONS
Must be booked in advance



www.gdcschoolofdancing.co.uk
01622 850800



CCTV Systems
Burglar Alarm Systems
WIFI Solutions
5 Star Google Ratings
Local, Reliable & Professional
Reach us on 01634 944161
Or Visit
www.wisetechsecurity.co.uk



Lenham Gardening Society

From Margaret Baines

Sue Buckingham will come to talk about the **WILDFLOWERS OF SOUTH AFRICA** on the 20th August. The meeting starts at 7.30pm. Tickets will be on sale for the outing to Leonardslee on Tuesday 8th September.

Refreshments will be served in the interval, and produce/plants are for sale. The raffle takes place at the end of the evening.



The **LENHAM GARDEN SHOW** takes place on Saturday 22nd August from 2pm – 4pm.

See the separate poster in this issue of *FOCUS*.

Refreshments will be available and there will be a raffle at 4pm before the afternoon closes.

Membership of the society is £7 annually with £1 entrance fee at the evening meetings (other than social events).

For further information: Email: gardenlenham@gmail.com or Tel: 07917401228

Local
Company



Family
Owned

Lakelands **LAWN** Care

Easy way to a great lawn

Affordable lawn care

- Moss Control
- Scarification
- Weed Control
- Fertilisation

18 yrs Experience

Cheaper than DIY

All year round lawn care

PAYG no contract



From as little as £20.00 per treatment

Call for a free no obligation quote

0781 087 6440

Email: lakelandsllc@gmail.com

Registered Surgical Chiropodist / Podiatrist
Established for Over 25 Years
Member of The Association of Chiropodists & Podiatrists
HCPC Registered G.C.S.Ch., M.Inst.Ch.P., M.F.S.Ch.



- Treatments & Consultations
- Children's Chiropody
- Corns, Callouses & Hard Skin Removal
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Fungal Treatment
- Ingrowing Toe Nails / Toe Nail Problems
- Verruca Treatment

Heather's Chiropody & Podiatry

M: 07595 497348

T: 01622 850376

www.heatherschiropody.co.uk

retreat@heatherschiropody.co.uk

The Brown Barn,
Bull Hill, Lenham Heath,
Kent, ME17 2JA (Off the A20)



TRY OUR

ENGLISH BREAKFAST
ROLLS & SANDWICHES
COFFEE & TEA

BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY

FROM 8AM - 1:30PM

EAT-IN, ENJOY OUR TERRACE OR TAKEAWAY

FRESHLY COOKED TO ORDER • ORDER ONLINE AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE • WWW.CHEQUERSFISHBAR.CO.UK

Contact Details For Local Groups

Badminton	Alan Williamson	01622-858763
Badminton Club Feathers	Robert Day	07984-948524
Borough Councillor	Chris Houliham	chrishouliham@maidstone.gov.uk
Bowling Club	Lyn Fuller	01622-851538
Bridge Club	Keith Rylands	01622-891964
Brownies (2nd Lenham)	Andrea French	01622-851646
Cat Protection	Mid-Kent Branch	0345-3712758
Church Office	Sarah Hills	01622-850604
Dog Warden (Louise Duke)	Community Protec'n	01622-602117
Drama	Gail Kelly	01622-850671
Fitter/Stronger classes	Paula Hickford	07759-446214
Friends of St Mary's Church	Andrew Barr	enquiries@friendsofstmaryslenham.org
Gardening Society	Margaret Baines	01622-431649
Guides (1st Lenham)	Jo Homes	07887-877814
Ham Lane Allotment Association	Doug Matthews	01622-297692
HAMS Productions	David Penny	07731-455677
Harrietsham & Lenham Beavers	Duncan Keenan	07768-926654
Harrietsham & Lenham Cubs	Mrs A Seales	01622-859829
Hub Club	Nina Kent	01622-851970
KCC for Maidstone Rural East	Sarah Emberson	sarah.emberson@kent.gov.uk
Kent Highway Services	Roads, paths etc.	03000-418181
Kent Wildlife Trust		01622-662012
Lenham Ballet School	Erica McCabe	07866-316056
Lenham Country Market	Sandra Woodfall	07775-736116
Lenham Community Centre	Carol Higgins	01622-853800 (am)
Lenham Cricket Club	Alex Gray	07760-132803
Lenham Film Club	Danny Coorsh	lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com
Lenham Heath Memorial Hall	Rosemarie Pomeroy	07572-911396
Lenham Heritage Society	Henny Shotter	01622-851355
Lenham Lifts scheme	Phil Hollier	01622-859154 / 07542 625277
Lenham Meadows Trust	Danny Matthews	enquiries@lenhammeadowstrust.org
Lenham Nursery	Sarah Siddens	07967 128056
Lenham Parish Council	Lisa Westcott	01622-829034 (Tues-Thurs 10am-1pm) clerk@lenhamparishcouncil.org.uk
Lenham Quilters & Stitchers	Pamela Gillard	01233-879507
Lenham Social Club	Sue Neaves	01622-532409
Lenham Toddlers Group	Irene Hine	01622-858919
Lenham Wanderers FC	Anna Russell	07747-844785
Len Valley Health Walks	Jan Enever	01622-851623
Len Valley Practice	GP surgery	01622-858341 / 859204
Member of Parliament	Helen Whately	helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk
Mothers' Union	Mrs J Thomsett	01622-947938
Patient Participation Group	Teresa New	01622-858341
Pilates Classes	Vivien Elcomb	01622-853887
Redback Explorer Scouts	Mark Horlock	redbackesu@hotmail.com
St Edmunds; Platts Heath	Kate Stansfield	07500-895831
Save Our Heathlands (SOHL)	Kate Hammond	07925-606236
Sing & Shake / Make & Shake	Steph Richardson	07894-160906
Sittingbourne Valley FC	Paul Hewish	07795-324062
Vicar	Vacancy	churchoffice@lvb.org.uk
Wellbeing Community Group	Vladimir Barkanov	07877-143088 wellbeingcg@outlook.com
Women's Institute	Chris Godden	01622-858658

Lenham Community Centre - Regular Clubs/Classes/Societies - August 2026

ACTIVITY	WHEN HELD	Time	CONTACT NO
Abundant Energy Tai Chi	Weekly Monday	0930-1030	07985 001782
Abundant Energy Qigong	Weekly Monday	1045-1145	07985 001782
Country Ways Quilting	1st & 3rd Tuesday	1330-1630	01233 879507
Country Ways Rugmaking and quilting	2nd & last Wednesday	0900-1300	07784 892160
Feathers Badminton	Weekly Monday	2000-2200	07984 948524
Gardening Society	3rd Thursday	1845-2200	01622 430649
Hatha Yoga	Weekly Monday	1815-1945	07850 355918
Kent School of Bridge	Weekly Thursday	1330-1730	01622 891964
LenARA Bowling	Weekly Tuesday	1330-1700	01622 858439
LenARA Line Dancing	Weekly Wednesday	1900-2115	01622 859725
LenARA Members	4th Wednesday	1230-1700	01622 851763
LenARA Petanque	Thursday if weather permits	0900-1300	01622 858439
LenARA Zumba Gold	Weekly Wednesday	0900-1030	01622 850278
Lenham Art Group	Weekly Thursday	1000-1300	01622 858238
Lenham Badminton	Weekly Tuesday	2000-2200	01622 858561
Lenham Ballet School	Monday/Tuesday	1700-2030	07866 316056
Lenham Ballet School	Thursday	1630-2100	07866 316056
Lenham Ballet School	Friday	0930-21.30	07866 316056
Lenham Ballet School	Weekly Saturday	0900-1530	07866 316056
Lenham Heritage	4th Thursday	1900-2130	01622 850228
Lenham Toddlers pre-school	Weekly Tuesday	0930-1130	01622 858919
Lenham Meadows Trust	3rd Thursday	1900-2100	07831 308267
Lenham Toddlers Pre-school	Weekly Tuesday	0930-1130	01622 858919
Lenham WI	2nd Thursday	1845-2200	01622 858658
Parish Council	1st Wednesday	1930-2200	01622 829034
Parish Council F & G P	3rd Wednesday	1930-2200	01622 829034
Parish Council Planning(P&I)	1st Monday	1930-2200	01622 829034
Pathways Church	Weekly Sunday	0830-1330	01622 850366
Telisa Tai Chi	Weekly Wednesday	1730-1830	07734 108683
Zumba with Rosie	Weekly Tuesday	1830-1930	07809 490982

PLEASE CONTACT ORGANISERS DIRECT FOR UP-TO-DATE TIMES/DATES AND INFORMATION



Kent's leading supplier of premium caravans since 1948

Situated in the heart of Kent, we stock the very best new and recent used touring caravans. Whether you are looking to buy a new Bailey or Coachman, or one of our immaculately prepared and warrantied pre-owned caravans, we are confident we offer a service that is second to none.



Visit our premises and you will find a large showroom, extensive outdoor display area and a well-stocked leisure shop. In conjunction with our industry scheme approved and factory trained workshop, we offer all you might need to get away on your caravan journey.



East Street, Harrietsham, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1HN

Call: 01622 859301 **E-mail:** enquiries@leedaveycaravans.co.uk

Or visit our new website: www.leedaveycaravans.co.uk





SIMPLY

**DOUBLE GLAZING,
REPAIRS – INSTALLATIONS
& CONSERVATORY
ROOFS**



**Contact us TODAY for a FREE
Consultation & Quote**

 **01634 789025 or 07950 761061**

 **simplydoubleglazing.uk**

 **simplyconservatoryroofs.uk**



Ghostly goings-on in Grafty Green



The Ghost of Dover Bill: Smuggler, Informer and Restless Spirit of Kent

Among the many ghost stories that haunt the lanes and villages of Kent, few are as enduring as the tale of Dover Bill. Remembered as a notorious smuggler, an alleged informer, and a man consumed by guilt, Dover Bill's restless spirit is said to linger long after his death. His legend is particularly associated with the village of Grafty Green and the historic King's Head public house, where tales of betrayal, violence and supernatural appearances have been passed down through generations.

The Legend of Dover Bill

According to local tradition, Dover Bill was a member of one of the smuggling gangs that operated throughout Kent during the eighteenth century. At a time when heavy duties were imposed on imported goods such as spirits, tea and tobacco, smuggling flourished along the Kent coast. Bill allegedly earned a reputation as a daring and ruthless operator, familiar with the secret routes that connected the coast to the inland villages.

The darker chapter of his story concerns accusations that he eventually betrayed his fellow smugglers. Folklore claims that, when faced with arrest or execution, Dover Bill turned King's Evidence and informed the authorities about the activities of his companions. Several members of the gang were subsequently captured, and some were reportedly executed. As a result, Bill became an outcast among those who had once trusted him. Local accounts suggest that he spent his remaining years isolated and remorseful, dying a broken man haunted by the consequences of his actions. He was found some years later, minus a leg, in a ditch in Dover.

The Battle of 1790

A dramatic episode often linked to Dover Bill is the so-called Battle of 1790. The story tells of armed smugglers attempting to protect valuable contraband from seizure. During the clash, shots were fired and several men were injured or killed. In some versions of the tale, Dover Bill either participated directly in the fighting or provided information that led to the authorities' success. This association further cemented his reputation as a traitor

among local communities sympathetic to the smugglers.

Over time, the details of the battle became intertwined with ghost stories, transforming what may have been a real smuggling conflict into a larger legend of guilt, revenge and supernatural punishment.

The King's Head at Grafty Green

The centrepiece of the Dover Bill legend is the historic King's Head. Local accounts describe the inn as one of Dover Bill's favourite meeting places and a venue where smugglers gathered to exchange information and conduct their business. According to long-standing pub tradition, the building was once frequented by the infamous smuggler himself.

Stories connected with the inn suggest that Dover Bill's ghost has been seen both inside and outside the building. Witnesses have described the apparition as a sombre figure wandering near the road, appearing troubled and filled with anger or regret. Others claim that strange sensations, unexplained noises and fleeting shadowy forms are evidence that the smuggler's spirit still returns to his old haunt.

One of the most striking features associated with the pub is a mural depicting Dover Bill alongside a moonlit coach, commemorating the legend that has become part of the village's folklore.

The Phantom Coach and the Headless Coachman

Dover Bill's ghost story is closely linked to another supernatural tale centred on the road near the King's Head. Local folklore recounts a terrible coaching accident in which a carriage crashed, killing its passengers and decapitating the driver.

The resulting apparition is known as the Headless Coachman. Witnesses have reported hearing the sound of galloping horses, rattling wheels and frantic movement along the road, even when no vehicle is present. Some versions of the legend claim that Dover Bill caused the accident, while others suggest that his ghost appears shortly before the spectral coach is seen or heard. The two hauntings have become inseparable in local tradition.

A Legacy of Folklore

Whether Dover Bill was a real smuggler, an informer, or a figure embellished by generations of storytelling, his legend remains one of Kent's most intriguing ghost tales. The combination of smuggling history, betrayal, violent conflict and supernatural retribution has ensured that the story continues to be retold.

The King's Head at Grafty Green stands as the focal point of these traditions. Visitors drawn by Kent's rich folklore still hear stories of the remorseful smuggler, the phantom coach and the headless driver who roam the lanes after dark. In a county famous for its smugglers and ghosts, the tale of Dover Bill endures as a reminder that some reputations may survive long after death.

Today's King's Head pub. Beverley, Ken and Eve Sweet have together run today's King's Head for over 35 years. They proudly manage the 16th century coaching inn, with its beer garden and children's room, providing home cooked lunches and suppers every Friday as well as a wide range of beers.

When visiting, ask them about their ghostly experiences – like the strangely moving beer glasses, the peculiar noises in the night, the amazing timing of electrical failures during a recent spiritual performance and much more!

The King's Head, Grafty Green



Ken and Eve Sweet welcome you to the wonderful 16th Century coaching inn in the centre of Grafty Green, reputedly haunted by 'Dover Bill' the highwayman!

BEER GARDEN; CHILDREN'S ROOM, HOME-COOKED MEALS
Fresh fish lunches and suppers every Friday.

Book by ringing 01622-850259



KENTBESPOKESHUTTERS.
YOUR LOCAL SHUTTER SPECIALISTS



Ready to talk Shutters?

kentbespokeshutters.co.uk

01622 933559



HOME DESIGN VISITS – EXPERT ADVICE – UNRIVALLED PRODUCT QUALITY



Local Painter Decorator

Top quality workmanship and competitive rates for all your interior and exterior painting and decorating. Dependable service from a mature and reliable local tradesman. Minimum fuss and disruption. Work fully costed and quoted upfront with Prices Guaranteed. Based in Lenham Village. Text or call **Russel** on **07961 580 074** Landline: 01622 859259. Email: decorator.russel@gmail.com



Wealth Management and Financial Planners

Investment Advice

Regular Savings

Inheritance Tax Planning *

Retirement Planning

Guiding you through your financial journey

For both individuals and business clients

*Invest Planning, Inheritance Tax Planning and Tax Planning are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Arrange a free consultation, we're here to help

01622 633 035

Info@scionfinancial.co.uk

www.scionfinancial.co.uk

Scion Financial Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Blackbriar Financial Management Limited and a member of the Financial Ombudsman (FOS Network) which is a trading name of Blackbriar Financial Management Limited who are authorised and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority, registered number 188617

Afsaneh's Foot Clinic

Registered Member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals
Afsaneh Smith MCFHP MAFHP

- Ingrowing Toe Nails
- Corns, Callouses & Hard Skin Removal
- Verruca Treatment

- Fungal Treatment
- Diabetic Foot Care

Telephone: 07506 376 264 / 01622 853 640
Email: afsaneh_motamedi@yahoo.com

Hubbard's Farm, Lenham Heath, Maidstone ME 17 2BX

PETER HUMPHRIES

CARPENTER & BUILDER

Reliable, Good quality work
Over 25 years experience
Based in Lenham
Please call;

Home 01622 858719

Mobile 07753162407

Quality installers of aluminium bi-fold & sliding doors, roof lanterns, PVC & sliding sash windows & composite doors throughout Kent

Visit our showroom:

Let us help enhance your home, visit our new bespoke showroom which displays some of our top quality Home Improvement products. We can help you decide what would be best for your home, or come along and try out the products without feeling pressured.



Opening Hours:

Monday to Thursday: 9am to 5pm

Friday: 9am to 4pm

Saturday: By appointment only



ksehome.co.uk

KSE Home Improvements 4 Ashmill Business Park,
Ashford Road (A20) Lenham ME17 2GQ. Tel: 01622 851400 email: info@ksehome.co.uk

LOCK FIT

Lenham local & trusted locksmith

- Emergency locksmith services
- UPVC window & door repair specialist
- Lock changes and security upgrades
- Emergency burglary repairs
- Misted window replacement
- Doors and windows that won't open or close

**Contact us today
for a free no obligation quote**

T: 07726 776600

mike.wright@lockfit.co.uk

No call out fees EVER

Cheekatrade



Harrietsham Computers

**I come to you when it suits you
No call-out charge**

Computer problems, virus attack?
Need an upgrade, repair, or new machine?
Want help with networking, wireless networks, or
broadband? Machine running slowly?
... or just want some extra tuition?

**For local friendly,
experienced help and advice**

call Mike Cuerden on 01622 859442 or 07963 020092



Piano Lessons

PianoLessonsByRob.co.uk

100% 5 Star Google Ratings

40 Plus years' experience

ABRSM & Trinity Exam Prep

Free Trial Lesson (Beginners Welcome)

1 The Paddocks, Lenham

07504 515610



Eat in or take away

Traditional Fish and Chips

Pies Chicken Southern Fried Chicken Kebabs
Kids Meals Burgers Savories Sauces Drinks

Breakfast & fresh ground coffee from 8.00 am

Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 2.30 pm
and 4.30 pm - 10.30 pm

Saturday 8.00 am - 10.30 pm

Sunday 11.00 am - 9.00 pm



The
CHEQUERS

The Square Lenham Kent ME17 2PH

Telephone: 01622 859 878

MERCURE HOTELS

Looking for somewhere to work?
Work with us



£19.00 per person, includes:

- Two hot drinks
- Lunch with soft drink from our 'Work' menu
- Loyalty scheme
- Comfortable seating
- Car Parking
- Highspeed Wi-Fi



Recipe of the Month

Cheesecake Crust

Ingredients:

Base:

56 gms butter
1 cup digestive biscuits

Filling:

680 gms cream cheese
1 cup sugar
1 tspn vanilla essence
4 eggs

Topping:

500 mls sour cream
2 tbspsn sugar
1 tspn vanilla essence



Method:

Melt the butter and mix with the biscuits and line a baking tin (loose bottom tin). Pour the mix into the tin and bake at 350F (180C) for 35 minutes. *Turn the oven off and cool with the door open.*

When cold mix together the sour cream, sugar and vanilla and pour over the cake. Bake at 425F for 5 minutes.

Cool, refrigerate and serve.

Serves 8 - 10



philip jarvis

INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENT



VILLAGE & COUNTRY HOMES

RESIDENTIAL SALES & LETTINGS

- Local knowledge
- Wealth of experience

**BOOK NOW FOR YOUR
FREE MARKETING CONSULTATION**

☎ 01622 858241 ✉ homes@philipjarvis.co.uk 📍 1 The Square, Lenham, Kent ME17 2PH 🌐 philipjarvis.co.uk





YOUR LOCAL PRINTING EXPERT

WE MAKE BRANDS VISIBLE

High quality Fast turnaround Competitive prices



WE SPECIALISE IN:

- PVC BANNERS
- MAGNETIC SIGNS
- VEHICLE SIGNAGE
- PLANT SIGNAGE
- COMMERCIAL SIGNAGE
- BUSINESS CARDS
- POSTERS & LEAFLETS
- STICKERS & LABELS
- ROLLER BANNERS
- SIGNS & BORDERS

and much more!






LOCAL SERVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Proudly based in Lanhams, Kent

- HIGH QUALITY Materials & Finish
- FAST TURNAROUND
- COMPETITIVE PRICES

07784052137 | info@drazdacengineeringlimited.com | drazdacengineeringlimited.com | Lanhams, Kent

Let's print your success!

MORE CUSTOMERS. MORE VISIBILITY. BETTER SOCIAL MEDIA.

Guiding local businesses to build an online presence that attracts the right customers.



Andrea
SOCIAL STRATEGY CO.
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT

SERVICES I OFFER

- SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT
- CONTENT CREATION
- STRATEGY & PLANNING
- MONTHLY CONTENT PLAN
- COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

Perfect for:

Hairdressers • Barbers • Nail Salons • Dentists • Restaurants • Cafés
Gyms • Interior Design • Painting & Decorating • Trades • And many more.

WHATSAPP
07703 741 571

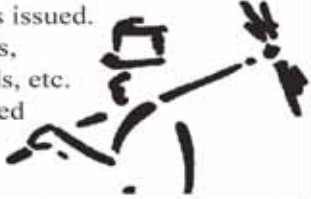
EMAIL
info@andreeaboiciuc.com

INSTAGRAM
[@_andreeaboiciuc](https://www.instagram.com/_andreeaboiciuc)

BASED IN
Lanhams, Kent

**INVICTA
CHIMNEY SWEEPS**
YOUR LOCAL SWEEP

Certificates issued.
Pots, Cows,
Bird Guards, etc.
Fully insured



NO MESS NO DUST NO FUSS




TEL: 01622 632641
www.invictachimneysweeps.co.uk
GUILD OF MASTER SWEEPS MEMBER

SPARKLES
*Domestic & Commercial
Window cleaning*

**Pure Hot Water
Fed Pole Technology**

- Conservatory Cleaning
- Fascia/Cladding Cleaning
- Solar Panels
- Gutter Cleaning System

Tel: 07856 110682
Web: www.sparkles-kent.co.uk
www.facebook.com/sparkleskent

**Fresh Local Produce Sold
Direct by the Producer**

**Lenham Country
Market**

MORE CHOICE*MORE STALLS
MORE QUALITY

Lenham Square 9 am – 1 pm

**NEXT MARKET
Sunday 9 August 2026**

MARKET MANAGER
Sandra Woodfall
07775 736116
E: lenhamcountrymarket@gmail.com

PBA ELECTRICAL & RENEWABLES LTD

www.pbaelectrical.com

EV Charger specialist

- Solar PV design and installation
- Battery storage
- Electrical installation
- Rewires
- Testing and Inspection

**Commercial and Domestic electrical contractor
Fully insured and NICEIC Approved**

**Contact our friendly team today to
discuss your requirements.**
T: 01732 247237
E: info@pbaelectrical.com







HI Kent

Supporting people who are Deaf, have
Hearing Loss or Tinnitus

Together since 1986

Registered Charity No: 1052036

HEARING AID CLINIC 20 August (1:30–3pm) Lenham Community Centre

DEAF AWARENESS TRAINING

HI Kent can offer training to companies or individuals to help them understand how to communicate effectively with people living with hearing loss and what to put in place to help.

This training can be tailored to the specific needs of the person or company and can be delivered face to face or online. The course covers understanding hearing loss and its different types; the impact of sound; the language and culture of deaf people; use of hearing aids; understanding tinnitus and other conditions and lots more!

For more information and prices contact Jon Lambert on 01227 760046

or j.lambert@hikent.org.uk

Lenham Library Groups

Baby Rhyme Time – Thursday 10:30am-11:30am (Term time only). This 30-minute free session is for children aged 0-4 years. No need to book, just come along. Sessions include the opportunity to join in with nursery rhymes and action songs.

Lego Club on Saturday 11.30am-12.30pm (Term time only). Another free session for children aged 4-11.

No need to book, just come along, create your own fun inventions

Craft and Chat every Monday 10:30am-12pm. This is an informal drop-in for crafty people! Knit, crochet, sew, or whatever your craft is, whilst having a relaxed chat and maybe sharing your skills with others.

Lenham Library Reading Group – First Thursday of the month 3:30pm-4:30pm.

Enjoy books? Like to talk about them? Come and join this friendly reading group.

GOWERS GARAGE



**Servicing
and
Repairs**

*To most makes
and models of
Cars and Vans*

**Free Local Collection
And
Return Service Available**

**Tyres, Exhausts, Welding,
Batteries
MOTs Arranged**

**Tel: 01622 858210
92 High Street Lenham
Maidstone Kent ME17 2LB**



- **Limited memberships available**
- **Brand new fitness facility**
- **Fully equipped and air conditioned**
- **Expert personal trainers**
- **Community support and motivation**



DRIVE HEALTH & FITNESS
THE RIDGE GOLF CLUB
CHARTWAY STREET
ME17 3JB



01622 234235

contact@drivehealthandfitness.com



Green Room Concerts

At the Tithe Barn, Lenham

GREEN
ROOM

We're so excited to welcome back **Green Room Concerts** for three days and nights of outstanding live music!

If your idea of bliss is settling in with a drink and discovering extraordinary musicians, you're in for a treat. One thing we've learnt over the past three years Green Room Festivals is this: every performance leaves us wanting more.



James Taylor Quartet
Fri, Aug 28 • 7:30 PM



London Community Gospel Choir
Sat, Aug 29 • 7:30 PM

If you love watching talented musicians perform, prepare to have your socks knocked off.

We know the standard will be exceptional – this is the fourth Green Room Festival, and every single performance over the past three years has been a joy.

This year's line-up is a feast for the ears, from sophisticated jazz-pop crossover and breathtaking piano with an unexpected twist to soul-stirring bluesy gospel bursting with energy. And for a little touch of theatrical sparkle, the West End arrives in Lenham with the wonderful Steve Ridley.

Come along and experience an unforgettable weekend of live music (including *Bach to Baby* for the little ones and a *classic car meet*) — we can't wait to see you there! For more information visit www.greenroomconcerts.com



Encore!
Sun, Aug 30 • 7:00 PM

GREEN ROOM FESTIVAL

28—30 AUG 2026

GREEN
ROOM



JAMES TAYLOR QUARTET

ALISTAIR MCGOWAN



LONDON COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR

WEST END ENCORE!

BACH 2 BABY

FOOD & DRINK. CLASSIC CARS. LOCAL FOOD & DRINK. CL

TITHE BARN
LENHAM

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW FROM
[GREENROOMCONCERTS.COM](https://www.greenroomconcerts.com)





PRESENTS...

COUNTRY FEST

FREE
ENTRY

2ND AUG | 12PM-6PM
8.30PM-LATE
*TRIBUTE NIGHT TICKETS £55

DAYTIME MUSIC

JOE WEST | BOURBON JACKS

FOOD & DRINK

BLUE MOON BEER | HOG ROAST | COCKTAILS | DAILY MENU

GAMES

BUCKING BRONCO | TIN CAN ALLEY | HIGH STRIKER

TRIBUTE NIGHT

DREAMIN' OF NASHVILLE

COUNTRY MUSIC HITS FROM LUKE COMBS, DOLLY PARTON, LUKE BRYAN & MORE!

8.30PM - LATE | £55PP*

*TICKET INCLUDES 3 COURSE SET MENU, SHOW & DJ

BOOK TICKETS AT ELITEPUBS.COM

A.W.COURT
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PROUD TO BE SERVING
THE COMMUNITY
SINCE 1965



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

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

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

GOLDEN CHARTER
FUNERAL PLANS 

A.W. Court Funeral Directors

Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, Maidstone, Kent ME17 2AP
Telephone: 01622 850840

Email: enquiries@awcourt.com Website: www.awcourt.com

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

SAIF
INDEPENDENT
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS

End of an Incredible Academic Year

I cannot believe we are already at the end of another academic year!

We have had an amazing Term 6. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their new sandpit on the field, which was funded by our wonderful PTA. Thank you to all the parents who supported and donated to the many events – your contributions truly make a difference.

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils have felt incredibly lucky using the new Chromebooks, funded by the PTA, Parish Council and Lenham Focus. We have also been delighted by the generosity of The Wishful Thinker, who kindly donated a bench for the field after the children expressed how much they wanted seating outdoors. We are truly fortunate to be part of such a supportive and caring community.



We began Term 6 with an exciting new project. This year, our children have loved visiting Harrietsham Primary for Forest School, and we now want to develop our own Forest School onsite. While we are fortunate to have the space, creating a Forest School area requires both funding and determination.

We certainly have the determination, and once again, our community has risen to the challenge! Through a sponsored Fun Run and Rainbow Raffle the PTA has raised enough money to clear a 30-metre area of land. We are incredibly grateful to our parents for their continued support in helping us bring this vision to life. We are hoping to have enough to install fencing and buy essential resources.

This term has also been full of wonderful events, including Sports Day, Thank a Teacher Day and Year 1 and 2 taking part in the Big Dance and Big Summer Sing alongside Harrietsham Primary School.

Sports Day was a huge success, and it was lovely spending a hot day with our Lenham Primary family. Pidcock (yellow house) were very pleased to win the Junior and Infant Shield.

For Thank a Teacher Day, our parents were amazing, sending in messages for the teachers – some of which you can see in the image. We have also welcomed our new Reception children to our Lenham Primary family. It has been a busy and joyful time for everyone. Alongside these events, we are extremely proud of the children's achievements: our Reception pupils have made fantastic progress, Year 1 performed strongly in their Phonics Screening, and Year 4 did brilliantly in their Multiplication Tables Check.

We finish the year by celebrating the achievements of our Year 6 children and saying a fond goodbye. Year 6 entertained us all with their fantastic production, *I'm an Eleven Year Old – Get Me Out of Here!* We now wish them every success as they move on to their secondary schools, and hope they carry our PRIDE school values with them on their next journey.

Finally, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our incredible staff for all they do each and every day. Thank you to our parents for their continued support, and to our Governors for being a critical yet supportive group of volunteers. Most importantly, thank you to our wonderful children, who make us proud every single day.

It has truly been a term – and a year – to celebrate.



Goodbye
& Good Luck

Chloe Moon of Hallett and Co. Solicitors, suggests action if you're thinking of moving

Avoid delays before you sell or buy your next home.

Why did the toilet go to therapy? It couldn't handle the pressure!

Do you own a property with private drainage? Are you aware of the changes to rules and regulations?

In October 2023 the General Binding Rules introduced 23 conditions that septic tanks and sewage treatment plants need to meet in order to be used without an environmental permit.

Not following the General Binding Rules can result in Environment Agency enforcement, costly upgrades, hefty fines and significant delays or lost sales when selling your property. Most high street mortgage companies will not lend on a property which does not follow the General Binding Rules.

The rules vary depending on where you release sewage, to surface water or the ground, and when the discharge started.

If you do not meet the general binding rules for your system then you will need either to check whether it is reasonable to connect to a public foul sewer, change your system to meet the general binding rules or apply for an environmental permit.

You could be breaking the law if you operate without a permit when you need to have one. The application fees appear to vary from £141.43 to £7,312.37.



© Shutterstock

If your property has a cesspool then the general binding rules above do not apply to you but you must maintain and empty your cesspool regularly and ensure there are no leaks or overflows. You are breaking the law if your cesspool causes pollution. If you install a new cesspool you must get planning permission and building regulations approval.

For more information on the General Binding Rules contact a specialist or visit:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/small-sewage-discharges-in-england-the-general-binding-rules

If you would like any further information, please email us on **lenham@hallettandco.co.uk** or call us on **01622 859416**.

A J & N M CARR LTD



SHORT BREAK

Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th November 2026

- * The National Space Centre *
- * The National Memorial Arboretum *
- * Blenheim Palace *



COST PER PERSON: £300 per person Twins/Doubles/Singles

Pick-ups: Carrs Yard, Dog & Bear Lenham, The Rose Bearsted

TO BOOK: Please phone or email our office to book your place and we will email you an invoice to pay by bank transfer. Or, ring/email:

**AJ & NM CARR LTD PIVINGTON WORKS PLUCKLEY
ASHFORD KENT TN27 0PG**

Tel: 01233 840651

email: office@carrscoaches.co.uk



Parish Council news

Chair – Cllr John Britt

You will see regular updates on all the parish council's activities in the *Focus*, www.lenhamparish.org.uk and social media.

Adoption of General Powers of Competence

At its full council meeting in July, Lenham Parish Council adopted the General Powers of Competence (GPC). This is a significant move forward for the parish council and is now available to us because our Parish Clerk, Lisa, has completed her CiLCA training (Certificate in Local Government Administration) which she has been studying over the last twelve months.

At this point I would like to publicly congratulate Lisa, completing the CiLCA is no mean feat. It has involved hours of study and successfully completing several detailed modules as well as undertaking the normal and often complex daily duties of the parish clerk.

If you would like to read up on the GPC, details of it are available on the Gov. uk website: www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/general-power-competence--0ac.pdf

These additional powers open a range of new options for the parish council. In addition, the recognised standard of compliance they represent, we believe, will be important as the details of the proposed plans for Local Government Reorganisation move forward.

While the Government proposals are currently silent on the roles of town and parish councils, it is interesting to note that our borough council, which is likely to cease to exist beyond May 2028, is spending time and money setting up a

town council to cover the un-parished areas of central Maidstone. Other district and borough councils are undertaking similar actions, so there is clearly something in the new local authority landscape, as that emerges, which indicates parishes and town councils will continue to play a role in local service delivery.

On that point (and at the time of writing at the end of June) an announcement by the relevant Secretary of State regarding the format of new Unitary Authorities for Kent is due in July. That announcement will indicate which of the five options, put forward by the county council (KCC), unitary authority (Medway) and the twelve district and borough councils which currently cover the Kent area, has been accepted. Elections for the "shadow" form of the new Unitary Authorities are expected to take place in May 2027.

... and finally

By the time you read this the first Lenham Fest (Saturday 1 August at the Tithe Barn) will have taken place. A significant amount of work went into ensuring that it was successful and I would like to thank our Deputy Clerk, Sarah, for the idea and carrying out the main burden of organising it. I would also like to thank all those who volunteered time to ensure the whole event went with a swing!

The parish council does not meet in August; our next full council meeting will be Wednesday September 2nd at 7:30 in the Osborne Room at the Community Centre.

All members of the public are welcome.

While there is no full council meeting in August, the planning and finance committees will continue with the business meetings during the month, these are

also held in public. Details of these will be published on the parish council's website in the usual way.

www.lenhamparish.org.uk

The Arts Society Egerton

The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts



2026-27 PROGRAMME

Our 2026-27 season begins in September

Our lecturers are renowned experts. They share their knowledge in ways that are stimulating, educational and, most importantly, fun. The cost to join is £45 (visitors £8). New members and visitors are always welcome; just come along and pay at the door.

Lectures are held in the Egerton Millennium Hall, Elm Close, TN27 9DS and begin at 2.30 p.m. on the second Wednesday in the month. Parking is free.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 9th September | Bertie Pearce: Creating an imaginary world – theatre design from Temple to Playhouse |
| 14th October | Melody Foreman: From Battlefield to Big Screen |
| 11th November | Mark Hill (of Antiques Roadshow): Hot Stuff! The Birth of Studio Glass |
| 9th December | Sarah Lenton: Christmas backstage at Covent Garden |

2027

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 13th January | Alexandra Epps: Priceless Peggy- Peggy Guggenheim |
| 10th February | Matthew Morgan: Thomas Gainsborough a Life |
| 10th March | Toby Faber: The Imperial Easter Eggs of Carl Faberge |
| 14th April | Malcolm Jones: Not in front of the audience: stage censorship |
| 12th May | Tyler Butterworth: The 'Golden Age' of Comedy 1970-1980 |
| 9th June | Alice White: Ways to look at Painting |

To find out more please visit: www.theartsocietyegerton.org.uk or contact our Membership Secretary, Christine on cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377



AMBASSADOR
KENT AIRPORT TAXI SERVICE



**SCAN FOR
MORE INFO!**

Lenham Airport & Cruise Transfers

**PRICES START
FROM £85**

Experience the ultimate in luxury private hire with Ambassador Private Hire. Let us take care of your journey so you can relax and enjoy the ride.



01622 734552 | 07901 521706



KENT DESIGN STUDIO

ARCHITECTURE | PLANNING
WWW.KENTDESIGNSTUDIO.CO.UK 01580 230413 INFO@KENTDESIGNSTUDIO.CO.UK

EXTENSIONS
LISTED BUILDINGS
BESPOKE DWELLINGS

MULTI-UNIT SCHEMES
EQUESTRIAN FACILITIES
AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS

COMMERCIAL PROJECTS
BUILDING REGULATIONS
CONSTRUCTION



**NORTHDOWNS
COSMETIC
CLINIC**

Wrinkle reduction facial injections

Dermal filler treatment

**Excessive armpit sweating
treatments**

By Local GP - Dr Andrew Reed

BSc (Hons), MB BS, FRCGP,
DRCOG, DFFP, RCPATHME

Consultations and treatments within
Len Valley Practice following
15 years of experience

See www.northdownsclinic.co.uk
for further details or email on
enquiries@northdownsclinic.co.uk

REBELLION BIKE

CYCLE REPAIRS

PRICES FROM £30

PRICES INCLUDE
COLLECTION &
RETURN OF YOUR
BIKE IN ANY OF
THESE LOCATIONS



rebellion.bike/bike-repairs
07356001291 (WHATSAPP OK!)
TOM@REBELLION.BIKE

FOR ELECTRIC BIKE CONVERSION KITS,
PARTS & CUSTOM E-BIKES

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE
REBELLION.BIKE



D.LUCKHURST

— GENERAL BUILDER —

07776 479524

Daniel Luckhurst

07776 479524

d.luckhurstgb@outlook.com

@d.luckhurstgeneralbuilder

My services cover all aspects of
general building, including
renovations and property improvements.

In carpentry, I specialise in bespoke
woodwork, framing, decking, fitted
furniture, wardrobes, under stairs
storage and media walls.

DISCOVER SAKURA TOUCH

DISCOVER A UNIQUE TREATMENT THAT COMBINES
FACIAL SCULPTING, LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE AND
DEEP RELAXATION TO LEAVE YOUR SKIN LOOKING
REFRESHED, RADIANT AND NATURALLY LIFTED.

- ✿ Natural lifting effect
- ✿ Reduced puffiness and facial tension
- ✿ Improved circulation and healthy glow
- ✿ Relaxation for the face, neck, shoulders & scalp

£30 OFF FOR NEWSPAPER READERS

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT
BEAUTY PARADISE

07960 926490

 [BEAUTY.PARADISE.LENHAM](https://www.instagram.com/beauty.paradise.lenham)



OUTDOOR LIVING

LENHAM

OPEN 7 DAYS



PERGOLA **SALE** UP TO £1000 OFF PERGOLAS

Pergolas, Gazebos, Garden Buildings | Garden Furniture to include Dining Sets, Lounge Sets, Benches, Bistro Sets, Garden Kitchens, BBQ's, Fire Pits, Outdoor Mirrors, Ornaments, Pots and so much more!

Unit 2, Ashmill Business Park, Ashford Road, Lenham ME17 2GQ info@outdoorlivinglenham.co.uk

www.outdoorlivinglenham.co.uk 01622 231399

WALL TILES

FLOOR TILES

FLOOR TILES

WALL TILES



THE STONE TILE COLLECTION
ASHFORD ROAD LENHAM ME17 2DL

MOLEY AND BOO

ANTIQUES, VINTAGE, RETRO, COLLECTABLES, GIFTS



OPEN 7 DAYS

ASHFORD ROAD, LENHAM, ME17 2GQ

01622 231399

WWW.MOLEYANDBOO.COM

FREE PARKING ON SITE

THE PATIO > WAREHOUSE



UNIT 3, ASHMILL BUSINESS PARK, ASHFORD RD, LENHAM, ME17 2GQ. TEL: 01622 231399

W. WWW.THEPATIOWAREHOUSE.CO.UK E. INFO@THEPATIOWAREHOUSE.CO.UK F. [INTHEPATIOWAREHOUSE](https://www.instagram.com/thepatiowarehouse)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND TRADE 7 DAYS A WEEK

An update from your local MP, Helen Whately

Time to unwind and enjoy summer days rather than do battle with them – that's how I think of August.

It's been full on since Christmas; we had water outages in January, then the horrible Meningitis outbreak, a big push on 'Stop the Sprawl' before delivering the petition to no 10, more water outages – a win with the departure of the Chief Executive of South East water - and most recently the threat of cuts to Faversham fire service.

So, it feels like a moment to take a deep breath and spend some time with family. August for my household will be punctuated with exam results – A-levels first, then GCSEs. I know many others will be going through the same, along with results for T-levels and VTQs. There will be celebrations and commiserations. Moments of stress, anxiety, relief, and jubilation. I wish everyone with a grades envelope or email coming their way the best of luck.

For those who get the grades they need, it's a great feeling to be able to take the next step in your plan. For those who don't, the lesson of life is there are many paths. And what really matters is what you do next.

If things go wrong, students looking for advice or support should turn first to their school or college. They can talk through whether a re-mark or appeal would be most appropriate or whether you should consider re-sitting your exams. It can be helpful discussing options with an impartial expert - especially with remarking as grades can go down as well as up.



Helen speaking to students at Maidstone School of Science and Technology

Students in Year 13 who miss their grades for a university place can still contact the university to see if they can still do their course – or switch to different course with lower requirements. Or find a place through UCAS clearing. Or take a gap year and use the time to work, earn some money, gain useful experience – and travel if you can fit it in and your funds stretch.

One of my areas of focus as Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions is the challenge of youth unemployment and 'NEETs' – young people Not in Education, Employment or Training. There are now over one million young people falling into that definition. It's a terrible waste of talent and potential - and damaging to the economy.

I've been pushing the Government to step up, and particularly to reverse decisions they have made which mean there are fewer jobs for young people. I want to see all those students who have

worked so hard for qualifications get the opportunity to make the most of them in the workplace. For that we need jobs.

Good luck to all those getting exam results and applying for courses and jobs. And happy holidays to everyone who gets a chance to take one.

Best wishes

e: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

t: 0207 219 6472



Tel: 01622 851542



STONEBRIDGE ASSOCIATES

Accountancy and Business Services

FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND SMALL BUSINESS

Web Design



Arpent Design

07572 797531

pete@arpent.co.uk

OSTEOPATH



Helping relieve the symptoms of:

- Sciatica
- Arthritis
- Frozen shoulder
- Headaches
- Back/Hip/neck pain
- Fibromyalgia
- Acute pain
- Chronic pain
- Nerve compression & more...

MR C.R. TEMPEST

D.O. M.Ost G.OsC. Cert MA -
Registered Osteopath & Medical Acupuncturist

Appointments available until 8pm mid week
No.28 High Street, Lenham, ME17 2QD

07749 980096 www.chris-tempest.com or
www.thelenhamosteopath.co.uk



HAMS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Calling All Aspiring Performers!

Robin Hood and the

Babes in the Wood

AUDITION & READ-THROUGH

All Welcome! Ages 12 to 100+

6th September 2026 • 6pm

Lenham Community Centre,
12 Groom Way, Lenham, Maidstone ME17 2QT

No experience needed — just bring your enthusiasm!

Join us on stage or behind the scenes
and help bring the adventure to life!

Wonderful people of Lenham and beyond!

HAMS Productions is delighted to invite anyone who has ever fancied trying their hand on stage to the read-through and auditions for our new pantomime or to help 'back-stage'.

Everyone is welcome — from secondary-school age right up to 100 and beyond.

No experience necessary.

Anniversaries AUGUST 2026



Anthony Dominick Benedetto (born 100 years ago on August 3, 1926), known professionally as **Tony Bennett**, was an American jazz and traditional pop singer. He died on 21 July 2023 aged 96. He received many accolades, including 20 Grammy Awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award, and two Primetime Emmy Awards.

Bennett was named a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master and a Kennedy Centre Honouree. He founded the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Astoria, Queens, New York, along with Exploring the Arts, a non-profit arts education program. He sold more than 50 million records worldwide and earned a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

He attracted renewed acclaim late in his career for his collaboration with Lady Gaga, which began with the album *Cheek to Cheek* (2014); the two performers toured together to promote the album throughout 2014 and 2015.

With the release of the duo's second album, *Love for Sale* (2021), Bennett broke the individual record for the longest span of top-10 albums on the *Billboard 200* chart for any living artist. His first top-10 record was *I Left My Heart in San Francisco* in 1962. Bennett also broke the Guinness World Record for the oldest person to release an album of new material, at the age of 95 years and 60 days.

Upcoming Broadway musical *Kismet* asked Bennett to record “*Stranger in Paradise*” as a way of promoting the show during a New York newspaper strike. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tony_Bennett The song reached the top, the show was a hit, and Bennett began a long practice of recording show tunes. He also built up the quality and, therefore, the reputation of his nightclub act; in this he was following the path of Sinatra and other top jazz and standards singers of this era. His last top-40 single was the number 34 “*If I Ruled the World*” from the musical *Pickwick* in 1965.

90 Years ago



James Cleveland “Jesse” Owens was an American track and field athlete who won four gold medals at the 1936 summer Olympic Games.

Jesse Owens, originally known as J. C., was the youngest of ten children (three girls and seven boys) born to Henry Cleveland Owens (1881–1942), a sharecropper, and Mary Emma Fitzgerald (1876–1940) in Oakville, Alabama, on September 12, 1913. He was the grandson of a slave.

Owens specialised in the sprints and the long jump and was recognized in his lifetime as “perhaps the greatest and most famous athlete in track and field history.”

He was the most successful athlete at the Games and, as a black American man, was credited by ESPN with “single-handedly crushing Hitler’s myth of Aryan supremacy”.



Centenary of Queen Elizabeth II (Aug 2)

Born in 1926, the late Queen would have celebrated her 100th birthday in 2026.

Rural Togetherness

(Part 1) by Henny Shotter

We were intrigued by this photograph: where are these people going and when was this?

The people in the photograph are walking out of Lenham along the High Street. The lady with the long black skirt and the hat would today be passing the new almshouses. The arrow (below) points to the brick building which is in full view of the old photograph

Where there was a garden to the right is today the Chopstick and Bowl and the hairdresser in the modern building which obscures the view to the church. The entrance to Court Lodge is just out of sight to the right.

The ladies' long dresses were a clear hint that the photo was taken before WWI and the second hint were the gentlemen's straw hats. This type of hat, a Boater, was first and foremost only worn for summer sports e.g. boating where it gets its name from. However, by 1890 it had become universally accepted and was also worn in London, leading to a shortage of straw.

The Tailor and Cutter of 1895 reported: 'The straw hat boom has boomed still more boomily, and the farmer is crying out that the wheat crop is short in straw.' Unlike other hats for men, the cylinder, the bowler and the flat cap, the 'boater' was worn by all social ranks and had no class distinction'.

Was there a major sporting event in or around the 1890's? From 1866, for many decades, the Foresters held their annual fete in July in a meadow near the village. It attracted the best runners from Kent and London and at some point 2000 visitors. Today there wouldn't be a place to park!



In August this year, Lenham held its first village fete for some years. The "Fest" was organised by the Parish Council and was held at the Tithe Barn. With this initiative, the Parish Council followed a Lenham tradition which is over 150 years old.

Although the character of the celebrations has changed, they are still about 'community'.

In June every year, the 'Foresters' would organise a village event which attracted people from all over Kent for many decades.



Who'd A Thought It.
Champagne & Oyster Bar & Rooms

The 'Who'd A Thought It'....

is full of surprises. Tucked away in the sleepy Kent countryside, our boutique hotel is a hive of character, quirkiness and outrageous unconventionality.



NEW GARDEN ROOM NOW OPEN FOR EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

Our luxurious AA 5* hotel, restaurant and champagne bar welcomes you to have a truly unique and memorable experience, whether you join us for a night, a meal or simply a drink.

We offer classic English dishes, carefully prepared with local ingredients with plenty of attention to detail. Browse our website at www.whodathoughtit.com to see the menus and our charming selection of bedrooms, should you wish to stay overnight with us.

**Special celebration meals and functions are our speciality
and you can be assured of a great time and top-class service.**

Live music on our terrace

Call or email us NOW, or use the website for online booking.

Tel: +44 (0) 1622 858 951

Email: joe@whodathoughtit.com

Address: Headcorn Road, Grafty Green,
Nr Lenham, Kent, ME17 2AR

Christian Message

From Reverend Richard Birch

We are being inundated with information via social media, TV, radio and old-fashioned newspapers. There is so much that it is not always easy to “see the wood from the trees”, to understand what all the information really means. And we now have to try and work out which information is actually true, so much of what is published on-line is false, or at least only partially true. I now find it difficult to believe anything I read on-line, unless I have found it from a number of completely different sources.

Finding the truth takes time, but it is so important before we make decisions and before we speak out publicly on matters of concern to others, and it is so much easier now to tell others of our opinions via social media. We do not always have the time or inclination to search for confirmation of a news item, particularly when we read about something that agrees with our own opinion.

There are those who depend on our inability to find the truth, or our laziness to search it out. They use lack of truth, or partial truth to form opinions, even to foment racism, anti-Semitic thoughts, Islamophobia and other antisocial behaviour. This is not a new phenomenon. The Bible contains two stories of God creating the earth, neither account is supposed to be taken as a scientific description of creation.

In the first version God created the earth in 6 days and rested on the seventh. He created the sky, the earth, sea, and all living things, and finally he created man and woman together. In the second version of the story God first created man. Eden and the plants came next, followed by the animals; finally, God took a part of the man and from it created a woman as a partner.

Some people take bits from each version and tell you that the earth was created in six days and that God created Eve from Adam's rib. These two versions of creation are there at the very beginning of the Bible to tell us in different ways that God is the creator of everything and that he created us to be his stewards on earth. We are to care for each other and for the plants and animals. If we do this well the earth will provide all that we need and we can live in comfort.

For centuries the Bible has been used to persuade people of different theories and opinions by using certain verses and not reading all the context and all the relevant portions. These techniques are being used far more generally now by those trying to gain our favour and support for their own political purposes. It is so important that before we speak out we try to make sure we are finding all the relevant information and making wise decisions based on all the facts.

Len Valley Benefice

Everybody is welcome

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.
1 John 4 v7 (part)

Sunday 2 August

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion with Baptism

Wednesday 5 August

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 9 August

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 16 August

8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

Sunday 23 August

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion Service at Harrietsham

Sunday 30 August

To be advised - please keep an eye on local notice boards.

Check local notice boards for more details

Please note that during 2026 some services may need to be altered or cancelled at short notice due to circumstances beyond our control.



Paul TANN Ltd

All aspects of groundwork undertaken
Driveway renovation including Resin
Patios and Paving
Foundations
Drainage
Fencing
Stonework
No obligation free estimates
Marshall's approved contractor



Call t: **01795 890292** m: **07873 965231**



paultann.co.uk



paultannltd

**YOUR LOCAL, FAMILY RUN BUILDERS MERCHANTS
OPEN TO TRADE AND DIY - EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ BRICKS/
BLOCKS | ✓ DECORATIVE
AGGREGATES | ✓ HARD
LANDSCAPING |
| ✓ ELECTRICAL | ✓ DECORATING | ✓ COMPOST |
| ✓ GARDENING | ✓ PLUMBING | ✓ AGGREGATES |
| ✓ GAS | ✓ TIMBER | ✓ FIXINGS |

PLUS AN IN STORE PAINT MIXING SERVICE & MUCH MORE!

WWW.BSBUILDINGSUPPLIES.CO.UK



Focus PRIZE Crossword August 2026

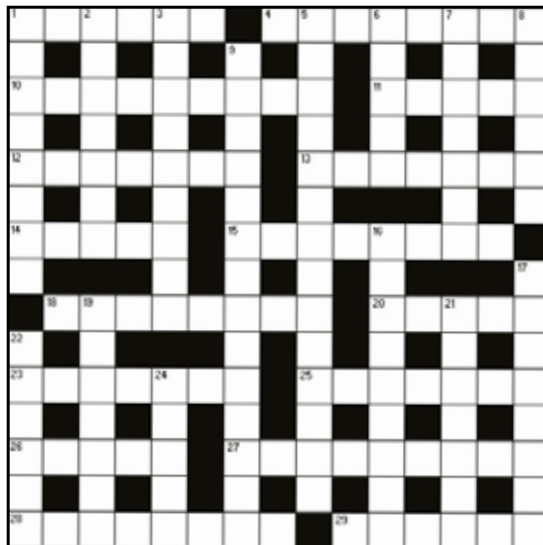
The winner of June 2026 is Jacky Offen of Lenham. Well done!

Across clues

1. Letter passports in a sense. (6)
4. Needs for plagiaristic computers. (8)
10. It goes on supporting a shine. (9)
11. What allows me to see in disbelief! (2,3)
12. Vitamin made in Rochester initially, changed. (7)
13. Send tea drunk here. It's by Tower Hamlets. (4,3)
14. Got more relaxed when not harassed initially. (5)
15. You're at sea with me, me hearty. (8)
18. Follower of record pile changed. ((8)
20. Caps cover nothing in swimming pools. (5)
23. Hoards donkeys mother got back first. (7)
25. M. Poirot was just short of being famous for his strength. (7)
26. Where you would be if you lived in The Pine Tree State. (5)
27. Keep cool in here. (3,6)
28. Not want so much; unnecessary. (8)
29. Handsome man, but he fell out with the Huntress. (6)

Down clues

1. Not the word that Esther's dog found easy to say! (8)
2. Where to send a garment, daughter initially put inside. (7)
3. First attender dropped by air? Maybe. (9)
5. Firework doing the rounds? (9,5)
6. Given handles. (5)
7. Tungsten is one that can spread light. (7)
8. Stayed to become the only love. (6)
9. To be eaten west of the Tamar. (7,7)



16. Do this to share out bottles early. (4,5)
17. It may be fireproof but you may pay a price with your health. (8)
19. Think of a picture popular inside. (7)
21. What shall we do with this sort of sailor? (7)
22. Bizet's production about garage hands, we hear? (6)
24. Heavy metal for singer Tommy, unfinished. (5)

Answers for July 2026
Focus Crossword



A **£10 voucher**, donated by your crossword compiler, will go to the first correctly completed crossword picked from your entries. Please complete the box below and hand your entries into the Lenham Parish Council offices at 1a High Street Lenham or into the Lenham library by **no later than 22 August** where they'll be placed in an envelope. The winner will be notified direct and announced in a future issue of *Focus*.

Name Phone No

Address

NEW BUSINESS • NEW FOCUS • NEW YOU

NOW TAKING
ON NEW
CLIENTS!

STRONGER STARTS TODAY.

PERSONALISED TRAINING.
REAL RESULTS.



LEVEL 2
GYM INSTRUCTOR



LEVEL 3
PERSONAL TRAINER



LEVEL 2
SPIN INSTRUCTOR

Gareth
BURCH
PERSONAL TRAINER



HELPING YOU BUILD
STRENGTH, STAMINA & BETTER HABITS



HOW I CAN HELP YOU



1-1 PERSONAL
TRAINING



TAILORED
PROGRAMMES



STRENGTH &
CONDITIONING



WEIGHT LOSS &
BODY COMPOSITION



BETTER HABITS
FOR LIFE

LET'S WORK TOGETHER
TO ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS.

EVERY JOURNEY STARTS
WITH A DECISION.



07537 910355



gareth@garethburch.co.uk



Based in Maidstone Kent
& surrounding areas

ONLINE COACHING ALSO AVAILABLE

COMMITMENT TODAY • PROGRESS TOMORROW • RESULTS FOREVER