

Malherbe Monthly

Number 206
September 2021



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

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

Front Cover: Work being undertaken by KCC to install Traffic Calming measures at the south end of Grafty Green. Picture courtesy of Christine Hollingsbee

News from St. Nicholas Church

Harvest is slowly progressing. Would have expected that by now, 'all would be safely gathered in', but sadly not. What a difficult time the farmers have had this season, let alone those wishing for a sunny and warm holiday time. Let us hope that September will give us a boost of fine weather to prepare for the Autumn and Winter ahead.

The church porch is open at all times and provides a sheltered resting place, with a lovely view. The church building is open for services every Sunday and the churchwardens will bring a key at any other time if requested. Their contact details are in the magazine or in the porch. Please take care in the grounds around the West Door until the masonry repairs to the tower are finished.

Celtic Morning Prayers are said at 8.45-9.15am each Monday in the side chapel. If you have a prayer request contact Rev. John Huggins or the churchwardens at any time and prayers will be said at prayer time or in private if you wish.

Other services are available. The Church of England has links to regular services on their website and there is a daily prayer on Facebook. We can recommend the daily on-line Morning Prayer time with the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral. He is usually surrounded by a mix of pets and farm animals, and has gathered a worldwide following! The Canterbury diocesan website provides a link.

Services at St. Nicolas,

September 5th 9.30am Holy Communion

12th 3.30pm Choral Evensong

19th 9.30am Holy Communion

26th 11am Benefice Service at St. Nicolas

August 29th we have a service to Remember the Covid pandemic. There will be a special service at 10.30am in each of the 4 churches followed by a 'bring-your-own' picnic at St. Nicolas to say many thanks to Rev. Anne Price and her husband, Charlie, as they move to Herefordshire after being with us for more than 2 years.

We will give more information after the event in next month's magazine.

Eco-spot. It has been encouraging to hear news from a granddaughter of her camping trip in the Peak District last week. A week of conservation activities and plant identification teaching as part of her final Duke of Edinburgh scheme. So good to walk around the farm and show her the conservation schemes here, the recently re-planted hedgerows, the wide, wild, field margins for wildlife, the many acres sown with wildflower mixtures, for insects, bees, butterflies etc. in summer, leading to amazing seed heads for birds and ground mammals through the winter, creating a positive

feast for the birds of prey, buzzards, kestrels, owls etc. as well as the badgers and foxes, using the plants to improve the soil and hold in the carbon too.

Don't put the sunscreen away just yet, looking for a lovely Autumn!

Sally Alexander

Eco Church opening at St Nicholas, Boughton Malherbe:

This month has been very exciting, as we have been planning the opening of our Eco shop. So please save the date of

Sunday the 12th of September from 4:30-6pm
Eco Shop opening and Tea and Cake sale

Weather permitting, we will kick off with a tea and cake sale and we should have all our refill products for you to buy and try. If the weather is bad, we will have the shop inside the church and sell the cake to take away. So please come and bring your own containers or buy a glass bottle in our shop!

Thanks to the advice of one of our supporters, Adam, we went to see the lovely Elly Obeney in her zero-waste shop in Tunbridge Wells, just two days before she sadly had to close her shop. Elly's shop is a Covid trade casualty, but she generously gave us lots of advice on which products to stock and which products to avoid, because some companies do not reuse their wholesale plastic containers, whilst others do! We are hoping to buy some of Elly's stock, so that we can continue the wonderful legacy which she has started, of saving waste and supporting environmental, cruelty free and ethical products at a fair price.

In our case, profits will be shared 50:50 between environmental charities, (both national and international) and Boughton Church, as St Nicholas continues to have large bills to pay whilst losing the cream tea income for another year.

We really hope that our Eco shop and cake sales will bring the community together and be of benefit to all. Our most exciting product is the Virunga chocolate, which is made by the non-profit farmers' Co-operative of the Virunga National Park. The entire production from Bean to bar is done locally so that all the money benefits the local community. This makes the conservation of the Mountain Gorillas and all the other animals of the National Park less dependent on Eco-tourism. In particular the factory employs the widows of rangers killed protecting the wildlife. So please try and buy this chocolate, - it is vegan and delicious.

We would be immensely grateful for your support and hope to see you all on the 12th of September at 4:30 pm. After that the shop will be open every Sunday after services and by request every Wednesday afternoon between 3 and 5pm. With best wishes and thank you for your support so far,

Vanessa and Lily

Village Hall News – Update & Frog Racing Saturday 16th October

I hope you are continuing to keep safe and well.

On Saturday 7th August we hosted our welcome back event at the hall which was well attended and as well as being able to have a chat with your friends over a cup of tea enjoy a slice of cake and learn about the activities available at the hall we also had a suggestion box for any ideas that you had for further ways that the hall could be utilised for the communities benefit.

We were delighted to receive 5 suggestions and we are in the process of working out the logistics of each idea and look forward to them coming to fruition. The suggestions were:-

1. **Art Club.** This would be for like minded people to meet up and do their own arty things. Ideally it would have a leader who can also set projects and provide guidance. If anyone is interested in helping to lead this project then please let me know.
2. **Film Club.** We would hope to offer this once a month on a day when there isn't another local film club running. We are currently looking into the cost of the relevant license but watch this space for further information.
3. **Craft group.** This would simply take the format of people coming along with their own projects and having a cup of tea and a chat. There would be a nominal charge of £2 to cover the hire of the hall and the refreshments. We'd also welcome friends who just wanted to come along for a chat and a cuppa!
4. **Farmers Market.** We wondered whether this is something we could run a couple of times a year using the same format as the Christmas Market.
5. **Cooking Class.** The issue with this is the lack of cooking facilities but could it be a club where people prepare the dish at the hall and take it home to cook afterwards?

Thank you all for your suggestions and please let me know if you are interested in helping run or attend any of the above clubs. We will put the Suggestion Box out at

each event so keep those ideas coming! Your ideas really matter to us and the future of the Grafty Green Village Hall.

Our next event at the hall will be Frog Racing at 7.30 pm on Saturday 16th October tickets for the event are £2, (under 18's are free), and are available from the Post Office or Richard Pilborough on 01622 844648. There will be nibbles a pay bar and sure to be lots of fun.

If you have never been Frog Racing before it's a bit like the traditional horse race evening (where you bet on the outcome of filmed races) but it's more fun - because we don't have filmed races, we have live racing in the Hall. Not with live frogs, you understand, but with live 'jockeys' (and that could be you!) competing to get their pretend frogs first past the post by pulling on their 'reins'.

The winning frog-jockey in every race gets a prize - but perhaps your ambitions are higher? You could become an 'owner' of a frog and win an even larger prize, (a thoroughbred will only set you back a fiver). There are 5 races (4 heats and a grand final) and you can stake between £1 and £4 on each race and potentially double your money if you bet on the winner!

Doors open at 7.30 pm when a full explanation will be given. The first race starts at 8.00 pm and we look forward to seeing you there for lots of fun and excitement.

Jon Thompson

07932 112730 or bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk

Helen Whately

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

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

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Sat 11th Sept
9.30am - 12pm

Ulcombe Village Hall

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- **Raffle • Tombola**
- **Cake, Produce and Craft stalls**

Calling all photographers

Maidstone Camera Club would welcome new members to join us for our new season starting 7 September 2021. We have weekly meetings (except over the summer months) with guest speakers and competitions, and have maintained our programme on Zoom throughout the pandemic. We also arrange outings for photographers.

For more information, see our website <https://maidstonecameraclub.org.uk/>.

The club is open to over 18s, and under 18s accompanied by a responsible adult.

Yoga Classes – Grafty Green Village Hall.

Three Classes a week begin again for a seven-week term

Monday morning 9.30 to 11 – 6th September

Wednesday evening 7 to 8.30 – 8th September

Thursday morning 9.30 to 11 – 9th September

Booking is essential please so that the class isn't crowded. The Wednesday evening is fully booked but please register your interest so that I can put you on my waiting list, 01622 850381, grafftyyoga@gmail.com

Sue's Nature notes

Earlier this summer a juvenile robin came close as I potted around the garden and didn't seem to be wary; a few nibbles of suet and I had him/her feeding out of my hand. This little bird is now showing his full livery and is regularly waiting in the morning for his treat of suet. He's not greedy! Not like the magpies and the starlings!

My regime for feeding the birds is to put a portion of grains/seeds, mealy worms and some suet on a dish on the patio table; I have to cover this with an up-turned hanging basket to allow the small birds to feed. The magpies soon learnt to tip the basket aside so I had to tie it down. They are so clever; it was not long before they worked out how to unravel the wire holding it in place and turf it aside again; back to the drawing board!

It has been rewarding to see flocks of goldfinches and blue tits in the last week or so prompting me to fill the seed holder and fill up the hanging seed feeders. Lastly, I have noticed that the young swallows and house-martins have fledged and are now busy building up their reserves for the migration south.

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the Highwayman!**



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Children's Room Beer Garden

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Contact Details

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Grant Kennaird

Chris Hume, Parish Clerk

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An Update from the Parish Council

The Parish Council is now meeting in public again. All local residents are welcome to attend meetings and can speak. The dates for meetings in the coming municipal year are:

6th September

8th November

24th January 2021

7th March 2021

Agendas are posted on the village green notice board and on the parish council website. Meetings take place at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The Parish Council has commissioned KCC to erect a map of local footpaths, also containing local information, on the village green. It is hoped that this will be in place at some point this summer.

BODY CONTROL PILATES®

Christine Williams

Cheryl Stubbs

Tuesdays 9.30am, Grafty Green Village Hall

Fridays 9.30am, Headcorn Scout Hut

Saturdays 9am, Headcorn Village Hall

Would you like a different day/evening or time?

Let either of us know and we'll try to help.

Christine:

christinewilliamspilates@gmail.com

07552 101842

Cheryl:

c.stubbs8@btinternet.com

07852 602369

Small groups, max 12





Lenham Film Club
at Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

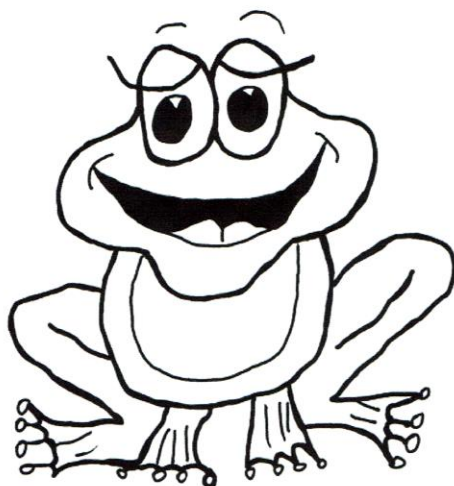
Friday October 15th (evening)
Performance begins 7.30 pm, doors open 7 pm

Three cheers: Lenham Film Club is back in business and we're looking forward to welcoming you to our next performance. Come with us on a journey over the rainbow on Friday October 15th, when we'll be opening the season with the magnificent multi-award-winning **Judy** (PG13). **Judy** is the story of Judy Garland looking back on her brilliant but stormy career and splendidly played here by Renée Zellweger. Director Rupert Goold's film is as unforgettable as Judy herself. (*Running time: 1hr 58mins.*)

For more information, please check out our website (www.lenhamfilmclub.org), follow us on Facebook (@LenhamFilmClub) or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list, then please contact us at lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com. Perhaps consider becoming a member or just come along on the night!

Admission: members £4, non-members £5

Annual membership £6 (over 16's only); pick up a form at our ticket desk.



Frog Racing!

*A fun evening of small stake gambling with
faux frogs but live 'jockeys' and 'owners'!*

Grafty Green Village Hall
Sat. 16th Oct - 7.30pm

Tickets ONLY £2 from Grafty Green PO Stores
(Under 18s free)

Pay bar

*It's all legal and above board.
All profits got to the Village Hall (Regd. Charity no.288091)*

Helen Whately's Parish Update – Summer 2021

Learning to live with Covid

For the past 18 months our lives have been determined by Covid. It has cancelled plans, pushed businesses to the brink, and taken loved ones from us. While the pandemic is far from over, our phenomenal vaccine rollout has put us in a position where we can begin to learn to live with the virus.

Thank you to everyone continuing to work or volunteer in our local vaccination centres who've helped make this moment possible. Over 2.3 million vaccinations have been given out across Kent, with two thirds of adults in the county having received both jabs. I know just how important easing restrictions has been for local businesses – especially our pubs and the hospitality sector, and in making life worth living again for so many people.

In the months ahead I'll continue supporting people and businesses affected by Covid and do everything I can to help our local NHS and councils through these crucial next few months. More than at any point in the pandemic, people need to use their judgement to help keep the virus under control. Everyone can play their part by taking up the offer of being vaccinated and getting tested regularly.

It's up to all of us to think about how our actions and decisions can keep ourselves and others safe. If we're on a crowded train or busy shop, then wearing a face mask is the sensible thing to do. We have our freedoms back, let's use them carefully.

More money for our schools

Schools in Faversham and Mid Kent have been allocated £59 million by the Department for Education – up £4 million on last year. Minimum funding levels will mean that every primary school will receive at least £4,265 per pupil, and every secondary school at least £5,525 per pupil. I've heard first-hand that our fairer funding formula is already making a difference to schools that have historically been under funded.

This month has also seen a number of our schools take part in virtual visits to Parliament – including The Holy Family Catholic Primary School in Park Wood and Oaks Primary Academy in Shepway.

Backing our tourism businesses

I visited Leeds Castle again recently to meet their new Chief Executive, Helen Bosner-Wilton. I know the past year has been incredibly tough for tourism and hospitality businesses. I'm glad the Government has published a new strategy to help the sector back on its feet, which includes an extra £352 million in support.

With summer here, and restrictions eased, there's never been a better time to support our local hospitality businesses.

New autism strategy launched

As Care Minister I've been leading work to develop a new cross-government autism strategy. Our new strategy will improve society's understanding of autism, help autistic people get the right support at the right time, and help more autistic people live their lives to the full. It was great to meet people from the Kent Autistic Trust again last month for an update on their work supporting people with autism.

Stockbury roundabout set up upgrade. Following a public inquiry earlier this year, the Department for Transport has given the green light to a major junction improvement scheme at Stockbury roundabout.

This junction is in desperate need of an upgrade, so this news is going to be welcomed by commuters fed up of sitting in traffic. But I know that for people in Stockbury this will come as a huge blow as there are very real concerns that the village could be cut off as a result of the works. I'll continue to work with local councillors, the Parish Council, and Kent County Council to find ways of improving access to the village – including pushing for a new bridge over the A249.

Shepway regeneration plans taking shape. I called into Shepway in July to see for myself how plans to redevelop Cambridge Crescent in Shepway could benefit the local community.

The proposals announced by Golding Homes would see Cambridge Crescent turned into 240 new homes, an updated shopping area, and new public spaces.

While investment in new housing and facilities is good news for the local community, people need supporting during these changes. I'll stand up for anyone who feels their concerns are not being listened to.

Flexible fares become a reality

June saw the introduction of new flexible season tickets for train passengers.

I've been campaigning for fairer fares on our railways, with a ticketing model that better reflects how people live and work, so I'm pleased to see this become a reality.

Under the new scheme, people can purchase a season ticket allowing travel on any 8 days in a month. For commuters from Maidstone, a flexible season ticket could save £832.00 per year on travel to London.

Music Notes for September 2021 – B Hardy

Well, the promised release from virus restrictions for amateur musicians has come to pass and rehearsals are starting, but there is an inevitable time-lag before concerts can be produced. My researches show that Maidstone Symphony Orchestra has a concert planned for 9th October and Maidstone Choral Union has a concert planned for 30th October. Maidstone Singers' deferred concert takes place on 20th November. September however is too early for the amateurs although we can look forward to the professional Leeds Castle classical concert on 4th September. The last night of the proms is 11th September and you can see it on BBC2 (first half) and BBC1 (second half). Twenty of the proms will be available on BBC iPlayer until 11th October.

Meanwhile I continue to search out anniversaries; here they are for September:

8th Sept: 180th anniversary of the birth of Antonín Dvořák, Czech composer

10th Sept: 80th anniversary of birth of Christopher Hogwood, English conductor, harpsichordist and musicologist

11th Sept: 310th anniversary of birth of William Boyce, English composer and organist.

22nd Sept: 20th anniversary of death of Isaac Stern, American musician

27th Sept: 100th anniversary of death of Engelbert Humperdinck, German composer

I will select **William Boyce** for details:



Born in 1711 he was a choirboy in St. Paul's cathedral and went on to hold a number of posts in church music before being appointed as Master of the King's Music in 1757. His compositions varied widely – from songs for the Vauxhall Gardens to oratorio, from instrumental sonatas and opera to Garrick's 1759 pantomime *Harlequin's Invasion* which contained what became Boyce's most famous song, *Hearts of Oak*.

As "Master of the King's Music" Boyce had the responsibility of writing music for royal occasions. He, however, refused to make a new setting of *Zadok the Priest* for the coronation of George III in 1761 on the grounds that Handel's setting of the anthem was unsurpassable – as a consequence of which Handel's setting has been played at every subsequent British coronation.

The Great Leeds Booksale

This year that regional event "The Great Leeds Booksale" will be held much earlier than usual. It is hoped to put new heating in St. Nicholas Church and although we don't yet have installation dates – we haven't yet raised all the funds but tenders are out as we go to press – we don't want to risk that the book sale might clash with the work of putting in the new system. We have therefore fixed these dates – **Friday 24th and Saturday 25th September**. Please note them in your diaries and make sure you come to buy your year's supply of reading.

If virus regulations permit we hope to have the usual refreshments each day and a stall selling cakes and preserves on the Saturday, so that as well as being the incredible source of inexpensive books for which the sale is now famed, it will again be an opportunity to meet your friends over a cup of tea or coffee.

We will of course need all the usual help , and more if possible, in the week before the sale to put out books, in the week after to pack away unsold books, and on the day to help with refreshments, the cake stall, raffle and organisation generally. If you can help please call Brian Hardy on 01622 842915.

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&

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

	Find the missing word?
1	P.J. _____, Stage name of 60's singer James Marcus Smith who had a hit with 'Hold Me' & 'Somewhere'
2	Spandau _____, New romantic era and vocals by Tony Hanley
3	_____ Gibb, Singer songwriter of the 60's with brothers Maurice and twin brother Barry
4	Bonnie _____, Husky Welsh vocalist who had a big hit with 'Total Eclipse of the Heart'
5	'_____ Dancer', sung by Tina Turner & written by Mark Knoffler
6	'Come on _____', A No 1 hit for Dexys Midnight Runners
7	_____ Marsden, Late Liverpoolian whose backing group was The Pacemakers
8	Moody _____, Who had a hit with 'Nights in White Satin'
9	_____ Torvill, Skater who is a judge on Dancing on Ice
10	Nancy _____, Who sang the theme song to 'You only Live Twice'

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Drama	Jewellery	Swimming	Costume
2	Horse	Old	Sweet	
3	Ego	Round	Wire	
4	Bowler	Stand	Top	
5	Post	Type	Writer	
6	Front	Problem	Web	
7	Jolly	Moore	Rabbit	
8	Card	Finger	Linked	
9	Loop	Plug	Port	
10	Driver	London	Rank	
11	Chief	Tax	Ticket	
12	Miss	Side	Sighted	
13	Giant	Man	Touch	
14	Black	Bun	Red	
15	Area	Basket	Table	
16	Sand	Fall	Stop	

Grafty Gourmet

This delicious turkey stuffed peppers recipe is a healthy alternative to traditional stuffed peppers. It has the added bonus, that this is a gluten-free recipe. It's one of my favourite minced turkey recipes.

Turkey Stuffed Peppers

6 large bell peppers, any colour	1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
2 cups of wild rice, cooked	1 teaspoon of salt
1 lb of Lean minced turkey	½ teaspoon of ground black pepper
2 cloves of garlic, minced	1 ½ cups of strong grated cheddar cheese
1 small onion, diced	
500g of tomato passata	1 of tablespoon olive oil

1. Preheat the oven to 160 degrees (fan oven). Cook the rice and set aside to cool.
2. Cut off the tops of the peppers and remove the seeds. Trim the bottoms to help them sit flat on a tray and rinse thoroughly. In a large pan boil the peppers for 5 minutes, remove from water and turn upside down onto a paper towel to dry.
3. In a large frying pan, add the olive oil, garlic and onion, and fry on a low heat until tender. Add the turkey and brown until thoroughly cooked.
4. Add the tomato passata, rice, Italian seasoning, salt, pepper and ½ a cup of the shredded cheese and stir until evenly mixed.
5. Fill the peppers evenly with the mixture. Place on a lightly greased oven proof tray or dish. Bake uncovered for 25 to 30 minutes. Remove and add the remaining cheese to the top of peppers and bake for an additional 5 minutes or until the cheese is melted.



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Grafty Green Gardening Club Programme 2021

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
5 th January	Cancelled	
2 nd February	Lucy Adams	Dry Gardening
2 nd March	Laura Brady	Vegetables & Herbs – Growing & Cooking
6 th April	Group Zoom 7.30	Flower Arrangements with a Spring Theme
Sat 8 th May	Plant Sale, on the green if fine and in Hall if wet	
4 th May	Visit to Knowle Hill Farm, Ulcombe	
1 st June	Visit to The Croft at Thurnham	
12 th June	Grafty Open Gardens	
6 th July	Visit to Godinton Garden	
3 rd August	Visit to Horton Farm	
7th September	Chris Lane – Witch Hazel & Wisteria. Margaret Hoad Rose bowl – See below	
10/11/12 Sept	Weekend away in Herefordshire, Cotswolds Wildlife Park & Gardens, Moores Meadow Gardens, Stockton Bury Gardens,	
5 th October	Ian Gray (Mammal Society)	Hedgehogs
2 nd November	Kevin Tooher – Pruning	
7 th December	Winter Event at Wisley	

Grafty Green Gardening Club - Update for September

On Tuesday 7th September we will be back in the village hall for our meeting. There is a change in the printed programme for the evening to accommodate a talk by Chris Lane who has the National Collection of Witch Hazels (an opportunity to ask questions after talk) and to award the Margaret Hoad Rose Bowl on a theme of '**The Last Days of Summer**' to be displayed in a teapot, maximum size of entire display no larger than 18 inches.

On Friday 10th September the coach will leave Grafty Green (Post Office) at 9.00am for our weekend away trip. We will be stopping at Cotswolds Wildlife Park & Gardens (£8 entrance) on our way to the Colwall Hotel in Malvern where we are booked in for dinner, bed and breakfast. On Saturday 11th we will visit Moores Meadow Gardens (£6.50) and in the afternoon, Stockton Bury Gardens (£8.50) On Sunday 12th we check out for our return via Broughton Grange Gardens (£9.00). Please can you bring exact

entrance money for each garden if possible as this will be collected on the coach.

In our gardens: - We can start to clear autumn debris to prevent pests and diseases overwintering. Evergreen shrubs can be moved now if necessary and established lawns scarified and aerated. You might want to put netting over your pond if you have one as this will keep out Autumn leaves. It's time to harvest our produce and plant out those Spring cabbages and onion sets.

If you would like to join us for any of our meetings just turn up to the village hall on the first Tuesday of the month! For membership an annual subscription of £5.00 paid to our treasurer Doreen Hulm at Lavender Cottage, Headcorn Road will gain you updates and regular newsletters about all our activities.

Carole Frost - Secretary - Grafty Green Gardening Club.

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Application forms are available by writing to Jan Rimmer (Clerk) at the address below. Completed forms should be returned no later than 10th October 2021

Clerk Address: Mrs J Rimmer
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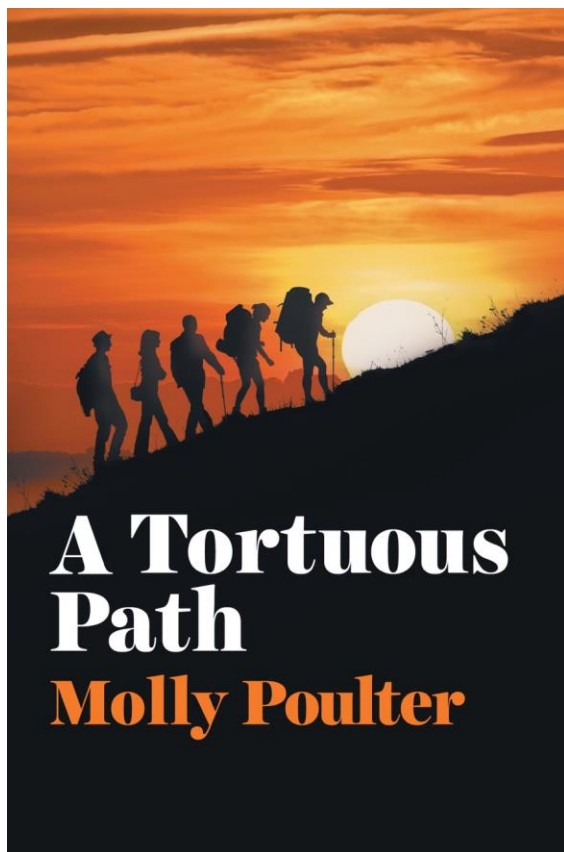
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This book is now released and is by Molly Poulter who lives locally in Ulcombe. The book can be obtained from your local bookshop or from: Molly Poulter: (01622 842988) or mollycpoulter@gmail.com



A Tortuous path is a contemporary drama about a group of people who set up a charity to raise money for a hospice. Their organising committee is infiltrated by a terrorist, but they do not suspect this till much later when tragedy occurs.

Everyday life is woven through the novel with developing relationships, social gatherings, weddings and funerals. David, the main protagonist, ponders on what makes a marriage, the role of Christianity in people's lives, and class differences. He also experiences hospices at first hand when his father dies in a hospice in Scotland.

David is the hospital's popular administrator but is divorced and lonely. He gets involved by chance with the hospice group which includes his friend Kim, the hospital's senior oncology nurse; Jamal Khan, a junior consultant at the hospital; and his American friend, Al Mercer. Also

involved are four other members of the hospital staff.

The appeal progresses with recruitment of new committee members, meetings and fund-raising activities. But from the outset there are curious incidents and encounters which puzzle David. This is a thrilling book that grips the attention until the final close.

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Christian Message September 2021

My mother's cousin has just died. Not before reaching 'a good old age' or leading a fulfilling life, but even so, or maybe because of this, the out-pouring of affectionate messages about her, has been very moving. People remember her for her wit, her many achievements, or even her rather forthright character, but everyone has a story to tell. She made quite an impression on us all.

Every life is important. God doesn't discriminate or have favourites.

Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. (Luke 12:6-7)

This week we are also on holiday in Scotland. I have met my cousin in Oban, my sister-in-law in Arran, and last night enjoyed supper with her husband, daughters and their partners. In both places everyone chatted excitedly about the government, Brexit, climate change and COVID, and brought us up to date with their latest jobs, hobbies and news about their health: New jobs for the youngsters, serious health scares for the older folk, lie-changing decisions and new interests to add a bit of colour to life. Whatever our thoughts, aspirations or worries, God knows them first, and with his guidance we can steer through the challenges we face now or in the future.

Reading the messages about my second cousin, and listening to how relatives are getting on in life, I am struck, firstly, by what an interesting variety of characters there are in any family or group of friends, but secondly, how similar our concerns are really, and how God works through every situation and is always there to comfort and guide, if we turn to him.

Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? (Matthew 6:26)

Take heart in the fact that whatever you are going through, you are so valuable and so loved by God.

Len Valley Benefice September 2021

Everybody is welcome

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint. *Isaiah 40:31*

Wednesday 1st September

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

6.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

Lenham: Breakfast Church will be joining the market on this day.

Sunday 5th September

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Ulcombe: Creative Service

11.00am Harrietsham: Family-friendly Morning Worship with Baptism

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 19th September

8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 12th September

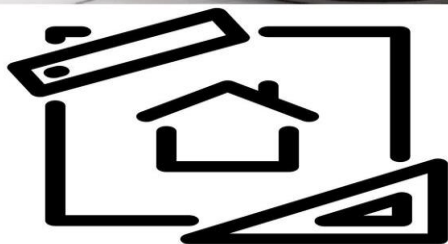
9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Sunday 26th September

11.00am Boughton Malherbe: Benefice Holy Communion



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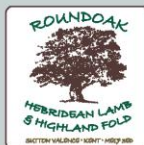
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First Aid Support – when **an ambulance has been called using 999** - Interim emergency support (first aid and AED defibrillator), prior to arrival of paramedics / ambulance, may be available (not 24/7) by calling Chris Wheal on 01622 858100 -this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

NHS Medical Helpline	111
Maidstone & Pembury Hospitals	0845 155 1000
William Harvey Hospital	01233 633331
Headcorn Surgery	01622 890294
Lenham Surgery	01622 858341

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	or 01243 508866

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

KCC Community Wardens:

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

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

R.S.P.C.A	0300 1234 999
Vet	01622 734555

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

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Drama	Jewellery	Swimming	Costume
2	Horse	Old	Sweet	Chestnut
3	Ego	Round	Wire	Trip
4	Bowler	Stand	Top	Hat
5	Post	Type	Writer	Script
6	Front	Problem	Web	Page
7	Jolly	Moore	Rabbit	Roger
8	Card	Finger	Linked	Index
9	Loop	Plug	Port	Hole
10	Driver	London	Rank	Taxi
11	Chief	Tax	Ticket	Inspector
12	Miss	Side	Sighted	Near
13	Giant	Man	Touch	Gentle
14	Black	Bun	Red	Current
15	Area	Basket	Table	Picnic
16	Sand	Fall	Stop	Pit

	Find the missing word?
1	P.J. Proby, Stage name of 60's singer James Marcus Smith who had a hit with 'Hold Me' & 'Somewhere'
2	Spandau Ballet, New romantic era and vocals by Tony Hanley
3	Robin Gibb, Singer songwriter of the 60's with brothers Maurice and twin brother Barry
4	Bonnie Tyler, Husky Welsh vocalist who had a big hit with 'Total Eclipse of the Heart'
5	'Private Dancer', sung by Tina Turner & written by Mark Knoffler
6	'Come on Eileen', A No 1 hit for Dexys Midnight Runners
7	Gerry Marsden, Late Liverpoolian whose backing group was The Pacemakers
8	Moody Blues, Who had a hit with 'Nights in White Satin'
9	Jayne Torvill, Skater who is a judge on Dancing on Ice
10	Nancy Sinatra, Who sang the theme song to 'You only Live Twice'

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