

## Malherbe Monthly

Number 215 June 2022



**Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath** 

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The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit!

Anything for the **July** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20**th **June** 

**Front Cover:** The recently discovered Tomb in Boughton Malherbe Church. Article in magazine details this discovery. Picture courtesy of John Collins

#### **News from St. Nicholas Church**

#### June 2022

The thought of June and all the 'normal' expectations of summer events seemed so far away and even unlikely at the beginning of the year, when we were told that our first covid boosters were fading and we would need yet more injections to keep our immunity at a safe level of protection for us and the community.

Well, here we are and the Platinum Jubilee is almost upon us, the children are back taking their state exams, sports fixtures are taking place and many people seem to have forgotten where their masks are! Despite the large numbers of friends and acquaintances who have recently proved to be positive for covid, life continues to be more relaxed and confident, especially as those affected have all recovered well. It is good to be able to make plans. The community getting together for the Jubilee is

It is good to be able to make plans. The community getting together for the Jubilee is a real acknowledgement of how far we have come. We so hope the Queen will be able to enjoy the events on such a momentous occasion.

#### Reminders

**The church porch** remains open as always, though you might find an odd bag of debris from the works going on inside. Hopefully we won't need to escape too much bad weather inside and can enjoy the views from the benches outside. The basket for the Food bank is still on the bench inside.

**The main church building** is open for services only. At other times please contact the churchwardens for a key. Their details are elsewhere in the magazine.

**The tower repairs** have been delayed as unavoidably we are looking for another stonemason, so continue to take care around the west door area

**Daily Morning Prayer** with the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral has sadly ended. Dean Willis has retired, after his amazing gift given to his many followers worldwide each morning from the cathedral gardens. A moving tribute was paid with comments from people of all ages from around the world with thanks for his faithfulness and teaching through those tough times.

**Celtic Morning Prayers** are said in the side chapel each Monday 9-9.30am. If you have prayer requests please contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev.Charlotte Coles or the churchwardens at any time and prayers will be said at morning prayer time or in private if you wish.

#### Information

**Re-organisation** of the pews has begun and moving on apace. You may be aware that a significant and important family tomb has at last been found in the southwest corner of the church. The diocesan consultant archaeologist has assessed the find and spent time cleaning and recording the marble slabs and their inscriptions. Our previous church guide book has a paragraph about the individuals known to have been buried in the church in the early 17th century. But as nothing indicated the place, it was thought they had been destroyed long ago. Exciting to know they have been with us all the time! We now have to wait for the diocesan engineer to inspect the stability of the stones before we can move forward with the planned covering. Other work on the pews is continuing.

**Donations for Ukraine** The collection point is at the back of St.Mary's church in Lenham.

Just follow the directions when you go in. It is open from 9-5pm daily.

Main items needed are: Nappies, baby wipes, baby food/ milk (not glass), sanitary items, medical kit basics, pain killers, tinned meat and fish (with ring pulls), blankets and warm socks.

**Village Coffee Times.** Really enjoying meeting up on Tuesdays 12.45-2.15pm, while the pop-up Post Office is open.

It has been decided that it might be helpful for some of our friends to start earlier. We so enjoyed celebrating Diana Parker's birthday last month at the earlier time, so we plan to be open for business from 11am on Tuesdays, beginning on the 14th June. Coffee and biscuits will still be available until 2.15pm. Again, we will see how it goes.

**The Benefice service** took place on Sunday 22nd. May. What a beautiful day to be sitting outside looking out over the Weald admiring and giving thanks for God's creation! The service was much appreciated, with a lot of interest afterwards in our 'new friends' found in the church, with an explanatory leaflet with pictures available to take away.

I will bring some of the leaflets to the Coffee Morning if anyone is interested, come and collect one if you would like to know more.

**Jubilee service** at St.Nicolas will be on Sunday 5th June at 3.30pm. This will be a Communion service outside if the weather permits and will be followed by,

**Jubilee Picnic Party** at 4.30pm with tea and coffee and refreshments. Bring your own rugs or picnic chairs, but we will have tables and chairs for those who wish to stay more upright! So hope the weather is kind.

Please feel free to come for any or both of the afternoon events.

#### **Finale**

The garden has been a hive of activity with young birds being shown the ropes of finding what we put out for them. The most active today are families of starlings, the chunky chicks chasing after parents demanding to be fed, when they obviously can do it themselves and are already bigger than the parents, or perhaps the parents are shrinking after all the effort they have made bringing up the next generation. Perhaps all species do that in mind if not always in body!

#### **Enjoy the Jubilee!**

Sally Alexander

#### From a letter written by Professor Paul Bennet, MBE Archaeological consultant to the Diocese of Canterbury

#### This letter details the discovery of hidden tombs in our Parish Church St Nicolas Boughton Malherbe.

I visited this delightful church to view what had been found during repairs to a pew platform (part of a re-ordering scheme) in the southwest corner of the church, immediately west of the south door.

The discovery is of ledger stones covering what appears to be an intact vault, built in the southwest corner of the church. The burial is of **Sir Edward Wotton**, First Baron Of Marley, who died at Boughton Malherbe in 1628 and his second wife (they married in 1603), **Lady Margaret Wotton** (daughter of Philip Wharton, 3rd Baron Wharton). She was 30 years his junior and they had no children. She died in Canterbury in 1652 and was buried in the same yault.

Edward and Margaret Wotton acquired what remained of St. Augustine's Abbey (the minor Royal Palace, established after 1538) in 1612, and it was the Wottons who commissioned John Tradescant to design and build an elaborate garden which features on the 1640 Map of Canterbury (CALC Map 123).

Edward Wotton was a secret convert to Catholicism. He was a highly skilled diplomat and administrator. Following an illustrious diplomatic career at home and abroad, he became Lord of the Treasury 1612-13, Treasurer of the Household 1616-18, Lord Lieutenant of Kent 1604-1620, and a member of the Privy Council, with significant connections with the intellectual elite and powerbrokers of the day. Twelve years on,

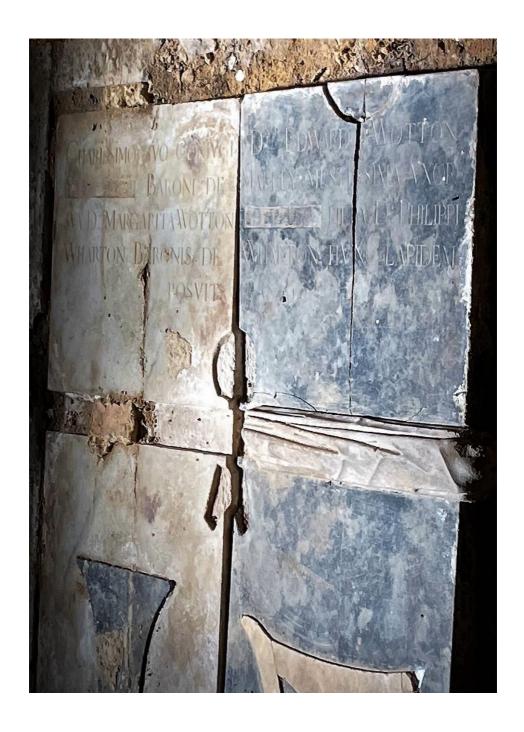
in 1624 he was accused of recusancy (he failed to attend church at St.Nicolas, Boughton Malherbe), and admitted publicly that he was a Catholic.

This shocking revelation led to his exclusion from the Privy Council and no doubt many other consequences, including pleading illness for the next two parliaments. He died at Boughton Malherbe in the spring of 1628 and was buried in his parish church of St.Nicolas.

Lady Margaret retired to Canterbury. Five years later, in 1633, and without consent, Lady Margaret arranged for the baptismal font at St.Nicolas to be relocated to make space for her husband's tomb in the southwest corner of the church. Worse still she inscribed the new tomb with the following inflammatory text in Latin: "To her beloved husband, Lord Edward Wotton, Baron of Marley, a Catholic. His grieving wife, Lady Margaret Wotton, daughter of Lord Wharton of Wharton, a Catholic". As she had not consulted with the authorities on the matter of the moving of the font, and because of the brazen declaration of her own religious sympathies, (more the latter than the former, I suspect) she was fined the enormous sum of £500 and ordered to obliterate the offending word 'Catholic'. The inscription accompanying the ledger stones is perfectly visible today, together with the chiselled-out words. (see following photo)

Lady Margaret's later years in Canterbury were exceptionally difficult. The large fine and the sequestration of family estates during the Civil War, left her very short of funds to maintain her household, the house and gardens. Nevertheless, she was an important and well-loved personality in Canterbury. Lady Wotton's Green, outside the Fyndon Gate to St. Augustine's, is named after Lady Margaret. Margaret instructed her executors (her servants) to bury her beside her husband whom she described affectionally as her, 'Truly honoured and most dear lord.'

The discovery of the burial place of the Edward and Lady Wotton is important and significant and credit must go to those recognising the importance of the ledgers and for the great care so far being taken to protect them.



This close up clearly shows where the words have been scratched out.

Picture courtesy of John Collins

#### **Parish Lengthsman**

The Parish Council has entered into a contract with Ken Parish to provide a "Lengthsman" service in the Parish. This service involves collecting litter from the roadside where it is a particular problem and clearing vegetation where it obscures road signs. Ken will also monitor the condition of Fire Hydrants, especially where obscured by vegetation, for reporting to Kent Fire and Rescue Service.

If you are aware of any particular problems with litter or vegetation, please call **Ken** on 01622 850378 - so he can take a look.

### Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Contact Details

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**Grant Kennaird** 

Vickie Ford, Parish Clerk
- Tel: 07791 135248
boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com



#### Village Hall News - June Newsletter

I have some dates for your diary.

#### Summer Craft Fair at the Village Hall Saturday 16th July 2022 10 am to 2 pm

We will be hosting a summer craft fair at the hall on Saturday 16th of July where you can browse a selection of stalls offering a wide range of interesting crafted items, have a chat with friends and enjoy a cup of tea and some cake. We are very excited to have a range of new stall holders including beauty products, bags and lots of gift ideas. We look forward to seeing you.

#### 100th Birthday celebration for the Village Hall Saturday 20th August 2022 – 12 noon to 4 pm

The hall will be 100 years old this year and to mark this rather special birthday we would like to invite you all to a birthday celebration for the hall to be held on the fete/cricket field in Church Road just along from the hall on Saturday 20th August, there will be games, tea and cake stall, ice creams, entertainment and lots of fun to be had by all so please come along and enjoy the day.

#### Redecoration of the outside of the Hall

As part of our renovation programme for the hall we have had the outside of the hall repainted both to protect the fabric of the building and to improve it's appearance.

#### Tuesday Coffee Morning – Extended opening hours from Tuesday 14th June 2022 11 am to 2.15pm

As you may already be aware the serving of tea, coffee and biscuits whilst the Post Office is open at the hall has proved very popular. So much so that Sally and her crack team of professionals have kindly agreed to extend the time that refreshments are served. Sally will provide further detail on the changes separately in this magazine, but I understand that from Tuesday 14th June refreshments will be served from the earlier time of 11 am allowing you more time to socialise with your friends. The Post Office will still open at 12.45 pm and close at 2.15pm.

#### Pilates Class - Tuesday Mornings 9.30am to 10.30 am

What is Pilates?

Pilates is a hugely effective form of exercise that strengthens the body. It can help to improve your posture, tone your muscles, relieve unwanted stress and tension and reduce back, neck and shoulder pain. Cheryl our qualified Body Control Pilates teacher has advised me that spaces are available and beginners are most welcome.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Cheryl for more information on 07852 602369 or by email c.stubbs8@btinternet.com The cost is £10 per session.

Jon Thompson Hall Committee Chairman www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk Facebook – graftygreenvillage

#### Sue's Nature Notes

12<sup>th</sup> April, it was sunny but windy and there was a different sound – that of the chattering house martins to announce their arrival back from a migration last September to Africa; so far I have four pairs, busy building or repairing the mud nest which is attached to the wall underneath the eaves and to the eaves themselves.

There has also been two pairs of swifts flying through the garden and inspecting the area under the eaves; disappointingly they haven't stayed. Apparently, swifts pair for life and are site faithful so if a building is changed in a way that obstructs their flight they have to find somewhere new; since their time here is only three months and they need two months to raise their chicks it is likely that some years there is no breeding season.

Swifts can gather around 20,000 aphids, midges and other insects in a day which is astounding and is another reason why pesticides should be banned and for us to grow plants that attract a variety of insects.

Sue Burch

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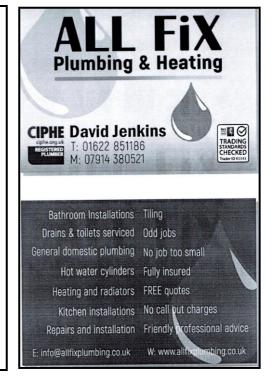
#### Contact

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Children's Room

**Beer Garden** 



# St. Nicolas Boughton Malherbe Sunday 5th June

Jubilee Service 3.30pm

Picnic Tea Party 4.30pm





#### Is Heathlands a 'done deal'?

It's probably the most frequently asked question of SOHL and the simple answer is **ABSOLUTELY NOT!** 

The clever marketing and PR that is going on - at taxpayers' expense - is to create a perception to local people that this massive development is going ahead whether we like it or not.

Do not fall into the trap of Maidstone Borough Council!

The number of flaws in the project mean it will be very hard, if at all, to actually deliver it. Here's 10 (of many) reasons why Heathlands is not a done deal:

- 1. Major landowners are still not signed up after over 3 years of trying. We know from one of the largest that they are simply not interested in signing up. Without land there is no 'new town'. Simple as that.
- 2. MBC and Homes England won't admit it to you but we have heard it on good authority from a source at Network Rail that they will not entertain a new rail station in the development for all the reasons SOHL have pointed out to MBC over the last 12 months. With no new railway station, there is very little chance of a Planning Inspector supporting the proposed development as it can not be considered sustainable.
- 3. Major objectors include the likes of Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). Do not underestimate the influence these types of organisations have, despite what MBC may claim.

- 4. Lenham falls within the Stodmarsh catchment area where a moratorium is currently in place restricting all new development without sufficient nutrient neutrality mitigation. Heathlands still can not demonstrate acceptable mitigation for protecting watercourses from pollution.
- 5. There will be no motorway junction. Without a new junction the A20 simply can not cope with the additional volumes. It's simple maths. We've seen what happens with increased flows every time the M20 closes. No upgrade of the A20 can cope with such huge volumes.
- 6. The independent Government Planning Inspector will be the one with the final say on whether Heathlands is included as an allocation in the new Maidstone Local Plan. The Inspector has made no judgement at all at this stage and there is a long way to go before he does so
- 7. Even if the Planning Inspector was minded to make it an allocation, a full planning application would still need to be submitted and SOHL along with Lenham Parish Council would object to it every step of the way.
- 8. The Lenham Neighbourhood Plan which residents voted to adopt by an overwhelming 92% last year makes no provision for Heathlands and never will. It actually has a countryside protection policy in it which protects all the land that MBC want to build Heathlands on from being developed. This will be a litmus test for local democracy deciding whether development is right for an area in line with the current government's push on residents being more involved in local development plans.
- 9. The financial viability of the Heathlands proposal is questionable and has major omissions which would quickly render the project unviable. MBC and Homes England are intentionally manipulating the figures to make it look more viable than it is.
- 10. Finally, PEOPLE POWER does work, believe it or not. We've got to remain resolute in our opposition to this proposal. MBC will be wanting there to be splits in our community. Don't let them divide us!

Next time someone says to you it's a done deal, remind them of these points!

#### **Grafty Gourmet**

This is a great barbecue chicken kebab recipe, with its sweet, spicy, sticky glaze. Sprinkle with spring onions after cooking.

#### **Barbecued Korean Chilli & Honey Kebabs**

12 boneless and skinless chicken thighs
2 tablespoons of soy sauce
1 tablespoon of sesame oil
1 thumb sized piece of ginger - grated
4 spring onions - sliced

For the glaze
4 tablespoons of Korean chilli paste (gochujang)
2 tablespoons of honey
The juice of half a lime
1 tablespoon of soy sauce
1 teaspoon of sesame oil
2 tablespoons of sesame seeds

- 1. Coat the chicken in the soy sauce, sesame oil and ginger. Thread each thigh on two long metal skewers, so that each skewer pierces one side of the thigh. Keep threading the chicken, making sure it's packed onto the skewers tightly.
- 2. Mix the ingredients for the glaze. On the barbecue, cook the kebab for 5-8 mins on each side (depending on the heat). Once nicely charred but not fully cooked through, start painting on the glaze. The honey will catch if cooked for too long. The key to nice sticky chicken, is applying the glaze in layers, turning the kebab often.
- 3. Once the glaze has been used up and the chicken is cooked through (it'll take about 20 mins in total), transfer to a plate and leave to cool for 5 mins before serving scattered with spring onions.



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#### **Helen Whately**

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

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London, SW1A 0AA www.helenwhately.org.uk

Tel: 020 7219 6472; Email: <a href="mailto:helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk">helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk</a>

#### Yoga Classes in Grafty Green Village Hall with Sue Burch

Monday morning  $9.30-11\ 13^{th}\ June-25^{th}\ July$  Wednesday evening  $7-8.30\ 8^{th}\ June-20^{th}\ July$  Thursday morning  $9.30-11\ 9^{th}\ June-21^{st}\ July$ 

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Contact: British Wheel of Yoga Teacher - Sue on 01622 850381 or email graftyyoga@gmail.com



#### Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

#### **BELFAST**

Friday June 10<sup>th</sup>
Performance begins 19.30 pm, doors open 19.00
Running time 1hr 38 mins

Kenneth Branagh's Oscar winning masterpiece Belfast (PG 13,2021), both directed and written by him, is our irresistible choice for Jubilee month. This autobiographical feelgood story is set in 1969, right in the middle of the Northern Ireland Troubles and is seen through the eyes of nine-year-old Buddy, played by Jude Hill, as his Ulster Protestant working class family struggles to cope with the dilemma of whether to remain in the city or pack up and leave. In the midst of the turmoil Buddy tries to make sense of what's going on around him, not least because Catherine, his friend at school, comes from a republican Catholic family. And then Buddy is drawn into the conflict. So why is this a feel-good masterpiece? Come along and find out – after all, Kenneth Branagh has poured his heart into this story, and as a final clincher Judi Dench is playing Granny.

Following a month of Jubilee celebrations, we're keeping the aristocratic feel on July 10th by presenting The Duke – only this duke isn't exactly from distinguished circles. Do mark it down as unmissable though. Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren will be greeting you on screen.

For more information, please check out our website (<a href="www.lenhamfilmclub.org">www.lenhamfilmclub.org</a>) or follow us on Facebook (@LenhamFilmClub). If you'd like to be added to our mailing list or become a member, please contact us at <a href="lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com">lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com</a>

Admission: members £4, non-members £5 Annual membership £6 (over 16's only);

## We are pleased to announce EGERTON COMPUTER CENTRE Is Re-Opening From SATURDAY 21st MAY 2022 10.00 – 12.00 at Egerton Millennium Hall, TN27 9DT



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#### Music Notes for June 2022 - B Hardy

I have had to scout around this month; it looks as if local concert promoters have kept clear of June because of Jubilee celebrations – certainly early June seems bereft of anything except parties. However, here is what I have found:

**Sat 18th June** 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Mill St., Maidstone ME15 6YE, the Maidstone Singers' extended choir offer a Queen's Platinum Jubilee concert which includes 4 coronation anthems. Tickets 07802 575656

- \* **Also on 18<sup>th</sup> June** at 7.30pm, but at Canterbury Cathedral you may like Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Canterbury Choral Society and Canterbury Choral Society Youth Choir. Tickets Tel: 01227 457568 or email <a href="mailto:Boxoffice@canterburyfestival.co.uk">Boxoffice@canterburyfestival.co.uk</a>. Note <a href="mailto:NO tickets at the door.">NO tickets at the door.</a>
- \*Sat 25<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm at St George's Church, Church St., Gravesend DA11 0DJ, Gravesham Choral Society present "English Favourites", a concert of choral music by some of our all-time favourite composers including Parry, Vaughan Williams and Rutter.

Tickets <a href="https://thelittleboxoffice.com/graveshamcs/event/view/158113">https://thelittleboxoffice.com/graveshamcs/event/view/158113</a>

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> July** 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Mill St., Maidstone ME15 6YE, Maidstone Choral Union present a Concert for Nations, which includes Mozart's` *Requiem* with MCU Sinfonia and invited soloists. Visit <a href="https://maidstonechoralunion.co.uk">https://maidstonechoralunion.co.uk</a> for information and tickets

This month's birthday is 22nd June, the day when Peter Pears was born. Sir Peter Neville Luard Pears CBE (June 1910 – April 1986) was an English tenor. His career was closely associated with the composer Benjamin Britten, his personal and professional partner for nearly forty years.

His musical career started slowly. He was at first unsure whether to concentrate on playing or singing, and it was not until he met Britten in 1937 that he threw himself wholeheartedly into singing. Once he and Britten were established as a partnership, the composer wrote many works with Pears' voice in mind, and the singer played roles in more than ten operas by Britten. In the concert hall, Pears and Britten were celebrated recitalists, known for their performances of lieder by Schubert and Schumann. Together they recorded most of the works written for Pears by Britten, as well as a wide range of music by other composers. Working with other musicians, Pears sang an extensive repertoire of music from four centuries, from the Tudor period to the most modern times.

With Britten, Pears was a co-founder of the Aldeburgh Festival in 1947 and the Britten-Pears School in 1972. After Britten died Pears remained an active participant in the festival and the school, where he was director of singing.

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

	Find the missing word?
1	Brockovich. Film with Julia Roberts
2	Geri, Known as Ginger Spice
3	Cavell, WW1 Nurse
4	Boe, English Tenor
5	Patrick, Emmerdale's Rodney
6	Tuesday, A Rolling Stones hit
7	Four & a Funeral
8	Grant, Electric Avenue singer
9	Wogan, Late Radio2 disc jockey
10	East of, A James Dean film

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Council	Music	Maid	Chamber
2	Boarding	Plough	Drop	
3	Graduate	Cover	Knuckle	
4	Control	Child	Stone	
5	Lightning	Tuning	Pitch	
6	Climate	Loose	Hands	
7	Sweet	Salad	Jacket	
8	Broken	Whole	Half	
9	Dinner	First	Bird	
10	Dancing	Waist	Guide	
11	Landscape	Market	Head	
12	Transport	School	General	
13	Anthem	Dress	Park	
14	Housing	Agent	Car	
15	Treasure	Tea	Nut	
16	Away	Raw	Out	

#### Grafty Green Gardening Club Program of Events 2022 Our 25<sup>th</sup> Year

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
11 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM and Alison Marsden	More garden impact for less
		effort
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Dr Mick Lynn	Potions, Parasites and Pests
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Simon Ginnaw/Spring Show	Birds beyond the boughs
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Fergus Garrett	Succession planting for a long
э Арш		season
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	6pm Outing to Bilting House, Godm	nersham, TN25 4HA
7 <sup>th</sup> May	10am. Plant Sale, Village green (if v	vet in the Village Hall)
20 – 22 May	Weekend away to West Sussex and Hampshire	
7 <sup>th</sup> June	6pm Arnold Yoke, Back Street, Leeds.	
5 <sup>th</sup> July	6pm Garden party in the village	
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	6pm Outing to Hurst House, Hastingleigh, TN25 5 JD	
6 <sup>th</sup> September	Katherine Hook/ Autumn Show	Sloe Seduction
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Steve Edney	Think beyond the flower, plants
		with good seed heads.
1 <sup>st</sup> November	Tom La Dell	Brogdale and the National Fruit
		Collection
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Practical evening/Social	

On 7th June at 6.00pm we are visiting the Arnold Yoke Garden in Back Street Leeds. Car sharing is advised where possible. Please note that this event replaces the Sissinghurst outing on your printed programme.

Tickets are now for sale at £3 each from Sue (01622) 850381 or Rosemary (01622 850526) or Doreen (01622) 850287) for next month's Garden Party/BBQ in Rosemary and Michael's lovely garden 5th July. Commencing at 6.00pm. Bring a friend or family to celebrate with us.

**Carole Frost - Secretary.** 

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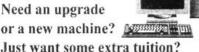
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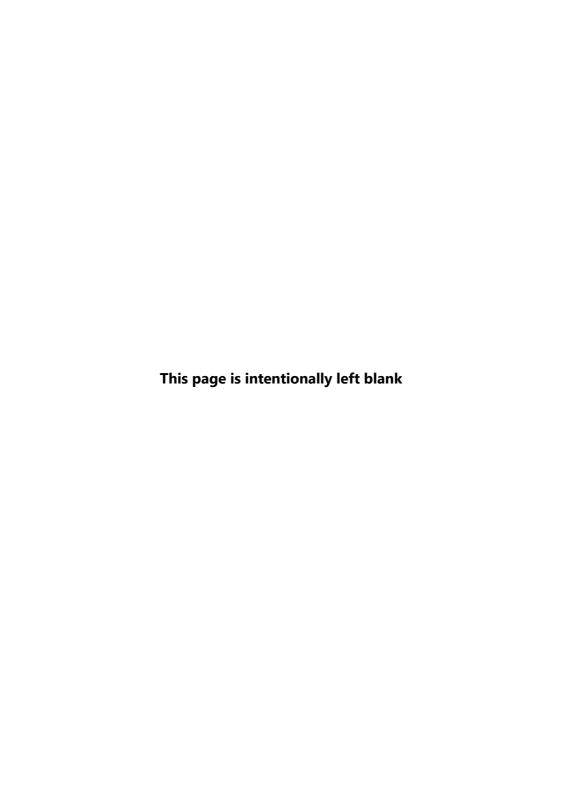


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#### **Christian Message June 2022**

As you read this we are about to celebrate or have already celebrated the Queen's platinum jubilee with a four-day weekend. It's wonderful to be given the time and space to truly celebrate, particularly after all that has happened these past two years. Whatever choices her majesty has had to make during her longevity her faith has been there throughout.

In 2002 Her Majesty said:

'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God!'

What has shaped you over the past two years and continues to lead you forward? What are the big decisions which you have had to make which may have led you on a different journey to the one which you had planned?

The following passage from the bible is the verse for our local churches for this year. 'This is what the Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroads and look;' Ask for the ancient paths,' Ask where the good way is, and walk in it,

And you will find rest for your souls'. (Jeremiah 6:16).

I wonder what images of crossroads and ancient pathways conjure up for you? Crossroads present us with choices and in turn the choices we make impact on our destination. I took part in a 'Refresh and Re-inspire' day a few weeks ago and the imagery of pathways and crossroads and imagining walking on different terrain resonated with us individually as well as collectively as a church. It presented our spiritual journeys and our physical journeys in a different light. Yes, we are presented with challenges almost

every day, not least in the rise of the standard of living; yet God guides us along the way. The morning gave us each the chance to meditate on this and on why we make the choices we do.

I wonder when you last sat down with your family and just reflected on your journey together up to this point in time. When was the last time you dug out the old photo albums and relived birthdays, vacations, graduations etc?

The roads we walk suggest habits, and routine, and there is a certain safety in that. God calls us out of our comfort zones sometimes and into unknown territory that will stretch us and shape us in new ways, giving us new perspectives on life. I leave you with the last few lines of a poem, called 'The road not taken'

'Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less travelled by, And that has made all the difference'. (Robert Frost).

Revd. Charlotte Coles (Assistant curate of LVB. 07805-092823).



#### **Len Valley Benefice June 2022**

#### Wednesday 1st June

**9.30am** Lenham: Holy Communion Service

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Celebration of the Queen's Platinum

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Church

**9.30am** Ulcombe: Café Church **11.00am** Harrietsham: Family-friendly Morning Worship with Baptism

11.00am Lenham: Holy

Communion

Jubilee

**3.30pm** Boughton Malherbe: Songs of Praise

#### Sunday 12th June

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Church followed by joining the market.

11.00am Lenham: Holy

Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy

Communion

**3.30pm** Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

#### Sunday 19th June

**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 26th June

10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Boughton Malherbe

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Calor Gas	Emergencies	08457 444999
KCC	Emergencies	03000 41 41 41
	Highways	03000 41 81 81

#### KCC Community Wardens:

Local warden – Stuart Ellesmere	07969 583923
District Support – Dawn Riach- Brown	07773 397125

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

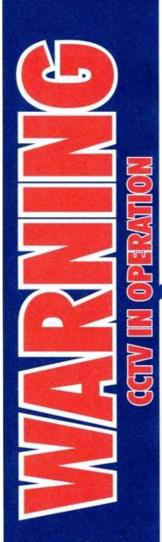
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Vet	24 Hour Pet Emergency Treatment Service	01622 734555

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**

Answer	Word 3	Word 2	Word 1	
Chamber	bisM	oisuM	lionuoO	l
wonz	Drop	Plough	Boarding	7
Under	Kunckle	Cover	Graduate	3
Atria	Stone	Child	Control	Þ
Fork	Pitch	gninuT	Lightning	S
Change	SpueH	Гоозе	Climate	9
Potato	Jacket	Salad	Sweet	L
Hearted	HeH	Mhole	Broken	8
Гэдх	Bird	First	Dinner	6
əuiΔ	Spin	tsisW	Dancing	0
Gardener	Head	Market	Pandscape	L
Public	General	School	Transport	7
IsnoitsN	Park	Dress	mədtnA	8
Estate	Car	Agent	BuisuoH	7
Chest	JuN	Теа	Treasure	S
9biH	JuO	Raw	yewA	9

Find the missing word?	
Erin Brockovich. Film with Julia Roberts	L
Geri Halliwell, Known as Ginger Spice	2
Edith Cavell, WW1 Nurse	3
Alfie Boe, English Tenor	t
Patrick <b>Mower</b> , Emmerdale's Rodney	S
Ruby Tuesday, A Rolling Stones hit	9
Four <b>Weddings</b> & a Funeral	L
Eddy Grant, Electric Avenue singer	8
Terry Wogan, Late Radio2 disc jockey	6
East of <b>Eden</b> , A James Dean film	01



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