

Malherbe Monthly

Number 207
October 2021



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast Shellina.Prendergast@kent.gov.uk	07970 461160
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Ziggy Trzebinski ziggytrzebinski@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 078524 92770
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	Chris Hume email boughtonmalherbepc@gmail.com	07972 630555
Village Hall bookings	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@gmail.com Mobile 07990 574214	853583
Village Hall General Enquires	Jon Thompson email bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk Mobile 07932 112730	851351
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Priest in charge	Dr John Huggins email: vicar@lvb.org.uk	850280
Curate	Charlotte Coles	07805 092823
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield	07500 895831
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday at approx. 3pm by Post Office	01580 754300
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

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

Front Cover: Grafty Green Village Shop & Post Office – See article in magazine with regard to its closure later this year

News from St. Nicholas Church

Autumn. As hoped for, September has provided us with the much longed-for, kinder, weather, to enjoy the late blackberries and the early morning mists. This morning in the early sunshine, there were a myriad of the most elaborate, beautifully crafted, cobwebs, glistening with 'sequin' drops of dew, strung between tall old straw and grass stems. One can only marvel.

The church porch is open at all times, giving a peaceful refuge in poor weather, but with a great view across the Weald. The main church building is open each week for services and a key can be accessed at any other time from the churchwardens. You can find their contact details elsewhere in the magazine and in the porch. Remain vigilant near the tower and West Door, repairs are in hand for the fallen masonry.

Celtic Morning Prayers are said at 8.45am-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 Monday morning 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 prayers are daily on Facebook. Morning Prayer from Canterbury Cathedral with the Dean each day is well worth joining. One day this week he was surrounded in the orchard by 2 pigs, a few ducks, chickens, cats and others, while reading the story of Joseph and his brothers' grain sacks from the book of Genesis. His take on the importance of the 'detail' in story-telling in our lives was enthralling. The Canterbury diocesan website provides a link.

Services for October

- 3rd 9.30am Communion
- 10th 3.30pm Harvest Festival evensong
- 17th 9.30am Communion
- 24th Benefice Service
- 31st Event to be announced

Harvest Festival will be at 3.30pm on Sunday 10th October. We would be delighted to welcome all gifts. Especially we would be grateful for items of non-perishable foodstuffs, which will be taken to Maidstone Homeless Food bank.

Service to Remember the Covid pandemic.

On September 29th Rev.Anne conducted a service in which we remembered the events of the last 18 months, with prayers and thoughts for so many, the carers, the key workers who kept us fed and encouraged, the teachers and those who lost loved ones. There were heroes in every generation, those who isolated to protect others and

the NHS, the police, the postal teams: the list is endless. We had a memory book and a chance to record prayers in the church. It seemed even more poignant to be outside in the sunshine and be surrounded by our community, friends, neighbours and passers-by, not one of whom has been unaffected by the events of the past year. It was a gift to have this time to reflect.

Farewell to Rev. Anne and Charlie. After the service on the 29th. Others joined us from around the Benefice with their picnic lunches to say their goodbyes and thanks to Anne and Charlie for their work over the last 2/3 years. Rev. John Huggins presented gifts from the 4 churches, fruit trees, books and champagne to set them on their way in a new venture in Herefordshire.

Rev. Tony Old We have been saddened to hear the news of the death of Tony. He was a friend and supporter of all at St. Nicolas and Grafty Green. He took many services, especially Evensong. He was always a good listener and encourager and came to so many events in the village. He has recently suffered much ill health and we have missed and will continue to miss his smile and presence and his delicious pastry! Our thoughts and prayers are for Joan and all his friends, both here and in Headcorn.

Amongst all the turmoil in the world, so many of our thoughts turn to the tragedy unfolding in Afghanistan, especially the plight of the women and children. May we welcome those in trouble.

Sally Alexander

Boughton Church Eco Shop

Thank you to all of you who came to the launch of our new Eco Shop. It was so encouraging seeing both new faces and old friends coming together to help us get started. We loved all the positive feedback and words of encouragement – Thank you!! From now on our Eco Shop is open after every church service and by demand every Wednesday from 3-5pm. This means that the shop will be open:

3rd of October from 10:30-11 am

10th of October 4:15-5pm (but please do join us for our Harvest Festival with auction at 3:30 and tea and cake beforehand)

17th of October from 10:30-11 am

Every Wednesday 3-5 pm (just briefly call or text me on 07889945396 beforehand)

Please spread the word and use us. We have tried to keep prices low and all profits go 50% to the church and 50% to wildlife charities, but if you feel our prices are not right,

or we are not stocking what you need, please tell Lily or me and we will adapt. The shop is there to serve the community and make money for good causes, so we would love your thoughts and advice on how to improve.

Currently we stock:

Virunga Park chocolate,

Sylvia's homemade jam and **Sally's** homemade marmalade.

Friendly Soap palm-oil free in a variety of scents,

Fill Ethical Laundry liquid, Washing up liquid, Rinse Aid, Bathroom Cleaner, Stell and Glass cleaner

Faith in Nature Shower Gel, Shampoo and Conditioner.

All liquids come as refills so please either bring your own containers or pay a deposit and use one of our containers.

I hope to see you all soon and thank you again for your brilliant support so far.

Vanessa (and Lily)

Grafty Green Stores And Post Office

It is with great sadness that we inform you that we will no longer be able to continue running Grafty Green Stores and Post Office. This is not a conclusion we have reached lightly and we hope the following explains why we have reached it.

The domestic premises are increasingly difficult for someone of Hazel's now severely impaired mobility and it is likely we will need the extra space of the shop area.

Rob is unable to return to a significant presence in the shop due to domestic commitments. Nick only agreed to his current hours as a temporary measure to manage under COVID constraints, particularly when the shop was used more, and now wishes to concentrate on other priorities.

Over the years there has been a substantial change in shopping habits and other trading conditions. We do not consider the shop in an adequate financial state that it is realistic to think we could sell it as a going concern and it is not feasible in our circumstances. We therefore have decided to close the shop. We hope we will be able to continue till after Christmas.

Rob, Hazel and Nick Eastwood

The Future of a Village Shop - Parish Council Meeting, 11th October

The Parish Council will hold an Extraordinary Meeting to discuss the announcement that the village shop will be closing after Christmas. The Council would like to invite members of the public to attend the meeting in order to collect views on whether the village should consider community action to develop alternative provision and discuss who should take this forward.

The meeting will be held at **7.30pm on the 11th October** in the village hall.



THE CRAFTY GRAFTY CHRISTMAS FAIR

SAT. 27th November 2021

Grafty Green Village Hall ME17 2BA

10am – 2pm

**Handmade Crafts to purchase for
loved ones!**

**Jewellery, Cards, Festive, Knitted and Wooden
Gifts and much more**

Raffle, Tea & Coffee, Cakes & Mince Pies

For further details contact: Carolhulm@gmail.com or Call 07990 574214



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

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.

We are also pleased to welcome a new hirer to the hall. Claire will be running the Little Hands Big Explorers Children's Group on a Wednesday and Friday morning between 9.30 am and 10.30 am from the 29th of September. This is a brand new messy/sensory group and the sessions will have a free flow feeling enabling children to explore at their own pace with parents support and encouragement. Claire can be contacted on Littlehandsbigexplorers@outlook.com for more information.

We have been keen to set up an art class as we have received a lot of interest in hosting this activity and are keen to make this available to you and I am pleased to advise you that we have agreed with Cathy Hill a local professional artist to have a taster art class at the hall between 1pm and 3pm on Wednesday the 3rd November. The charge will be £15 for a two-hour session. If there is enough interest Cathy will host a regular weekly art class at the same time every week thereafter. Examples of Cathy's work can be viewed online at www.facebook.com/cathyhillartspage Cathy will provide any materials that needed for the taster session. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

We will shortly be testing out the sound and projector facilities at the hall to see if it will be possible to host film nights at the hall and we will keep you updated once our investigations have been completed.

Finally, just a quick reminder of the future events we will be holding at the hall following the excitement of Frog racing which are:-

Saturday 27th November – Our Annual Winter Craft Fair

Saturday 4th December – Our Christmas Quiz

Saturday 29th January 2022 – Our Annual Panto which this year is Dick Wittington

We look forward to seeing you back at the hall soon and if you would like any further information on any of the events that we host at the hall or would like to book tickets for any of our future events, please go to our website

www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk or let me know.

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

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

www.helenwhately.org.uk

Tel: 020 7219 6472; Email: helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk

An Update from the Parish Council

Our Maidstone Borough councillors have asked the parish council to collect information on instances of anti-social behaviour which have not been reported to the police - as well as those incidents reported to the police . This refers to such things as threatening behaviour, littering, verbal abuse, damage to property and vehicles. Although some of these issues may technically be crimes, you may choose not to report these to the police, either because you don't think it will lead to any worthwhile action or you fear retribution. The borough councillors would very much like to hear about such instances, which can be kept anonymous or sources treated confidentially. If you are aware of any such instances of anti-social behaviour, but may, or may not have informed the police, could you provide details to the Parish Clerk at boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com or phone **07972 6309555** and this will be collected for the borough councillors to use, in anonymous form, to present to Kent Police

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

There are a couple of places in the Thursday morning yoga class and it is perfectly ok to join in mid-term. Let me know if you would like to take a place.

There will be no classes the week beginning October 25th and the new term will start 1st November.

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, graftyyoga@gmail.com

Sue's Nature notes

September has been blessed with some lovely sunny, warm days which has also been enjoyed by the bees and hover flies taking advantage of the late flowering plants and the early flowering ivy.

Please bear in mind when starting to tidy your garden that there may well be a hedgehog or two nestling under your hedges and areas that have become a little overgrown. Helping to provide a winter refuge for your hedgehogs is to leave some twigs and leaves in the quieter corners of your garden, under shrubs/hedges.

If you are keen to learn more about hedgehogs you must come to the gardening club meeting on 5th October when Ian Gray of the Kent Mammal Group is talking on this subject; 7.30 in the village hall.

HOLLAND & HOLLAND ROOFING **LTD**

Flat Roofing Specialists

"Installers of high performance flat roofing systems"

Our quotes are free of charge and arranged at a time
that's convenient for you

All work is Insurance backed guaranteed

Contact

T: 01622 842 069

M: 07939583618

E: office@hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk

W: www.hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk

Members of the
Confederation of Roofing Contractors (CORC)

ALL FiX **Plumbing & Heating**

CIPHE David Jenkins

ciphe.org.uk
**REGISTERED
PLUMBER**

T: 01622 851186

M: 07914 380521



Bathroom Installations Tiling
Drains & toilets serviced Odd jobs
General domestic plumbing No job too small
Hot water cylinders Fully insured
Heating and radiators FREE quotes
Kitchen installations No call out charges
Repairs and installation Friendly professional advice
E: info@allfixplumbing.co.uk W: www.allfixplumbing.co.uk

BARRY WHEBLE PLUMBING

Tel: 01622 260568

Mobile: 07768 945705

Blocked Drains, Dripping Taps
Burst Pipes, Boilers
Central Heating, Appliances
Power Flushing

**THE LOCAL PLUMBER YOU'LL
RECOMMEND**

All areas covered
24 Hours / 7 Days
No Call Out Charge

Gas Safe Registered Gas Installer
No: 68640

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

**The Kings Head
Grafty Green**

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



Traditional Sunday Lunches

**Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers**

**Booking Advisable
01622 850259**

Children's Room Beer Garden

**Boughton Malherbe
Parish Council
Contact Details**

Ron Galton, Chairman

- Tel: 01622 850369

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

ron@boughtonmalherbecp.org

Robert Turner

Tel: 01622 850325

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

robert@boughtonmalherbecp.org

Barry Adams

Tel: 01622 850288

Nick Eastwood

Tel: 01622 850330

Grant Kennaird

Chris Hume, Parish Clerk

- Tel: 07972 630555`

boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com

Heather's

Chiropody and Podiatry Surgery

Registered Surgical Chiropodist

HPCP Registered G.C.S.Ch., M.Inst. Ch.P., M.F.S.Ch.

Heather's
for men and women



Fully disabled access and facilities.

Wide range of Chiropody treatments.

Tel for appointment: **01622 850376**

www.heatherschiropody.co.uk

retreat@heatherschiropody.co.uk

The Brown Barn, Bull Hill, Lenham Heath, ME17 2JA



STONEBRIDGE ACCOUNTING

ACCOUNTS AND TAX SUPPORT

FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND SMALL BUSINESS

Tel: 01622 851542



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.

Helen Whately's Parish Update

Recovery Drive

Along with schools going back this month, September also saw the return of MPs to Westminster. Like workplaces across the country, Parliament is beginning to look and feel more like normal with more MPs allowed in the Commons and more face-to-face meetings.

There are signs of our recovery across the economy with the employment rate back to where it was before Covid, wages rising, and the UK having the fastest growth in the G7. We had to take difficult decisions during the pandemic, and tough decisions are needed again to help the NHS and social care recover from the last 18 months. That's why we're introducing our Health and Care Levy to beat the backlogs in the NHS and deliver reform of social care.

It's not just in health and social care that we're determined to build back better. I've been meeting local businesses to hear how Government support for jobs is helping our local economy recover from the pandemic.

Extra investment has helped deliver record numbers of police officers in Kent, and I've set out my vision for a better local bus network as part of a £5 billion funding boost for bus and cycle links across the country.

The risks from Covid have not gone away. We face a difficult few months ahead, but our vaccine rollout has given us cause for optimism.

Record investment in NHS and social care

We're investing £36 billion in health and social care over the next 3 years – giving people peace of mind that they won't face catastrophic care costs. Our new Health and Care Levy will kickstart reform of social care – making life better for those who need care now, unpaid carers, care workers & all of us who may need care in the future.

It was a huge privilege to serve as Care Minister during the past 18 months. It's been the hardest of times yet now social care reform is happening and we're on track for 50,000 more NHS nurses.

Local Plan shake up leaves residents in limbo

I've called for answers from Swale Borough Council on what changes to the Local Plan process will mean for local residents. The Council has now said that they will be adding an additional stage to the Local Plan process after having previously given local people very little say on the proposals. While I welcome the Council's decision to engage more with residents, there are many unanswered questions about this new process, which I've set out in a letter to the Council's Chief Executive.

New role to lead recovery from Covid

I'm delighted to have been appointed Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury as part of the Prime Minister's reshuffle. As Exchequer Secretary I'll be working hard to deliver economic growth, more jobs with better pay, and higher productivity – helping to raise living standards for everyone.

Our focus on jobs and better infrastructure will help deliver a recovery that benefits everyone, including here in Faversham and Mid Kent.

Record numbers of police in Kent

There are now 3,971 police officers across Kent helping to keep us safe. This is 242 more officers since September 2019, and 184 more officers than in 2010. There has also been an increase in Police Community Support Officers. I'm continuing to work with our local police and councils to help tackle crime in known trouble spots to keep communities across Faversham and Mid Kent safe.

Lower Thames Crossing latest

In my latest consultation response to the Lower Thames Crossing, I've called for investment across the road network in Kent. Plans for a new road tunnel under the Thames near Gravesend could bring benefits to people in Faversham and Mid Kent, but only if the project is combined with investment across the wider road network. Junctions including M2/J7 at Brenley Corner, and the A249 and the A229 need improving to avoid traffic problems at Dartford simply being shifted to other parts of the road network.

Getting investment in our water network

I've called on Southern Water to set out a clear plan for improving the water network in Faversham and Mid Kent. Like many people, I was extremely concerned by the

flooding over the summer and the closure of local beaches for swimming because of sewage ending up in the sea. I'll be meeting Southern Water later this year to set out the investment we need in our local water network, including in Headcorn.

Better lorry parking needed more than ever

I know the shortage of lorry drivers across Europe is a huge concern to many local businesses. It has highlighted the need for better conditions for drivers – including safe places to park and access services. I've written to the Roads Minister to call for more lorry parking capacity in Kent and other parts of the country. Better parking is not just needed to support the welfare of lorry drivers but also to stop lorry fly-parking in our lanes and laybys, which can be incredibly dangerous.

A plan for better buses

As part of efforts to build back better from the pandemic, I've set out the improvements our local bus service needs. In my response to Kent County Council's consultation on their Bus Service Improvement Plan, I've called for a focus on the rural bus network along with better integration of bus timetables with the rest of the transport network in Kent.

August saw the introduction of the X3 and X4 bus routes which are providing new direct services between Canterbury, Faversham, Sittingbourne, and Maidstone - something I have been calling for.

Music Notes for October 2021 – B Hardy

It has been a long time coming, but at last there are some local concerts to which we may look forward, so my format is getting back to the traditional. Here is what I have found in the way of local music - all subject to there being no deterioration in the virus situation of course

:

Wed. 29th September 7.30pm at Rochester Cathedral – Harry Christopher's "The 16" continue their 2021 Choral Pilgrimage with a programme entitled "the call of Rome". Details & booking <https://thesixteen.com/events/the-choral-pilgrimage-2021-rochester>.

Sat. 9th October 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre MDE15 7RN – Maidstone Symphony Orchestra start their season with a programme that includes Bruch's Violin *concerto no.1* and Mendelssohn's *Symphony no 3*. Tickets at the door or call 07817 429143

Sat 30th October 7.30pm at St. Nicholas Church, Allington ME16 0DE - Maidstone Choral Union's first post-lockdown concert will be a melange of short classical works (composers including Handel, Haydn & Mozart), spirituals and folksongs. Tickets via <https://maidstonechoralunion.co.uk>

Sat 13th November 7.30pm at Holy Cross Church, Bearsted – Bearsted Choral Society perform Mozart's *Requiem Mass* and Joseph Haydn's '*Little Organ Mass*'. Tickets etc: info@bearstedchoral.org.uk

There are other concerts planned for later in November, including those by Sutton Valence Choral Society and Maidstone Singers – details next month. And if the weather turns bad, don't forget that twenty of the best Proms will still be available until 11th October on BBC iPlayer. Highlights of the Leeds International Piano Competition will also be on BBC iPlayer throughout October.

Is your business ready for the end of lockdown?

A modern bespoke website can make a difference.

We're here to help your business grow with a website that really works



Contact your local web design and hosting service for a free no obligation quotation.

Amesis Design
01622 853683
www.amesisdesign.co.uk

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

	Find the missing word?
1	___ Sheeran, who had a chart topper with 'Thinking Out Loud'
2	Golden ____, Major award for excellence in Film and TV
3	_____ Monsoon, A character played by Jennifer Saunders
4	Night ____, A Bee Gees song from a John Travolta film
5	_____ Atkinson, Actor who plays Mr Bean
6	Marvin ____, Late Motown superstar
7	_____ Tyler, A Welsh singer
8	True ____, A John Wayne western
9	_____ Purple, Heavy Metal rock band
10	Good Morning ____, A Robin Williams film

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Austrian	Bavarian	Swiss	Alps
2	Common	Make	Sixth	
3	Africa	Deep	Pole	
4	Blue	Cycle	Final	
5	Credit	Speed	Time	
6	Band	Page	Toy	
7	Brown	Chest	Shell	
8	Shore	Sick	Food	
9	Blanket	Cable	Cross	
10	Rating	Note	Card	
11	Bubble	Towel	Mud	
12	Rocket	Fiction	Computer	
13	Ceiling	Alarm	Start	
14	Wisdom	Pick	Ache	
15	Reader	Water	Fool	
16	Going	Speak	Chair	

Grafty Gourmet

These apple pie bars can be enjoyed warm, at room temperature, or even cold. The Salted Caramel Sauce can be brought in supermarkets such as Tesco. I know they do it in jars in their "finest range".

Salted Caramel Apple Pie Bars

For the Shortbread Crust:-

115g of unsalted butter, melted

50g of granulated sugar

1 teaspoon of pure vanilla extract

¼ of a teaspoon salt

125g of plain flour

For the Apple Filling:-

2 large apples, peeled and thinly sliced
(¼ of an inch thick)

2 Tablespoons of plain flour

2 Tablespoons of granulated sugar

1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon

⅛ teaspoon of ground nutmeg

For the Crumble Topping:-

40g of oats

70g of packed light or dark brown sugar

¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon

31g of plain flour

60g of unsalted butter, cold and cubed

1. Preheat the oven to 140°C. Line the bottom and sides of an 8-inch square baking pan with aluminium foil or parchment paper, leaving enough overhang on all sides. Set aside.
2. Make the crust: Stir the melted butter, granulated sugar, vanilla, and salt together in a medium bowl. Add the flour and stir until everything is combined. Press the mixture evenly into the prepared baking pan. Bake for 15 minutes while you prepare the filling and topping.
3. Make the apple filling: Combine the sliced apples, flour, granulated sugar, cinnamon, and nutmeg together in a large bowl until all of the apples are evenly coated. Set aside.
4. Make the Crumble Topping: Whisk the oats, brown sugar, cinnamon, and flour together in a medium bowl. Cut in the chilled butter with a blender or two forks until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Set aside.
5. Remove the crust from the oven, and turn the oven up to 160°C. Evenly layer the apples on top of the warm crust. It will look like there are too many apple slices, so layer them tightly and press them down to fit. Sprinkle the apple layer with crumble topping and bake for 30–35 minutes or until the topping is golden brown.
6. Remove from the oven and allow to cool for at least 20 minutes at room temperature, then chill in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours (or overnight). Lift the foil or parchment out of the pan using the overhang on the sides and cut into 12 to 16 bars. Once cut, drizzle some salted caramel sauce on top of each

Platts Heath Primary School

I am writing to introduce myself and the school, and hope to contribute regularly to this newsletter with information about the school.

Platts Heath Primary school is our small community primary school which currently has approximately 50 children on roll in three mixed aged classes. It is part of the Aspire Federation which is a group of small schools which work closely together. The other schools in the federation are Kingswood, Leeds and Broomfield C of E and Ulcombe C of E.

My name is Emma Hickling and I am the executive headteacher of the Aspire Federation and head of Platts Heath. I am passionate about small rural primary schools and the quality of education and opportunities for nurture that they can provide.

After a challenging 18 months for education during the pandemic it is lovely to be experiencing some sort of normality within the school again. The children are excited to be back playing and learning with their friends.

As a school we are embarking on several exciting projects, including a mastery approach in maths where we will be working with the Kent and Medway maths hub, the use of colourful semantics which is a language development programme for Early years, and the development of active and outdoor learning.

We would like to extend an invitation to any prospective parents to come and visit our small friendly school. We also currently have some staff vacancies which are advertised on the Kent teach website if you are interested in joining our team

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher

Anyone for badminton?

A friendly badminton club meets at Ulcombe Village Hall every Friday from October to May and would welcome new members - of any age and any (or no) experience - for their new season, starting now.

Contact Alan Burch on 07780 661409 for more information.

(Regrettably, no formal tuition can be given and minors would need to be accompanied by an adult)

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	
7 th 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,	
5th October	Ian Gray (Mammal Society)	Hedgehogs
2 nd November	Kevin Tooher – Pruning	
7 th December	Winter Event at Wisley	



Maidstone Borough Council has published the long awaited third iteration of their masterplan for the proposed garden settlement at Lenham Heath.

As predicted, the masterplan's redline has shifted away from existing properties in the hamlet of Lenham Heath and has taken in further land north of the railway and towards the A20.

The fundamental flaws and constraints of the masterplan remain:

To date, no principal landowners have signed option agreements with the Council to make their land available for the project; A new motorway junction remains off the table. No significant upgrade of the A20 is proposed; Two primary schools although no secondary school is proposed for a population of over 12,000 new residents; No new GP or healthcare provision is made; A new rail station on the slow mainline railway remains a 'primary objective' of the masterplan although the Council has not had any meaningful discussions with Network Rail to see if it is deliverable.

In summary, the masterplan has barely evolved from the previous iterations and continues to prove that the whole project remains undeliverable, unsustainable, and unviable.

The latest masterplan is 104 pages of 'estate agent style' propaganda that paints a utopian vision of a fictional town more akin to a school geography project. It conveniently skates over the significant constraints of the site not least the proximity to the Kent Downs AONB, the minerals safeguarding, and the lack of vehicular access.

View the masterplan using the below link

<https://www.saveourheathlands.co.uk/assets/2021/09/Background-Document-24a-Heathlands-Framework-Masterplan.pdf>

The legal challenge mounted by SOHL on behalf of the 19 landowners last November does appear to have been successful though. The Council has had second thoughts about assuming land owned by residents was available to be part of the plan. As you'll see on the redline map above, the boundary has moved away from existing properties in and around Lenham Heath and moved west.

The very large majority of the land now included in the latest masterplan is owned by eight principal landowners. This includes some of the large farming families in Lenham as well as quarry owner/operator Brett Aggregates. We know negotiations are still underway on the option agreements and to the best of our knowledge, none have signed to date.

We make a very public plea to these principal landowners to think seriously about selling our village's natural assets and beautiful green space to this hopeless project. We remain determined to continue to fight our case with the Council on behalf of local residents. We believe this project can be stopped.

What happens next?

This masterplan has been submitted by the Council (as promoter) to the Council (as planning authority) for inclusion in its Regulation 19 draft Local Plan. Councillors will decide next week whether the draft plan and the inclusion of Heathlands as a proposed development site is to be put forward for public consultation. Sadly, we believe the majority of Maidstone's councillors to be pre-determined in their views simply because putting 5,000 homes in Lenham removes the pressure on their own wards.

Despite this, SOHL will be appearing before both the Strategic Planning & Infrastructure Committee next Monday 4th October to make our case for why it shouldn't be included as well as at the Full Council meeting on Wednesday night where we will address all councillors before the plan will be formally voted on for ratification.

Why we still have hope it can be stopped

The national plan-making process means that once a Council has decided on its Local Plan it has to be put forward for examination by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Government. Inspectors have a duty to remain neutral and to ensure Plans have been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements. They also have to determine whether the Plan can be found sound and in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework. Inspectors will see through inappropriate local political influence which has dogged the Maidstone Local Plan to date.

Inspectors will want to know that Heathlands is deliverable, sustainable and viable. We, along with professional advisors to us, believe it is fundamentally not. Inspectors have historically thrown out Local Plans up and down the country on the basis of flawed garden community propositions and this is what we expect to happen for the Maidstone Local Plan. We have repeatedly told Maidstone's councillors that Heathlands will sink their Local Plan and will ultimately see them told to go back to the drawing board and start again.

Public Consultation due to run from 29th October to 12th December 2021

The Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation is due to run from the end of October for just over seven weeks (does anyone remember Maidstone Council running a public consultation last year for nearly 9 weeks on dog fouling. It seems the borough's long-term future is less important!).

This will be the last opportunity for you to have your say on this ludicrous project before the Council finalise the Local Plan and its future development allocations.

We can not stress enough how important it is for every single resident to respond to this consultation and SAY NO!

**THE HONYWOOD & DOUGLAS CHARITY
LENHAM**

(Registered Charity No. 211272)

The Trustees hereby give notice that the following Almshouse accommodation is available:

**A ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT
SITUATED IN LENHAM**

Applicants must be 60 years of age or more, able to look after themselves and have lived in the Parishes of Lenham or Boughton Malherbe for at least two years.

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
16 The Cloisters
Ham Lane
Lenham
Kent
ME17 2PZ

PROUD TO BE SERVING THE
COMMUNITY SINCE 1965

A.W.COURT
FUNERAL DIRECTORS



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

Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, Maidstone,
Kent ME17 2AP.

01622 850840

Email – enquiries@awcourt.com

Website – www.awcourt.com



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



Harrietsham Computers

Computer Problems?

Need an upgrade

or a new machine?

Just want some extra tuition?



For local, friendly, experienced
Help, call Mike Cuerden at

01622 859442 or

07963 020092



No call out fee
Reasonable rates
Private &
Commercial Work
No job too small



HOUSEKEEPING

all aspects of housekeeping and gardening
undertaken

We are an experienced and reliable cleaning and
home maintenance business.

Our clients can choose from a daily, weekly, fortnightly
or one off cleaning service ranging from general
domestic cleaning to site washing / ironing and
provisions shopping to holiday house checks and
garden or window box maintenance.

We also provide an 'at home' care service for the
housebound, elderly and your pets!

We are a small and dedicated team and we pride
ourselves in our efficient, honest and friendly service.

AMY MCLAUGHLIN

07813 030 527/01622 851562

amy.mclaughlin@hotmail.co.uk

D.FLISHER ROOFING

*Free winter check on roofs
Roofing repairs, ridge & hips
checked*

*Moss cleaned off roofs
Gutters & window frames
cleaned*

Chimneys re-pointed

**Call Dave for a quote on
01622 850659 or 07941 324286**

Mower Plant Services

Sales Service Parts Repairs
Accessories

Walk Behind Mowers, Ride on Mowers,
Lawn Tractors, Brush Cutters, Water
Pumps, Hedge Trimmers, Chainsaws,
Snow Blowers, Generators, Leaf Blowers

Parts for all Garden Machinery available.

Give us a call or come and visit our
friendly staff to arrange the service/repair
of your garden machinery or perhaps we
can help you choose something new.



Sunpatch Farm, Headcorn Rd,
Smarden, TN27 8PJ

Tel: 01622 890046

Email: sales@mowerplantservices.co.uk
www.mowerplantservices.co.uk

Open Mon – Fri 8:30am-5:30pm, Sat 8.30am – 1pm

philip INDEPENDENT
ESTATE
AGENT
Jarvis

Your friendly, local estate agent,
specialising in the sale and letting of
village and country properties.

**If you are looking to move
in the near future
call us now.**

T: 01622 858241

W: www.philipjarvis.co.uk

A: 1 The Square, Lenham, Kent ME17 2PH

E: homes@philipjarvis.co.uk

Cybereye Security Electrical Services

RING MARCUS SHEPARD ON

01622 858612 or 07821776334

ALARM SYSTEMS CCTV FIRE ALARMS

AUTOMATED GATES VIDEO/AUDIO ENTRY SYSTEMS

EXISTING SYSTEMS REPAIRED AND MAINTAINED

ALL ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN

DOMESTIC AND COMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS

PART P CERTIFIED

FREE QUOTES

FULLY INSURED

24 HOUR CALL OUT

Seasoned Logs from Local Coppice for Sale

*Clean Burning, Kiln Dried
Cut to size and delivered*



*Variety of logs suitable for
open fires or log burners*

**Contact Norman on
077333 28715**

Invicta Chimney Sweep



**No Mess
No Dust
No Fuss**

- All types of Chimneys swept and smoke tested
- Certificates Issued
- Pots, Cows, Bird Guards etc.
- Birdnest Removal
- Chimney Repairs

**Fully
Insured**

01622 632641

0798 854 9010

www.invictachimneysweeps.co.uk



MAIDSTONE LANDSCAPES & PROPERTY SERVICES Ltd

BrettApproved
PAVING EXPERTS YOU CAN TRUST

*Less 15% discount
with advert* and 20% over 55's
cannot be used with other offers
ad must be mentioned at time of estimate

LANDSCAPING- Drives, Patios, Pathways, Brick/Stone Walls, Block/Stone Paving, Tarmac, Decking, Fencing, Turfing, Ponds, Water Features, Garden Clearance, Sheds/Summer & Play House Bases, Tree Surgery etc.

BUILDING WORKS- Extensions, Porches, Conservatories, Garages, Groundworks, Roofing, PVC Windows, Doors, Soffits, Fascias, Floor/Wall Tiling, Decorating etc

FULLY INSURED/WORK GUARANTEED. VERY PROFESSIONAL/FRIENDLY SERVICE
Top Quality Materials/Workmanship from design to completion - FREE ESTIMATES

Tel: 01622 851222 Mob: 07786 07 01 07

www.maidstonelandscapes.com

LOOK: Please check our reviews and other companies you may use at www.uktc.org

Established: 1990 Director: M. Potter



Christian Message October 2021

Have you ever done some long-distance hiking? I'm talking about the kind where you carry your tent, sleeping bag, food etc and cover some serious mileage. I've loved the times that I've been able to get into the countryside, pitch a tent under the stars and cook on little gas fires. However, in order to be able to bring everything that is needed for that kind of hike, you need a pretty serious rucksack!

Imagine this – it's time for you to move house and I offer to come and help! When the big day rolls around, I turn up, ready to get stuck in. Unusually though, I'm wearing my fully loaded, massive hiking rucksack. You'd probably think to yourself that that was a bit odd. Imagine that as I help move your furniture from the house to the moving van, I'm puffing, panting and wobbling precariously under the extra weight of my rucksack. After a while, you would probably tentatively suggest that I consider taking the rucksack off!

This analogy links to a wonderful verse in 1 Peter 5:7 which says:

“Cast all your burdens on Him because He cares for you.”

Just like the idea of carrying the extra weight of a loaded rucksack and finding that it inhibits our daily lives, sometimes we need to ask ourselves whether we're carrying burdens that we ought to let go of?

The verse that I mentioned uses the word 'cast' which certainly paints a more active picture than other words that could have been used. Sometimes it takes a real determination and intentionality to let go of and leave behind the things that burden us.

Here's the best bit though – We are invited to cast our burdens onto God precisely because 'He cares for you.' None of us enjoy watching those we love carry extra burdens and the same is true of God. He holds out His hands and invites us to cast them on to Him because of His great love for us. You are never an inconvenience to Him!

So, I'd encourage you to reflect on whether you are weighed down by any burdens and consider whether you can reach out to God through prayers and in the light of His love and care for you, offer them to Him.

Ben Doggett

Len Valley Benefice October 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*

Sunday 3rd October

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast
Church

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

9.30am Ulcombe: **Harvest**
Creative Service

11.00am Harrietsham: Family-
friendly Morning Worship *with*
Baptism

11.00am Lenham: Holy
Communion

Wednesday 6th October

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

Sunday 10th October

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy
Communion

11.00am Lenham: **Harvest** Holy
Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy
Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe:
Harvest Choral Evensong

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

Sunday 17th October

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

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy
Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: **Harvest**
Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast
Church

11.00am Lenham: Morning
Worship *with Baptism*

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy
Communion

Sunday 24th October

11.00am **Benefice Holy**
Communion at Harrietsham

Sunday 31st October

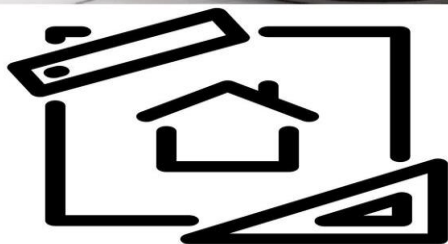
9.30am Lenham: Shortened
spoken Holy Communion

11.00am Boughton Malherbe:
Creative Service

11.00am Harrietsham: Creative
Service

11.00am Lenham: Creative Service

11.00am Ulcombe: Creative
Service



K.P Decorating

K.P Decorating Services

- Exterior decorating
- Interior decorating
- Floor and wall tiling
- Laminate Flooring
- General house maintenance

For a free quote and to discuss exactly what you need give us a call on: 07956455720 or visit our website www.kpdecoratingservices.com

ONLINE • ON TABLET
ON MOBILE

COLES GROUP

VALUERS, LETTING
& ESTATE AGENTS

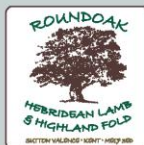
1% SELLING FEE +VAT

10% MANAGEMENT FEE +VAT

01622 763322

www.thecolesgroup.co.uk

POP UP BUTCHERY



FRESH AND
FROZEN MEAT
DIRECT FROM
THE FARM



HIGHLAND BEEF

JOINTS, STEAKS AND BURGERS, BRAISING
STEWING MINCE, RIB JOINTS AND MORE



HEBRIDEAN LAMB

FILLETS, RACK, LEGS, CHOPS, NECK,
SHOULDERS, BURGERS AND MINCE



RARE BREEDS PORK

STEAKS, CHOPS, JOINTS,
SAUSAGES AND BACON

PLEASE CALL THE FARM
ON 01622 844491

ROUND OAK FARM, HENIKER LANE,
SUTTON VALENCE, ME17 3ED

Emergency and Help Contact Details

Police, Fire and Ambulance Emergencies	999
Police, Non-Emergency - (Including PCSO)	101

Ambulance 999 note: an **aed** 'public access **defibrillator**' is sited and available 24/7 at the premises (in porch) of A.W. Court in Headcorn road. Ambulance 999 control centre will give 999 callers the lock code, if appropriate, to access the **defibrillator**.

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

(out of hours listen to - recorded messages)

Electricity (UK Power Networks)	
<i>Emergencies and Power Cuts</i>	0800 783 8866 or 01243 508866

Water	0333 000 0002
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

Emergencies
24 Hour Pet Emergency Treatment Service

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	Austrian	Bavarian	Swiss	Alps
2	Common	Make	Sixth	Sense
3	Africa	Deep	Pole	South
4	Blue	Cycle	Final	Rinse
5	Credit	Speed	Time	Limit
6	Band	Page	Toy	Boy
7	Brown	Chest	Shell	Nut
8	Shore	Sick	Food	Sea
9	Blanket	Cable	Cross	Stitch
10	Rating	Note	Card	Credit
11	Bubble	Towel	Mud	Bath
12	Rocket	Fiction	Computer	Science
13	Ceiling	Alarm	Start	False
14	Wisdom	Pick	Ache	Tooth
15	Reader	Water	Fool	Proof
16	Going	Speak	Chair	Easy

	Find the missing word?
1	Ed Sheeran, who had a chart topper with 'Thinking Out Loud'
2	Golden Globe, Major award for excellence in Film and TV
3	Edina Monsoon, A character played by Jennifer Saunders
4	Night Fever, A Bee Gees song from a John Travolta film
5	Rowan Atkinson, Actor who plays Mr Bean
6	Marvin Gaye, Late Motown superstar
7	Bonnie Tyler, A Welsh singer
8	True Grit, A John Wayne western
9	Deep Purple, Heavy Metal rock band
10	Good Morning Vietnam, A Robin Williams film

WARNING

CCTV IN OPERATION



Tel: 08000 199622

www.amiga.co.uk

CCTV | Intruder Alarms | Access Control | Fire