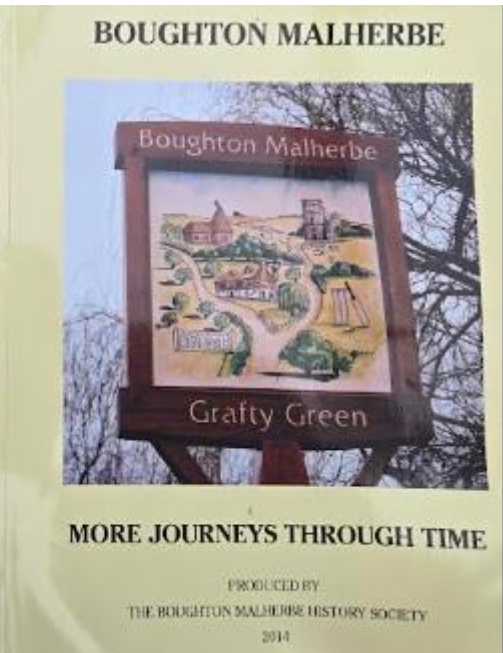
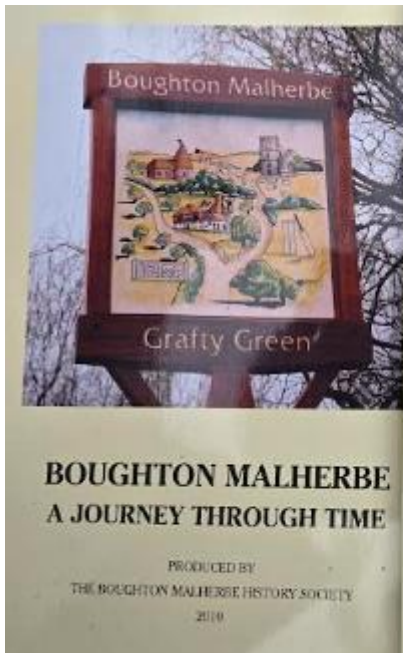
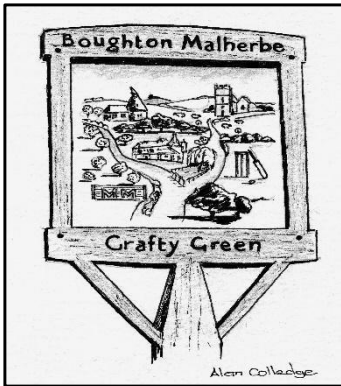


# Malherbe Monthly

Number 260  
April 2026



Many people will remember these books that were distributed in 2010 and 2014. I have recently discovered that these are still available, see inside for more information.

## Useful contact names and telephone numbers

County Councillor	Sarah Emberson <a href="mailto:Sarah.Emberson@kent.gov.uk">Sarah.Emberson@kent.gov.uk</a>	
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Ziggy Trzebinski ziggytrzebinski@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 07852 492770
Member of Parliament for the Weald of Kent	Katie Lam <a href="mailto:katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk">katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk</a>	01580 388344
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	email boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com	
Village Hall General Enquires	Sue Birch Email: burch1997@aol.com	07803 962339
Gardening Club	Doreen Hulm	850287
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Craft Group	Jan Carter	850898
Yoga	Sue Burch	07803 962339
Farmers Market	Tara Musson <a href="mailto:info.graftygreen@gmail.com">info.graftygreen@gmail.com</a>	
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Pilates	Cheryl Stubbs email: c.stubbs8@btinternet.com	07852 602369
Art Class	Cathy Hill email: cathyonthehill@hotmail.com	07927 045708
Tai Chi	Rhonda Bailey	07985 001782
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield Mobile 07500 895831	
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday PM fortnightly from January 6 outside the village hall, variable time	07976 435217
<b>Malherbe Monthly Production Team</b>		
Carol Hulm	Advertising: carolhulm@gmail.com	07990 574214
Carol Hulm	Editor: carolhulm@gmail.com	07990 574214
Nick Eastwood	Distribution: eastwood.n@gmail.com	850330
John Collins	Treasurer: jwcollins@btinternet.com	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 **May** edition should be sent to the Editor Carol Hulm via email ([carolhulm@gmail.com](mailto:carolhulm@gmail.com)) by **26<sup>th</sup> April**

## Local Interests and Announcement Page

Having received some feedback from a newcomer to the village, I'd like to introduce this new page for people to add information and articles of local interest. I am looking for people to contribute; here are some suggestions:

- Guess the location photo? - Someone takes a random photo of an area and people guess where it is, just a bit of fun. (Can anyone guess where the picture on the front cover of the last magazine is?).
- Local walk of the month, with a simple map – see Yoga page for information on a Guided Walk with Sue from Hollingbourne Station on the 11<sup>th</sup> April.
- Wildlife watch - Basically what birds /animals have seen in the village.
- Facts about local landmarks. This one reminded me of the Grafty Green Books (see front cover). They are £10 each or £15 if bought together, please contact John Collins on 01622 850213 or email [wjcollins@btinternet.com](mailto:wjcollins@btinternet.com). Proceeds will go to the Parish Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Here's some articles received for this month

Sorry the first announcement is a sad one.

We are very sad to announce the death of Hazel Eastwood. She died peacefully at home on the 28<sup>th</sup> March after nearly 26 years in Grafty Green.

Anyone wishing to be informed of funeral arrangements is welcome to contact Nick ([eastwood.n@gmail.com](mailto:eastwood.n@gmail.com) 07801749498).

Rob, Nick & Caroline

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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



\*\*\*\*\*



Pre-season training has begun in earnest, and The Grafty Green Wanderers play their opening match against Little Chart Cricket Club at The Forstall, Rams Lane Little Chart TN27 0PU on Saturday 2nd May at 1:30pm.

Our second match is against the old village rivals, Egerton Cricket Club starting at 1:30pm on Sunday 24th May at Egerton Cricket Club Ground, Elm Close, Egerton, TN27 9DS.

Both matches will be played in the quick fire T20 format, which is known for its high intensity, fast pace and “ hit out or get out “ mentality.

Please come along and join the Grafty Green Growlers supporting your village cricket Team.

The Grafty Green Wanderers look forward to seeing you there and riding high on the wave of your support.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear dog owners of Grafty Green,



Molly and I would like to send a message. In our walks along the few footpaths and pavements in the village we have seen quite a few dog messes. We find this sad and quite shocking, poo bags are cheap we have a bin on the green, please don't disgrace your dog it's not their fault just pick it up and bin it.

Liz and Molly

## April Message from Katie Lam, MP for the Weald of Kent

We're very fortunate to live in such a safe and beautiful rural area, but in the crime survey I ran last year, hundreds of you shared concerns about issues that chip away at that sense of security – including fly-tipping, speeding and dangerous driving, antisocial behaviour, shoplifting and unauthorised encampments.



One of the most common things I heard was that people rarely see police officers locally, and that reporting crime can sometimes feel pointless if nothing seems to happen afterwards. I completely understand that frustration, but we must continue to speak up when these problems occur. Reporting incidents helps ensure the police know where issues are happening and where their attention is needed.

That's why over the past month I've been bringing local people and businesses together with the police to discuss these concerns directly and make sure officers hear first-hand how people in our area are feeling.

I hosted two meetings on crime and policing through my clubs – one focused on rural crime with the police rural taskforce and people from our farming community, and another looking at shoplifting and antisocial behaviour on our high streets, with the Police and Crime Commissioner and local shop owners in attendance.

Alongside this, I've been highlighting to Kent's senior police leadership and local beat officers the areas where people have told me they want to see more visible policing and better follow-up when crimes are reported.

Particularly across a large rural area like ours, it's naturally difficult for the police to be everywhere at once. But many of the problems people are worried about are already illegal – the real challenge is enforcement. That's why it's so vital that the police know where problems are happening so they can respond effectively and I'll continue to highlight to police areas in the Weald that need better support.

So please do continue to report incidents, even when it feels frustrating. And as always, if you're experiencing an ongoing issue and need help, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me at [katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk).

**BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL**

[www.boughtonmalherbe-pc.gov.uk](http://www.boughtonmalherbe-pc.gov.uk)

**Minutes of the Full Meeting of the Parish Council held on  
Monday 2nd March 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

---

**Present:**

Clrs N. Eastwood (Chairman), L. Hook, C. Thompson

**In Attendance:**

Mrs M. Norris (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 pm.

**26/03/01 Apologies & Declarations of Interest**

- a) Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Tomlinson and Cllr Peter due to other commitments.
- a) No changes were declared to the Register of Interests.
- b) No declarations of pecuniary or other interests were made regarding any agenda items.
- c) No requests for dispensation were received.
- d) No declarations of lobbying were made.

**26/03/02 Public Session**

The Chairman opened the public session. No members of the public were present, and no matters had been raised for discussion.

**26/03/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council meeting held on 5th January 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**26/03/04 County & Borough Councillor Reports**

No reports were received from the County Councillor or Borough Councillor.

## 26/03/05 Matters Arising / Updates from Previous Resolution

Actions from previous minutes had been completed.

- The clerk had submitted the precept
- The chairman had completed the Nationwide exit form and the account was now closed.
- A meeting had been held to discuss a response from BMPC to the public consultation on regulation 18C Gypsy, Traveller & Showpeople Plan.
- A defibrillator training session hosted by Kent Fire Service had taken place at the village hall.
- A draft letter proposing another defibrillator had been sent to the PC for comment.

## 26/03/06 Planning

a) Planning applications had been received for comment during this period.

EV Chargers Chilston Park Hotel 5th Feb

b) No planning decisions had been received since the previous meeting.

The clerk reminded Councillors that the Effective Planning Enforcement meeting hosted by MBC is scheduled to take place on 20th April via Zoom, and any councillors can attend.

## 26/03/07 Finance

### Bank Balances (as at 2nd March 2026)

Lloyds Community Account (1062)	£18,815.73
Lloyds Instant Online (4862)	£12,456.33
Cambridge & Counties	£51,094.72

### Receipts since January 2025 meeting:

- Interest (Lloyds 4862): £ 5.63
- Interest Lloyds : £2.46
- Nationwide compensation: £75.00
- Nationwide Closed Account Transfer £16,052.43

### Schedule of Payments for Approval- March 2026

Invoice Date	Amount	Payee		Reference
Feb 2026	£560.00	Nu Venture	Bus Service	3266
Jan 2026	£560.00	Nu Venture	Bus Service	3268
Jan/Feb	£885.12	M Norris	Clerk Salary	

Feb 2026	£104.52	Amesis	Lengthsman	229AZ
Jan 2026	£100.43	Amesis	Lengthsman	229AW

Total £2,210.07	
-----------------	--

**Resolution:**

The schedule of payments for March and the bank reconciliation had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Payments were authorised accordingly. The PC confirmed that the balance from the closure of the Nationwide account can now be credited to the Cambridge & Counties account.

Cllr Eastwood raised the question regarding MBC who previously offered a council tax discount of 80%. He questioned whether this has now been raised to 100% as, if it has, this would have an impact on the precept. The clerk agreed to investigate this further.

Action: Clerk

**26/03/08 Correspondence**

Correspondence received by the clerk electronically is forwarded at the time.

Community Energy - Parish Survey

This had been circulated to all. It was agreed that the clerk would respond and incorporate Jon's comments on behalf of the village hall.

There were no further items raised by councillors.

**26/03/09 Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople Plan- Regulation 18c**

The parish council had submitted a response to the consultation. No further updates on this had been received from KCC.

**26/03/10 External Meetings**

The only meeting attended during this period was with representatives from Nu Venture & KCC. This was discussed at agenda item 26/03/11.

**26/03/11 59 Bus Service**

Members of the PC had met with NuVenture, KCC and other parishes that the 59 bus currently serve to discuss funding options for FY26/27. KCC are currently looking at other options that may assist and will feedback shortly.

**26/03/12 Annual Parish Meeting**

The format for the APM will follow that of recent years in that a report is requested from various groups and societies within the village. The clerk will send an email shortly requesting reports and the chairman will arrange for printing.

**26/03/13 Any Other Business**

The clerk had circulated the 26/27 dates to members of the PC for consideration. The dates are to be formally agreed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting. At present, the PC intend to continue with Bi monthly meetings on a Monday evening. The chairman advised that should this need to change for any reason, residents would be consulted on the change.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at **8.00 pm**.

## **Village Hall News – April Newsletter**

Dear All,

Since last month's newsletter I am pleased to report that the problems with the internet service appear to have been resolved and the lent lunches hoisted by the Church at the Tuesday coffee mornings were well supported and no doubt Sally will update you further on this elsewhere in this newsletter.

By the time you receive this month's magazine the new stage curtains will have been installed which completes the hall refurbishment.

### **Village Hall AGM 7.30pm Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

As a charity we hold an annual general meeting, (AGM) and this year the AGM will be held at the hall at 7.30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April at the village hall and you are all cordially invited to attend to discuss the progress we have made in the past year and discuss how best to use the hall for the community's benefit in the future.

### **Christmas Craft Fair Weekend Saturday & Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2026 10am to 2pm**

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

### **Snow White Panto January 2027 Cancelled**

I regret to inform you that the theatre group who normally present our annual panto have ceased trading and this year's panto has therefore been cancelled. We will try and find an alternative and I will update you further if we can find another group to step in with an alternative performance.

Kind Regards

Jon Thompson

Village Hall Committee Chairman

jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk Tel 07932 112730

www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk - facebook – graftygreenvillage

**GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE HALL  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, (AGM).**

**The 2026 AGM will take place at the Village Hall on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm and everyone is invited.**

**AGENDA:**

**Receive the minutes of the last AGM and deal with matters arising, receive the Chairman's report on the work of the committee last year, receive the annual accounts and the Treasurer's report, have an open discussion of the committee's work, elect a committee for the coming year, consider ideas for the future, review village hall hire fees and any other business**

**Please come along, cast your vote and have your say.**

The Village Hall committee is a registered charity, (no. 288091), run for the benefit of the local community. The village hall is a venue suitable for a variety of activities throughout the year for the benefit of the local community.

Kind regards,

*Jon Thompson*

Chairman & Trustee

Tel: 07932 112730

Email: [jon@griftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@griftygreenalpacas.co.uk)

# GRAFTY GREEN FARMERS MARKET

---

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



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

## **Are you a trader?**

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

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

# Grafty Green Village Hall

Bookings 07932 112730

## Regular Weekly Events

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

## Regular Monthly Events

<b>Gardening Club</b> Doreen 01622 850287	<b>First Tuesday 7.30 - 9pm</b>
<b>Digital Kent</b>	<b>Fourth Tuesday 12 – 2pm</b>

# The Grafty Gourmet

This is such a simple recipe. The combination of Coconut and Chicken work really well together.

## Coconut Chicken & Cucumber Salad

- 1 egg white - lightly beaten
- 2 skinless chicken breasts
- 3 tablespoons of desiccated coconut
- 1 teaspoon of sunflower oil
- ½ cucumber - thinly sliced on the diagonal
- 1 small red onion - thinly sliced
- 2 teaspoons of caster sugar
- 2 tablespoons of white wine vinegar or rice vinegar

\*\*\*

1. Mix the red onion slices with vinegar and set aside. (This softens the onions flavour and texture).
2. Heat oven to 200C/fan 180C. Season the egg white. Dip the chicken in the egg, then in the coconut.
3. Place on a lightly oiled baking sheet and bake for 20-25 mins, turning once until the chicken is cooked through.
4. While the chicken is in the oven, tip the cucumber slices into a colander, sprinkle with a little salt and leave for 5 mins to drain. Pat the cucumber slices dry with kitchen paper. In a bowl, mix the onion with the sugar and vinegar, then add the cucumber and serve with the chicken.

**The Grafty Gourmet**

# Grafty Green Gardening Club

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

## Programme for 2026

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
April 7	Spring Show and Kevin Tooher	Gardens of East Sussex
Sat May 2	<b>Plant Sale 10 – 12 Village Hall</b>	
May 5	Outing - Marden Meadow, guided by Vicky Golding - please car share as limited parking	
June 2	Outing - Pimphurst Farm, Bethersden TN26 3EE	
July 7	Outing - Barnfield Cottages, Wormshill, ME9 0TU	
July 24 - 26	Weekend away – Walmer Castle, Great Dixter, Butlers Farm House, Herstmonceux Castle and grounds, Driftwood, King John's Nursery, Goddards Green. Dinner bed and Breakfast at Landsdowne Hotel, Eastbourne	
August 4	Outing to Jungle Garden at Wye	
September 1	Autumn Show and Catriona	Romney Wools
October 6	Chris Stewart	The hop bine and hop pickers of Kent
November 3	Stephen Harmer	La Claire the Story of Jersey's lost garden
December 1	Social and creative activity	

## Here are some gardening jobs for April

Firstly, don't panic! There always seems a lot to do but there's plenty of time in the year and it doesn't all need doing in April.

- Start **seed sowing** once the soil doesn't feel cold. In the veg patch there are lots of seeds that can be direct sown....carrots, parsnip, chard, beetroot, leeks.
- Courgettes, beans, cucumbers, pumpkins and sweetcorn need to be grown indoors in pots to be planted out when it gets warmer.
- Tender crops like tomatoes, peppers and chillies and aubergines can still be sown with bottom heat in a greenhouse or on a warm windowsill.
- Herbs such as basil, coriander and dill can be sown in pots or trays in the greenhouse or indoors.
- Half-hardy annuals such as Cosmos and zinnias can be sown with bottom heat or indoors.
- Hardy annuals can be sown direct into beds.
- Sweet peas can be sown outside and planted out if grown earlier in pots.
- Prune early flowering shrubs after flowering.
- Rake out moss from lawns and seed bare patches. Leave an area unmown and establish a wildflower patch.
- Define edges between beds and lawn with a half-moon edger or spade.
- Beware of hot days and cold nights. Ventilate greenhouses if hot so seedlings don't scorch. On cold nights protect with fleece.

**PLANT SALE**  
**GRAFTY GREEN GARDENING CLUB SATURDAY**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> MAY**

**VILLAGE HALL AT 10**

**A range of plants for tubs and baskets,  
borders and vegetable patch.**

**Refreshments and cake**



\*\*\*\*\*

**Beneficial Garden Creatures**

<b>PREDATOR</b>	<b>PESTS IT LIKES TO EAT</b>	<b>HOW TO ENCOURAGE IT</b>
<b>Ladybirds, Lacewings &amp; hoverflies</b>	Aphids	Nectar rich flowers – for adults Hibernacula
<b>Harlequin ladybird (7 generations per year)</b>	Viburnum beetle & aphids	
<b>Centipedes</b>	Slugs & Snails	Damp shade, log piles, leaf litter
<b>Wasps</b>	Aphids & Caterpillars (early summer), sawfly larvae	
<b>Earwigs</b>	Aphids, codling moth caterpillars, vine weevil eggs	
<b>Ground Beetles</b>	Snail eggs, Slugs, Vine Weevil eggs & larvae	Leaf litter/mulch
<b>Spiders</b>	Various insects	Thickets of vegetation Cracks in walls
<b>Frogs &amp; Toads</b>	Slugs, Snails, Vine Weevil larvae	Log piles, dense damp undergrowth, ponds
<b>Lizards &amp; Slow worms</b>	Slugs & Snails	Warm dry shelter, compost heaps
<b>Birds</b>	Aphids, Caterpillars, Snails, Slugs, Vine Weevil	Plants with seed, berries, trees & climbers for shelter/nest sites, water
<b>Hedgehogs</b>	Slugs	Log piles, corridors, sheltered spots with leaf litter, water

**Getting out and about now it is spring** – the local footpaths can take you through some of the best countryside where you can see wildlife close up and listen to a variety of birds. A gentle reminder that some birds nest on the ground and can easily be disturbed; best to stick to the path!

Every week there are walks organised by the Len Valley Health Walks on Thursdays and Saturdays – this is part of the group that I have joined and have become a walk leader

Guided Walk with Sue from Hollingbourne Station

April 11<sup>th</sup> – Meet at 9.30 for a 9.45 start - heading up onto the north downs to come into meadows rich in wildflowers and breath-taking views; coming back into the village of Hollingbourne with the opportunity to have refreshments at the Signal Box café.

**Yoga with Susan**  
**Weekly classes in Grafty Green Village Hall**

Monday morning 9.30 – 11  
Wednesday evening 7 – 8.30  
Thursday morning 9.30 – 11

**New term starts 13<sup>th</sup> April**

Yoga brings a sense of peacefulness and connection to yourself and others whilst bringing more flexibility and strength into the body.

For more information or to enrol for the new term please give me a call on  
07803 962339



**3<sup>rd</sup> April, good fish Friday, large range of fish choices.**

**5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday menu**

**6<sup>th</sup> April Easter Monday**

**11<sup>th</sup> April, watch the grand national racing, on our widescreen Tv in our Garden room**

A promotional poster for 'Grand National Day' at 'Who'd A Thought It.'. The poster features a central image of a horse race on a television screen, framed by green curtains. Above the screen, the text reads 'GRAND NATIONAL' in large gold letters, followed by 'Live from Aintree' in a smaller font. Below that, it says 'The Garden Room @ Who'd A Thought It' and 'Saturday 11th April - 1pm'. A red banner across the screen says 'GRAND NATIONAL DAY' and 'Watch it LIVE on the Big Screen'. Below the screen, a section titled 'WHAT'S ON:' lists 'Best Dressed Prize' (with a trophy icon), 'Great Atmosphere' (with a star icon), and 'Food available all day' (with a beer icon). At the bottom, it says 'Book Now: 01622 858951' and shows images of a suit, a hat, a basket of fries, a burger, and glasses of beer. The tagline at the bottom reads 'Get dressed up and enjoy the biggest race of the year in style!!'.

**Sunday Afternoon Bands, every Sunday, starting on the 19<sup>th</sup> Of April with Megan Russon**

**19<sup>th</sup> June, Ladies Ascot day, live betting, 2 course Lunch with a Glass of Champs. £45 ph. Prizes for best dressed**

**Ulcombe History Society  
2026 programme**

January 20<sup>th</sup> Guy Bartlett  
“British women in aviation”

February 17<sup>th</sup> Derrick Parkes  
“The Emperor Justinian: his reign and legacies”

March 17<sup>th</sup> Ed Adamson  
“Kentish clerical errors”

April 21<sup>st</sup> Melanie Gibson-Barton  
“Suffragettes and Suffragists - votes for women”

May 19<sup>th</sup> Adam Taylor  
“Islands of the Medway Estuary”

October 20<sup>th</sup> Bertie Pearce  
“Wonder workers and the art of illusion”

November 17<sup>th</sup> Ed Adamson  
“Making and faking of ghost stories”

December 8<sup>th</sup> Imogen Corrigan  
“The goose is getting fat”

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

# Egerton Film Society

**SUPPER NIGHT**

**With introduction from Director/Producer Sheila Daniels**



**EGERTON MILLENNIUM HALL**

**THURSDAY 9th April 2026**

**Doors 7.00pm - PERFORMANCE 7.30pm**

**Free Admission** (donations towards film's production costs would be welcome)

Order your supper of cod, scampi, chkn & mshrm pie or leek cheese pie (state preference) & chips, ice cream & a cuppa for £14 pp from Janet & Julia at [egertonfilm@btinternet.com](mailto:egertonfilm@btinternet.com)

Email: [egertonfilm@btinternet.com](mailto:egertonfilm@btinternet.com) for more information



**CINEMA  
FOR ALL**

Light Refreshments and Licensed Bar.

# Egerton Film Society



**EGERTON MILLENNIUM HALL**

**THURSDAY 30th April 2026**

**Doors 7.00pm - PERFORMANCE 7.30pm**

**Admission £6.00**

Email: [egertonfilm@btinternet.com](mailto:egertonfilm@btinternet.com) for more information



**CINEMA  
FOR ALL**

Light Refreshments and Licensed Bar.

## The Choral

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

**Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00**

*Running time 1 hr 48 mins, director Nicholas Hytner*

Put a spring in your step with the coming of April and our brand-new programme. The first film to greet the new season is the magnificent film written by Alan Bennett, **The Choral (15)**, set in his beloved Yorkshire. As WWI rages on, Dr. Henry Guthrie (Ralph Fiennes) takes over a choral society that has lost most of its men to the army. As more conscription papers arrive, the community finds that the best response to the chaos that is laying waste to their lives is to make music together. With an all-star British cast, this is a brilliant and moving film so do join us on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

We bring you something different for our showing on May 8<sup>th</sup>. **The Life of Chuck** is a life-affirming fantasy drama based on a Stephen King story about a seemingly ordinary man. Please see our advert in this issue of Focus, which lists all of the films we'll be showing in Spring & Summer 2026.

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

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



[lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com)



[www.lenhamfilmclub.org](http://www.lenhamfilmclub.org)



@lenhamfilmclub



***Decorating in Kent? Call our family business!***

With over 30 years in the industry we are 100% committed to our customers. We have a trained & experienced team - always giving a friendly, reliable and totally trustworthy service. FSB Members - fully insured. Interior & Exterior.

*"We were recommended RJ Moss by a friend and I'm so glad we chose to use Richard and the team." Hannah*

*Call us for a completely free, no-obligation quote!*



**Richard:** 07974815124

**Luke:** 07912 604533

**or office:** 01795 480647

**W:** [www.rjmossLtd.co.uk](http://www.rjmossLtd.co.uk)

**E:** [rjmossLtd@sky.com](mailto:rjmossLtd@sky.com)



**STONEBRIDGE ACCOUNTING**

**ACCOUNTS AND TAX SUPPORT**

**FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND SMALL BUSINESS**

**Tel: 01622 851542**

# Plummer Electrical Services

- Emergency Call Outs
- Fault Finding
- Electrical Maintenance
- Rewires & Fuseboards
- Smart technology

Get in contact to find out what other services we provide

📞: James Plummer

📞: 07912344510

✉️: PES-electrical@outlook.com



## Thorneloe & Co

Solicitors

Now part of Hallett & Co



*Based in Lenham, we provide a friendly, high quality, personal service tailored to your specific needs.*

### For you and your family....

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

### For you and your business....

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

01622 859 416

[Lenham@Hallettandco.co.uk](mailto:Lenham@Hallettandco.co.uk)

[www.thorneloe.co.uk](http://www.thorneloe.co.uk)

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

Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Registered Number 50485

## TCL ELECTRICAL

- ~ All aspects of domestic, commercial & industrial work undertaken
- ~ 30 yrs City & Guilds qualified electrician
- ~ Fully Insured & DBS checked
- ~ Free Quotations
- ~ Reliable & friendly service

**Tim Latham: 07766038496**

[Tclelectrical50@outlook.com](mailto:Tclelectrical50@outlook.com)

*No job too small*

## 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

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   
Special Recognition for Lifetime Achievement

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

**01622 850840**

Email – [enquiries@awcourt.com](mailto:enquiries@awcourt.com)

Website – [www.awcourt.com](http://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

# 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](http://www.invictachimneysweeps.co.uk)



## 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](mailto:sales@mowerplantservices.co.uk)  
[www.mowerplantservices.co.uk](http://www.mowerplantservices.co.uk)

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

**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!**



**Fresh Fish Fridays  
Lunches and Suppers**

**Booking Advisable  
01622 850259**

**Children's Room Beer Garden**

## 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](mailto:office@hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk)

W: [www.hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk](http://www.hollandandhollandroofing.co.uk)

Members of the  
Confederation of Roofing Contractors (CORC)

Join our classes  
for pregnancy,  
baby and beyond

# Basking Babies

## Find your village, have fun & bond with your baby

Friendly, relaxed & informative classes,  
beneficial for both adult & baby.

### During pregnancy

- 🐰 Mama-to-be sharing & support circles
- 🐰 Pregnancy relaxation
- 🐰 Intro to baby massage

### With baby

- 🐰 Baby massage, reflexology and colic alleviation (birth-crawling)
- 🐰 Mama sharing & support circles
- 🐰 Baby yoga (3 months to pre-school)

### Events

- 🐰 Parties
- 🐰 Coffee mornings

AWARD  
WINNING  
CLASSES

Join Gemma's classes in Weald of Kent:

Gemma Debnam

Qualified Basking Babies Instructor

07305 882 972

[gemmaebnam@baskingbabies.co.uk](mailto:gemmaebnam@baskingbabies.co.uk)

[baskingbabies.co.uk/wealdofkent](http://baskingbabies.co.uk/wealdofkent)



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



## News from St.Nicholas Church – April 2026

Just as we thought Spring is well under way, we are now in another cold spell. Hoping the blossoming trees have no resulting damage, they are so beautiful and lift the spirits, let alone provide us with wonderful fruit.

Lent is almost over and the dramatic events of Good Friday and even greater hopes for humankind that God has prepared and promised for us, with the new 'life after death' of his Son, Jesus, at Easter, now lie ahead. Celebrating with lots of chocolate hardly seems to fit the bill, but the shape of the eggs can jog our thoughts back to that day when the stone was rolled away from Jesus' tomb, for He is alive and no longer needs that space.

So, go on and celebrate!

### Usual reminders

What a great time to make use of the church porch, with the countryside getting dressed with blossom and greenery and the call of the new lambs and their mothers in the field opposite. Make a hot drink and sit back to enjoy, at any time of day.

The mini food bank is also available, with a larger one at the back of St.Mary's church in Lenham, open from 10.00am - 4.00pm daily.

If you need to top-up the water jug or dog bowl, there is a cold tap round the back of the building, just follow the path round, past the West door.

Dip into the bible on the windowsill and you can leave a prayer request, to be prayed in church as soon as possible.

The main church building is open for services, cleaning, meetings etc. If you wish to visit at other times, please contact the churchwardens for a key.

### News

**Lent lunches** have been very well supported. It has been so good to welcome friends from around the benefice during Lent this year. Their generosity has been extraordinary. Will let you know next month the sum of the vital funds we will be able to send to Christian Aid.



Come on peeps! Soup, homemade bread, Simnel cake and scones ready now till 2 in the Village Hall! 😊

So many thanks to the cooks who have provided an amazing variety of soups through the five weeks, including Jacquie, Vanessa, Mair, Liz and others, and, of course, to Kenneth, for the homemade bread and croutons every week. Also, thanks to our friends who helped in many ways, setting up, serving, welcoming, washing-up and tidying the Hall.

I apologise for the mistake last month. Of course we were providing the lunches only to 24th March, not 24th April!

## Easter Services

We now look forward to the special services at this time:

**Maundy Thursday, 2nd April** see venue and time in the benefice section of the magazine. A time of visible humility in remembrance of the occasion when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples.

**Good Friday, 3rd April at St.Nicolas 2.00-3.00pm** a time for quiet reflection of the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross.

**Daybreak Service on Easter Sunday at 6.00am at All Saints' church, Ulcombe,** a lovely way to celebrate and begin this most joyous day.

**Easter Sunday, 9.30am Sung Eucharist at St.Nicolas.**

**The annual parochial church meeting, open to all, is on 12th April following the 3.30pm Evensong service at St. Nicolas**

We look forward to sharing and celebrating this season of Easter with everyone. This season of hope and peace in a troubled and violent world.

**Wishing you all a very Happy Easter**

# Len Valley Benefice April 2025



Everybody is welcome

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

*1 John 4 v7 (part)*

## Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Harrietsham: Chippendayle

## Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Maundy Thursday

7.00pm Lenham: Maundy Thursday Holy Communion with washing of feet.

## Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Good Friday

2.00pm Services in all four churches 'An hour at The Cross'

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Sunday

6.00am Ulcombe: **Daybreak Easter Celebration** around the fire followed by tea & coffee

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Easter Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Easter Holy Communion

11.00am Lenham: Easter Holy Communion *with baptism*

11.00am Ulcombe: Easter Holy Communion

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am Harrietsham: Morning Worship

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion *with baptism*

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April

11.00am **Benefice Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Boughton Malherbe**

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

## Christian Message, April 2026

Anyone who was around in the 60s will remember how England won the World cup. As far as we are concerned today, it only happened once.

It was Kenneth Wolstenholm who supplied the commentary that day, *they think it's all over*' he said and then Geoff Hurst hammered in another goal, *'It is now!'* he said...

More than 2000 years ago a very different scenario was unfolding. Again, things seemed to be coming to an end. A man staggered under the weight of a cross and then groaned in agony as his life ebbed slowly away when he was nailed to that cross. *'They think it's all over'* his followers must have been thinking, not just his life but also the hopes and faith they had invested in him were at an end too. Any remaining shreds of hope, it seemed, were laid to rest as they watched him finally being laid in a tomb.

Do you know the inflatable toy that is given to young children? No matter how hard or how often you knock it over, it would always bounce back up again. The whole family might be amused to watch that it just cannot be kept down.

As for this man, Jesus, God's Son, who they put on a cross, he just couldn't be kept down either. This was God's plan, to show how the deep love that God has for each one of us, just cannot be kept down. This was, and is, the resurrection message.

Christ died and is risen!! It is as true today as it always was. Ultimately, there is nothing and no-one that can frustrate the will of God. Ours really is the God who will finally triumph, and who gives us the victory.

And as we celebrate the resurrection victory this month, I wish you all a Very Happy Easter!

*Loving God, as you rose victorious over death, so may hope, faith and love continue to triumph in our lives. Amen*

**Reverend Millie Hart PTO Priest in Len Valley Benefice**

# 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**.

NHS Medical Helpline **111**  
Maidstone & Pembury Hospitals **0845 155 1000**  
William Harvey Hospital **01233 633331**  
Headcorn Surgery (*out of hours listen to*) **01622 890294**  
Lenham Surgery (*recorded messages*) **01622 858341**

Electricity (UK Power Networks)  
*Emergencies and Power Cuts* **0800 783 8866**  
**Or 01243 508866**

Water *Emergencies* **0333 000 0002**  
Southern Water Foul and Waste Water drainage/Flooding **0330 303 0368**  
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**

R.S.P.C.A *Emergencies* **0300 1234 999**  
Vet *24 Hour Pet Emergency Treatment Service* **01622 734555**

Maidstone Borough Community Protection - **01622 602202** – Bonfires, crime, dogs, domestic abuse, loan sharks, noise, pests and protection orders

Environmental Services – **01622 602162** – Fly tipping, Street cleaning, Litter, Bins, dead animals

# AMIGA FIRE and SECURITY Ltd

*Domestic | Residential | Commercial*

- ✓ Intruder • CCTV • Access Control
- ✓ Fire Alarms • Fire Risk Assessments
- ✓ Extinguishers • Fire Doors • Emergency Lighting

*Free Surveys and Quotes    Call 01622 725225*

SSAIB Certified Installation and Servicing

*sales@amiga.co.uk                      www.amiga.co.uk*

**Kents Local Trusted Fire and Security Partner**