

Malherbe Monthly

Number 60
July 2009



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

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Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	858348 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Pat Anderson	858350
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
KM Correspondent	Christine King email: christine-king@hotmail.co.uk	07710 457297
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Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
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Reader	Miss Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Friday afternoons at approx. 2.20 by Post Office	01580 754300
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
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Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mf.hitchins@virgin.net	858937
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The views expressed in "Malherbe Monthly" are not necessarily those of the Production Team; publication of articles/adverts does not constitute endorsement and we reserve the right to edit! Anything for the August edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mf.hitchins@virgin.net) by **20th July**

Front cover: Wedding of Abigail Hitchins & Richard Webb on 20th June 2009 at St Nicholas Church Boughton Malherbe.

Photo courtesy of Chris Beck

News from St. Nicholas Church

Coffee Morning for Bibles

Our coffee morning to raise money to purchase a new Lectern Bible for St. Nicholas went well, but it would have been good to see a few more people. We raised £160 towards a Lectern Bible and some people pledged to fund individual bibles for use in the pews and/or take home then bring in each Sunday. There will be book plates, which can be placed inside the front cover to write your dedication on.

If you wish to give a bible in memory of a relative you can still do so as there is no time limit, and the scheme will be on-going. These bibles are printed so that the page numbers in the Lectern Bible correspond with the page numbers in the smaller version. Just to remind you an individual Bible is £10 and the Lectern Bible is £330.

Concert in the Garden

The Ashford Invicta Singers Concert on 11th July, 2009 in the Garden of Ivy House Farm is fast approaching Tickets are £7 and available from Joan on 01622 850210 or any member of the PCC can get a ticket for you, if you prefer. The Concert starts at 7 pm and you can bring a picnic at 5 pm if you would like to.

Bring a chair or a rug for your comfort and if you bring a table please fold it up before the concert starts making more room for others to sit on the central lawn. The Choir will be conducted by Charlotte Coles and the accompanist is Duncan Finn. The concert will be in three parts, the choir will sing about 7 or 8 numbers and then we will be entertained by a folk group from Ashford led by Les Small and then the choir will sing again. It will finish before it gets too dark so that you can make your way home safely.

Cream Teas at St. Nicholas

The Cream Teas at St. Nicholas start on 12th July, 2009 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. Teas at £2.50 are the cheapest and the best in the district. We serve a pot of tea, 2 large scones, fresh strawberry jam, whipped cream and butter. A little stroll will afford you a lovely view of the Weald of Kent. We serve the teas in the closed part of the Churchyard or if the weather is bad in the Nave of the Church. Please come along and support us and forget your diets just for the afternoon. Teas will be served on 12th July, then the 19th July but not on the 26th July because a Wedding has been booked for that day. We start again on 2nd August through to 13th September, which is the 2nd Sunday of the month, when we have Choral Evensong in the Church at 6.30pm.

Wedding Congratulations

On Saturday 20th June, 2009, the marriage of Abigail Hitchins and Richard Webb took place at St. Nicholas with the Rev: Don Irvine presiding, we wish Abigail and Richard many congratulations and wish them a long and happy life together.

Joan Davidson

Music Notes, July 2009

In July the Maidstone International Music & Dance Festival is in full swing, providing plenty for me to choose from this month; so here is my selection:

- July 5th, 3.00pm-4.30pm; Maidstone Winds, the award winning local group, entertain on Brenchly Gardens Bandstand, Maidstone.
- July 11th, 7.30pm at Mote Hall. Maidstone Choral Union's 'Festival Prom' on includes S. Coleridge-Taylor's *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast*, and Borodi's *Polovtsian Dances* as well as all the 'last night' favourites. Tickets 01622 726193
- July 18th, 7.30pm at Leeds Church, Bearsted Choral Society performs a concert version of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*. Tickets 01634 666730.
- Every Wednesday in The United reformed Church, Weeks Street Maidstone and every Thursday in All Saints' Church Maidstone, free lunchtime concerts (voluntary donations to local charities).

Brian Hardy

Jenny Whittle
Conservative County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East



Dear Resident,

On 4th June I was elected to be your County Councillor. I am very proud to represent your interests and hope that you will contact me if you need my help or advice. Kent County Council delivers a range of services, including education and libraries, adult social care, child protection, roads, community safety and cultural and leisure services.

My key priorities over the coming months will be working hard to try and defeat the Kent International Gateway proposal, which poses a grave threat to the beauty of our precious countryside, and to get our roads up to a much better standard.

I have also been appointed Deputy Cabinet Member for Learning, a large portfolio covering early years and childcare, governance and school support, extended schools and educational provision for 14-24 year olds. I will therefore be very busy over the coming years!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need help – even if you aren't sure to whom you should direct your problem or issue, I can point you in the right direction if it isn't for me.

With my very best wishes,

Jenny Whittle (Mrs)

Conservative County Councillor for Maidstone Rural East

The Cottage, Sutton Street, Bearsted, Maidstone ME14 4HP

Tel: 734897 (h) or 07855 767968 (m).

(representing the parishes of Boughton Malherbe, East Sutton, Lenham, Headcorn, Harrietsham, Headcorn, Ulcombe, Broomfield and Kingswood, Otterden, Frinsted, Wormshill, Thurnham, Detling and Stockbury).

Mondays to Fridays

Service No.	School Days Only	School Days	Net Days	School Days Only	School Days	Net Days
Maldstone, King St, Colman House, Stop L2	1227	1402	—	1555	1555	1615
Maldstone, Chequers Bus Station, Stop J4	1229	1404	—	1557	1557	1617
Wheatshaf	1236	1411	—	1604	1604	1624
Loose, Loose Road, Old Loose Hill	1240	1415	—	1608	1608	1624
Limn Corner	1244	1419	—	1612	1612	1624
Chart Sutton, Buffalo's Head	1249	1424	—	1617	1617	1624
Wheatshaf	1252	1427	—	1620	1620	1624
Wheatshaf	1255	1430	—	1623	1623	1624
Wheatshaf	1258	1433	—	1626	1626	1624
Wheatshaf	1306	1523	—	1634	1634	1646
Wheatshaf	1313	1530	—	1641	1641	1653
Wheatshaf	1320	1537	—	1648	1648	1653
Wheatshaf	1326	1543	—	1654	1654	1653
Wheatshaf	1333	1550	—	1661	1661	1653
Wheatshaf	1340	1557	—	1668	1668	1653
Wheatshaf	1347	1604	—	1675	1675	1653
Wheatshaf	1354	1611	—	1682	1682	1653
Wheatshaf	1361	1618	—	1689	1689	1653
Wheatshaf	1368	1625	—	1696	1696	1653
Wheatshaf	1375	1632	—	1703	1703	1653
Wheatshaf	1382	1639	—	1710	1710	1653
Wheatshaf	1389	1646	—	1717	1717	1653
Wheatshaf	1396	1653	—	1724	1724	1653
Wheatshaf	1403	1660	—	1731	1731	1653
Wheatshaf	1410	1667	—	1738	1738	1653
Wheatshaf	1417	1674	—	1745	1745	1653
Wheatshaf	1424	1681	—	1752	1752	1653
Wheatshaf	1431	1688	—	1759	1759	1653
Wheatshaf	1438	1695	—	1766	1766	1653
Wheatshaf	1445	1702	—	1773	1773	1653
Wheatshaf	1452	1709	—	1780	1780	1653
Wheatshaf	1459	1716	—	1787	1787	1653
Wheatshaf	1466	1723	—	1794	1794	1653
Wheatshaf	1473	1730	—	1801	1801	1653
Wheatshaf	1480	1737	—	1808	1808	1653
Wheatshaf	1487	1744	—	1815	1815	1653
Wheatshaf	1494	1751	—	1822	1822	1653
Wheatshaf	1501	1758	—	1829	1829	1653
Wheatshaf	1508	1765	—	1836	1836	1653
Wheatshaf	1515	1772	—	1843	1843	1653
Wheatshaf	1522	1779	—	1850	1850	1653
Wheatshaf	1529	1786	—	1857	1857	1653
Wheatshaf	1536	1793	—	1864	1864	1653
Wheatshaf	1543	1800	—	1871	1871	1653
Wheatshaf	1550	1807	—	1878	1878	1653
Wheatshaf	1557	1814	—	1885	1885	1653
Wheatshaf	1564	1821	—	1892	1892	1653
Wheatshaf	1571	1828	—	1899	1899	1653
Wheatshaf	1578	1835	—	1906	1906	1653
Wheatshaf	1585	1842	—	1913	1913	1653
Wheatshaf	1592	1849	—	1920	1920	1653
Wheatshaf	1599	1856	—	1927	1927	1653
Wheatshaf	1606	1863	—	1934	1934	1653
Wheatshaf	1613	1870	—	1941	1941	1653
Wheatshaf	1620	1877	—	1948	1948	1653
Wheatshaf	1627	1884	—	1955	1955	1653
Wheatshaf	1634	1891	—	1962	1962	1653
Wheatshaf	1641	1898	—	1969	1969	1653
Wheatshaf	1648	1905	—	1976	1976	1653
Wheatshaf	1655	1912	—	1983	1983	1653
Wheatshaf	1662	1919	—	1990	1990	1653
Wheatshaf	1669	1926	—	1997	1997	1653
Wheatshaf	1676	1933	—	2004	2004	1653
Wheatshaf	1683	1940	—	2011	2011	1653
Wheatshaf	1690	1947	—	2018	2018	1653
Wheatshaf	1697	1954	—	2025	2025	1653
Wheatshaf	1704	1961	—	2032	2032	1653
Wheatshaf	1711	1968	—	2039	2039	1653
Wheatshaf	1718	1975	—	2046	2046	1653
Wheatshaf	1725	1982	—	2053	2053	1653
Wheatshaf	1732	1989	—	2060	2060	1653
Wheatshaf	1739	1996	—	2067	2067	1653
Wheatshaf	1746	2003	—	2074	2074	1653
Wheatshaf	1753	2010	—	2081	2081	1653
Wheatshaf	1760	2017	—	2088	2088	1653
Wheatshaf	1767	2024	—	2095	2095	1653
Wheatshaf	1774	2031	—	2102	2102	1653
Wheatshaf	1781	2038	—	2109	2109	1653
Wheatshaf	1788	2045	—	2116	2116	1653
Wheatshaf	1795	2052	—	2123	2123	1653
Wheatshaf	1802	2059	—	2130	2130	1653
Wheatshaf	1809	2066	—	2137	2137	1653
Wheatshaf	1816	2073	—	2144	2144	1653
Wheatshaf	1823	2080	—	2151	2151	1653
Wheatshaf	1830	2087	—	2158	2158	1653
Wheatshaf	1837	2094	—	2165	2165	1653
Wheatshaf	1844	2101	—	2172	2172	1653
Wheatshaf	1851	2108	—	2179	2179	1653
Wheatshaf	1858	2115	—	2186	2186	1653
Wheatshaf	1865	2122	—	2193	2193	1653
Wheatshaf	1872	2129	—	2200	2200	1653
Wheatshaf	1879	2136	—	2207	2207	1653
Wheatshaf	1886	2143	—	2214	2214	1653
Wheatshaf	1893	2150	—	2221	2221	1653
Wheatshaf	1900	2157	—	2228	2228	1653
Wheatshaf	1907	2164	—	2235	2235	1653
Wheatshaf	1914	2171	—	2242	2242	1653
Wheatshaf	1921	2178	—	2249	2249	1653
Wheatshaf	1928	2185	—	2256	2256	1653
Wheatshaf	1935	2192	—	2263	2263	1653
Wheatshaf	1942	2199	—	2270	2270	1653
Wheatshaf	1949	2206	—	2277	2277	1653
Wheatshaf	1956	2213	—	2284	2284	1653
Wheatshaf	1963	2220	—	2291	2291	1653
Wheatshaf	1970	2227	—	2298	2298	1653
Wheatshaf	1977	2234	—	2305	2305	1653
Wheatshaf	1984	2241	—	2312	2312	1653
Wheatshaf	1991	2248	—	2319	2319	1653
Wheatshaf	1998	2255	—	2326	2326	1653
Wheatshaf	2005	2262	—	2333	2333	1653
Wheatshaf	2012	2269	—	2340	2340	1653
Wheatshaf	2019	2276	—	2347	2347	1653
Wheatshaf	2026	2283	—	2354	2354	1653
Wheatshaf	2033	2290	—	2361	2361	1653
Wheatshaf	2040	2297	—	2368	2368	1653
Wheatshaf	2047	2304	—	2375	2375	1653
Wheatshaf	2054	2311	—	2382	2382	1653
Wheatshaf	2061	2318	—	2389	2389	1653
Wheatshaf	2068	2325	—	2396	2396	1653
Wheatshaf	2075	2332	—	2403	2403	1653
Wheatshaf	2082	2339	—	2410	2410	1653
Wheatshaf	2089	2346	—	2417	2417	1653
Wheatshaf	2096	2353	—	2424	2424	1653
Wheatshaf	2103	2360	—	2431	2431	1653
Wheatshaf	2110	2367	—	2438	2438	1653
Wheatshaf	2117	2374	—	2445	2445	1653
Wheatshaf	2124	2381	—	2452	2452	1653
Wheatshaf	2131	2388	—	2459	2459	1653
Wheatshaf	2138	2395	—	2466	2466	1653
Wheatshaf	2145	2402	—	2473	2473	1653
Wheatshaf	2152	2409	—	2480	2480	1653
Wheatshaf	2159	2416	—	2487	2487	1653
Wheatshaf	2166	2423	—	2494	2494	1653
Wheatshaf	2173	2430	—	2501	2501	1653
Wheatshaf	2180	2437	—	2508	2508	1653
Wheatshaf	2187	2444	—	2515	2515	1653
Wheatshaf	2194	2451	—	2522	2522	1653
Wheatshaf	2201	2458	—	2529	2529	1653
Wheatshaf	2208	2465	—	2536	2536	1653
Wheatshaf	2215	2472	—	2543	2543	1653
Wheatshaf	2222	2479	—	2550	2550	1653
Wheatshaf	2229	2486	—	2557	2557	1653
Wheatshaf	2236	2493	—	2564	2564	1653
Wheatshaf	2243	2500	—	2571	2571	1653
Wheatshaf	2250	2507	—	2578	2578	1653
Wheatshaf	2257	2514	—	2585	2585	1653
Wheatshaf	2264	2521	—	2592	2592	1653
Wheatshaf	2271	2528	—	2599	2599	1653
Wheatshaf	2278	2535	—	2606	2606	1653
Wheatshaf	2285	2542	—	2613	2613	1653
Wheatshaf	2292	2549	—	2620	2620	1653
Wheatshaf	2299	2556	—	2627	2627	1653
Wheatshaf	2306	2563	—	2634	2634	1653
Wheatshaf	2313	2570	—	2641	2641	1653
Wheatshaf	2320	2577	—	2648	2648	1653
Wheatshaf	2327	2584	—	2655	2655	1653
Wheatshaf	2334	2591	—	2662	2662	1653
Wheatshaf	2341	2598	—	2669	2669	1653
Wheatshaf	2348	2605	—	2676	2676	1653
Wheatshaf	2355	2612	—	2683	2683	1653
Wheatshaf	2362	2619	—	2690	2690	1653
Wheatshaf	2369	2626	—	2697	2697	1653
Wheatshaf	2376	2633	—	2704	2704	1653
Wheatshaf	2383	2640	—	2711	2711	1653
Wheatshaf	2390	2647	—	2718	2718	1653
Wheatshaf	2397	2654	—	2725	2725	1653
Wheatshaf	2404	2661	—	2732	2732	1653
Wheatshaf	2411	2668	—	2739	2739	1653
Wheatshaf	2418	2675	—	2746	2746	1653
Wheatshaf	2425	2682	—	2753	2753	1653
Wheatshaf	2432	2689	—	2760	2760	1653
Wheatshaf	2439	2696				

Grafty Garden Cuttings – July

The mewling cry of buzzards drew me outside on this gorgeous morning, to watch as a pair circled and called, circled and played on the air currents just above the wood, then gradually higher and higher and away. Starlings splashed in the bird bath, while blue tits queued, waiting their turn and a beautifully marked thrush peeked in the back door but dashed away when it spied me instead of snails. A pair of blackbirds is building a nest in the Cotinus next to the back door and seem to have accepted the fact that we are to and fro continually. There are already several young ones about the borders being fed by frantic and rather bedraggled parents. Our birds are back.

With the lack of bees, we expected little to no fruit on the apple trees, but the set is enormous. The June drop has thinned them only slightly, so it is down to us. We have removed bucketfuls, taking bunches to just one or two fruit and leaving them well spaced along the branches. If a tree is over burdened, the fruit will not only be small the tree will not perform well the following year. Less is most certainly more. Vines need keeping in check as they should be romping away, so all new growth needs snapping off at a leaf joint (to prevent bleeding), if fruit is forming, one joint away from the bunch, nearer the tip of the shoot, or as far back as possible, to keep the vine in shape. I take a bunch of shoots off, each time I pass; otherwise we wouldn't be able to walk up the path.

If roses are dead-headed, they should repeat flower and sweet peas need cutting regularly, or the seed pods removed daily, to keep them in bloom as long as possible. One of my major tasks is pulling the many spent stalks of Campanula latiloba which grows everywhere in the garden, giving a beautiful display of blue and white in June and good ground cover and weed suppressant all year. I love it.

Garden visits of note: The Garden Club weekend to Hampshire included West Green House at Hartley Witney which had different and unusual plant colour combinations and lay-outs, Spinners at Boldre, a beautiful valley garden in the New Forest with an excellent and well stocked nursery (magnolias a speciality), and delightful and welcoming owners all resulting in a well stocked coach at the end of that visit, Exbury gardens which covered 200 acres, of mainly Rhododendrons but with much else besides including the added attraction of a narrow gauge railway and the last visit was Houghton Lodge near Stockbridge where we saw hydroponics at work, plus a wallet garden and grounds running down to the River Test, plus Alpacas and swans.

THE visit of the month, though, had to be Highgrove. The Prince's garden was an absolute privilege and joy to see. After an introductory DVD by HRH we were taken on a 2 hour guided tour, followed by tea in the Orchard Room. Highlights

of the Garden? All of it really but the wildflower meadow, the carpet garden, the terrace, the views..

Rosemary Smith

Lenham Swimming Club

Following our earlier appeal - the good news is that a couple of volunteers have come forward, enabling us to run some of the pool sessions this year. Thank you to those who have kindly offered their time. Further offers of help are still needed and are very much welcomed.

It is planned to open the pool on Sunday 24th May. However, we can only open every other Saturday this year and our Sunday opening times will change. Session times are detailed below:

6.00 - 6.45pm	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
7.00 - 7.45pm	
2.30 - 4.00pm	Saturday (alternate)
4.30 - 6.00pm	Sunday

Our membership and admission fees have always represented a very affordable family activity; an important consideration in the current financial climate. Membership forms are available on arrival and membership fees and charges are as follows:

Membership Fee	Charge per Swimming Session	
	Members	Visitors
Adult - £4.00	£1.00	£2.00
Child - £2.50	£0.50p	£1.00

If you require further information please contact me on 01622 859174.

Chris Hills Chairman

Answers at the back (don't look first!)

	Find the missing word?
1	Benjamin _____, British Conservative Statesman
2	_____ Korbut, Winner of three gold medals in the 72 Olympics
3	Michael _____, Archbishop of Canterbury 1961 – 1974
4	_____ Hubble, US Astronomer who died in 1953
5	Sir _____ Drake, Mariner knighted by Queen Elizabeth I in 1581
6	_____ Sketch, Tabloid that merged with the Mail in 1971
7	The Blues _____, 1980 film with John Belushi & Dan Aykroyd
8	_____ Abbot, Comedian who reached No 7 in the charts with Atmosphere
9	Romulus and _____, Mythical twins
10	_____ Mills, A child star of Whistle Down the Wind 1962

The Law and the Car – car tax

(An extract from “Newnes motorists touring guide”)

“The licence for the car itself is a much more costly business, the tax being £1 per year for each rated horsepower of the car. Any fraction of a horsepower exceeding 0.01 is counted as one. So if a car is rated as 9.1 it is paid upon as 10. Quarterly licences are obtainable at a similar rate, plus ten percent and even monthly and two-monthly licences are purchasable. Whether you drive every day of the year or only once a week the same tax has to be paid which is obviously utterly unfair.

Only two concessions are made to the luckless driver: - (1) that if the car was manufactured before 1913 a refund of one quarter of the duty is paid; (2) that if the owner desires to give up his car before the licence expires he can obtain a refund of the unexpired time. But for this act of grace a fee of ten shillings is demanded”

An edition of the guide published in the late 1920's, in good condition and bound with a complete set of 4 mile to the inch maps of the UK, will be available for purchase at The Great Leeds Book Sale in Leeds Church on November 14th.

St Edmunds Centre Platts Heath

I am happy to welcome Anna Stubbs onto the committee, Anna and Phil moved into Platts Heath with their children last year and have settled into the community very well.

We need young people to come up with fresh ideas for the use of the hall. With no other focal point the village hall and school become more important to such a small community.

The wooden chairs finally found a new home and will be used for charity fund raising concerts outdoors in Ulcombe and we have a bit of breathing space in the loft, at last the curtains are in place and now fit, why is nothing easy?

The garden is growing at a great rate so grass cutting is another job during the summer months, without Mike and Jenny I really don't know what we would do.

On Monday 22 June Chris Hills gave a First Aid talk and demonstration in the Hall, the second one he has done. I for one found it most interesting but hope I don't actually have to use the instructions he gave us. We paid £20 for a 3 hour course the total money is going to the Maidstone and Rural Communities Alzheimer's Society. Chris is also swimming the Channel in September and anyone wishing to sponsor him can do so by contacting him on 01622 859174.

The coffee mornings have not been so successful this year and we have decided to drop them for the moment. However we will look at things again if villagers miss them.

The keep fit girls are still going on Wednesdays at 7pm-8pm - bring a mat or towel to lie on.

Our line dance class is going strong so if you fancy a fun way to exercise and pleasant company give us a try. We do not take ourselves seriously, have a good laugh and drive Joanne mad sometimes. It is still only £3 per person on Thursday evenings 8pm-9pm.

Anyone wishing to hire the hall can do so by phoning me on 858891 or Duffrey Robinson on 850463.

Patricia Dibley Secretary

NEWS FROM ULCOMBE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

What a busy month it has been! We hardly seem to have got back from the half-term and already the list of events is racking up! We hope you enjoy finding out what has been going on as well as what is still to come. As ever, if you have any concerns about school please remember to come and talk to us and we will do our best to help.

Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools

We have now received the report, following our inspection in the middle of May, and it shows that we are a good church school. This inspection is conducted by the Church of England and focuses on how well we help the children spiritually and morally, as well as looking at the impact of Collective Worship. We are delighted that the Inspector agreed with our own self-evaluation and look forward to an even better report next time!

Sports Day and Summer Fayre

A great day was had by all on Saturday 20th June. Thank you to everyone who played their part in making it such a success. It was fantastic to see so many people helping out, assembling gazebos, running stalls and, of course, cheering on the children during their Sports Day. We hope to have raised lots of money for the PTA. I know that much of this money will go towards the new play area for the younger children. Thank you very much for your support.

Travelling Book Fair

Having started at the Summer Fayre and continuing for the next week, we had a Book Fair in the hall after school each day. There are some really great books and special offers! The Travelling Book Fair is great for school, too. For every book we sell we receive a commission which we can use to improve the school's stock of books. Thanks to everyone who helped us get new books by buying new books!

Talent Show

Several children took part in our Talent Show on Friday 19th June. Well done to all of the acts who took part. The children showed plenty of

courage to perform in front of the rest of the school and, of course, the judges. Many congratulations to the top three winning acts who will be invited to perform as part of the Ulcombe Village Day on Saturday 11th July.

World Record Breaking Walking Bus

All of the children who were in school on Wednesday 17th June are the proud owners of a World Record. The event was organised by Brake, a road safety charity, with around 150,000 children around the country all taking part at the same time. Thank you to parents and friends who came to walk with us.

The event reminded us of the need for staying safe in our roads as pedestrians and drivers. Brake are keen for all drivers to slow down to 20mph around schools. This would be very much appreciated by us, especially at the start and end of the day. We are more conscious than ever for the need to be safe on the road as Mrs Sharp has to take some time off and we do not have a Road Crossing Patrol Officer until after the summer holidays. We were also reminded of the need to wear seatbelts and use the correct car or booster seat for children.

Ulcombe School on the Road

Children in Years 5 and 6 went to Osmington Bay over the Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May. This was a Joint Schools' Residential Adventure, and proved to be an incredible success. All of the children came back having had a great time. We are grateful to all of the adults who helped to make this trip possible including Mums and Dads who have helped pack and unpack and listen to the strange songs we learned.

Barn Owls also had a fantastic trip towards the end of Term 5. They headed off to Rye for the day, learning about how the town has come to be as it is today and some of the people who have made a contribution to the town's colourful history.

Owlets went to the Rare Breeds Centre on Wednesday 3rd June, and found out all sorts of things about different animals and birds. We even saw snowy owls, barn owls and tawny owls there – real bird's not real classes! We saw the animals being fed and had the chance to get close to some of the friendlier animals. Two of the children were even helping to race pigs!

I have been lucky enough to be on all three visits and I am delighted to say that the children on each trip were a credit to the school. They represented the rest of the school brilliantly through their attitude and behaviour. Well done!

Ulcombe School Friends' Dinner

We are looking forward to welcoming neighbours and members of the local community as we are holding another Friends' Dinner at the start of July. If you have not received an invitation, but would like to be added to the list we have of people we contact prior to these events, please do contact the School Office. Although it will be too late for this term's dinner we will be more than happy to make sure we pass on details directly to you each time we hold one of these events. It is true to say that one year on from the first such dinner, they continue to be a real success.

Summer Ball

The PTA are holding a Summer Ball at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel on Saturday 4th July. This will be fantastic evening which I know is being well supported by parents and friends from the village. We have been really pleased to receive such a positive response to this, our first Summer Ball of many I hope.

Vouchers

We must express many thanks to everyone who has been helping us to collect vouchers for both the Tesco and Sainsbury's schemes. We have done extremely well again this year raising enough to get a video camera, new football goals and some other new PE equipment. Please pass on our thanks to anyone who you know have passed vouchers on. It is fantastic to receive so much support

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our wonderful school.

Best wishes,

Mr V Hampton,
Head Teacher

How about joining a Yoga Class?

Yoga exercises promote increased flexibility, postural alignment, balancing muscle groups and counter-acting the overuse of specific muscles used in our everyday activities. Yoga also focuses on being able to breathe with control; using the breath with movement to bring balance between the body and the mind.

Generally, the class will start with a warm up through the joints and stretching the muscles and then practicing sequences of moves that improves co-ordination and grace, strengthening areas of the body and building stamina.

Each session finishes with a relaxation to allow the mind and body to feel rejuvenated. To be able to relax and reduce stress provides a natural way to boost the immune system, sooth the nerves and promotes a positive state of mind.

Sue's Yoga Classes

Yoga for agility, strength, stamina and relief from stress
current class at
GRAFTY GREEN VILLAGE HALL, CHURCH ROAD
Thursday Mornings - **9.30 - 11**
Mixed ability class but also suitable for beginners
£5 a session

Would like to join a class but this time doesn't suit?
Would you join at a different time/day?
How about a Wednesday afternoon or evening?
For further details contact Sue Burch on 01622 850381
Trial session half price.

GRAFTY GREEN GARDENING CLUB 2009 PROGRAMME

Date	Topic	Speaker
6 th January	AGM + Vegetable growing - hints and tips	Sissinghurst gardener: Amy Cabey
3 rd February	Dry Garden	H. Newman
3 rd March	Butterflies	Steve Weeks
7 th April	Spring Show & River Medway Part 2	Graham Johnson
Saturday 9 th May	Plant Sale – on the Green	
5 th May	Local garden visit	Sissinghurst
5 th June – 7 th June	Weekend visit to Hampshire	
12th July	Lullingstone Castle – World Garden visit	Tom Hart Dyke
4 th August	Social at Myrtle House, Grafty Green	
1 st September	Autumn show - Aspects of showing	Lesley Feakes
6 th October	Village Signs	Avice Harms
3 rd November	Kent in the 1900 century	Bob Ogley
1 st December	Gardening quiz and supper	

Further details from Sue Burch on 850381 or Rosemary Smith on 850526

- ❖ Membership to the gardening club is only £5 for an action packed year
- ❖ Regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month in the village hall at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated. 75p for members and £1 for visitors.
- ❖ The club enables members to swap plants/seeds, share ideas and improve their growing skills.
- ❖ Meetings are friendly and informal; visitors are always welcome; refreshments included.

Grafty Green Gardening Club

Lullingstone Castle – Sunday 12th July

Visit to Tom Hart Dyke's The World Garden



Grafty Green Gardening Club has booked a coach to take residents of Boughton Malherbe/Gardening Club members to Lullingstone Castle on Sunday 12th July, leaving Grafty Green (by the Post Office) at 1 pm.

The coach is free for members and Boughton Malherbe residents but entry to Lullingstone is £6 adults and £5.50 senior citizens. Please book your place with either:

- ❖ Carole Frost, 850221
- ❖ Rosemary Smith, 850526
- Sue Burch 850381

If you would like to advertise in Malherbe Monthly and reach the whole of Boughton Malherbe, Grafty Green, Liverton Street and Platts Heath, the monthly costs are:

$\frac{1}{8}$ page	£3.00
$\frac{1}{4}$	£5.00
$\frac{1}{2}$	£10.00
Complete page	£20.00

Phone 01622 858937 or
Email mf.hitchins@virgin.net

Maidstone Older Persons Forum

Monday 20th July 11am to 1pm

at

The Hazlitt Exchange Studio

(entrance in Rose Yard, off either High Street
or Earl Street—lift available)

**Theme - Leisure, recreational and educational
opportunities for the over 55's**

MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

*KENT ADULT
EDUCATION*

*BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR
OLDER PEOPLE*

*MEDWAY VALLEY
COUNTRYSIDE
PARTNERSHIP*

*MAIDSTONE LEISURE
CENTRE*

VOLUNTEER CENTRE

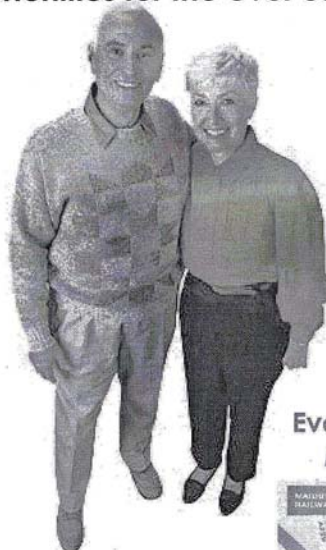
ART UNITING PEOPLE

BTCV HEALTH WALKS

*KCC ARCHIVES &
LOCAL HISTORY
SERVICES / CENTRE
FOR KENTISH STUDIES*

KENT EVENT TEAM

and many more to be
confirmed

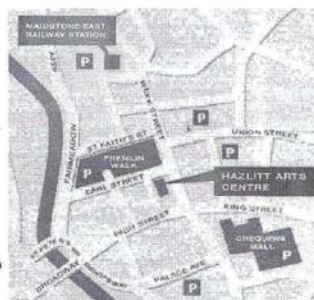


Tea & coffee on
arrival and a light
lunch will be served.

**Voluntary
Action
Maidstone**

**TO GUARANTEE
YOUR PLACE, PLEASE RSVP
TO 01622 677337
volunteers@vam-online.org.uk**

**Everyone welcome -
Make new friends!**



THIS IS A FREE EVENT!

Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)

As mentioned in last month's magazine Maidstone Borough Council has been reviewing this service and now has issued the new timetable up to 30th August 2009. The main difference is that all Grafty Green times will be on a Sunday and the freighter will only be here for 45 minutes – so get there early.

Additionally there will be no service for collecting electrical items i.e. no separate freighter to pick up items such as TV's, monitors, etc. They state it is against EU rules and they have to provide a separate freighter to do this. That may be true but isn't that exactly what they did before the review, so the truth must be they are cutting costs and reducing the service. This will only increase the likelihood of fly tipping.

Grafty Green

Sunday 23rd Aug 14:15 – 15:00 -: Church Rd – Junction Headcorn Rd

Platts Heath

Sunday 23rd Aug 11:15 – 12:15 -: Green Lane

Ulcombe

Sunday 23rd Aug 12:30 – 13:15 -: Lodge Road

Lenham

Sunday 19th July 14:15 – 14:45 -: Lenham Heath Rd – Boughton Rd
(alternates with Warren Street)

Malherbe Monthly Magazine

This magazine can now be viewed on the Internet via the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Web Site. As well as the current edition, all back issues for 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 can be viewed. You even get the front cover in colour!!!

This web site also hosts all the minutes of Parish Council Meetings and gives details of up-coming events in the Village Hall. The below link will get you there:

www.boughtonmalherbepc.kentparishes.gov.uk

The Grafty Gourmet

Someone in the village gave me this recipe a couple of years ago, and I have made and enjoyed it several times. It is a very simple desert to make, which involves no cooking. The taste of the white chocolate and vanilla compliment the raspberries very well.

White Chocolate & Raspberry Cheesecake

FOR THE BISCUIT BASE

85g/3oz Digestive Biscuits - crushed
85g/3oz Ginger Nut Biscuits - crushed
85g/3oz Butter - melted

FOR THE FILLING

500g/1 lb 2oz White Chocolate - broken into pieces
50g/2oz Butter
½ Vanilla Pod - split lengthways
500g/1 lb 2oz Full Fat Soft Cheese
50g/2oz Caster Sugar
175ml/6oz Whipping Cream
255g Punnet Fresh Raspberries, plus extra to decorate

1. For the base, combine the crushed biscuits and melted butter in a bowl, then press onto the base of a 23cm springform cake tin.
2. For the filling, place the chocolate, butter and vanilla pod in a heatproof bowl and set over a pan of simmering (not boiling) water until melted. Allow to cool slightly.
3. In a separate bowl, mix together the soft cheese, sugar and whipping cream to a smooth consistency.
4. Remove the vanilla pod from the melted chocolate mixture and stir the chocolate into the cream mixture. Gently stir in the raspberries, being careful not to release the juice. Spoon the mixture on top of the biscuit base and place in the fridge to set for 8 - 24 hours.
5. To serve, remove from the tin, and place on a serving plate. Decorate with a few whole raspberries.

The Grafty Gourmet

Stay safe this summer



Lock it or lose it



- Lock windows and doors when you go out. Burglars will make the most of an open door or window if they can.
- Fit security measures such as door chains and burglar alarms to deter thieves.
- Keep garages and sheds locked. They often contain expensive tools and ladders that could be stolen or used to break in to your home.
- Watch out for bogus callers. Always ask for identification and if you are unsure, don't let them in. Report it if you have concerns.

Protect your property



- Security-marked items are less likely to be stolen. Use a security marker on items including bikes, lawnmowers, laptops, mobile phones and media players.
- Be careful when buying second hand items – if you think they could be stolen, report it.
- Leave lights on in the evening when you are not at home to deter thieves.

Help is on hand



Help the Aged operates a HandyVan Scheme for people aged over 60. They carry out home repairs and install security equipment and smoke detectors. If you have been a victim of crime or to find out if you are eligible: call: **0845 026 1055**
email: handyvan@helptheaged.org.uk
visit: www.helptheaged.org.uk
For details of other services available in your area or general crime prevention advice, contact your local crime reduction officer on **01622 690690**.

Be a good neighbour



- If you see anyone acting suspiciously in your neighbourhood, call the police and report it.
- Contact your local Neighbourhood Watch scheme to find out how you can help keep your community safe.
- To help set policing priorities for action where you live, take part in a local Partners and Community Together (PACT) meeting or talk to your neighbourhood policing team. More information is available on the Kent Police website at www.kent.police.uk or from your local police station.

Contact us

Call **01622 690690** to report a non-urgent crime.

If life is in danger or a crime is in progress dial **999**.

Contact Kent Crimestoppers on freephone **0800 555111** if you prefer to remain anonymous.

To find out who your neighbourhood officer is or for more advice and information, visit www.kent.police.uk and type in your postcode.



The management committee and coaching staff of

LENHAM WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB

would like to thank all of the individuals and companies who contributed their valuable time and resources to help make the Club's Presentation & Fun Day held on Sunday 7th June 2009 such a huge success.

Our thanks also go to everyone who attended on the day and we look forward to seeing you all again next year!

Special thanks go to the following individuals, organisations and companies who generously donated prizes for the event:

Waitrose, Allington	Odeon Cinema, Maidstone
Leeds Castle	Bowjangles
Bedgebury Pinetum	Lenham Post Office
Lenham Social Club	The Dog and Bear, Lenham
Thorneloe Solicitors	Godstone Farm
The Potted Garden	All-Fix Plumbing
Claire Marrett	Larkfield Leisure Centre
Chilston Park	Victoria's Nightclub
Hilton Hotels	AMF Bowling, Maidstone
Lenham Ironmongers	

Centenary Club Lottery

The results of the June Centenary Club lottery draw were as follows:

1st Prize	£30	No. 27	Alan Aston
2nd Prize	£12	No. 39	Emma Towler
3rd Prize	£6	No. 139	Richard Holmes

Positions Vacant

We are currently recruiting for the following positions within the Club:

Members Secretary - required to collect and collate the contact details of all our club & committee members.

If anyone is interested in taking on a position within the Club please contact our Chairman, Roy Dayes on 01622 850203.

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

I hope you enjoyed last month's link word. Here is another
to rack your brains – Paul Neaves

The answer to number 1 has been filled in – can you solve the rest?

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Hospital	Pie	Cheese	Cottage
2	Shouldered	Paper	Table	
3	Carriage	Study	Coat	
4	Bomb	Wind	Bus	
5	Family	Pardon	Flush	
6	Jacket	Winter	Water	
7	String	Glove	Show	
8	Offering	Treaty	Time	
9	Council	Music	Maid	
10	Balance	Broad	Dust	
11	Double	Travel	Secret	
12	Language	Affairs	Legion	
13	Talent	Master	Boy	
14	Recording	Couch	Flat	
15	Arranged	Bureau	Civil	
16	Common	Dress	Sixth	

The July Night Sky

The Sun is in the constellation of Gemini at the start of July, and moves into Cancer later in the month. On the 4th July the earth is at 'aphelion', which means that it is the furthest distance from the Sun.

Full Moon occurs on Tuesday 7th July, when it is in the constellation of Sagittarius, and New Moon is on Wednesday 22nd July. I have a little more about the Moon later on in the article.

It will not be possible to see Mercury this month as it is at superior conjunction (almost directly behind the Sun) on 14th July.

Venus is rising two or three hours before the Sun, and by dawn it can be seen just above the eastern horizon. Although it is low in the twilight sky, it is still a brilliant 'Morning Star'.

Again this month Mars appears very close to Venus in the eastern sky at dawn. It is still very dim, and even through a telescope no detail will be visible.

Jupiter is rising in the southeast around midnight, and is well up in the southern sky at dawn. Relative to the stars, it is moving very slowly south westwards in Capricornus.

Through a telescope you may be able to spot faint banding on the surface, but owing to the low altitude, much of the detail will not be visible.

Again this month Saturn is in the western sky at dusk, and does not set until after midnight. It is moving slowly southeast in the constellation of Leo. Through a telescope, apart from the rings, you should clearly be able to see Titan, Saturn's largest moon, just to the north of the planet.

Now back to the Moon. NASA has launched two spacecraft charged with finding future landing sites and confirming the suspected existence of ice. One is called 'LRO', (Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter), and is equipped with state-of-the-art cameras and other instruments, and its companion is called 'LCROSS' Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite. The LRO will look for suitable future landing sites at the same time as creating the most detailed lunar atlas ever assembled. LCROSS has a much shorter life, as it will be aiming itself at Atlas 5's Centaur second stage at a permanently shadowed crater near the South Pole. The second stage will hit the surface at some 5,600 mph, creating a deep crater and throwing up debris for a four minute detailed analysis by LCROSS before it too crashes into the surface.

John Maunder



Harrietsham Pre-School

C/o Harrietsham C of E Primary School
West Street, Harrietsham, Kent ME17 1JZ

Tel no: - 01622 851819

Mobile: - 07952685575

Website: - www.harrietsham-preschool.co.uk

“On 15th May 2009 Harrietsham Pre-School received an inspection visit from Ofsted. The inspection is a statutory requirement and judges how well we safeguard and educate our children and meet the Early Years requirements under our registration.

Following a very extensive and detailed inspection, which included talking to children, parents and staff, as well as examining paperwork, policies and procedures, I am very pleased to say that we were awarded “*Outstanding*”. This is a very rare award and is testament to the dedication and commitment of our staff team and the Committee of trustees to run the setting.

We are all, rightly proud of our Pre-School and the service we provide to over 35 local children. We do, however, still have places left available from September 2009 and are keen to welcome more children and families to access our excellent service”.

Yours sincerely

Michael Bishop
Chair of Pre-School

Registered Charity no: - 1021287

Ofsted urn: - EY340143

Greetings from Revd. Marian Bond

I would just like to say to you all how much I am looking forward to working in the Len Valley Benefice once again. I was a Reader here from 2000-2003 and really enjoyed getting to know a lot of people in each of the four churches. My training for ordination lasted three years until 2006. Since then I have been serving as Assistant Curate in the parish of Marden. I was approached by Dick Venn before Christmas to see if I might return to the Len Valley Benefice. After several conversations and much prayer and thought, by the end of March, we were told that I would be licensed as Associate Priest to serve alongside Dick from 22nd July. I look forward to meeting up with old friends and also to making some new contacts.

Those who have known me for some years will know that I am married to Andrew, who is currently Captain of Bells in Harrietsham and Secretary of the Friends of St. John's. He is a self-employed journalist. We have three adult children, one of whom is married and we have a little grandson, Oliver. For over 25 years, I have worked as an Educational Psychologist but, on taking up my new role, will no longer be working in that capacity. I have a feeling that there will be plenty to keep me busy in these villages! Dick has asked me to co-ordinate visiting and pastoral care in the benefice, so I would ask that anyone who would like a visit should let Michelle at the Benefice Office know, so that a visit can be arranged. I hope to be available most of the time, other than Mondays and Tuesdays which will be my days off.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at my licensing service at St. Mary's, Lenham, at 7.30pm on 22nd July.

Marian Bond

News from Ulcombe

Ulcombe History Society meets on Wednesday 8th July for a visit to a recently converted windmill in Ashford. More details Molly Poulter 01622 842988.

The Ulcombe History Society is organising a two day guided visit to Waterloo on the 19th and 20th of September. Cost £230. There are still a few spaces available. Details from Molly Poulter on 01622 842988.

Ulcombe Village Day Saturday 11th July

Ulcombe Friendship Club Garden Party at Three Trees, The Street, Ulcombe on Thursday 30th July at 2.30 pm. More details Molly Poulter 01622 842988

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – July 2009

5th July 4th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Family Praise Service
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Holy Communion
11.00am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Family Praise Service

12th July 5th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion
9.30am Boughton Malherbe BCP Morning Service
11.00am Lenham Morning Service
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion
6.30pm St. Nicholas Boughton Malherbe, Choral Evensong
7pm Holy Cross Bearsted Taize Service

19th July 6th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Morning Worship
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Holy Communion
11.00am Lenham Holy Communion
11.15am Ulcombe Morning Worship

26th July 7th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Lenham BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Harrietsham Holy Communion
9.30am Boughton Malherbe Family Praise Service
11.00am Lenham Family Praise Service
11.15am Ulcombe Holy Communion
6.30pm Harrietsham Informal Service

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Hospital	Pie	Cheese	Cottage
2	Shouldered	Paper	Table	Round
3	Carriage	Study	Coat	Under
4	Bomb	Wind	Bus	Shelter
5	Family	Pardon	Flush	Royal
6	Jacket	Winter	Water	Sports
7	String	Glove	Show	Puppet
8	Offering	Treaty	Time	Peace/Piece
9	Council	Music	Maid	Chamber
10	Balance	Broad	Dust	Sheet
11	Double	Travel	Secret	Agent
12	Language	Affairs	Legion	Foreign
13	Talent	Master	Boy	Scout
14	Recording	Couch	Flat	Studio
15	Arranged	Bureau	Civil	Marriage
16	Common	Dress	Sixth	Sense

	Find the missing word?
1	Benjamin Disraeli , British Conservative Statesman
2	Olya Korbut , Winner of three gold medals in the 72 Olympics
3	Michael Ramsay , Archbishop of Canterbury 1961 – 1974
4	Edwin Hubble , US Astronomer who died in 1953
5	Sir Francis Drake , Mariner knighted by Queen Elizabeth I in 1581
6	Daily Sketch , Tabloid that merged with the Mail in 1971
7	The Blues Brothers , 1980 film with John Belushi & Dan Aykroyd
8	Russ Abbot , Comedian who reached No 7 in the charts with Atmosphere
9	Romulus and Remus , Mythical twins
10	Hayley Mills , A child star of Whistle Down the Wind 1962

Thanksgiving or Baptism for Children?

It is always wonderful to meet with families who ask for a baptism in one of our churches, and we encourage all to consider this and to speak to us about what this means. The churches in Boughton Malherbe, Harrietsham, Lenham and Ulcombe are offering all families who enquire about baptism a choice between the Service of Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child or the more familiar Baptism Service when the child will be welcomed as a member of the Church family. It has been acknowledged for some time in the Anglican church that the Baptism service is not the most suitable choice for all families, and yet when a child becomes part of a family, that family recognizes that something has happened for which they wish to give thanks to God for. The promises and statements that parents and godparents are required to make in a baptism service are serious promises and statements of commitment which some may not feel able to make, or may not feel comfortable making. There are questions to answer publicly like:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God? And, Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Parents and Godparents also promise publicly to help the child take their place within the life and worship of the church.

The Service of Thanksgiving is an alternative and is designed to meet any of several needs. There are those who simply want to give thanks to God for the gift of their child, and this might then take the place of a Baptism service. But sometimes it might be that parents will see this as a preliminary to baptism or that they do not wish their child to be baptised straight away. It might be the celebration of a child's birth or it might be the celebration of an adoption. At the Thanksgiving Service in place of godparents the parents may wish to have supporting friends to join with them. These supporters can be of any religion or none. There is the opportunity within the service to name the child, if this is appropriate. This will possibly depend on the age of the child. The ceremony will also include a formal blessing, which recognizes the parents desire for God to do something for their child.

Every enquirer will now be invited to attend an evening where the two services will be explained more fully, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions if you wish. Following this meeting you will then be invited to make a decision about which service you have decided on. Our aim is that every family is able to make an informed decision. The church community will be pleased to welcome and support you, whatever your decision.

If you would like to know more please telephone Rev Dick Venn 01622 858195, myself 01622 859753 or the Church Administrator, Mrs Michelle Saunders on 01622 850604 who can take your details.

Millie Hart