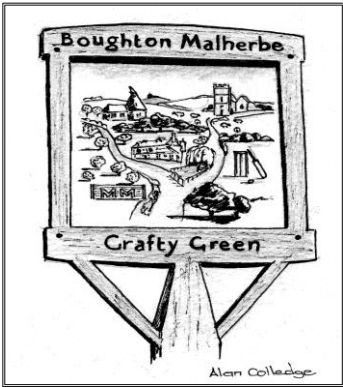


Malherbe Monthly

Number 195
October 2020



Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast Shellina.Prendergast@kent.gov.uk	07970 461160
Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Karen Chappell-Tay karenchappelltay@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 07918 675619
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	Chris Hume email boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com	07972 630555
Village Hall bookings and other matters	Carol Hulm email carolhulm@gmail.com Mobile 07990 574214	853583
KM Correspondent	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Neighbourhood Watch	Sue Burch	850381
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Priest in charge	Dr John Huggins email: vicar@lvb.org.uk	850280
Curate	Charlotte Coles	07805 092823
Reader	Joan Drury email: jdrury23@btinternet.com	853766
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield	07500 895831
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday at approx. 3pm by Post Office	01580 754300
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Mike Hitchins	Advertising: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mfhitchins@btinternet.com	858937
John Collins	Treasurer	850213

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

Front Cover: An alternative to the Traffic Calming Scheme – it seemed to work very well !!!

Picture courtesy of John Collins

News from St. Nicholas Church

The Porch at St. Nicolas remains open, as always, to be a welcoming space for private prayer and quiet reflection. The main church building and its facilities are still closed, outside service times, for now. Any changes will be posted on the notice board.

Morning Prayer is said each day in the parish, on-line, at 9.30am. If anyone would like to join us, virtually, please contact Rev. Anne Price on 01622 924963 or revanne@lvb.org.uk. Feel free to join in any day. If you have prayer requests please contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev. Anne Price or the churchwardens at any time and prayers will be said in Morning Prayer time.

All other regular events are still 'on hold'. Safety measures and restrictions are tightening as Covid-19 infections are rising countrywide at the moment, but we will keep you informed as, and when, we can make positive changes.

Services at St. Nicolas have continued as advertised, mostly outdoors, and have been much appreciated, with many asking that we may continue to worship outdoors in the future, as the weather permits.

We celebrate with Charlotte Coles, our Curate, on her Deaconing in the Cathedral on 26th September.

Harvest celebrations. Harvest Festival will be held in St. Nicolas on 11th October at 3.30pm. We suggest that all food gifts be non-perishable, e.g. Tins, packets, etc. for ease and safety of delivery to the Maidstone Christian Care and Homeless food bank. Alternatively, as there will not be an auction of produce this year, you might like to make your donation to the charity Christian Aid, to support its vital work in areas of poverty and conflict worldwide.

'We are going to show the choral film which includes each of the four choirs, which Pauline, our Director of Music, has made during lockdown, after the service.'

October Services at St. Nicolas will be as follows;

Sunday 4th at 9.30am Communion

Sunday 11th at 3.30pm Evensong (said) **Harvest Festival**

Sunday 18th at 9.30am Communion

Join us. As we move forward into this uncertain future we would like to invite all those who have shared, or would like to share in, our activities in the past and future, be it the Cream Teas, Harvest Suppers, Village Coffee Mornings, Food Bank deliveries to Maidstone from the village shop, music, reading and/or prayers, flowers, cleaning, garden maintenance, welcoming and so many other friendly ideas any of you/us might envisage, do please get in touch.

You can contact me on 01622 859549 or alexander sc@me.com and I will pass on any messages, or contact Vanessa Goodwin or Kenneth Alexander as churchwardens, contact details are in the magazine. It will be so good to be in touch again!

Funeral in St.Mary's, Lenham. Many of us will have known Mary Davies from Lenham, an active choir member and involved in many local activities. We pray for her family as they mourn her loss.

Eco-spot. Feels like winter has arrived with cold winds, driving rain and hungry birds asking for more food in their feeders in the garden. Enjoying watching, on-line, the day-to-day growth of young Barn Owl chicks, still in the nest in a location in the East Riding. A treat to hear and see the wildlife stories, both happy and sad, that this naturalist and painter is giving us on-line, (especially as the area is close to where I was born and brought -up)! Nostalgia is playing a part here, I think.

Still enjoying our milk deliveries and will explore the local, Lenham vegetable box deliveries, plus milk, honey and eggs, on offer. Has anyone used them yet?

Hoping your harvest has been good!

Sally Alexander

Yoga with Susan' in Grafty Green Village Hall

Smaller yoga classes started again at the beginning of September in line with Government guidelines, and it has been good to get back in touch with my yogis.

No yoga on 28th or 29th October then the new term will start 4th and 5th November.

During lockdown I was able to offer zoom yoga practices and from that we had a collection for three charities: Hands of Hope, The Dandelion Trust and Maidstone Food Bank. In all just over £1200 pounds was raised and cheques have now been sent.

There will be one of my **occasional Saturdays** on the 3rd October, 10 am in the village hall £8; booking is essential so please call me on 850381 or 07803 962339.

Zoom practices also continue, Wednesday morning at 9.30 and alternate Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7. £5 a session; let me know if you would like to be invited to join.

Bus Service 59

Unfortunately, part of the piece in last month's edition about the schools services turned out to be utterly false, another case of misinformation from Arriva which is still showing on their website.

Whilst the 06.43 from Grafty Green is indeed restricted to school and college pupils only, in the afternoon the 16.12 from Maidstone is continuing to operate as previously as a 59 service and is **NOT** restricted to school and college pupils.

John Collins

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council's rep on the East of Maidstone Transport Group

Helen Whately

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

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www.helenwhately.org.uk

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

Nature Notes

Hibernation habitats – creating a hibernaculum!

A hibernaculum – a variety of shelters for many kinds of creatures. More often this term is used for creating ideal amphibian hibernation areas which are underground chambers using logs, branches, rocks/bricks with spaces in between for frogs, toads, newts to crawl in and be safe during the cold winter months; view on line at:-

www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-build-hibernaculum-amphibians-and-reptiles

The wildlife visiting the garden this spring and summer has been a delight for many of us and as the summer comes into autumn there is a tendency to tidy the garden but with a bit of thought areas left a little untidy can become havens for insects, shelter for small mammals and hedgehogs; there is plenty of scope for improving the habitat of your garden to sustain the wildlife over the coming months, for example log piles, stacks of brushwood.

The three basic needs of any living creature are water, food and shelter; a dish of water at ground level for mammals and birds to get a drink or, better still, a large bowl sunk into the earth if you can't have a pond.

The food chain starts with the plants and they are necessary for nectar seeking insects; if you can leave some ivy to flower for late flying bees or add some early flowering plants such as pulmonaria when bees and insects can be observed moving from flower to flower on warm spring days.



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**Boughton Malherbe
Parish Council
Contact Details**

Ron Galton, Chairman

- Tel: 01622 850369

ron@boughtonmalherbecp.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Robert Turner

- Tel: 01622 850325

robert@boughtonmalherbecp.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Barry Adams

Nick Eastwood

John Collins

- Tel: 01622 850213

john@boughtonmalherbecp.org

(Finance, Planning)

Chris Hume, Parish Clerk

- Tel: 07972 630555`

boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com

**A short update from the Parish
Council:**

The Parish Council continues to operate under Covid 19 restrictions. Meetings will therefore continue to be held by teleconference. Dates for the remainder of the council year are:

**7th September
2nd November
25th January 2021
8th March 2021**

Update from the Parish Council on Traffic Calming

Following consultation on a revised scheme in the spring, the Parish Council agreed to proceed with the scheme on the 4th May as there were no objections received. The Council therefore asked Kent County Council Highways Department for approval and to provide a quotation to deliver the scheme. The scheme was approved by KCC but, due to the Pandemic and other priorities, an estimate was not received from KCC until 3rd September.

The Council met on the 7th September and agreed to seek further clarification before agreeing to move to the next stage. An Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on the 14th September agreed to proceed to the next stage by a majority vote. The next stage is for KCC to complete their design work, conduct a second road safety audit then instruct their contractors to commence the work. It is expected that the work will be undertaken over several days in the new year. It will require road closures, but these will be kept to a minimum by night working.

The total cost of the scheme, including work by consultants MLM on an earlier version of the scheme which was rejected, will be approximately £72,000. This will be funded from the £100,000 donation received in 2017 from Quinn Estates. The cost of maintaining the features in the scheme (red tarmac, village gates and granite setts) will fall to the Parish Council.

A plan illustrating the scheme can be viewed on the Parish Council website under **Parish Council/Background Papers/Drawing March 2020**.

Regards

**Chris Hume
Parish Clerk
Boughton Malherbe PC
07972 630555**

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Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council on Monday 7th September 2020, 7.30pm held by teleconference

Present: Cllrs R Galton (Chair); R Turner; J Collins; B. Adams; N.Eastwood
Clerk Mr Chris Hume

Cllr Galton opened meeting at 7.30pm

1. **Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it.** - none
2. **Apologies** – no apologies for absence received
3. **Declarations:**
 - Any lobbying** – none declared
 - Any interest in items on the Agenda** – none declared
 - Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests** - none declared
4. **Approval of Minutes** – approved the Minutes of 3rd August 2020
5. **Matters Arising** – none
6. **Public Session** - no public in attendance
7. **Planning Outcomes since 3rd August 2020** – none
8. **Local Policing/Community**
 - 8.1 Police/Crime Report – noted PCSO report previously circulated
 - 8.2 Speedwatch – nothing to report. Noted people spotted with speed gun at the bottom of Liverton Hill. Agreed to find out who this is?
9. **Highway and Footway Matters**
 - 9.1 Liverton Hill, Ditches, gullies, potholes – Cllr Eastwood reported no new problems at the north end of the Parish. Cllr Evans reported deteriorating road conditions towards south on Headcorn Road. Clerk to report pot hole emerging south of Crumps Lane. Cllr Adams to meet Chris Wheal regarding Headcorn Road nearer the village and report back. Cllr Turner agreed to send contact details for the KCC steward to Cllrs Evans and Eastwood.
 - 9.2 59 Bus - Cllr Collins reported on recent problems arising from road closures, bus breakdowns and Covid related issues meaning the pilot is meaningless. Agreed Cllr Collins will draft a letter to send to KCC from the Parish Council following discussion with other parishes, to draw this to their attention.
 - 9.3 Litter – received updates on the bin outside St Nicholas Church. It was agreed that the Clerk will ask MBC if they will adopt the bin. In the meantime Cllr. Turner offered to empty the bin on this occasion.
10. **Councillor Reports on any External Meetings attended** - no reports
11. **Finance**
 - 11.1 Noted the Balance at the Bank:

Nat West	£7267.08
Nationwide	£14,150.58
Cambridge and Counties	£ 86.748.22

11.2 Income since the last meeting : None

11.3 Bank Reconciliation – agreed the statement circulated with the agenda

11.4 Any cheques to sign: none

11.5 Authorised the following payments since the last meeting: MBC £625.80 for footpath gate; Rosemary Smith Village Green Maintenance £174

11.6 Agreed that the notice board on the village green will be repaired. Cllr Galton and Turner will approach Mike Smith to repair it, if not they will undertake renovations.

12. **Traffic Calming** – After a vote a majority approved the KCC estimated cost of £64, 682.03 less a 5% reduction in design costs for previous payments - provided this does not increase. However, after further discussion, concerns were raised that the plan submitted to KCC may not provide granite build-outs of sufficient size to be effective. It was agreed to revoke the first resolution and seek further information from KCC before proceeding to the next stage, further assurances would be sought from KCC regarding the size of the build-outs and the total cost. It was agreed that Cllr Galton will draft an email to KCC to be sent to KCC and the Clerk will arrange an extraordinary meeting for the 14th September to consider the response.
13. **KCC project to increase the number of publicly accessible Electric Vehicle (EV) charging Points** – discussed whether the Parish Council would like to explore potential charging points as requested in the letter from KCC attached to the agenda. As the Council does not own any property it was agreed that we would not put any locations forward.
14. **Correspondence** - none
15. **Further Information** – none

The meeting closed at 9.42



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council on Monday 14th September 2020, 7.30pm held by teleconference

Present: Cllrs R Galton (Chair); R Turner; J Collins; B. Adams; N. Eastwood
Clerk Mr Chris Hume

Cllr Galton opened meeting at 7.30pm

1. **Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it.** - none
2. **Apologies** – no apologies for absence received
3. **Declarations:**
 - Any lobbying** – none declared
 - Any interest in items on the Agenda** – none declared
 - Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests** - none declared
4. **Public Session** - no members of the public present
5. **Traffic Calming** – It was agreed to proceed to the next stage, i.e. for KCC to undertake final designs, second road safety audit and commencement of work, based on the estimate provided by KCC of £61,870 and further clarification received, the estimated total cost of the scheme now standing at £71,495. Councillors voted as follows: In favour – Cllrs Galton, Adams and Turner. Against Cllr Collins. Cllr Eastwood abstained
6. **Further information** - none

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Editorial

Parish Council Traffic calming scheme

As can be seen from the above message from the clerk of Boughton Malherbe Council and the recent minutes of meetings of the Parish Council on the 7th and 14th September 2020 it has being decided to proceed with the above Traffic calming scheme in Grafty Green.

There are several concerns with the proposed scheme which need to be addressed.

The estimated cost of this scheme is according to the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 14th September is £71,495. This is a substantial sum of money and it is the first time that anybody, apart from the councillors themselves, has seen this cost. It should also be noted that this is an increased estimate from that the Parish Council discussed in the meeting of 7th September. At that time the estimated cost of the scheme was £61,870.

The cost of this project raises several questions:

1. As the Parish Council are proposing to spend this large sum of money which in effect is all our money, would it not be diligent for the parishioners to be consulted on this expenditure. It involves spending well in excess of 70% of the Quinn money on one project.
2. Does it seem right that the Parish Council has agreed to proceed with this project in the light of the costs being estimated and may well increase as the project is undertaken. This exposes the Parish Council to unknown expenditure which may be unaffordable. Would any of the us undertake a project where we do not know how much it is going to cost ?
3. In addition to the initial cost of the project it is understood that any future maintenance of the scheme would be the responsibility of the Parish Council. As this is an unknown figure how will the council fund this ?
4. Has the Parish Council sought assurance from Kent County Council and the Highways authority on whether this proposed scheme will have the desired effect of actually slowing down the speed of traffic passing through the village? Does it have any evidence this type of scheme actually works and has the council been advised on the viability or not of the scheme?.

5. The scheme also brings to the village a lot of Red coloured road markings which to some may seem to be unsightly in a rural village.
6. This scheme also raises the question of spending a large sum of money on one project that will have no material effect for the parishioners that do not live in the village and will not benefit from it. To them it may seem unfair that a majority of the money received from Quinn is being spent on a project that they personally derive no benefit from and in addition may not have the desired effect of it actual slowing down the traffic.

REPORTING PARISH HIGHWAYS and ENVIRONMENT PROBLEMS

TO REPORT: Potholes; broken signs; traffic signal faults;
overgrown trees or hedges

- Call **03000 418181** (Highways Issues - KCC)

- or click

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

TO REPORT: Litter; fly tipping; abandoned vehicles; dog
mess; noise:

- Call **01622 602202** (Environmental Issues MBC)

or click

<http://www.maidstone.gov.uk/residents/report>

TO REPORT non-domestic Water Leaks:

- Call **0333 000 0002**

or click: <http://www.midkentwater.co.uk>

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

Find the missing word?	
1	Bert and _____, The Muppets twosome
2	_____ Pavlova, Russian ballerina
3	I Get _____, The Beach Boys first hit song
4	_____ Kane, Footballer who won The Golden Boot award
5	___ Ki-moon, Former UN Secretary General
6	Treasure _____, Novel by Robert Louis Stevenson
7	_____ Horrocks, Ad-Fab actress
8	Die _____, Film franchise starring Bruce Willis
9	_____ Peel, Played by Diana Rigg in the 1960's Avengers
10	Barry _____, Van der Valk star in the 70-80's

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Health	Job	Nerve	Centre
2	Fossil	Lighter	Tank	
3	Cloud	Pin	Teen	
4	Dating	Detective	Travel	
5	Foot	Head	Room	
6	Inner	Manchester	Walls	
7	Articulated	Driver	Park	
8	Black	Carpet	Spell	
9	Boot	Gate	Inside	
10	Blow	Dream	Horn	
11	Bus	Cab	Skirt	
12	Freak	Ground	Take	
13	Slip	Starter	Stick	
14	Blue	Finger	Out	
15	Sitting	Soup	Weed	
16	Smoke	Sun	Wind	

Grafty Geeks - Zoom video conferencing

Zoom Meetings have risen to prominence in recent months, with the widespread transition to remote working for businesses and the ongoing pandemic forcing many of us inside, it has become the new means of keeping in touch with friends and family.



It's easy-to-use tool can handle meetings involving up to 100 people using the free version. There are paid-for packages that dramatically increases this limit, and adds new features.

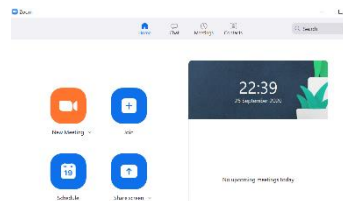
What do you need?

1. Add a webcam to your desktop PC, or turn to your webcam-enabled laptop, and you have just about everything you need to keep in touch with friends, family and work colleagues from the comfort of your home – or from just about wherever you want.
2. Then you will need to download the software from your normal app store.

Zoom is available on Mobile and Tablet.



Finally, sign-in using your preferred option eg: Google, Facebook or by creating a new account



You will now be able to **Join, Start or Schedule meetings** and you will be able to share screens. There is also a chat feature that can be used once you have added your contacts.

To join a Zoom meeting, your host will send you a unique meeting ID, usually via email or text. You do not need to download the software to join a meeting

There is a way to start and join Zoom calls **without downloading anything**, but you will need to sign up for an account. Annoyingly, this applies to people who just want to participate in a call too – you can either avoid downloading the app and sign up to join a call, or avoid signing up and download the app to join calls. Zoom won't let you dodge both options completely.

Zoom for mobile or desktop? It's worth bearing in mind not all Zoom meetings are equal, the desktop version is kitted out with a number of features unavailable on mobile. Beyond the most obvious downside to video conferencing on mobile Zoom for iOS and Android contains watered down and less intuitive versions of the chat and screen sharing facilities.

The mobile version also only allows four participants to appear on screen at once (as opposed to a maximum of 49 on desktop in gallery mode) and presenting complex charts and documents is made challenging by the small screen.

Grafty Green Gardening Club

Programme 2020

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
7 th January	AGM and Kevin Tooher	Winter Interest
4 th February	Dr. Tim Ingram	Snowdrops
3 rd March	Jacqueline Anthony	National Garden Scheme – how it works
7 th April	Spring Show, Lucy Adams from Doddington	Dry Gardens
Sat 2 nd May	Plant Sale, on the green if fine and in Hall if wet	
Sat 9 th May	Coach outing to Leonardslee	
Sat 13 th June	Garden Safari	
7 th July	Outing (own transport) to Sandgate Castle Community garden	
4 th August	Visit to Doddington House Garden	
1 st September	Autumn Show & Floral Art Competition for Margaret Hoad Prize	
11 th – 13 th Sept.	Weekend away in Herefordshire, Cotswolds Wildlife Park & Gardens, Moores Meadow Gardens, Stockton Bury Gardens, Oxford Botanical Gardens, staying at The Penyard Hotel, Ross on Wye,	
6th October	Ian Gray, Mammal Society	Hedgehogs
3 rd November	Simon Ginnaw	A Year in Mote Park
1 st December	Social and Quiz	

Grafty Green Gardening Club – update

We are sorry to say that the club has had to cancel the October meeting to hear Ian Grey from The Mammal Society talk on hedgehogs but he has sent this message :-

'As you are aware, hedgehogs have now been put on the "endangered list" of mammals in the UK. Sadly, they are losing the battle to roam around the rural countryside, because of the main factors of large arable farmed fields, lack of interconnecting hedgerows and woodlands, too dry climatic conditions, and the onslaught of pesticides and herbicides killing off their main sources of food.

As many of you are gardeners please consider, not using pesticides, leaving gaps in your fencing for any visiting hedgehogs, providing some water and hedge food if you hear strange rustling sounds at night and, if your area has seen some squashed hogs, then perhaps start putting up a few "ghost" hedgehogs by the roadside to remind vehicles to slow down, These ghosts are cut-outs of hedgehog shapes with some luminescent paint and a "**DO NOT RUN ME OVER**".'

Perhaps you could leave some piles of twigs and leaves in your garden to give hedgehogs some cover over the winter.

Sue Burch



MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL'S PROPOSED GARDEN COMMUNITY AT LENHAM HEATH: YOU WILL BE AFFECTED!

It is 'crunch time' in November as Maidstone Borough councillors will be making their decisions on which submissions for potential new housing sites across the borough will be included in their next Local Plan.

SOHL has been gearing up its campaign to lobby councillors. This is a final push to persuade them to 'throw out' the Garden Community proposal before Maidstone's next spatial strategy is approved by the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Committee.

How will it affect you?

This development will affect everyone - it is not just the residents to the east of Lenham who will be affected, but all those living in the surrounding villages will feel the impact of the scheme with increased traffic on the roads and pressures on local facilities. The development will start just 0.6km from the edge of Lenham village.

Gridlocked roads – the A20 will see a 700% increase in traffic. Small country lanes will be used by heavy vehicles.

Junction 8 access at peak hours will be at a standstill – with no new motorway junction, traffic on the Leeds Castle roundabouts and surrounding roads will become more congested at peak times.

Overcrowded secondary school – MBC's proposal does not include building another secondary school.

Local health services – no new surgery is planned in the development. With another 8,000 people (at the minimum) living in the area, it will put more pressure on already overstretched GP services and increase waiting times.

Environment/climate change – this would be a car-dependent development. Car emissions and pollution will increase to unhealthy levels.

Our local countryside will be destroyed – once it is gone, it is gone forever.

Our communities will never be the same - once development starts, we could be looking at 10,000 houses being built.

30 years of building – if the proposal is approved, the building may start as early as 2027 and continue past 2050.

Read more about the masterplan and SOHL's appraisal of it on our website at www.saveourheathland.co.uk

If Heathlands goes through, we need everyone to respond to the public consultation in December 2020.

Public consultation on the Local Plan will take place in December and will focus on the Council's preferred strategy (Regulation 18b). This means the Council will be asking for residents' views on whether future developments should be built close to towns or in more rural areas across the borough.

If the Heathlands Garden Community is still in the Local Plan Review, we need you to stand up and make your voice heard. This will be the time to put your letter writing skills into practise and make sure the Council knows your views on the scheme.

You will find more guidance on our website at www.saveourheathlands.co.uk

Kind regards

SOHL Committee

Grafty Gourmet

Pork, cider and apples are a great combination in cooking, for a reason. This great recipe blends both the sweet and the salty flavours together for a real winner !

Sausage & Cider Casserole

1 tablespoon of sunflower oil	1 tablespoon of tomato purée
8 good quality pork sausages	2 tablespoons of plain flour
200g of smoked bacon lardons	300ml of dry cider
50g of butter	300ml of fresh chicken stock
2 medium onions, chopped	8-10 fresh sage leaves, chopped
2 garlic cloves, crushed	1 tablespoon of wholegrain mustard
2 small parsnips, chopped	2 small eating apples
3 large celery sticks, chopped	A squeeze of lemon to serve (optional)

1. On the hob, heat the oil in a large flameproof casserole dish (with a lid). Add the sausages and brown them all over, then transfer to a plate.
2. Add the bacon lardons to the casserole dish and fry for 5 minutes until the fat is crisp and brown. Transfer to the plate with the sausages.
3. Drain off all but 1 tablespoon of the oil from the casserole dish and add half of the butter and, when melted, add the onions and garlic. Cover and cook for 10 minutes, stirring now and then, until soft and lightly browned.
4. Take off the lid, stir in the parsnips and celery and cook for 2 minutes more. Stir in the tomato purée and flour, then gradually stir in the cider and stock and bring to the boil.
5. Return the sausages and bacon to the casserole dish, then stir in the sage and mustard. Cover and put in the oven and cook for 40 minutes.
6. When the casserole is ready, melt the remaining butter in a non-stick frying pan. Quarter, core and slice the apples into wedges. Add them to the pan and fry gently for 2-3 minutes until golden all over and just tender. Season with a little salt and pepper.
7. Remove the casserole from the oven, stir in the apples and season to taste (add a squeeze of lemon if you think it needs it). Serve with baked potatoes or mash and greens.

Music Notes for October 2020

I started last month's notes by saying "Virus restrictions continue and consequently I find it difficult to bring you anything new" and as I write for this month that still applies. There have been no changes on the music front. Sutton Valence Music Society has organised its second concert to be available on u-tube on Friday 16th October at 7.30pm.

The u-tube link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56kxTthfWeI> and can be watched by anyone for free, though The Society would welcome a donation of £15 if you watch the concert; that seems very fair as they have all the costs of arranging the concert.. For payment arrangements email suttonvalencemusicsociety@gmail.com

If exploring the internet appeals to you, U-tube offers a huge range of amateur and professional recordings, some of it of the highest quality.

The proms are over of course but there will be the odd tv concert in October and there will be an interesting documentary on BBV2 TV on 26th October (time tba) about the latter years and later concerts of the conductor Bernard Haitink. If you miss it, it will be available later on BBC iPlayer. There will also be a new BBC4 documentary *Opera Mums* in which musician Bryony Kimmings writes, casts, rehearses and performs an operetta.

On the radio BBC3 and Classic *FM* continue to provide a continuous programme of good music. My recommendation for October, bearing in mind that it is still Beethoven's anniversary year, is the "composer of the week" slot on BBC3 19th-23rd October at 12.00noon. Pianist Angela Hewitt discusses her experience of playing Beethoven, sharing some of her favourites.

The musicians dictionary continues in lockdown:

Strings: A family of instruments that includes the violin, viola, cello, double-bass and yo-yo. The strings used in producing the sound used to be made out of catgut, which may explain their ear-piercing tone which continues today even today with synthetic string material.

Brian Hardy

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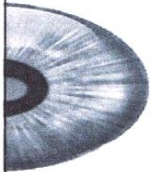
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The Great Leeds Book Sale

We are planning to hold the annual Great Leeds Book Sale again this year. It will have to be subject to whatever restrictions are in force at the time and if there is a "second virus wave" in the Autumn we will have to be prepared for it to be postponed at the last minute. The proposed dates are Friday October 23rd from 4.00pm to 8.30pm and Saturday October 24th from 10.00am to 2.30pm at St. Nicholas' church Leeds. Put those dates in your diary now! This is a little later than last year, partly because we received complaints last year that it was too early in the year, and partly to fit in with other events like Harvest and Remembrance. Note that we are again opening on Friday evening for people who can never make Saturday mornings – many have said they found it helpful. There will be some 14,000 books for sale – yes 14,000! – so something must be there to suit everyone's taste. As well as paper-backs and hard-backs for a quiet read yourself, there are plenty of splendid books in as-new condition which would make excellent gifts.

This sale is of a size which means it is an event for all the parishes around.. If you can help in any way please call Brian Hardy (see below).

It has also become also an occasion to meet up with friends over a cup of tea or coffee; to be honest we may not be able to do that this year if the current virus restrictions continue, but we certainly will provide refreshments if it possible.

If your bookcases are already full, it is not too late to make some space for more or our inexpensive purchases by donating some books to the sale; give Brian Hardy a ring to agree a time for delivery - but no old magazines, videos or second-hand toys please; save these for the next jumble sale or boot fair; and please no encyclopaedias or old text-books – we can't sell them nowadays.

If you would like more information about this important local happening, please give me a ring on 01622 842915, or email b.hardy17@outlook.com Otherwise, just come along!

Christian Message October 2020

Hello,

Let me introduce myself. My name is Charlotte Coles and I'm the new curate in The Len Valley Benefice. You may have met me already in one of the churches or in one of your local shops. I began my curacy here at the beginning of July and felt at home immediately; everyone is so friendly. I live in Ashford but I am usually in one of the parishes from Monday to Wednesday. You'll probably find me in a cafe somewhere drinking coffee.

I am married to Phil and we have three adult children and a grandson. Before I trained for the priesthood, I taught music both in school and at home which I was passionate about. I also ran an adult choir called 'The Ashford Singers' for nearly twenty years, which some of you may have heard perform at some time. I studied at St. Augustine's College of Theology in West Malling, which is in the beautiful setting of St. Mary's Abbey, and is the home of some Benedictine nuns and home to the Pilsdon Community.

Christian Message

By the time you are reading this it will be harvest time which seems to have come early this year. It is a time of reaping, yes, but it is also a time of thanksgiving for all that God has provided for us. I am thinking particularly of how we would normally offer to God fruits of the harvest in a service of thanksgiving. I'm not sure how that will look this year, but we can keep the intention and give back to God in other ways. I am encouraged by how much the communities around Ashford, and I expect around the Len Valley Benefice also, have pulled together during the lockdown for the coronavirus, and have helped their neighbours in different ways, such as carrying their weekly shopping for them and collecting medicines from the pharmacy.

I pray that God will continue to inspire our generosity in different ways during the approaching winter months. What could you offer to do for someone else?

***'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.'* (Galatians 6:9).**

Charlotte Coles (07805 092823)

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday/Main Services – October 2020

Sunday 4th October

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

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00 am Ulcombe: Morning Worship

Sunday 11th October

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

6.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Spoken Evensong

Sunday 18th October

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

11.00am Harrietsham: Morning Worship

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 25th October

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

Our weekly **online services** will also continue throughout **October**. Please contact the church office on churchoffice@lvb.org.uk or 01622 850604 if you would like to receive the weekly email with the links to our Sunday worship.

Grafty Green Stores and Post Office

We needed to reduce our opening hours when the coronavirus came. This seems to have worked well. We thank you for your cooperation.

No one knows the future. We aim to open more but would like to keep to the present opening times as the definite lights- on / door- unlocked times and would encourage our customers to use these if possible. Outside these times, some of the time we will operate a door locked/ ring bell system, but you may have to wait a few minutes.

There may be those who, maybe for medical reasons, would want to come outside the advertised times to avoid being near others, or because the times are not possible. This could be arranged by contacting us.

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WED 9-11

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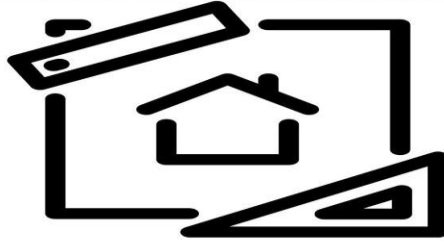
FRI 9-11, 3.30 – 4.30

SAT 9-11

Food

Homeless Care still need donations of food for their work with the homeless. There is a box for gifts of food in Grafty Green village stores. Many thanks to all those who have given food in the past.

Joan Drury



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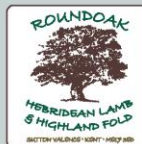
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First Aid Support – when **an ambulance has been called using 999** - Interim emergency support (first aid and AED defibrillator), prior to arrival of paramedics / ambulance, may be available (not 24/7) by calling Chris Wheal on 01622 858100 -this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

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

KCC Community Wardens:

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

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

R.S.P.C.A	<i>Emergencies</i>	0300 1234 999
Vet	<i>24 Hour Pet Emergency Treatment Service</i>	01622 734555

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

Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Health	Job	Nerve	Centre
2	Fossil	Lighter	Tank	Fuel
3	Cloud	Pin	Ten	Nine
4	Dating	Detective	Travel	Agency
5	Foot	Head	Room	Rest
6	Inner	Manchester	Walls	City
7	Articulated	Driver	Park	Lorry
8	Black	Carpet	Spell	Magic
9	Boot	Gate	Inside	Leg
10	Blow	Dream	Horn	Pipe
11	Bus	Cab	Skirt	Mini
12	Freak	Ground	Take	Control
13	Slip	Starter	Stick	Non
14	Blue	Finger	Out	Print
15	Sitting	Soup	Weed	Duck
16	Smoke	Sun	Wind	Screen

	Find the missing word?
1	Bert and Ernie , The Muppets twosome
2	Anna Pavlova, Russian ballerina
3	I Get Around , The Beach Boys first hit song
4	Harry Kane, Footballer who won The Golden Boot award
5	Ban Ki-moon, Former UN Secretary General
6	Treasure Island , Novel by Robert Louis Stevenson
7	Jane Horrocks, Ad-Fab actress
8	Die Hard , Film franchise starring Bruce Willis
9	Emma Peel, Played by Diana Rigg in the 1960's Avengers
10	Barry Foster , Van der Valk star in the 70-80's

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