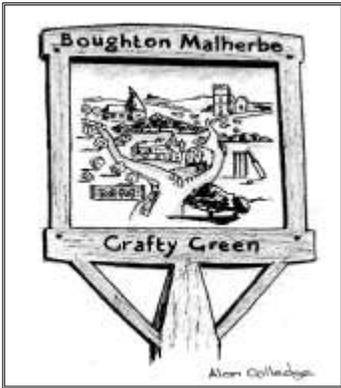


Malherbe Monthly

Number 186
January 2020



**Malherbe Monthly wishes all of it's readers a very
Happy New Year**

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
Associate Priest	Mille Hart (Weds - Sun) email: revmilliehart@lvb.org.uk	297296
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 **February** edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20th January**

Front Cover: The winning team at the Christmas Quiz held in Grafty Green Village Hall on Saturday 7th December 2019

News from St. Nicholas Church

Prayer requests can be left in the church porch, which is always open. There is box with pen and paper if you need them. Any requests will be collected and prayers said soon as possible.

Morning Prayers will take place in St. Nicolas at **9am on Mondays**, in All Saints, Ulcombe at 9am on Tuesdays, in St.Mary's, Lenham, at 9.30am on Wednesdays and in St.John the Baptist, Harrietsham, at 9.30am on Fridays.

Bible Study will start again at Wierton Villa in the New Year. Please contact Joan Drury on 01622 853766 for more details.

Village Coffee Morning will be in the Village Hall from 10.30am-12noon on Wednesday 8th January. Will be good to catch up with everyone with time to relax after the rush of Christmas and the New Year.

Advent and Christmas, the start of the Christian year, were celebrated at St.Nicolas with joy and hospitality, from the lighting of the first red candle of the Advent wreath on Sunday, 1st of December to the Christmas Day service. That day when we could welcome Jesus, the new-born baby into the stable and into our lives.

Many thanks to everyone who decorated the church, making it look wonderful after the days in December when it was subdued, with no flowers. It burst out, for the Carol Service, in a mass of evergreen and candles, with 2 beautiful Christmas trees and the lighted crib scene. Well over 100 people joined in the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols and tucked into the mince pies and mulled wine afterwards. Thank you to those who read the lessons and the choir who lead us in the singing and, of course, to those who provided the refreshments.

The Crib Service, on Christmas Eve, was a quieter time, when the characters present in the Christmas story are all gathered into the stable and finally the baby Jesus is gently placed in their midst. It was a very special afternoon, as the day darkened, and the church glowed in the candlelight and the children found the shepherds and wise men and completed the stable scene. Anya especially enjoyed organising the small set.

The Christmas Day Service was a time of greeting and gathering, to celebrate the culmination of all the days of waiting during Advent. Finally the time was right and the longed-for Jesus had arrived, all the preparations were done and now was definitely the time for celebration! We hope everyone was able to celebrate too.

Carol Singing. The choir visited the Old Rectory and Chilston Park Hotel on Christmas Eve They were much appreciated.

Eco-spot. It was very good to see how many presents were wrapped in recyclable brown or other such paper. One friend wrapped hers in newspaper! Many of the them were tied with re-usable ribbons, far less sellotape than usual. All the soaps and hand creams I've been given (and I love them all!) are free from palm oil, which is real progress.

Watch out for the petition which will shortly be available to protest about the 'new town' development at Lenham Heath and the Stour Valley, which will hugely impact on every village, and it's wildlife, for miles around.

We wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

Sally Alexander

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting due to be held in Grafty Green Village Hall on 20th January 2020 at 7.30pm has been **cancelled** due to lack of a quorum amongst Councillors



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Monday to Friday

Route number	89 Sch	59 KCC #Sch	59	59
Grafty Green Kings Head	0645	0711	0930	1325
Ulcombe The Harrow	0652	0719	0937	1332
Kingswood Village Hall	0658	0723	0942	1337
Kingswood Ashford Drive	0702	0726	0944	1339
Warmlake Crossroads	0709	0732	0950	1345
Chart Sutton Buffalo's Head	0714	0735	0953	1348
Boughton Monchelsea Cock Inn	0719	0739	0956	1351
Boughton Monchelsea Albion	0722	0741	0958	1353
Linton Corner	0727	0746	1003	1358
Loose, Loose Road/Old Loose Hill	0743	0750	1006	1401
Wheatshoaf, Loose Road	0752	0756	1012	1407
Maidstone King Street	-	0804	1020	1415
Maidstone Cannon Stop B	0804	-	-	-
London Road, Somerfield House	0815	-	-	-
Tonbridge Road, Oakwood Park	0826	-	-	-

Saturday

Route number	59 KCC	59 KCC	59 KCC	59 KCC
Grafty Green Kings Head	0733	0930	1336	-
Ulcombe The Harrow	0740	0937	1343	-
Kingswood Village Hall	0745	0942	1348	1604
Kingswood Ashford Drive	0747	0944	1350	1606
Warmlake Crossroads	0753	0950	1356	1612
Chart Sutton Buffalo's Head	0756	0953	1359	-
Boughton Monchelsea Cock Inn	0759	0956	1402	-
Boughton Monchelsea Albion	0802	0959	1405	-
Linton Corner	0807	1004	1410	-
Loose, Loose Road/Old Loose Hill	0811	1008	1414	-
Langley Plough	-	-	-	1614
Sutton Road Morrisons	-	-	-	1619
Wheatshoaf, Loose Road	0815	1012	1418	1624
Maidstone King Street	0820	1020	1426	1632

Sunday and Public Holidays

Service 59 does not run on Sundays or Public Holidays

Notes

Sch - School days only
#Sch - Non-School days only

KCC - These buses are provided on behalf of Kent County Council. If you have any comments or suggestions, please write to Kent County Council, Public Transport, PO Box 441, Aylesford, ME6 9HJ or email public.transport@kent.gov.uk.



Charity 'Back to School' Quiz Night.

Saturday 22nd February.

7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Grafty Green Village Hall.

£8 per person / £35 for a team of 6 / £40 for a team of 8.

Price to include nibbles – bring a bottle and money for a raffle and other fun and games!

All proceeds will go to the PSP Association:

PSP

<https://pspassociation.org.uk/>. For further information or to book

tickets, please contact Sarah Hollingsbee: sarahhollingsbee@aol.com / 01622 863709.

Charity 'Back to School' Quiz Night for the PSP Association: Why?

Many of you will know of my dad, Steve Hollingsbee, who in recent years has been diagnosed with PSP (progressive supranuclear palsy). This is a neurological condition, which to put it simply causes parts of dad's brain to die off, subsequently affecting his physical and mental abilities. The progressive part of the illness means it will just get worse over time and there is no cure, but the PSP association, through charitable donations provide support and research into the disease. Dad also has the opportunity to attend a support group run by them every couple of months. Having a personal link to this charity prompted me to sign up to run the London Marathon 2020 as a way to raise awareness of, and raise money for the PSP association.

As part of my fundraising efforts to achieve my £1,800 target I will be hosting a charity quiz night in Grafty Green village hall on 22nd February and would welcome you all to help me achieve my goal. I also intend to hold a raffle on the night and would gratefully receive donations for his aspect of the evening and if you have anything to contribute please contact me: sarahhollingsbee@aol.com, 01622 863 709.

I look forward to seeing you in February, and thank you for your support,

Sarah Hollingsbee

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

www.graftygrevillagehall.co.uk

facebook@graftygrevillage

January is usually a quiet month for the Village Hall, but not this year!

Some tickets still remain for our **professional pantomime** at the Hall. This year we've found a different company to perform a traditional panto, "Jack & the Beanstalk". There's to be one performance only, on **Saturday 25th January** at **4 o'clock**. Do check out the company's reviews at www.touringpantos.co.uk. Tickets are available from the village shop (Adult £10, Child £5, Family 2+2 £25).

And, don't forget that at 7.30pm on the last Tuesday of every month, we now have a **table tennis club** running. So why not turn up at the Hall on **Tuesday 28th January**? No previous experience necessary!

Now, you may have noticed that the heading to this article includes, for the first time, a reference to our **Facebook page**. We have had a Facebook page for a while but are now giving it a boost and a re-launch, so do check it out.

To find it you can just search "Grafty Green", but "**facebook@graftygrevillage**" will take you straight there. If you use Facebook, please take the time to visit and "like" our page and feel free to share items of interest to the rest of the village!

"A Happy New Year" to you all.

Richard Pilborough, Hall Committee Chairman.

email: pilborough@grafty.plus.com

2020 Calendar Update

Dear All,

We would like to thank those brave young men who took part in next year's calendar, those many others who provided locations and equipment or helped with it's production and finally a special thank you to those of you who supported the village hall by purchasing a calendar.

It proved so popular that we had to order two further print runs and whilst we have not quite reached the final reckoning we should by the time you read this have raised approximately £300 for the village hall. Many of you we know have posted calendars to friends and relations and our calendars are now hanging proudly on kitchen hooks in such far flung places as North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

As well as, (hopefully), providing you all with a good laugh, the monies raised will go towards either maintaining our lovely village hall which as you know is a meeting point for the whole village or helping to fund the range of events that the village hall hosts namely the Panto, (Jack and the Beanstalk), Pancake Evening, Themed Meal, (we are hosting a 60's/70's night this year), Summer Fair, Christmas Quiz and last but not least the Winter Fair.

We are also pleased to announce that the winner of the caption competition is Joan Drury for the following caption:-

"I'm putting in for a free transfer".

Thank you again for your support and we wish you a happy New Year.

Kind Regards,

Jon Thompson

On behalf of the village hall committee



Jack and the Beanstalk Traditional Family Pantomime

Grafty Green Village Hall

Saturday 25th January 2020 at 4pm

We are pleased to welcome a **new** touring theatre group this year to provide our village pantomime.

Gerry Graham Pantos and Productions with theatre quality costumes and props

WWW.TOURINGPANTOS.CO.UK

Family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £25 Adult £10 Child £5

Tickets available from The Oaks, Church Road ME17 2BA or
The Grafty Green Post Office

01622 851351 thompsonjon1960@gmail.com for ticket enquiries

Refreshments and sweets will be available plus

'flashing light up windmills' and 'LED magic star wands' only
£2.50

Recent review on their website 'Loved the pantomime. Great fun. It was an awesome evening. Enjoyed by everyone.'

November Fundraising

Ken Sweet from the Kings Head Pub in Grafty Green would like to thank everybody who contributed to his 'MOVEMBER' fundraising for men's cancer and mental health. Thanks to the generosity of the village and customers he has managed to raise £1070. Well done Ken.



**Ken with his
new Moustache**

**Ken shaving
off the new
Moustache at
the end of
'Movember'**





HELEN WHATELY MP
Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Press Release

Clear message from voters in Faversham and Mid Kent

Statement from Helen below.

"I am delighted to have been re-elected as Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent. Being an MP is a huge responsibility and I'm humbled that so many people have put their trust in me once again.

"Nationally, a Conservative majority government means we can take the country forwards and start to heal some of the divisions in our society. We can now look ahead to the New Year with a Parliament that will deliver on people's hopes and make life better for everyone.

"It's a majority that means we will be able to get on with Brexit, and get on with tackling all the other priorities that have been talked about during the campaign, from the NHS to schools, policing, the environment and infrastructure.

"Here in Kent, we need better access to GPs, better mental health services, less traffic and less pollution, safer streets, and even better schools. These will continue to be my priorities as your MP.

"At a time when politics can be nasty, I am truly grateful for the kindness and messages of support I have received from people during this campaign. I hope we can all agree on the need to cut out the abuse and be nicer to each other in politics.

"Whilst my majority has increased at this election, I know there are many different views in this constituency. I will continue to work hard to represent everyone in our community and do the right thing for Faversham and Mid Kent."

Grafty Gourmet

This is a great comforting dish idea only these cold nights. Layers of pasta sheets, meat and spinach are topped with gooey, melted cheese.

Chicken & Ham Lasagne

6 skinless chicken breasts
½ medium onion, sliced
2 bay leaves
200ml white wine
100g butter
100g plain flour
500ml milk

140g sliced smoked ham, cut into strips
200g young spinach leaves
225g no pre-cook dried lasagne sheets (about 20 sheets)
200g ready-grated mozzarella
25g Parmesan, finely grated

1. Put the chicken breasts in a medium saucepan with the onion, bay leaves and wine. Pour over just enough water to cover, around 200ml. Put a lid on top and bring to a gentle simmer. Poach gently for 15 mins or until the chicken is just cooked. Transfer the chicken to a board and strain the liquid into a jug.
 2. Melt the butter in a large non-stick saucepan over a medium heat. Stir in the flour with a wooden spoon and cook for about a minute. Gradually add the milk, a little at a time, stirring well between each addition to ensure the sauce stays smooth. Once all the milk has been added, stir in the reserved cooking liquid and continue cooking for a further 2-3 mins. Adjust the seasoning to taste. Heat oven to 180C.
 3. Cut the chicken into small chunks and stir into the saucepan. Add the ham and spinach and cook until the spinach has wilted. Spoon a third of the chicken mixture into the base of a 3-litre lasagne dish (about 26 x 18cm). Top with a third of the lasagne sheets. Repeat the layers twice more, ending with lasagne. Scatter the mozzarella and Parmesan on top and season with black pepper. Bake for about 25 mins or until the lasagne is tender, the topping is well browned and the filling hot.
-



Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council on Monday 20th December 2019, 6.30pm in Grafty Green Village Hall

Present: Cllrs R Galton (Chair); R Turner; J Collins;
Clerk Mr Chris Hume

In attendance: 8 members of public

Cllr Galton opened meeting

1. **Anybody filming or recording this meeting to declare it.** None
2. **Apologies – to receive and accept apologies for absence.** Cllrs Karen Chappell-Tay, Cllr Shellina Prendergast and Cllr. Martin Round
3. **Declarations:**
 - Any lobbying** None
 - Any interest in items on the Agenda** None
 - Any changes to the register of pecuniary interests** None
4. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes of 4th November 2019 approved
5. **Matters Arising** – Cllr Collins reported that the bus pilot will now commence on the 17th February 2020
6. **Public Session** – no contributions were made by the public present
7. **Finance**
 - 7.1 Noted the projected outturn compared with the budget for 2019/20
 - 7.2 Agreed the attached budget for 2020/21 and signed the precept application form
8. **Resignation of Cllr. Annie Allum and Cllr Cathie Brown**
 - 8.1 Noted the resignations
 - 8.2 Agreed that the Council would not co-opt new members to the Council
 - 8.3 Agree that Cllr Turner will cover Highways portfolio until the elections in May 2020
 - 8.4 Agreed to notify residents of the resignations via Malherbe Monthly and request that Councillor details are updated

The council expressed its thanks to Cllr Allum and Brown for their contribution to the work of the council
9. **Traffic Calming Proposal** – It was resolved to proceed as follows:
 - i. Cllr Collins and Cllr Turner will meet with KCC to explore the options following consultation and obtain advice on which options are acceptable and which are advisable
 - ii. Cllr Galton will use the results of this discussion with KCC to prepare a drawing setting out a preferred option
 - iii. Deliver a note to all houses explaining the revised scheme
 - iv. A public meeting will be held to present a revised scheme and seek comments before Easter

- v. An Extraordinary meeting will be held to make a final decision on a scheme before asking KCC to take this forward before Easter
- vi. It was resolved that a decision on a preferred scheme would be taken before the Council elections in May 2020

The clerk was asked to fix a meeting with KCC in late January and draft an article for Malherbe Monthly explaining this process.

10. **Further information** – it was agreed that the January Parish Council meeting will be cancelled as there will not be a quorum.

The meeting closed at 7.05pm

BUDGET 2020/21

£	Draft Budget 2020/2021
RECEIPTS	
Precept	5,581
Parish Services Scheme	500
Community Grant	0
	6,081
VAT Refund	180
TOTAL RECEIPTS	6,261
PAYMENTS	
Staff Costs - Clerks Wages	2,473
Other Costs	
Village Green Maintenance	500
Village Hall Hire	250
Christmas Tree	300
Christmas Functions	350
Litter Collection	100
Churchyard Maintenance	500
Emergency Plan	0
Training Courses	500
Internal Auditor	50
Insurance	400
KALC Membership	240
CPRE Membership	40
Chairmans Allowance	100
Stationery, Postage	200
Contingency	250
Total Other Costs	3,780
TOTAL PAYMENTS	6,253
UNDERSPEND	8

Parish Council Update

An Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 20th December. This meeting was called to decide the next steps on the proposed traffic calming scheme in Grafty Green. After careful consideration of the comments received from residents on the draft scheme, it was decided to explore the options arising from consultation with KCC Highways before drafting a revised scheme. Specifically, the Parish Council agreed the following next steps:

- *Cllr John Collins and Cllr Robert Turner will meet with KCC Highways to explore the options following consultation and obtain advice on which options are acceptable and which are advisable*
- *Cllr Galton will use the results of this discussion with KCC to prepare a drawing setting out a preferred option*
- *The Council will then deliver a note to all houses explaining the revised scheme*
- *A public meeting will be held to present a revised scheme and seek comments before Easter*
- *An Extraordinary Council meeting will be held before Easter to make a final decision on a scheme before asking KCC to take this forward*
- *It was resolved that a decision on a preferred scheme would be taken before the Council elections in May 2020*

The Extraordinary Council meeting agreed a Parish Council break even budget for 2020/21 and a precept request to Maidstone Borough Council of £5,581. Which means the Boughton Malherbe portion of the Council Tax bill will once again be unchanged year on year.

Finally, the Council has received the resignations of Councillors Annie Allum and Cathie Brown. It has been agreed that, as the Parish Council elections take place in May 2020, the Council will not seek to fill the vacancies before the elections. The Council thanked Annie and Cathie for the contributions they have both made to the work of the Parish Council.

As there will not be sufficient Councillors available, it has been agreed to cancel the next Parish Council meeting due to be held on the 20th January.

Chris Hume Parish Clerk
Boughton Malherbe PC
07972 630555



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Staplehurst
TN12 0PY

Ashford:
01233 850075
Ashford Road
High Halden
TN26 3BP

Grafty Green Short Mat Bowls Club

New Members Always Welcome - Join Us

Every Tuesday at 2.00pm in the Village Hall, Gentle exercise, easy to learn, loan bowls available. Further information - Joan Marriott 01622 858100 or Robert Turner 01622 850325

Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Contact Details

Ron Galton, Chairman

- Tel: 01622 850369

ron@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Robert Turner

- Tel: 01622 850325

robert@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning, KALC)

Vacant Position

Vacant Position

John Collins

- Tel: 01622 850213

john@boughtonmalherbecpc.org

(Finance, Planning)

Chris Hume, Parish Clerk

- Tel: 07972 630555`

boughtonmalherbecpc@gmail.com

Yoga Classes at Grafty Green Village

Yoga

New Year's Day Yoga Practice
OPEN HOUSE!

Start the year with Yoga to balance the busy festive season, giving you a sense of renewal.

Grafty Green Village Hall at 10 am
The practice will include a deep relaxation.

The weekly sessions will start Wednesday 8th January at 7pm and Thursday 9th January at 9.30 am
The term is seven weeks - £42 or come when you can at £8 a session.

More details from Sue on ☎
850381

**Sue Burch – British Wheel of Yoga
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Ken and Eve Sweet
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The Kings Head
Grafty Green

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



Traditional Sunday Lunches
Fresh Fish Fridays
Lunches and Suppers

Booking Advisable
01622 850259

Children's Room Beer Garden

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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Head	Stroke	Bedroom	Master
2	Warrant	Police	First	
3	Snow	Rain	Pear	
4	Motor	Life	Helmet	
5	Ready	Glove	Microwave	
6	House	Time	Book	
7	Railway	Power	Space	
8	Map	Cross	Character	
9	Cheese	Diving	Black	
10	March	Leap	Bull	
11	Detector	Chain	Screen	
12	Down	Wise	Shot	
13	Ground	Hard	Log	
14	Ladder	Tight	Tow	
15	Handed	Metal	Top	
16	Baseball	Toe	Hub	

Find the missing word?	
1	Duke _____, Acclaimed American big band leader
2	____ Austen, Novelist whose works include 'Emma'
3	Sir Walter _____, Elizabethan explorer
4	Geoffrey _____, Celebrated medieval author of 'The Canterbury Tales'
5	____ French, Who played 'The Vicar of Dibley'
6	Depeche _____, British pop band
7	_____ Street Preachers, Welsh rock band
8	Days of _____, 1990 movie starring Tom Cruise
9	_____ Banks, England works cup winning goalkeeper
10	Sue _____, Corries Eileen Grimshaw

Grafty Green Gardening Club

The gardening club generally meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the village hall for talks. Membership is £5.00 for the year which entitles members to a reduced fee when attending meetings; take advantage of subsidised coach outings (excluding weekend away) and club members will be entitled to discounts at Rumwood Nursery and The Potted Garden. Non members are most welcome at any meeting for a small fee of £2.00.

Programme 2020

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
7th January	AGM and Kevin Tooher	Winter Interest
4 th February	Dr Tim Ingram	Snowdrops
3 rd March	Jane Scotchmer	Guatemala –'A land of terrible beauty'
7 th April	Spring Show, Lucy Adams from Doddington	Dry Gardens
Saturday 2 nd May	Plant Sale, on the green if fine and Flora Art competition for Margaret Hoad Cup	
Saturday 9 th May	Coach outing to Leonardslee	
Sunday 14 th June	Garden Safari	
7 th July	Outing (own transport) to Sandgate Castle Community garden	
4 th August	Visit to Doddington House Garden	
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,	
6 th October	Ian Gray, Mammal Society	Hedgehogs
3 rd November	Simon Ginnaw	A Year in Mote Park
1 st December	Social and Quiz	

Our year begins with a talk by Kevin Tooher on the topic of 'Winter Interest in the Garden'. As is usual in January there will be a short AGM before the talk during which members are invited to join our small committee and help support our events in the year ahead. We have two vacancies to fill at the present time!

33 of our members had a lovely evening at the RHS Wisley 'Glow event' in December and are looking forward to more visits out as programmed for the year ahead 2020.

The Garden in January - Time to move deciduous trees and shrubs if they are in the wrong place and plant bare-rooted ones. Check tree ties and stakes and keep climbers in check! In the vegetable garden winter digging should be completed and organic fertiliser such as blood, fish and bone or seaweed meal is ideal for it's slow release properties.

Carole Frost - Secretary - Grafty Green Gardening Club



Lenham Film Club

at Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

Friday January 10th (evening)

Performance begins 7.30 pm, doors open 7 pm

and

Wednesday January 15th (matinee)

Performance begins 2.30 pm, doors open 2 pm

Fancy a breath of sea air in the nice warm Lenham Community Centre? Come along to either the evening or matinee performance of Fisherman's Friends (12A 2019), based on the true story of the now famous shanty-singers from Port Isaac in Cornwall. Amongst the cast are the original singers themselves, and their story lends itself to a feel-good film full of warmth and humour. You'll go home with the sound of those shanties ringing in your ears.

For more information please check out our website (www.lenhamfilmclub.org) or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list, then please contact us at lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com. Keep an eye open for our posters (it's possible we might slip in an extra performance during the month), follow us on Facebook (@LenhamFilmClub), perhaps consider becoming a member or just come along on the night!

Running time: 1hr 52mins. There's no need to book, just come along.

Entrance fee (cash at the door) £5 for non-members; members £4.

Refreshments available at reasonable cost. Annual membership £6 (over 16's only); pick up a form at our ticket desk.

SOHL ("Save Our Heath Lands") say NO,NO,NO to 5,000 houses on your doorstep

Maidstone Borough Council ("MBC") has proposed a new Garden Community on the doorstep of Lenham which will blight the area and see the loss of our precious countryside forever (900+ acres). If you live in Lenham's neighbouring communities including the Stour Valley and think this development does not affect you, then you should think again.

The demand on our already creaking infrastructure will be irreversible. Our roads, public transport, doctors' surgeries, hospitals, waterways, sewerage, internet, parking availability and other basic services will be impacted and the delays will significantly disrupt how we all go about our daily lives.

If the Council forces this proposal through, the essential infrastructure needed to support an additional 12,000 people, such as the M20 junction, wouldn't be built until 2035 at the earliest. As things stand the proposals will commence with our current roads and infrastructure and this can only lead to further traffic and increased pressure on our local amenities and public services. The council has been so secretive about this development, you cannot help but ask why?

MBC's recent "call for sites" invited landowners to submit sites for possible development consideration. 334 sites were submitted. In the parish of Lenham 19 sites were submitted which could result in a possible 7,000 new homes being built in the area. In neighbouring Harrietsham, 15 sites were submitted with a possibility of over 800 new homes. Lenham will feel like a 'Dormitory Town' compared to its current size. Our beautiful surrounding villages such as Egerton, Platts Heath, Boughton Malherbe, Charing Heath, Charing, Harrietsham and the Stour Valley will be severely affected. Eventually, after the development floodgates have opened, some villages will in effect merge together as one.

If this proposal goes ahead then we will face a further 20 years of construction (or should that be destruction?) Our lives and properties will be blighted. Lorries will pound our roads day in, day out. Diggers will be moving earth with a constant drone of noise and vibrations reverberating across our villages.

Maidstone Borough Council say they are required to increase house building according to a formula produced by National Government. This relies on an outdated population growth estimate from 2014. Why are our elected representatives not challenging this?

Please join us by putting pressure on our elected Borough Councillors to:

- 1) Lobby National Government and ask them to revise their housing calculation to a level that is sustainable. House building needs to be in the right place for the people that require it. The countryside should not be turned into a dormitory town for London.

- 2) Rectify Infrastructure issues currently blighting Maidstone Borough residents, to enable it to cope with the housing increases which have already been accepted. Only when this is achieved should new housing be considered.

It is our intention to unite our local communities and speak as one 'voice' to oppose the Council's plans to develop the Garden Community in the parish of Lenham and challenge its housing strategy.

Website: Saveourheathlands.co.uk
Facebook: Save Our Heath Lands
Twitter: @SOHeathLands
Email: saveourheathlands@gmail.com

We would like to thank all those residents who have provided their support so far. We would also like to thank Tom and Janetta Sams for all their hard work and support.

Kind regards
SOHL Committee

Helen Whately

MP for Faversham and Mid Kent

I work for you. If you have a problem you think I can help you with, please contact me or visit me at one of my surgeries

House of Commons,
London, SW1A 0AA

www.helenwhately.org.uk

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

January Music Notes

January is in all respects an anticlimax from Christmas and the music scene conforms to this picture. Many music groups are immersed in a new regime of rehearsals following a Christmas concert, and certainly most singers are resting their voices after an excess of carols. Nevertheless I have been able to find some concerts for you to enjoy:

- **Monday 6th January** 7.30pm at The United Reformed Church, Week St., Maidstone: In the last of the Christmas festivities, Maidstone Choral Union present a 12th Night Concert. More mulled wine & mince pies afterwards! Free entry, with a retiring collection. No tickets required.
- **Sunday 26th January**, 2.30pm at Sutton Valence School, the Sutton Valence Music Society have arranged a concert by Daniel King Smith, piano, and Toby Highes. Double bass. Programme includes works by Brahms, Fauré, and Liebermann. Tickets at the door or contact 01622 863002.
- **Saturday 25th January**, Maidstone Singers are holding a “come and sing” event with Fauré’s *Requiem* as the main subject. Held at St. Faith’s church, Station Rd, Maidstone ME14 1LH, applications are welcome from all singers – forms from MS website or from choir members. The day will end with a concert performance at 6.30pm – tickets 01622 737916 or at the door.
- **Saturday 1st February**, 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone, Maidstone Symphony Orchestra’s concert includes two clarinet concertos played by prize-winning soloist Emma Johnson and Elgar’s *Enigma Variations*. Tickets 033 616 3366(booking fee applies) or at the door.

TV news: This year the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra’s New Year Concert will be live from Vienna on BBC 2 at 10.15.

Extract from the musicians’ dictionary: Music stand: An intricate device for propping up music, except at crucial times such as in performances. It comes in two sizes – too high and too low.

Brian Hardy

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TO REPORT: Litter; fly tipping; abandoned vehicles; dog mess;
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TO REPORT non-domestic Water Leaks:

- Call **0333 000 0002**

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

TO REPORT: Overgrown Footpaths click on:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public->

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Grafty Geeks - Google Family Link

Overview

Whether your children are younger or in their teens, the Family Link app lets you set digital ground rules to help guide them as they learn, play, and explore online.



Guide them to good content, view their activity

Not all screen time is the same. Help your child make healthy choices about what they do on their device, with activity reports showing how much time they are spending on their favourite apps.

How it works

- The Family Link app from Google helps parents stay in the loop as their child or teen explores on their Android device, and lets parents set certain digital ground rules for their family.
- First, a child/teen will need a compatible device, then, parents can start by downloading Family Link onto their own device (Android or iPhone).
- If a child/teen already has an account, Family Link will walk their parent through linking their account to their child's account. As part of that process, the child/teen may also need to download the Family Link (Child/Teen) app on their phone to complete the process of linking the accounts.
- Parents can also use Family Link to create a Google Account for their child under 13. Once complete, children can sign-in to their device with their new account.
- Once the accounts are linked, parents can use Family Link to help them do things like keep an eye on screen time and manage the content they use.

Compatible Devices

For kids and teens - Family Link runs on Android devices running version 7.0 (Nougat) and higher. Devices running Android versions 5.0 and 6.0 (Lollipop and Marshmallow) may also be able to run Family Link. See our Help Centre for more details.

For parents - Parents can run Family Link on Android devices running versions 5.0 (Lollipop) and higher, and iPhones running iOS9 and higher.

If you need any help, please visit the Egerton Telecottage on Saturday morning between 10am and 12noon <http://www.egerton-kent.co.uk/telecottage>. Advice is free and there is always someone there to help you. If you would like any topics covered in this magazine please email me at carolhulm@gmail.com

Christian Message January 2020 by Pamela Cuerden

Worth the Wait!

When you read this, the excitement of the Christmas holiday will be dying down, the decorations starting to look tired and the Christmas cards beginning to gather dust. As you look back on the last few days or so, I wonder what your favourite present will have been?

The presents that still mean a lot to me are the ones I've had to wait for. To celebrate being married 20 years, my husband and I bought our dining room chairs. The first ones had been purchased from the Church fete 19 years earlier, being the cast offs of our, then, choir master. They needed gluing but were perfectly serviceable. I can, as if it were yesterday, however, remember the joy of going to a furniture shop and choosing our own brand new chairs on our wedding anniversary.

After 25 years we were able to replace a small ramshackle flat-roofed bathroom and box room with a lovely bathroom and proper bedroom for our son. He had put up with a tiny space with only enough room for a cabin bed but he ended up with the nicest room in the house.

The theme of waiting and gifts runs through the whole Advent, Christmas and Epiphany story. Mary had to wait months from the Angel Gabriel's visit until her child was born. The shepherds, and later the wise men, anticipated great things as they travelled to meet the new born King. Jesus received gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh when the wise men finally arrived.

Far more importantly, God sent his Son as the greatest gift of all for each and everyone of us. It is one present for which we don't need to wait another moment, let alone for a special birthday or next Christmas. God's love is unconditional. He will wait in loving anticipation, and yet, if we ask Jesus into our lives and to forgive us our sins, he will be there in a flash, faster than the fastest Amazon courier or pizza delivery firm (just in case you are feeling fed up with turkey and cake – although I never tire of either!)

We can start our new year by praying right now and sit back in anticipation of an amazing journey, with the Lord by our side, throughout 2020 and beyond. If we turn to him we are promised, not just a life-time guarantee, but eternal life itself. That's a part of this gift it has to be worth waiting for!

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

Sunday 5th January

9.30 am Lenham: Breakfast service

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

9.30 am Harrietsham: Family-friendly Morning Worship

11.00 am Ulcombe: Informal Morning Worship

11.00 am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 12th January

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

9.30 am Lenham: Breakfast Service

9.30 am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

11.00 am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

11.00 am Lenham: Morning Worship

3.30 pm Boughton Malherbe: Evensong

Wednesday 15th January

11.00am Chippendayle Lodge: Holy Communion

Sunday 19th January

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Service

9.30am Harrietsham: Morning Worship

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Morning Worship

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Sunday 26th January

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

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Big Breakfast Service

11.00am Boughton Malherbe: An Informal Service

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion



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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

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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	Head	Stroke	Bedroom	Master
2	Warrant	Police	First	Officer
3	Snow	Rain	Pear	Drop
4	Motor	Life	Helmet	Cycle
5	Ready	Glove	Microwave	Oven
6	House	Time	Book	Keeper
7	Railway	Power	Space	Station
8	Map	Cross	Character	Reference
9	Cheese	Diving	Black	Board
10	March	Leap	Bull	Frog
11	Detector	Chain	Screen	Smoke
12	Down	Wise	Shot	Crack
13	Ground	Hard	Log	Back
14	Ladder	Tight	Tow	Rope
15	Handed	Metal	Top	Heavy
16	Baseball	Toe	Hub	Cap

Find the missing word?	
1	Duke Ellington, Acclaimed American big band leader
2	Jane Austen, Novelist whose works include 'Emma'
3	Sir Walter Raleigh, Elizabethan explorer
4	Geoffrey Chaucer, Celebrated medieval author of 'The Canterbury Tales'
5	Dawn French, Who played 'The Vicar of Dibley'
6	Depeche Mode, British pop band
7	Manic Street Preachers, Welsh rock band
8	Days of Thunder, 1990 movie starring Tom Cruise
9	Gordon Banks, England works cup winning goalkeeper
10	Sue Cleaver, Corries Eileen Grimshaw

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