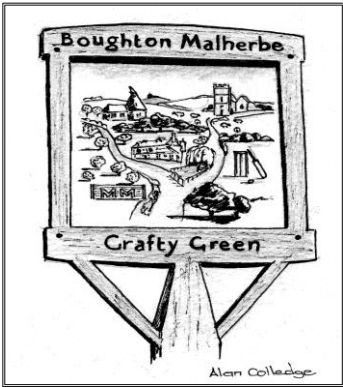


# Malherbe Monthly

Number 226  
May 2023



The Village Green decorated with flags and knitted crowns ready to celebrate King Charles III coronation on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May

## Useful contact names and telephone N<sup>os</sup>.

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Village Hall General Enquires	Jon Thompson email bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk Mobile 07932 112730	851351
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Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Dazzle	Gail Kelly	850671
Yoga	Sue Burch	850381
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
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Pilates	Cheryl Stubbs email: c.stubbs8@btinternet.com	07852 602369
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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 **June** edition should be left in Grafty Green Telephone Box, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mfhitchins@btinternet.com) by **20<sup>th</sup> May**

## News from St. Nicholas Church - May 2023

I have just finished 2 more crowns for the village green. It is hoped that they will soon be in place round the fence in addition to the bunting. Should make us smile. Many people have been making these little 'works of art', so many colours and individual shapes. Hoping the weather will not take its toll and spoil them. We thank all those who have sore fingers and a brain that can now knit a crown without a pattern, probably in their sleep!

Enjoy these pretty additions to the Coronation festivities.

### Usual reminders

The church porch is always open. Enjoy its shelter and hot drink facilities and the mini food bank if you are in need, or add to it if you can. There is a larger food bank in Lenham church, open 10-4pm daily.

**The main church building** is only open for services, with details on the notice boards. A key can be obtained from the churchwardens at other times. Their contact details are elsewhere in the magazine and on the notice boards.

**Celtic Morning Prayer** is said in the side chapel each Monday 9-9.30am. Please contact Rev. John Huggins, Rev. Charlotte Coles or the churchwardens if you have a prayer request. Prayers will be said in Morning Prayer, or on private if you wish.

### Information

Village Coffee Morning is held every Tuesday in the village hall in Grafty Green from 11am -2pm. The Post Office is open there 12.45-2.15pm, and most weeks there may be various stalls, eg. organic meats, locally made organic skin care products, local honey and eggs, marmalade, cards, Pluckley teas, eco-shop household cleaning products, (without the plastic). Just come and see what is on offer at any time. Always good company, cake and coffee/tea. All donations are shared equally with the church and a charity, chosen by those who come for coffee. Our next donation will be to Demelza House, the hospice caring for children and their families.

**Craft Fair.** As usual we all enjoyed the atmosphere in the village hall on Sunday 2nd April, meeting old, and making new, friends. Our St. Nicolas stall made almost £200 for much needed church funds. It was fun to introduce visitors to what we are doing and learning by carding and spinning 'Donut's' fleece. Donut is one of Angela and John's beautiful Alpacas. A steep learning curve with the process of preparing and using this amazing fleece. Many thanks to the organisers of the event.

## **Platts Heath School**

The church looked a riot of colour for Easter as the children and staff left a large gallery of art and crafts for us to display over the Easter season. Thank you to everyone involved, we enjoyed this work left after the Easter visit to the church. Looking forward to many future visits and events when the school can use the venue. St. Nicolas, as the patron saint of children, will be delighted!

**Benefice Daybreak Easter service** was a new service for us, held in the churchyard at St. Nicolas at 6am on Easter Morning, with a small fire-pit alight, just as the sun was rising over a light misty landscape, followed by breakfast at the new refectory table in the church. About 18 friends from each of the benefice churches joined in, with much laughter as we celebrated this most important day in the church calendar. Probably surprised ourselves that we actually were there so early! But we wouldn't have missed it!

**The Memorial service** for Fr. David Wright took place in St. Mary's Lenham on Saturday 22nd April. Many thanks to his daughters for organising it. The photos and talks brought back many memories of his time with us. Kenneth and I were pleased to see a photo of their, and later our, beloved Dalmatian, Astra. We always called her Spotty. She was deaf so she didn't mind!! She was left with us when the family moved to Spain, being too elderly, they thought, for such a change. Despite being 13 she lived with us for a further 7 yrs.!

### **Coronation Celebration at St. Nicolas on Sunday 7th May 12.30-4pm**

We are looking forward to hosting the village afternoon get-together the day after the coronation. Many thanks for the organisation and support from the Parish council, the parish hall committee and many others.

There will be a service in the church beforehand, starting at 11am, for everyone, if they wish.

**Enjoy the Coronation, see you on the Sunday**

**Sally Alexander**



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## **Boughton Malherbe**

**Parish Council**

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## **Helen Whately**

**MP for Faversham and Mid Kent**

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House of Commons,  
London, SW1A 0AA

[www.helenwhately.org.uk](http://www.helenwhately.org.uk)

Tel: 020 7219 6472; Email: [helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk)

# Helen Whately MP

## Parish Update – Easter 2023 Maidstone – Helen Whately

### Full steam ahead

After a March that's felt like forever, it looks like spring has finally sprung.

Looking back, it's no wonder it felt so long. I actually can't quite believe how much has been achieved in the four weeks since my last newsletter.

Back at the start of March we launched our plan to stop the boats, with new laws meaning that people who come here illegally won't be able to stay. It's absolutely right that we help people in need – but Britain should decide who meets the criteria, not people smugglers.

Then we had the Budget. After stabilising the economy in the Autumn, the Chancellor set out his plan for growth. He announced incentives for business investment, pension reforms to keep people in work for longer, and an expansion of free childcare to all children over 9 months old.

There was lots of good news for us locally too including tax cuts for pubs, £6 million for pothole repairs in Kent, and a fund for public swimming pools which I'm backing Faversham Pools' bid for!

He also extended the cap on people's energy bills to carry on supporting families and help bring inflation down. In fact, we've paid roughly half of the average household's energy bills this winter.

Clearly that can't go on forever, and that's why last week the Energy Secretary launched Powering Up Britain – our plan to create cheap, clean and abundant energy here in the UK.

It's not just here at home that we've been busy. During that time we've also struck a new deal with France, agreed a British submarine design for our defence partnership with Australia and the United States, and joined the CPTPP – our biggest trade deal since Brexit with 11 dynamic economies across the Indo-Pacific.

For my part, I've been working on historic reforms to the social care sector – giving care as a career the status it deserves and harnessing new tech to help people live independent lives for longer.

I've also been really busy locally too.

Every March I host an apprenticeship fair in Maidstone with other Kent MPs, and this year we had over 1,500 students from across Kent come and meet businesses from Amazon to Shepherd Neame.

It's always such a joy to see local students' eyes being opened to some of the brilliant opportunities out there.

I've also been sticking up for St Mary's Children's Centre in Faversham, and working to get flood defences with residents and local councillors.

The local elections coming up at the start of next month are your chance to have a say on who should be running things in your local area. Don't forget from this year you'll need photo ID to vote in person – and if you don't have one you can apply for one free by the 25th April.

And finally, seeing litter lying around locally is one of my absolute bugbears.

I want our local area to be looking its best for the Coronation at the start of May, and so I'm organising a constituency wide clean up the weekend before.

I'm calling on litter picking groups from across the constituency to help out, and I want as many people as possible to join in. If you'd like to get involved in any way, please email me at [helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk)

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter weekend in the sunshine!

### **Maidstone Apprenticeship Fair bigger than ever!**

Our Maidstone Apprenticeship Fair is always one of the highlights of my year. I host it with 6 of my Kent MP colleagues, and this year we had well over 1,500 students from 32 schools across Kent attending the fair, to meet nearly 70 employers.

Leaving school and entering the world of work is a big step in all of our lives. University can be a good option but it's far from the only one, and the more students know about what's out there, the better they can plan their future.

If you or someone you know might like to attend the fair next year, or if you're a business interested in exhibiting, please do get in touch with my office for more information.

## **Winning Litter Angels poster takes pride of place**

It's one of my biggest bugbears seeing litter lying around locally.

We live in such a beautiful part of the world, and seeing it spoiled by a thoughtless few is so disappointing. That's why each year I run a competition for local primary schools to design anti-littering posters, in partnership with the charity Litter Angels.

This year's winner was 9-year-old Dylan Hills, and his poster is now proudly on display across the Maidstone Services.

Along with educating people, we've got to make it harder to drop rubbish in the first place. That's why we recently announced a new wide-ranging ban on single-use plastics coming into force later this year.

## **Boost for buses and community transport**

Getting around locally can be tough without a car. Not only are there fewer services, but they're often quite expensive too. With the current squeeze on household incomes a bus fare of £5 or more can put a real dent in your weekly budget.

That's why we're extending the £2 bus fare cap for another 3 months, and protecting vital bus services people rely on for work, school, and shopping.

Sadly with fewer people using buses we can't keep subsidising services forever, and I've also been successful in calling for more community transport funding to replace lost routes. Recently we heard the fantastic news that Faversham and the surrounding villages have been successful in their bid, along with schemes in Boughton Malherbe, and Bearsted & Detling.

## **Keeping us safe from flooding**

Flooding can be an absolute disaster. There's no doubt that in recent years we've had more unpredictable weather, and a higher number of heavy downpours. Making sure our local flood defences stand up to the test is so important, I've been working with some of our brilliant councillors and local residents to get the upgrades that we need.

That includes in Headcorn, where after being alerted by a constituent to flooding on Grigg Lane I took the case up with Kent County Council who got the job done.

With joined up action and the right planning, we can keep flooding at bay.



# philip jarvis

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## **Village Hall – May Newsletter**

Since last month's newsletter we have held the Spring Craft Fair and the Music Night at the hall, both events were well attended, were enjoyed by all, have raised much needed funds to help maintain the hall in good condition, pay for the running of the hall and fund future events. As you know the hall is a community resource for your enjoyment and wellbeing. Your support is greatly appreciated so on behalf of the committee I would like to say a big thank you to you all.

As a charity we held our AGM on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April and we voted to maintain our hall hire fees at £8 per hour for regular hirers but increase the fee for one off ad hoc hirings to £10 per hour with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023. In this way we can shield our regular clubs and societies from any increase whilst increasing our revenue by a modest amount to cover the increased costs of running the hall. We have the following future events coming up so please make a note in your diaries

### **King's Coronation Event Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 12.30 pm to 4pm at the Church**

St Nicholas Church and the Grafty Green Village Hall Committee would like to invite you to a free afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones and cake to celebrate the King's Coronation at the church. There will be a magician/children's entertainer, candy floss machine and children's activities plus a glass of fizz on arrival. We look forward to seeing you at this special community event which has been kindly sponsored by the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council.

### **Summer Fair Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

We have pencilled in Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September as the date for the annual summer fair further information will be provided in due course.

### **Scarecrow Festival & Safari Sometime in October**

Following the success of last year's Scarecrow Festival & Safari we plan to hold another event this year probably to coincide with the school Autumn half term, further details will be provided in due course, but now is the time to start making plans for your scarecrow!

And finally I am reliably informed that we now have eggs available to purchase at the Tuesday coffee mornings at the hall, (11.30 am to 2.15pm – Post Office from 12.45pm) and as we speak the crafting club, (Friday morning 10 am to 12 noon), who have been busy knitting crowns in anticipation of the Coronation will be yarn bombing the village green – please keep a look out I am sure the effect will be

stunning and brighten up the green in celebration of the event. Anyone interested in joining in and possibly learning a new crafting skill please contact Jan Carter on 01622 850898 or just turn up on Friday morning all are welcome.

Thank you again for your support and once again if anyone has any good ideas for any new clubs, societies or activities that you would like to run at the hall, please don't be shy, please give me a ring

**Jon Thompson Hall Committee Chairman**

[bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk](mailto:bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk)

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**YOU ARE INVITED TO**

# A RIGHT ROYAL KNEES UP!

**YOU'RE INVITED TO:**

**King's Coronation Afternoon Tea**

**WHERE & WHEN:**

**St Nicholas Church**  
**Boughton Malherbe**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 12.30 pm to 4pm**

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[CoronationBigLunch.com](http://CoronationBigLunch.com)

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**King's Coronation Afternoon Tea  
at St Nicholas Church  
Boughton Malherbe**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**12.30-4.00**

St Nicholas Church and Grafty Green Village Hall Committee would like to invite you to a **free** afternoon tea with finger sandwiches, scones and cake to celebrate the King's Coronation.

There will be a magician, candy floss machine and children's activities. Church Service 11 to 12

Plus a glass of fizz on arrival.

We look forward to seeing you at this special community event which has been kindly sponsored by the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council





# Boughton Malherbe Parish Council

www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk

## Minutes of a Planning Committee Meeting held in the village hall at 7.00pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Present:** Cllrs B Adams; N Eastwood; R Galton (chair); R Turner  
Clerk: Mrs Vickie Ford

**Cllr Galton opened the meeting at 7:05 pm**

1. **Chairman:** RESOLVED: Cllr Galton to chair the meeting
2. **Declaration of anybody filming/recording this meeting:** none
3. **Apologies for absence:** none
4. **Declarations:**
  - (i) **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda:** none
  - (ii) **Declarations of lobbying:** none
5. **Approval of Minutes of the Planning Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023:** approved and signed as a true and accurate record
6. **Planning Applications:**
  - (i) **Public Session:** no members of public present: no public session
  - (ii) **23/500826/FULL**

PROPOSAL: Section 73 - Application for minor material amendment to approved plans condition 2 (to allow increase in roof pitch and alterations to the form of the roof to the front elevation, raising of ground floor level, change of weatherboard cladding from vertical to horizontal and alterations to fenestration) pursuant to 22/503658/FULL for - Demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings, erection of replacement single storey dwelling and carport/storage structure, and relocation of driveway entrance with new five-bar gate.

ADDRESS: Hillside, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AP

RESOLVED: to support the application; no additional comment
  - (iii) **23/500962/FULL**

PROPOSAL: Installation of 40no. solar panels to roofs of carport and cottage

ADDRESS: Boughton Farm, South Barn, Sandway, ME17 2BD

Cllr Galton outlined the planning requirements relating to the installation of solar panels. Cllr Adams observed that the panels would be at the rear of the property and would not be visible from the road or the Church.

RESOLVED: to recommend approval
  - (iv) **23/501050/FULL**

PROPOSAL: Erection of 2no. mixed-agricultural buildings, for housing of livestock and storage of hay and machinery on a seasonal rotation (retrospective)

ADDRESS: Land at Ash Tree Farm, Woodcock Lane, Boughton Malherbe, ME17 2AZ

RESOLVED: to give a neutral response; no additional comment

7. **Planning Appeal:**

**22/503480/FULL, APP/U2235/D/23/3314653**

PROPOSAL: Demolition of existing outbuilding, erection of 1no. outbuilding including repositioned site access and associated landscaping

ADDRESS: Barnside, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, ME17 2AP

It was noted that the Planning Committee had supported the original planning application and those comments had been passed on to the Planning Inspectorate.

RESOLVED: to take no action

The Meeting closed at 7:20 pm

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## **Grafty Gourmet**

This is a classic English dessert with an Italian twist. Another simple seasonal dish, that is great served with Vanilla Ice Cream.

### **Rhubarb With Amaretti Crumble**

#### **For the Filling:**

400g of rhubarb, cut into 5cm pieces  
1 large red eating apple (or 2 small), cut into chunks  
5 tablespoons of maple syrup  
4 tablespoons of demerara sugar, plus extra for sprinkling  
Finely grated zest of 1 orange  
½ teaspoon of ground cinnamon  
1 teaspoon of vanilla bean paste or vanilla extract

#### **For the Amaretti Crumble:**

110g of plain flour  
75g of unsalted butter, cubed  
50g of amaretti biscuits, crumbled  
2 tablespoons of light muscovado sugar

1. Heat the oven to 190°C (170°C fan oven). Put the rhubarb, apple, maple syrup, demerara sugar, orange zest, cinnamon and vanilla in an oven proof dish.
2. In a separate bowl, rub together the plain flour and butter with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs. Then stir in the amaretti and the light muscovado sugar.
3. Cover the fruit mixture evenly with the crumble mixture, then bake for 30 minutes or until the fruit is juicy and bubbling and the top is golden. Before serving, sprinkle over extra demerara sugar for crunch. Serve with Vanilla Ice Cream.

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Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

## The Lost King

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

**Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00.**

With our new king safely crowned, we shall be celebrating it with a film about one of his predecessors, the famous (or notorious) Richard III. *The Lost King* (12, 2021) is a brilliant true-life comedy drama of how an amateur historian beat the academics by following her conviction that the long-lost remains of the fifteenth century king would be found buried under what is now a car park in Leicester. Sally Hawkins plays the amateur historian Philippa Langley, struggling both with her ME and troubled family-life, in her fight to follow her beliefs which were bitterly opposed by the established academic world. Whether you believe King Richard ordered the murder of the Princes in the Tower or not this is a film to enjoy. And it really happened. Directed by Stephen Frears, with a running time of 1hr 48 minutes.

Our film on June 9th is another winner, in fact, a multi-Oscar winner! It's *As Good As It Gets*, which is our members' choice for the season. This heart-warming romantic comedy stars Helen Hunt, Jack Nicholson and Greg Kinnear.

Please get in touch for more information, to join our mailing list or to become a member. Admission: members £4, non-members £5 Annual membership: £6 (over 16's only)



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



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



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## Music Notes for May 2023 – B Hardy

Of course the coronation will produce some wonderful music to be heard on radio and TV, and looking locally, lots of good instrumental music available in the area in May, but no vocal music – no doubt the situation will be reversed next month when rehearsals have been completed!

Here then is my list:

**\*Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> May**, 6.00pm at Canterbury Cathedral. The Central Band of the Royal British Legion returns to Canterbury Cathedral for a right royal celebration of regal music both classic and contemporary! Tickets are available from the Canterbury Festival Box Office. Telephone: 01227 457568. This is a concert for all ages to enjoy – come ready to wave your flags and raise the roof in celebration of our new King!

**\*Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May**, 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone , ME15 7RN, Maidstone Symphony Orchestra's concert includes Prokofiev's *Violin Concerto No.1* and Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No.4*. Tickets 033 616 3366(booking fee applies) or at the door.

**\*Also on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May**, 7.30pm at the Central Theatre, 170 High Street, Chatham, ME4 4RG, The City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra's concert comprises Britten's *Four Sea Interludes*, Smetana's *Vltava* and Rachmaninov's *Symphony number 2*. Tickets 01634 338 338 or at the door.

**\*Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May**, 7.30pm at Rochester Cathedral, Charles Harrison Organist and Master of Choristers at Chichester Cathedral will give an organ recital as part of Rochester Cathedral Organ Festival 2023. He will be playing Bach's *Fantasia and Fugue in G minor* and Marcel Dupré's *Prelude and Fugue in B major*. Tickets:

<https://shop.myonlinebooking.co.uk/rochestercathedral/sessions.aspx?tid=36>

**\*Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May**, 6.30pm – 8.pm at Whatman Millennium River Park, St Peter's St, Maidstone ME16 0GB, Maidstone Wind Symphony will once again be headlining Maidstone Proms in the Park! They'll be playing a programme of contemporary wind band music and popular classics; This free community event is a great chance to hear MWS in a relaxed setting. Picnics welcome, flag waving encouraged!

## Anniversary

My anniversary for **May is 23<sup>rd</sup>**, the date of the death for Gerog Schumann in 1952. No known relation to the earlier famous Robert Schumann, Georg was



born at Königstein in Prussia. He was the son of Clemens Schumann (1839–1918) and the older brother of Camillo Schumann. He first studied the violin and organ with his father and grandfather, and was taught by Friedrich Baumfelder, a well-known German composer, pianist, and conductor of his day. He later was a student at the Leipzig Conservatory for seven years, conducted an orchestra at Danzig from 1891–1896 and from 1896-1899 the orchestra at Bremen. In 1900 he became professor and director at the Sing-Akademie zu Berlin. In 1907 he became a member of the Prussian Academy of Arts, in 1918 vice-president and finally in 1934 President.

As well as two Symphonies he composed and published a wide range of orchestral works, chamber music and piano music but never received the international acclaim of his namesake.

### **Yoga Classes in Grafty Green Village Hall with Sue Burch**

Mondays 9.30 to 11 – with so many bank holidays this year there is just the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May. New term begins 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Wednesday evenings 7 – 8.30 \* no class 31<sup>st</sup> May

Thursday mornings 9.30 – 11 \* no class 1<sup>st</sup> June.

To join a class or for more details please call Sue Burch on  
07803 962339.

### **Boughton Malherbe Parish Council**

Unfortunately, to date nobody has come forward for co-option and so the Parish Council casual vacancy remains. If you are interested in this opportunity to serve the Community, please do contact the Parish Clerk, Vickie Ford at [boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com](mailto:boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com) or on 07791 135248. Thank you

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

1	'A Fish called _____,' A film starring John Cleese
2	_____ Reeves, Star of the film 'The Matrix'
3	James _____, The Godfather of Soul
4	La _____, Famous Opera house in Milan
5	'The Sound of _____,' A Simon & Garfunkel song
6	___ de Janeiro, Brazilian city
7	'Father ___', Sitcom about a group of Irish Priests
8	___ Shephard, Host of 'Tipping Point'
9	Ayrton _____, 3 times F1 world champion
10	'___ Connect', A BBC quiz show hosted by Victoria Coran Mitchell

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Corn	Ink	Restaurant	<b>Indian</b>
2	Courage	Double	Go	
3	Air	Grenade	Range	
4	Hardy	Leave	Report	
5	Pub	Sunday	Time	
6	Chin	Shoulder	Watch	
7	Cane	Floss	Man	
8	Lock	Skin	Stone	
9	Cocktail	Dog	Roll	
10	Scan	Sound	Violet	
11	Birthday	Hour	Trigger	
12	Green	Maker	Treaty	
13	Band	Stainless	Wool	
14	Box	Crunching	Plate	
15	Derby	Election	Rag	
16	Balance	Clean	Spread	

## Grafty Green Gardening Club Program of Events 2023

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
January 10	Dr Mick Lynn and AGM	Which came first the Bee or the Flower
February 7	Steven Harmer	The story of Plant Hunting
March 7	Kevin Tooher	Getting the best out of Composting
April 4	Caroline Halfpenny and Spring show	A Gardener's response to Climate Change.
Saturday April 29	10 am Plant sale on the Green	
<b>Sunday May 14</b>	<b>Coach outing to Leonards Lee</b>	
June 6	Outing to Faversham – Edible Culture	
July 4	Outing to Elmside, Ulcombe - Rhian Banham's Garden	
Sunday August 13	Coach outing to Hyde Hall	
September 4	Victoria Golding and Autumn show	Marden Meadow
September 8,9,10	Weekend away in Dorset, staying in Weymouth, visit Chawton House and Gardens, Abbotsbury, Athelhampton House and Garden and Holme Gardens	
October 3	Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, Madrona Nursery	Designing a Perennial Boarder
November 7	Christine Bartlett	Healthy House Plants, Happy Home
December 5	Social – wine and cheese with slide-show	

Another good attendance at our Spring Show and talk from Caroline Halfpenny on 'A Gardeners Response to Climate Change'. The really lovely exhibits featuring all of the colours of Spring were a feast for the eyes. The show was carefully judged by Rosemary Smith and Amanda Moore (Fluff to many of us). We would like to thank our judges and participants for making the evening such a success.

**In our Gardens** it is time to sow biennials for next year's bedding plants first clearing out this springs bedding. It's also a good idea to regularly check plants for pests and diseases. Time as well to mulch fruit with any type of organic matter and hoe regularly to keep the weeds in check. Pinch out broad bean tips in the vegetable garden and protect carrots from carrot fly with horticultural fleece. This can be washed and used again.

It is a lovely time of year for visiting gardens and the club has arranged a coach trip to Leonards Lee on the 14th May to enjoy their spectacular Rhododendrons and Azaleas at a cost of £30 per person for non-members £25 for members. The coach will be leaving from the old Village Shop. Enquiries or bookings to the club treasurer Doreen Hulm on 01622 850287.

Enjoy your gardening! Carole Frost.

**PLATTS HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL  
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**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

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### Keep calm and carry on

'You should be grateful' was the familiar retort from adults during my childhood, no doubt remembering, and reflecting on, their own difficult experiences during the war.

I *was* grateful and, indeed, still *am* grateful for my life but we all experience times when things are not as they could be or as we planned: Poor decisions at work, bad behaviour by 'friends', challenging family situations, ill health or tragic news items can all affect us adversely.

Being a Christian doesn't mean that we always wear a Cheshire Cat grin on our faces (although some experiences can result in exactly that) but it does give us inner peace knowing that we are cared for by God.

[Philippians 4](#) tells us not to be anxious about anything, but let our requests be made known to God;

[Isaiah 41](#) says that God will strengthen us;

and [John 16](#) warns that whilst we will have tribulations in our lives, God has overcome the world.

[Romans 8](#) goes further and says that the sufferings of this present time are nothing compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

This, and the knowledge that God loves us beyond all measure, is certainly something worth smiling about.

When we pray, God will be listening, responding and strengthening us. For that I am really grateful.

## Len Valley Benefice May 2023

*Everybody is welcome*

### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

**9.30am** Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (BCP)

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Church

**11.00am** Ulcombe: Morning Worship

**11.00am** Harrietsham: Family friendly Morning Worship

**11.00am** Lenham: Holy Communion

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Church followed by joining the market.

**11.00am** Lenham: Holy Communion

**11.00am** Ulcombe: Holy Communion

**3.30pm** Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong



### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

**8.00am** Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)

**9.30am** Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

**9.30am** Harrietsham: Holy Communion

**9.30am** Lenham: Breakfast Church

**11.00am** Lenham: Morning Worship

**11.00am** Ulcombe: Holy Communion

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30am** Benefice Holy Communion at Harrietsham

*'Identity:*

*"I am unconditionally forgiven"*

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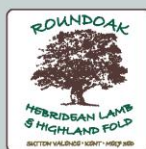
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KCC Community Wardens:

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*District Support – Dawn Riach- Brown* **07773 397125**

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*Home Safety Visits* **0800 923 7000**

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

## Answers to the Quiz and Missing Word Puzzle

Answer	Word 3	Word 2	Word 1		
1	Indian	Restaurant	Ink	Corn	1
2	Dutch	Go	Double	Courage	2
3	Rifle	Range	Grenade	Air	3
4	Annual	Report	Leave	Hardy	4
5	Lunch	Time	Sunday	Pub	5
6	Strap	Watch	Shoulder	Chin	6
7	Candy	Man	Floss	Cane	7
8	Flint	Stone	Skin	Lock	8
9	Sausage	Roll	Dog	Cocktail	9
10	Ultra	Violet	Sound	Scan	10
11	Happy	Trigger	Hour	Birthday	11
12	Peace	Treaty	Maker	Green	12
13	Steel	Wool	Stainless	Band	13
14	Number	Plate	Crunching	Box	14
15	Local	Rag	Election	Derby	15
16	Sheet	Spread	Clean	Balance	16

Find the missing word?		
1		'A Fish called <b>Wanda</b> , A film starring John Cleese
2		<b>Keano</b> Reeves, Star of the film 'The Matrix'
3		James <b>Brown</b> , The Godfather of Soul
4		La <b>Scala</b> , Famous Opera house in Milan
5		'The Sound of <b>Silence</b> , A Simon & Garfunkel song
6		<b>Rio</b> de Janeiro, Brazilian city
7		'Father <b>Ted</b> ', Sitcom about a group of Irish Priests
8		<b>Ben</b> Shephard, Host of 'Tipping Point'
9		Ayrton <b>Senna</b> , 3 times F1 world champion
10		' <b>Only</b> Connect', A BBC quiz show hosted by Victoria Coran Mitchell

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