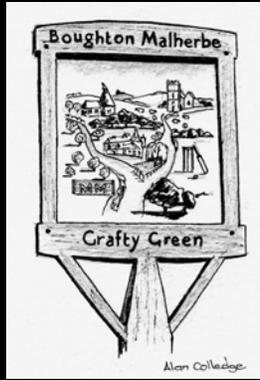


Malherbe Monthly

Free

Number 26

September 2006



¹
Incorporating Liverton Street & Platts Heath

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

County Councillor	Sandy Bruce Lockhart	890651
Borough Councillors	Jenny Gibson Richard Thick	890200 891224
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Joan Davidson	858348 850210
Parish Council Clerk	Pat Anderson	858350
Village Hall bookings	Doreen Walters	850387
KM Correspondent	Sylvia Close	858919
Gardening Club	Sue Burch	850381
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Sunday School	Mair Chantler	859672
Yoga	Liz Watts	737321
Neighbourhood Watch	Keith Anderson Sue Burch	858350 850381
Incumbent	Revd Don Irvine (email: revdonirvine@uwclub.net)	859466
Benefice Office	Michelle Saunders (email: churchoffice@lenvalleybenefice.org.uk)	850604
Mobile Library	Wednesday afternoons	
St. Edmunds Centre	Tricia Dibley	858891
Fresh Fish delivery	Thursday afternoons at approx. 3.30 by Post Office	
Council Rubbish Freighter	See article in magazine	
Malherbe Monthly Production Team		
Chris King	Advertising: Christine.kings@btinternet.com	850711
Mike Hitchins	Editor: mf.hitchins@virgin.net	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 October edition should be left in Grafty Green Shop, or contact Mike on 01622 858937 (mf.hitchins@virgin.net) by 15th September

Front cover: Resident Peacock at Boughton Malherbe Church.

News from St. Nicholas Church

Cream Teas – Boughton Malherbe Church

The Cream Teas are going extremely well this year. We are welcoming new customers and old friends. The afternoons are very busy for the Ladies, who serve these delicious Teas. The Jams and Cakes that are for sale have been snapped up very quickly. One afternoon, we were visited, by a nephew of Eric, Lord Chilston, who was the last Lord Chilston to live at Chilston Park; he was showing his son all the Family memorials that are on the walls of St. Nicholas.

The last Cream Teas for this year will be served on 3rd September, 2.00p.m.-5.00p.m., so, if you haven't managed to come along yet, this will be your last chance for this year. Thank you to all our regular customers and the new ones for your support. Thank you also to the Ladies, who serve the Teas each Sunday, for giving up their time and making the Teas so successful.

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper will be on 30th September in the Village Hall, Grafty Green, 7.30p.m. for 8.00p.m. We offer a 4 course Meal and Entertainment, there will be a licensed Bar. Jack Grace will be our Entertainer again this year and we are very grateful to Jack for filling this slot for us. It is not easy to get someone willing to entertain these days. Tickets this year will be £7.00 available from Mandy on 858937, Joan on 850210 and the Village Shop.

St. Nicholas Church

St. Nicholas Church will be closed from 9th October for about 4 weeks, so that re-wiring can take place, which means, new Heating and Lighting can be installed and a Loop System for the Deaf. Through careful Housekeeping, we are able to do this work without a special Appeal. But, should anyone wish to contribute to towards the cost of this work, we would be extremely grateful. John Collins, at the Homestead, Grafty Green, is our Treasurer and he would be most happy to receive any contribution that you might like to make. While this work is being carried out some of our Services will be in the Village Hall. Look in October's Magazine for any changes there might be to Services, also watch for the Poster in the Village Shop.

Joan Davidson

Grafty Green Christmas tree

We know it's a bit early to think about Christmas, but Les and Bernard feel it's time to pass the job on to someone younger! It would be a shame not to have some lights of some sort on the village green. Perhaps we could have some suggestions and volunteers to deal with it.

Les Hulm

Grafty Green Village Hall

Dance

Advance Notice for your diaries: We will be holding a Dance in the Village Hall on Saturday 18th November. There will be a licensed bar and snacks available. The popular group “**Walls have ears**” will be providing the entertainment.

Quiz and Games Supper

The Village Hall Committee are holding a Quiz and Games Supper in the Village Hall on Saturday October 7th at 7.30 pm. The Quiz Master will be Paul Neaves and the cost will be £7.00 per head in teams of 4. A hot meal will be provided but bring your own drinks – glasses will be available. More details on both events in next months Malherbe Monthly.

Grafty Garden Cuttings – September

A late sighting this year, of the Hummingbird Hawkmoth, just spotted zooming around the buddleia. We usually see them all summer, but not having the normal pots and tubs of flowers standing around seems to have kept these lovely moths elsewhere.

After repeatedly rattling the rain stick and performing a rain dance, I cannot claim any responsibility for the half inch that has at last fallen to dampen our gardens. It is a start. Most plant life is looking very woebegone and I am cutting

back and reducing the size of anything that appears stressed. This will, hopefully, aid their recovery by reducing the amount of greenery they have to try and support. Other than that, it is a case of waiting to see what survives. Trees, especially, can take some time to die, so unfortunately, the effects may be felt for several years yet, even if rainfall reaches better levels this winter.

Dead-heading should be continuing, especially on roses, pelargonium, and fuchsias and perennials that seed copiously, like *Alchemilla mollis* (lady's mantle) which, if they have their blooms and older leaves removed, re-shoot to form nice, compact clumps to brighten up the garden in the autumn. Other seed heads should also be carefully removed and either binned or burnt, or, if the seeds are required, hung in paper bags to finish drying in a dry, airy place. I saved the seeds of the giant poppies that came up, quite unplanned, in the front garden this year and now have enough to carpet the entire village (If anyone would like some, do get in touch!) The dried pods look good in a vase, especially as the conservatory is otherwise devoid of all greenery because of the Extreme heat.

Using a low nutrient compost, bulbs for a display at Christmas can be planted up, no later than the middle of the month, placed in the dark, or covered with compost and plastic to keep the rain off (checking that they do not try out too much) and brought out into daylight when the shoots are about 1-2 inches tall (2.5 - 5cm). They are then best kept in a cool room for the longest display.

And of course, it is harvest month. Time to bring in the few apples and pears that have survived, bumper crops of plums, but despite our best efforts with wheelbarrow loads of watering cans, terrible runner beans, pathetic sweetcorn and few carrots, with the rabbits chewing on those that did grow. Parsnips, marrows and squashes look wonderful, also the climbing beans that we have named 'Aunty Nin's Beans, because that's where the seed came from. We begin to get some idea of what will and what will not survive in the changing climate.

Rosemary Smith

Grafty Green Gardening Club

Join us at our next meeting when the club will be hosting a talk by Ian Currie on the weather 'drought, deluges and dust devils' on Tuesday 5th September at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

Entry is 75p for members and £1 for non members; refreshments included.

The October 3rd meeting will be on 'Growing Fruit in the Garden' and Russell Williams will be giving us the tips and know how on this topic.

We will be planning the programme for 2007 soon so if you have any suggestions and ideas please pass them on to us.

More details about the club's activities from Sue Burch 850381 (email burch1997@aol.com) or Rosemary Smith 850526.

Sue Burch

Grafty Garden Club success at the County Show!

Rosemary Smith contributes an interesting article each month on Gardening, she also contributed some excellent courgettes and potatoes to our club exhibit at the County Show. It took a whole row of careful digging before 5 matching, perfect potatoes appeared but we were awarded a 3rd prize in the Highgrove Inter-Society Challenge class for vegetables!

This was not bad for our first ever entry!

I am Show Secretary for our Grafty Green Garden Club and as I was setting out the trays for the two classes we had entered (in the Kent Federation of Horticulture tent,) several other societies complemented us on our effort !

Well done to Sue Burch for her near perfect climbing French beans, John Millen for his 9 respectable runner beans and Les Hulm for his unusual organic potatoes. Praise is also due to Rosemary for her delicious looking blackberries (I nearly forgot to mention those)

On Friday, when they were judged, we had all set off on our annual garden outing and did not know of our success till we returned.

I had also entered some of the individual flower classes and was awarded a rosette for my 3 stems of lilies very surprised at that for I had carelessly clouted them as I took them out of the car and two petals dropped off !

May I encourage you all to enter items for the County Show next year... it's not difficult and is quite fun, £5 covers all your entries and gives you a free Show ticket (quite a saving on the gate I believe!)

Lesley Feakes

Short Monthly Quiz – Answers at the back (don't look first!)

	Question	Answer
1	What is the name of the baker in the card game Happy Families ?	
2	Which literary bear shares its name with a railway station ?	
3	Which Italian city is famed for its leaning tower ?	
4	In which country was Pope John II born ?	
5	Stud, Indian and Draw are all types of which card game ?	
6	The Howrah in Calcutta and Rialto in Venice are both names of what ?	
7	What is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November every year in the U.S.A ?	
8	Which of the Beatles is barefoot on the Abbey Road album cover ?	
9	In which country was the gangster Al Capone born ?	
10	What three letter first name for a boy is also a Spanish word for Mr ?	

YOGA

Grafty Green Village Hall

Thursday mornings

9.30 - 11.00

New Term Commences 7th September

£5 a session

Yoga for stamina, suppleness,
strength and stress relief

Mixed Ability Class

For further details contact Liz Watts on 01622
737321

YOGA FOR GOOD HEALTH

* BALANCING * ENERGISING * DE-STRESSING * MAINTAINING
FITNESS*

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

I hope you enjoyed last months link word here is another to rack your brains – Paul Neaves

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

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Answer
1	Bell	Boy	Sacred	Cow
2	Colony	Meeting	Oats	
3	All	Clamber	Ship	
4	Hill	Queen	Soldier	
5	Bowl	Chalk	Pan	
6	End	Far	Middle	
7	Penguin	Purple	Roman	
8	Double	Feather	Sea	
9	Jamaica	Keeper	Sign	
10	Atomic	Sickness	Therapy	
11	Botany	Leaf	Window	
12	Bag	Car	Games	
13	Duelling	Face	Tissue	
14	Hand	Turn	Wing	
15	Down	Low	White	

Many thanks to **Paul Neaves** who set both the Quiz and the Link Word Puzzle.

Grafty Green Heating Oil Club

Grafty Green has a successful Heating Oil Club, we have to date nearly 100 members all taking advantage of cheaper heating oil when ordered in bulk. To make this club work all members have to have at least the minimum 500 Litres every time we order, that is about 3 to 4 times a year. It makes sense to have a bulk order delivered over 2 to 3 days every 4 months, rather than have tankers clogging up our village every week.

We now cover Harrietsham, Headcorn, Lenham, Liverton Hill, Platts Heath, Sandway Ulcombe and Biddenden. If you would like to join or need some information about the club, email me on europa.13@btinternet.com or 01622 858350. The Oil Club is non-profit making.

Keith Anderson

Bulky Refuse Collections (Weekend Freighter Service)

Please find below the dates of when the weekend freighter service stops near your home during September and October.

Grafty Green

Saturday 9th Sept: 07:45 - 08:45 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Saturday 28th Oct: 13:30 - 15:15 -: Church Rd - Junction Headcorn Rd

Ulcombe

Sunday 15th Oct: 11:15 - 12:15 -: Ulcombe Lodge Gardens

Platts Heath

Sunday 8th Oct: 14:15 – 15:45 -: Green Lane

St Edmunds Centre - Platts Heath

At last after several months of inactivity we have been able to book the builders who will start the refurbishment the second week of October. Unfortunately this is later than we had hoped, but the paper work took longer than we anticipated.

The hall and grounds around it are looking rather neglected, this is because the whole of the front will have to be altered to enable the installation of a disabled access and the mains drainage needed for the new toilet. Therefore in view of our plans it was felt a waste of effort to do very much outside. However the inside has continued to be looked after. The committee took the decision not to take bookings this summer in the hopes that we would have the building work started and did not wish to let people down at the last minute by canceling.

Anyone wishing to help with the labouring is welcome to join our band of volunteers, there is plenty we can do to get things underway, just give me a call.

I have to say all the committee has tried to be as supportive as we can to the school, after all the children of the village are our life's blood without them the village as we know it would die. Therefore the community has felt it necessary to get right behind the efforts being made to save it. However this has not meant disinterest in the St Edmunds Centre, just getting our priorities right. As the children of the school use the hall several times a week and have priority access during the school hours in term time, the two go hand in glove as they should. I have no problem giving my name publicly to both of these causes.

Patricia Dibley

THE TRUSTEES OF ST EDMUNDS CENTRE

ARE HOLDING A

QUIZ NIGHT

QUIZMASTER JOHN NYE

AT

HARRIETSHAM VILLAGE HALL

ON

SATURDAY 21st OCTOBER 2006 AT 7.30PM

TEAMS OF 4 - 8

TICKETS £5.00 PER PERSON

TO BOOK A TABLE

RING

JAN 859412 or TRICIA 858891

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN REFRESHMENTS AND GLASSES

ALL PROFITS FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE ST
EDMUNDS CENTRE

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Our next meeting is on Monday 25th September 2006 at 7-30pm, in THE NEW SCHOOL in West Street, Harrietsham.

You are most welcome to come along and see our new venue. Numbers have been slightly low of late, but now is the time of year to start researching again. The group is a self help one; it is open to all no matter where you come from or which area you are researching. Come along and find out how and where to start or continue.

Cost £1, there is no joining fee. Car parking available. Further info from Frank Long 01622 850863

COACH TRIP

A coach has been booked for a trip to The Family Record Centre in London for Monday 23rd October 2006.

Here you can search the indexes for births, marriages and deaths from September 1837 to 2004 (at least). Also available are the census returns from 1841 to 1901 (ten year intervals). Nearby is The London Metropolitan Archive where the records of many London Churches and Local Authorities are on film.

A short bus ride away in Holborn are where wills indexes are kept, these may be viewed. If you want a copy it has to be paid for.

The coach will leave the car park at Harrietsham Community Centre at 8-30am and leave London at about 3-30pm. If using the car park would you please leave your car on the far side, away from the road, thank you.

Cost £11/12 according to numbers on the coach. You will need to bring a packed lunch, there is a place to sit and eat.

In March we had an almost full coach, so do not leave it too late. To book a seat please call Frank Long on 01622850863, (leave a message on the answer phone if needed. Further info from Frank as above

Frank Long

Archaeology:- “the Black Stuff” mystery

I usually write an article for the Lenham Focus and have also been asked to write a different one for Grafty and Boughton Malherbe. Sometimes it is difficult to think of something that would interest you but here is some information that you may be able to cast more light on.

Have any villagers discovered “black stuff” about 30cm below their garden soil? From a local’s description it is black, gritty and resembles coal or anthracite. Coal deposits are not unknown in Kent and there’s a shallow seam near Cobham. Nothing is shown on the Geological map but just south of Grafty a fault line is marked running NE-→SW between Coldharbour Farm and Springfield Farm. Some people believe that this line is a Roman road.... but perhaps the Romans used the same alignment ? Who knows ?

“Black stuff” can represent a habitation layer, charcoal from charcoal burning, persistent heath fires, or the remains of iron workings including pieces of iron slag. Iron slag was sometimes used to metal Roman roads so is there any along that line I have mentioned ?

Another possible link are names .

Coldbridge Farm could once have been Coal Bridge. (Incidentally , stone work from its ‘castle’ was carted up the hill to build Boughton Malherbe house.) Blackpits Wood is also close by and there is Coldharbour that I have already mentioned. Some people claim that all Coldharbour names are of Roman origin. Perhaps they were iron smelting works and invariably square and black hence a coal harbour ?

So any reports of the “black stuff” in your gardens may help to solve the enigma. Please phone me if you have any information.

Incidentally , our most recent excavation on Stumbles field near East Lenham revealed scraps of anthracite at 30cm depth. I had thought they were perhaps from the use of a traction engine.... but that might not necessarily be the case.



Iron- slag :

Lesley Feakes, Lenham Archaeological Soc

Lenham Community Centre
Fundraising Committee Present

"The ABBA GIRLS"

At Lenham Community Centre.

Saturday 23rd September at 7.45pm

Tickets £10.00 from Lurcocks of Lenham and Goldsmiths
Fine Art, Lenham

BYO Drinks & Nibbles



Your local Computer Centre

Can we give you some help with your computer?

Leaflets to prepare? Need to set up accounts for your club or home expenses? Tired of those problems with the internet? Want to buy something on Ebay?

We can help! We are running courses from September right through to Christmas covering **Desk Top Publishing, Internet & Email, Excel, Digital Photography and Ebay**, together with **Basic IT, Word Processing**, and **Clean up your Computer** plus a brand-new course which will cover **simple accounts using Excel**. There's sure to be something which would be of interest and we would be very glad to see you.

Most of the courses are run in the evening with one or two daytime subjects. Our rates are extremely reasonable and our facilities are excellent.

Please ring **Alison, our Booking Clerk, on 01233 756366**—she will be happy to give you full details.

Or call in to our drop-in centre on Saturday mornings between 10am and 12 noon and have a chat with one of our tutors. We are situated in the new Millennium Hall in Egerton in the centre of the village.

YOUR MONEY! **2007 PARISH SHARES**

The following proposal passed recently by North Downs Deanery Synod directly affects all parishes in the Deanery so we thought it might be helpful to provide details:

- Each Benefice must meet its own clergy costs. This figure is to include training and support costs. It will also include the additional amount (£947) per stipendiary minister that the Church Commissioners have recently notified the Diocese will be required this year as an additional contribution to the clergy pension fund (i.e. it is the Diocesan figure for clergy costs we are talking about here).
- The balance of the amount required from the Deanery by the Diocese will be divided into two.
- One half will be allocated between the eight Benefices equally.
- The other half will be contributed by each Benefice according to what it can, in a spirit of generosity, fairly give until the shortfall has been met.
- How Benefices allocate the amount required between their individual parishes will be for each Benefice to decide.

Synod also agreed to establish a Finance Committee comprising a representative from each Benefice to be chaired by the Revd David Bond (Otham with Langley). It will take responsibility for overseeing the 2007 Parish Share negotiations. The aim is to reach an agreed outcome by this October.

It is hoped that these revised arrangements will help foster a spirit of openness and trust between the Benefices of North Downs Deanery.

Mary Rabbett NDDS Secretary

Answers to the Quiz and Link Word Puzzle

Answer	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3
1	Bell	Boy	Sacred
2	Colony	Meeting	Cats
3	All	Clamber	Ship
4	Hill	Queen	Soldier
5	Bowl	Chalk	Pan
6	End	Far	Middle
7	Penguin	Purple	Roman
8	Double	Feather	Sea
9	Jamaica	Keeper	Sign
10	Atomic	Sickness	Therapy
11	Botany	Leaf	Window
12	Bag	Car	Games
13	Duelling	Face	Tissue
14	Hand	Turn	Wing
15	Down	Low	White

Question	Answer
1	What is the name of the baker in the card game Happy Families?
2	Which literary bear shares its name with a railway station?
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8	Which of the Beatles is barefoot on the Abbey Road album cover?
9	In which country was the gangster Al Capone born?
10	What three letter first name for a boy is also a Spanish word for Mr?

From the Registers

Sunday 9th July, at Lenham, St Mary, baptism of Leo Hazelwood

Sunday 9th July, at Canterbury Cathedral, Mr David Essex appointed Reader Emeritus

Thursday 13th July, at Charing Crematorium, funeral of the late Stanley Terry of Lenham.

Saturday 15th July, Harrietsham, St John the Baptist, interment of the cremated remains of the late Dennis Tabrett.

Saturday 15th July, at Harrietsham, St John the Baptist, wedding of Darren Chalmers-Stevens & Patricia Browne.

Sunday 16nd July, at Harrietsham, St John the Baptist, baptism of Lucie Essex.

Friday 21st July, at Harrietsham, St John the Baptist, Primary School Leavers' Service.

Sunday 23rd July, at Harrietsham, St John the Baptist, baptism of Cameron Pawsey.

Monday 24th July, at Ulcombe, All Saints, Primary School 'End of Year' Service.

Friday 28th July, at Ulcombe, All Saints, wedding of James Collins & Laura Martin.

Bits 'n Pieces

Sunday 10th September - Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On this Sunday the Parish Church of Lenham, St Mary celebrates its Patronal Festival - the Feast Day of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patron Saint of the Church. Confusingly, the Church's calendar has two different dates on which this may be celebrated: 15th August or 8th September - taking the nearest Sunday as the celebration. Given the number of folk on holiday in August, we use the September date and we share the celebration with each of the other three churches in the benefice - as we do for each of the respective Patronal Festivals. Do come along to the special Family Service in St Mary's on 10th September, or join in one of the services in another church if you like.

Saturday 23rd September - Leadership AwayDay

The combined Parochial Church Councils and Ministry Leadership Team of the Len Valley Benefice are having an 'AwayDay' on Saturday 23rd September at Aylesford Priory. They will be doing a 'health check' on our churches and our mission in the communities we serve. If you have any issues you would like to have considered in the day please inform a member of the leadership.

Sunday 24th September - Benefice 'Informal' Service in Harrietsham

The guest speaker at this evening service (6.30pm) is Christo Thiaradt, a South African-born Christian who trained as an osteopath and rose to the top of his profession; he recently also trained as a Lay Preacher. Christo's story is the more astounding because he is blind; do come and hear his testimony.

Harvest Suppers

Please see other entries in the magazine for detail of the Harvest Suppers around the benefice.

Tailpiece

Humour:

A keen sense of humour helps us to overlook the unbecoming, understand the unconventional, tolerate the unpleasant, overcome the unexpected, and outlast the unbearable!

Revd Don Irvine

The Len Valley Benefice
Lenham & Boughton Malherbe; Harrietsham & Ulcombe
Sunday Services - September 2006

Date	Time/Location	Service
Sun 03 Sep 06	08.00 L 08.00 H 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 15.00 L 18.30 U	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc Baptism Taize
12 th after Trinity		
Sun 10 Sep 06	08.00 L 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 15.00 L 18.30 L	BCP HC Fam Svc CW 1 Fam Svc CW 1 Baptism Youth Svc
The Blessed Virgin Mary		
13 th after Trinity		
Sun 17 Sep 06	08.00 L 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 15.30 HofK 18.30 BM	BCP HC BCP HC CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 Heart of Kent Hospice Service BCP EP
14 th after Trinity		
Sun 24 Sep 06	08.00 L 09.15 BM 09.30 H 10.45 L 11.15 U 18.30 H	BCP HC MS CW 1 CW 1 CW 1 Informal
Church Army Sunday		
15 th after Trinity		

BM - Boughton Malherbe, St Nicholas

Due to essential repair and refurbishment work which is expected to commence at St Nicholas Church during October, all Services are likely to be held in the Village Hall, Grafty Green. Please see the Church Notice board and Village Post Office for further information

Key

Parishes / Churches

L: Lenham
BM: Boughton Malherbe
H: Harrietsham
U: Ulcombe

Services

BCP HC = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Holy Communion
BCP EP = Book of Common Prayer (1662) Evening Prayer
Fam Svc = Family Service (not Communion)
MS = Morning Service (not Communion)
CW 1 = Common Worship (Order One)
H = Holy Communion
Informal = Informal! (not communion)

Many thanks to Eddie Brooke for printing this magazine - It is very much appreciated

If you would like to advertise in Malherbe Monthly and reach the whole of Boughton Malherbe, Grafty Green, Liverton Street, Platts Heath and Internet via www.boughtonmalherbe.com

The monthly costs are:

1/8 page	£3.00
1/4	£5.00
1/2	£10.00
Complete page	£20.00

Phone 01622 850711 or Email -christine.kings@btinternet.com