

# Malherbe Monthly

Number 243  
October 2024



**Grafty Gardeners' weekend away**  
Picture courtesy of The Gardening Club

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

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Borough Councillors	Martin Round martinround@maidstone.gov.uk Ziggy Trzebinski ziggytrzebinski@maidstone.gov.uk	890276 07852492770
Church Wardens	Kenneth Alexander Vanessa Goodwin	859549 858372
Parish Council Clerk	email boughtonmalherbecp@gmail.com	TBC
Village Hall bookings	Jan Carter email janlcarter@btinternet.com	850898
Village Hall General Enquires	Jon Thompson email bromley@ashleylaw.co.uk Mobile 07932 112730	851351
Gardening Club	Doreen Hulm	850287
Church Choir	Doreen Hulm	850287
Dance Fit	Sharon Harris	890170
Craft Group	Jan Carter	850898
Yoga	Sue Burch	07803 962339
Parish Council Website	www.boughtonmalherbe.co.uk	
Priest in charge	Dr John Huggins email: vicar@lvb.org.uk	850280
Pilates	Cheryl Stubbs email: c.stubbs8@btinternet.com	07852 602369
Art Class	Cathy Hill email: cathyonthehill@hotmail.com	07927 045708
Benefice Office	Sarah Hills email: churchoffice@lvb.org.uk Answer phone available out of hours	850604
St. Edmunds Centre	Kate Stansfield Mobile 07500 895831	
Fresh Fish delivery	Tuesday at approx. 3pm by Post Office	07976 435217
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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 **November** edition should be left in Grafty Green Telephone Box, or contact Carol on 07990 574214 (carolhulm@gmail.com) by **20<sup>th</sup> November**

# News from St. Nicolas Church – October 2024

Here comes the rain again!

Looking out on the sodden, waterlogged, Herefordshire countryside, seeing the low rain-laden clouds drifting across and obscuring the wooded hillsides makes one glad to be sitting in a comfortable, dry home. Driving through lanes the smell of apples in the cider orchards hangs heavily. Even the jackdaws are shouting down the chimney, thankfully not falling into the hearth.

Now looking forward to an Autumn of warm colours and the celebrations of harvest. Celebration in all parts of the country despite the vagaries of the weather.

## **Reminders**

The church porch is open at all times to take shelter, meet for a chat, make hot drink, dip into the Bible and help yourself to any item in the mini foodbank, if you need. There is a larger foodbank at the back of St. Mary's Church in Lenham, open from 10am – 4pm daily. The main church building is open for services, cleaning, meetings etc. please contact the church wardens for a key if you wish to visit at other times. Church Service times are on the notice boards by the porch, the roadside and outside the Village Hall in Grafty Green. Celtic morning prayer is said each Monday morning in St. Nicolas, 9 – 9.30am. This is an informal time with short bible readings and time for discussion and prayer, spoken or in silence. A time to acknowledge the needs of our friends, neighbours, world issues and ourselves. A gentle way to start the week.

The **Village Coffee Morning** takes place each Tuesday morning from 11.30am to 2pm in the Village Hall in Grafty Green. The Post Office is open from 12.45-2.15pm at this time. There are usually Alan's free-range eggs and honey, Sue's handmade cards, Pluckley Tea, Homemade marmalade, amongst other items for sale. All donations for the coffee/teas and cakes are shared equally between St. Nicolas Church and Charity chosen by popular demand. £100 will shortly go to support the 'Hands of Hope' Charity. A charity which uses growing, cooking and nature-based activities, whose mission is to 'enable people and communities to lead healthier and happier lives by connecting them to nature and each other.

**Meditation** This session will take place on the first Saturday of each month, starting on the first Saturday of October, 2.00- 2.30pm.

**Boot Fair** Thank you to those who organized this event. We enjoyed meeting lots of people and hope that it will be repeated.

The **Harvest Supper** takes place in Grafty Green Village Hall on the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 7.00pm. £10 tickets are available from Kenneth Alexander, 07768323367.

The **Harvest Festival** is at 6.30pm Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> October at St. Nicolas. Gifts of produce welcome. Fresh produce: cakes, fruit and veg etc will be auctioned. All proceeds are given to charity and the nonperishable foods will go to the foodbank.

## Celebration

Many congratulations to Rob and Hazel on their Golden Wedding. They were married on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1974. We send them our very best wishes.

## Finale

Whilst I am out of action, I would like to give my grateful thanks to so many of you for generously giving time and energy to help ensure that all continues seamlessly.

Thank you.

Sally Alexander



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### BOUGHTON MALHERBE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024, at 19.30 at Grafty Green Village Hall

Meeting Ref: 004/2024

- Present :** Cllr Eastwood (Chairman) Cllr Hook, Cllr Tomlinson, Cllr Thompson  
Cllr Trzebinski (Maidstone Borough Cllr) Marie Norris (Clerk)
- 09.24.01 Welcome and apologies for absence**  
The chairman welcomed everyone.
- 09.24.02 Declarations of Interest and dispensations**  
Councillors had no interests to declare.
- 09.24.03 Co-option of Councillor to Boughton Malherbe Parish Council**  
All councillors were in agreement that Mr Steve Peter will be coopted to the Boughton Malherbe Parish Council. Due to work commitments Mr Peter was unable to attend this meeting but will complete the Declaration of Acceptance at the November meeting.  
**Resolved:** Formal co-option paperwork will be deferred until the November meeting when Mr Peter can attend.
- 09.24.04 Public Session/Open Forum**  
A member of the public raised concerns about the PC commenting upon an Ulcombe planning application appeal.
- 09.24.05 Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Ordinary Parish Council Meeting**  
Councillors were asked if they had any comments regarding the accuracy of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish meeting that took place on the 1st July 2024. No comments were made.  
**Resolved:** The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July were signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 09.24.06 Reports from Borough / County Councillors**
- Cllr Trzebinski gave a short verbal report and reported that the new council have agreed to decarbonise Maidstone House and another building in Maidstone.

Cllr Pendergrast (KCC Member for Maidstone Rural East) provided the following written report which the chairman read out at the meeting:

August has been a very quiet month at County Hall for Members with no committee meetings. The one key area that is being looked into at pace is the impact of the new border controls at Dover – the EU has now announced the autumn start date.

On more local issues, although not completely local to Boughton Malherbe, you will be aware of the SEW works commencing shortly on Ulcombe Road, Headcorn. I'm also working with various parishes to address the ongoing speeding issues along the A20 coming east out of Maidstone. Again, although not directly in your parish, this affects all of us to a large degree. This has now got some real momentum with both highways and the police and I'm hoping to see some significant improvements over the coming months.

Finally, I have supported the village hall refurbishment via my share of the KCC Member Grant – the village hall is a vital amenity!

#### 09.24.07

##### **Clerks report and update of resolutions from last meeting**

- The clerk confirmed that the Boughton Malherbe Facebook page was now online.
- The recent village litter picking event was successful with a number of residents coming to help.
- Emergency plan – A number of volunteers had contacted Cllr Hook directly and Cllr Hook confirmed that she would be emailing the volunteers to suggest a meeting whereby they could get together and discuss further.
- Cllr Hook had also made a contact at Maidstone Borough Council who has offered to come and assist us further with putting together a revised Emergency plan.
- Cllr Hook is hoping to attend a village hall coffee morning to discuss ideas and ascertain with residents whether the Parish council should look to start a group within the village to assist other residents with tasks such as collecting shopping, prescriptions etc. Cllr Hook will report back whether it was felt that residents would like such a service.

#### 09.24.08

##### **Planning Applications**

To consider planning policies, applications and appeals received and resolve to submit comments where appropriate. *Please note that any applications received following the issue of the agenda may be considered at the Parish Council discretion.*

**Resolved** No planning applications were brought to the attention of Boughton Malherbe Parish Council for consideration.

U2235/W/24/3348657 Pye Corner Ulcombe Kent ME17 1ED

Although Boughton Malherbe were not contacted as a consultee, the parish council wished to consider whether it would be acceptable to also submit a response to the appeal panel. After consideration and taking into account the opinions of residents in attendance at this evenings' meeting both for and against raising a submission, the PC

decided to object to the planning appeal and reiterate some of the objections already raised by Ulcombe Parish Council.

09.24.09

**Financial matters**

**a) Bank Account Balances and Reconciliation**

Lloyds Treasures Account	£9,668.42
Lloyds Inst Online	£7,216.63
Lloyds 32 Day Notice	£41,348.58
Nationwide	£14,973.40
Cambridge & Counties	£24,165.11
Receipts	
Lloyds Inst Online (Interest)	£14.57

**b) Accounts for Payment**

i) Amesis Ltd Litterpicking	£108.75
ii) Nu Venture 59 Bus service (July)	£560.00
iii) M Norris Clerk Salary July/Aug	£805.64
iv) KALC Training (Intro to Planning)	£60.00
v) KALC Training (Nuts & Bolts Parish Council)	£60.00
vi) Nu Venture 59 Bus Service (Aug)	£560.00

**Resolved** All payments were approved by Councillors in attendance.

**c) Accounts for Payment for Information only**

i) Hugo Fox Website	£23.98
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**Resolved: The accounts for payment for information only were approved**

09.24.10

**Matters of Correspondence Raised** (*for information purposes only no decisions can be made under this item*)

No items were brought to the attention of the Parish Council.

09.24.11

**Matters concerning the Amesis Agreement**

As requested previously, the Clerk had approached Amesis with a revision to their earlier draft agreement however that was rejected on the basis that the time allowed under the contract was sufficient only for the basic service. The wording of the agreement was not discussed however the PC agreed that The Clerk would have authority to agree the work required up to a maximum of 6 hours per month but that any requests for additional time would be referred back to the PC. The siting of the bin was discussed and it was agreed that it would be placed next to the existing public rubbish bin and that additional security in the form of a chain would be added. A budget up to a maximum of £100 was agreed.

09.24.12

**Matters concerning Grafty Green Village Hall**

- a) The PC agreed to find out the cost of purchasing a noticeboard to display the historic map of the village that had been kindly offered.
- b) The PC were in agreement of the hall hire annual cost of £400 for unlimited use when available. **Resolved:** Approved by the PC and clerk to arrange payment.
- c) To consider the request for a grant application for financial assistance for the village hall rewiring and redecoration £5,000. Following discussions the PC wish to consider the application further and have requested that the village hall provide the previous fixed wiring certification and copies of other quotations received to enable them to do so.

**09.24.13 Report from KALC Meeting**

No report was delivered as the BMPC representative was unable to attend the last meeting.

**09.24.14 Matters for Information**

Christmas Party Arrangements, The PC requested that Jon be invited to the next meeting to discuss arrangements further.

59 Bus Service Arrangements. The clerk questioned the arrangements in place for the 59 bus service for FY25/26. It was agreed that a meeting needed to be arranged to discuss this further. **Action** Clerk to contact KCC in the first instance regarding the grant funding.

**09.24.15 Items to be taken in private session**

Item not required.

**09.24.16 Items to be placed on the next Agenda.**

- 59 Bus Service
- Boughton Malherbe Christmas Arrangements

**09.24.17 The date of the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday \* November 2024 at 7.30pm at Grafty Green Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 20.25 hours

## Boughton Malherbe Parish Council Contact Details

**Nick Eastwood**

Chairman

Tel: 01622 850330

[nicholas.eastwood.bmpc@gmail.com](mailto:nicholas.eastwood.bmpc@gmail.com)

**Christine Tomlinson**

Vice Chairman

Tel: 07733 111309

[christine.tomlinson.bmpc@gmail.com](mailto:christine.tomlinson.bmpc@gmail.com)

**Lorraine Hook**

Chairman Planning Committee

Tel: 07815 152902

[lorraine.hook.bmpc@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.hook.bmpc@gmail.com)

**Gary Thompson**

Chairman Finance & Staffing Committee

Tel: 07493 981772

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

**Marie Norris, Parish Clerk**

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

## **Doreen Walter (nee Lewis) 9 Jan 1939 - 10 Sept 2024**

This month we say goodbye to a much-loved member of our community.



Doreen was born in Bromley, just 8 months before WWII started and as a toddler moved into Honeywood Road, Lenham. Like a lot of children, Doreen saw her father Charles enlist for our country and barely saw him for 6 years as he fought as a desert rat in Africa. Her twin siblings, Moreen and Robert, were born 2 years later and they were looked after by their mum, Emma.

Doreen attended the primary and secondary schools in Lenham before training as a dressmaker. As a Christian, she was an active member of Lenham Church, from Sunday School and Girl Guides all the way into her adult life. She found time to support Sid Boreman, the local farmer, feeding his many animals. One of them, Lassie, a retired sheepdog became the first family pet a few years later.

In her late twenties, Doreen became a skilled welder at Marley and that is where she met her husband, Peter. 1969 was the year they were married and made the short 3-mile journey to their family home, Brierley, in Grafty Green with its beautiful views of the countryside. The seventies were a busy time for Doreen and Peter as their 3 children Mandy, Adrian and Louise were born, whilst Brierley was transformed into the bungalow we know today. Peter worked hard to extend the property whilst Doreen used her considerable gardening skills and together, they created a beautiful family home.

However, during the late-eighties and early-nineties Doreen faced considerable challenges as she was diagnosed with breast cancer twice in a 5-year period. She won her battles with cancer and went on to raise money for the Peggy Wood foundation.

Doreen had a love of nature and a strong sense of community spirit. She was an amazing gardener, great cook and very popular in the local farming community. Each year she would work with Ron Maddocks and Mike Davidson to help ensure that the local harvest of strawberries, raspberries, apples, and pears were harvested. In later life she also worked for the Chandlers and Wickens. When Bill and Nelly Blackmore finally moved out of the village in the early eighties, Doreen then managed our village hall for the next 30 years.

Doreen made some amazing friends in the village. The biscuit tin was always well stocked with Jenny (Palmer), Jean (Heywood), Pat (Dodson), Edie (Weller) and many more regularly dropping in for tea or coffee.

The family are humbled by the courage, grace and good humour Doreen showed throughout her illness and her family would like to thank everyone in the local community for their support.

Many thanks

Mandy, Peter and family

Doreen's funeral will be held at 12.30 on Monday 7 October at Charing Crematorium and afterwards at The Wishful Thinker. If you would like to join family and friends, please contact either Peter or Mandy.



## Village Hall – September Newsletter

Dear All,

We hosted our first indoor boot fair at the hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September which was well supported and appeared to be enjoyed by all who attended. We raised just over £300 from tea and cake sales, (that's a lot of tea and cake!), which we will use to help fund repairs to the hall, given the event's success we plan to host this as an annual event going forward.

For those of you who work hard during the working week the hall offers the following classes outside of normal office hours Yoga with Sue on a Wednesday evening 7 – 8.30pm, Art with Cathy alternate Thursday evenings 7 – 9 pm and Pilates with Cheryl Saturday mornings 9.30 - 10.30 am. So if you want to get fit and relax after all that stress at work please give them a ring, (their contact details are on the regular events notice contained in this magazine), they would be pleased to hear from you.

Coming up shortly we have the following events at the hall:

### **Harvest Supper at the hall Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 7pm**

St Nicholas Church are organising their annual harvest supper at the hall on Saturday 12th October 7pm. The supper will be a two-course meal and there will be a pay bar. Tickets are £10 per person available from Kenneth Alexander on 07768323367 or [kalexander@fastmail.fm](mailto:kalexander@fastmail.fm). All proceeds will be in aid of the church.

### **Grafty Green Scarecrow Festival Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Village Hall 10 am to 2pm**

The theme for this year's Scarecrow Festival is, 'film stars', so please get busy designing your scarecrows for the event. They can be displayed either on the village green or in your front gardens. Resources such as timber, straw or assistance with construction can be provided.

You are welcome at the Village Hall which will act as Scarecrow HQ on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October from 10 am to 2pm for light refreshments of tea, coffee and cake, there will be activities for the children and a map providing the locations of all the scarecrows in the village. You can then vote on your favourite scarecrow. Please let me have details once constructed by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October so that your scarecrow can be included in the map. Donations of cakes on the day would as always be gratefully received for the tea and cake stall.

### **Christmas Craft Fair Weekend of Saturday & Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 10 am to 2pm both days**

Once again, we are pleased to announce that due to the high demand for stalls this year our Christmas Craft Fair will be held at the hall over two days on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> of November from 10 am to 2pm on both days. There will be a wide variety of stalls on each day where you can browse jewellery, toiletries, cards, artwork, handmade coasters, bags, ceramics, wax melts, wooden items, general craft items and so much more..... We will also provide a variety of refreshments so that you can have a chat with friends and enjoy a cup of tea and some cake on the Saturday and tuck into a bacon sandwich on the Sunday with your tea or coffee.

The event will provide you with gift ideas for some unique and individual Christmas presents produced by local craftspeople the event should have a lovely festive feel to get us all ready for Christmas.

### **Christmas Quiz – Revised date of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7 for 7.30 pm**

I am pleased to say that our quizmasters ably assisted by their naughty elves will be hosting our very popular annual Christmas Quiz which will be held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 7.00 for 7.30 start, what could possibly go wrong? Tickets are £15 per person and the format will be the usual teams of eight, supper, lots of unwarranted heckling and insubordination usually caused by inebriation. Please save the date, dust off those Christmas jumpers and organise your teams. For those of you like me who don't have any friends don't worry we can find you a team on the night! Please contact me on 07932 112730 or [jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk) to book your tickets for what is sure to be a fun event.

### **Panto Cinderella – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 3pm**

I am pleased to say that panto is back again this year! Oh no it's not. Oh yes it is..... This year's Panto is Cinderella provided by Shooting Star Entertainments and the performance will start at 3pm on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> December. Ticket prices are a very competitive £15 for adults which will entitle you to bring one child under the age of 12 free, (children's tickets must be ordered at the time of booking), additional children will be charged at £5 each - Good news in these times tightened budgets. There will be light refreshments available. To book tickets, please contact myself on either 07932 112730 or [jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk)

Kind Regards

**Jon Thompson Village Hall Committee Chairman**

**[jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk)**  
**[www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.graftygreenvillagehall.co.uk)**  
**Facebook – graftygreenvillage**

# CRAFT GROUP



**We hold a pop-in craft group every Friday morning  
10am – 12.00 noon at the Village Hall.**

**We are a relaxed and friendly group who enjoy lots of  
different crafts: knitting, crochet, weaving, spinning,  
sewing, quilting, cross stitch, felting, painting, dyeing etc.  
and there is even a jigsaw for those in between projects or  
who just want to pop in for a chat and a cuppa!**

**No need to book please just turn up and you will be made  
very welcome but if you would like any information on  
what we do please contact Jan on 01622 850898 for  
further information.**

**Attendance is £2.50 on the day to cover hall hire.**

## **Yoga classes in Grafty Green Village Hall**

Monday *and* Thursday mornings 9.30 till 11

Wednesday evenings 7 till 8.30

No classes the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> October

New term starts October 28<sup>th</sup> until last practice on 12<sup>th</sup>  
December.

To book call Sue Burch (British Wheel of Yoga teacher) on  
07803 962339

*Expand your boundaries yet be able to relax and feel  
harmonious, integrated and complete.*

# **PILATES CLASSES**

***Grafty Green Village Hall***

**Tuesdays and Saturdays 09:30 to 10:30**

***Small friendly mat classes***

*Pilates teaches ease of movement and good posture.*

*Conditioning the whole body by lengthening, strengthening and rebalancing, helping you enjoy daily activities with greater ease and less chance of injury.*



***Mixed Ability (Beginners/Improvers welcome)***

***To book your place please contact Cheryl***

***Mobile: 07852 602369***

***Email: [c.stubbs8@btinternet.com](mailto:c.stubbs8@btinternet.com)***

# Art Classes with Cathy Hill



Exciting, artistic adventures!

**Starting September 11th**

Fortnightly classes - till December 4<sup>th</sup>

Choose from 3 classes:

Wednesday Afternoons at Grafty Green Village Hall 1pm – 3.30pm

Wednesday Evenings at Little Chart Village Hall 7pm - 9pm

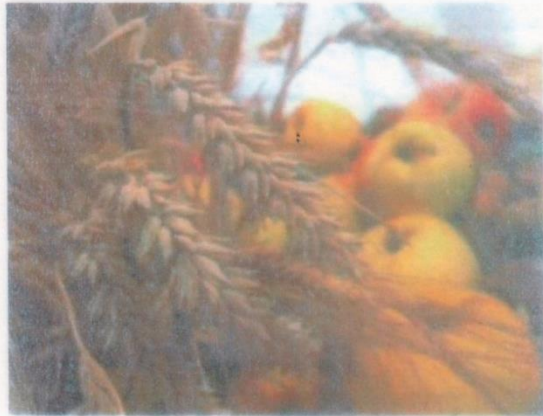
Thursday Evenings at Grafty Green Village Hall 7pm - 9pm

The fee for the course of 7 classes is £96 (this includes one free class@ £16).  
(Alternatively, you can pay for a run of 3 classes = £48 and then later, a run of  
4 classes = £64.)

Learn big, bold drawing skills, boost your confidence and lose creative inhibitions, by playing around with colour, line and form. We'll do some 'mixed media', 'colour-perspective', and move into 'composition-making' and painting with acrylics.

Contact me, Cathy Hill at: [cathyonthehill@hotmail.com](mailto:cathyonthehill@hotmail.com) Tel: 01233 756515 or 07927054708

**Harvest Supper**  
**Grafty Green Village Hall**  
**ME17 2BA**  
**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024**  
**7pm for 7.30pm**



Tickets are £10 per person there will be a pay bar  
Please contact Kenneth Alexander on 07768 323367  
Proceeds in aid of St. Nicholas Church, Boughton Malherbe.



# Scarecrow Festival

## Grafty Green Village Hall

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 10 am to 2pm**

Make your own scarecrow to display in your front garden or on the village green by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October. This year's theme is, "film stars".

Please provide details of your scarecrow, (your name, contact details, type of scarecrow and location) to Jon Thompson by email to:

[jon@grafftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@grafftygreenalpacas.co.uk) by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

Please call in at the Village Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October between 10 am and 2pm to collect your scarecrow location map whilst enjoying a cup of tea and cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

Go on a scarecrow safari around the village and return to the hall and vote on your preferred scarecrow.

If you need any assistance with resources such as timber, straw or with building your scarecrow please contact Jon Thompson on either 07932 112730 or [jon@grafftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@grafftygreenalpacas.co.uk)



**Grafty Green Christmas Craft Fair Weekend!**  
**Come along on both Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday**  
**17<sup>th</sup> November to our Christmas Craft Fair**  
**which is bigger and better than ever!**

We will have a wide range of stalls including jewellery, toiletries, cards, artwork, handmade coasters, bags, ceramics, wax melts, wooden items, general craft and so much more.....

On Saturday there will be tea, coffee and cake and on Sunday we will also have bacon sandwiches.

So come along and support your village hall, buy unique Christmas presents and chat with friends over a cup of tea or coffee.

Don't miss out on that special gift by only coming on one of the days

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November**  
**10am-2pm**

**Grafty Green Village Hall ME17 2BA**





*It's that time again!*

*Time for the famous  
Grafty Green*

*Christmas Quiz!*

*Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
at the Village Hall*

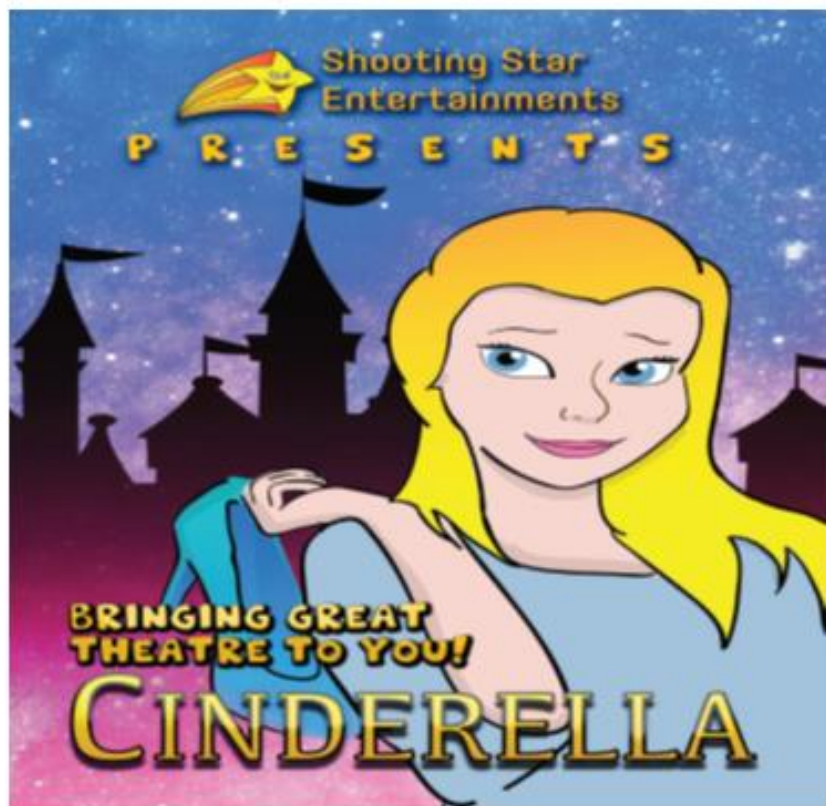
*Doors open 7pm ~ Quiz starts 7.30pm*

*Tickets **£15** (includes Ploughman's Supper)*

*from Jon on 07932112730 or  
jon@graftygreenalpacas.co.uk*

*Teams of up to 8*

*There will be a Pay bar or you can bring  
your own drinks*



Grafty Green Village Hall, ME17 2BA. Saturday  
14<sup>th</sup> December @ 3pm

Tickets are £15 for an adult which entitles you to bring a child under 12 free, (children's ticket to be ordered at the time of booking), additional children charged at £5.

Contact Jon Thompson on 07932 112730 or  
[jon@griftygreenalpacas.co.uk](mailto:jon@griftygreenalpacas.co.uk) to book tickets.

# **Grafty Green Village Hall**

Bookings 01622 850898

## **Regular Weekly Events**

<b>Yoga – mixed ability</b> Susan Burch 07803 962339	<b>Mondays and Thursdays 9.30 – 11am</b> <b>Wednesdays 7 – 8.30pm</b>
<b>Pilates</b> Cheryl Stubbs 07852 602369	<b>Tuesdays 9.30 – 10.30am</b> <b>Saturdays 9.30 – 10.30am</b>
<b>Post Office</b>	<b>Tuesdays 12.45 – 2.15pm</b>
<b>Coffee morning</b>	<b>Tuesdays 11.30 – 2.00pm</b>
<b>Short Mat Bowls</b> Joan Marriott 07503 568874	<b>Tuesdays 2.30 – 5.30pm</b>
<b>Dance Fit</b> Sharon Harris 01622 890170	<b>Wednesdays 11am – 12.30pm</b>
<b>Tai Chi</b> Rhonda Bailey 07985 001782	<b>Thursdays 2.00 – 3.00pm</b>
<b>Craft Group</b> Janis Carter 01622 850898	<b>Fridays 10am -12.00pm</b>
<b>Art Class</b> Cathy Hill 07927054708	<b>Alternate Wednesdays 1 – 3.30pm</b> <b>Alternate Thursdays 7 – 9pm</b>

## **Regular Monthly Events**

<b>Gardening Club</b> Doreen 01622 850287 Sue 01622 850381	<b>First Tuesday 7.30 - 9pm</b>
<b>Digital Kent</b>	<b>Fourth Tuesday 11.30 – 1.30pm</b>



# MAIDSTONE LANDSCAPES & PROPERTY SERVICES Ltd

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## Grafty Gourmet

This is another one of my concoctions that I threw together, so thought it best to type this recipe straight away. It was a bit of a guessing game, so the units of the ingredients are approximate. Taste the sauce as you cook it, and add more of each ingredient if required. It worked really well, and it was extremely tasty with an Indonesian / Malaysian flavour. I used prawns, but you could use pork, chicken, beef or vegetables.

### Prawns in Spicy Peanut Sauce with Fried Rice - Serves 2

2 Hands full of cooked prawns (or cooked meat or vegetables)  
1 Large Onion, chopped into  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch pieces  
1 Red Pepper, chopped into  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch pieces  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  Cup of Chicken Stock  
1 Small Red Chilli, very finely chopped (use 1 chilli for slightly spicy or 2 to put hairs on your chest)  
2 Large Cloves of Garlic (crushed)  
1 Teaspoon of Chinese Five Spice Powder

2 Tablespoons of Tomato Ketchup  
1 Cup of Milk  
2  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tablespoons of Smooth Peanut Butter  
2 Tablespoons of Lemon or Lime Juice  
2  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tablespoons of Soy Sauce  
For the Fried Rice:  
2 to 3 Tablespoons Oil  
1 Cup of Long Grain or Basmati Rice (Rinsed)  
A Hand full of frozen Peas  
3 Spring Onions, chopped  
Soy Sauce

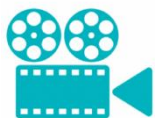
1. Cook the rice in boiling water as per instructions, but 5 minutes before the end add the peas and stir in. When cooked, drain in a colander and rinse well with cold water.

2. In a saucepan, add the chicken stock, ketchup, soy sauce, lemon juice, milk, peanut butter, chilli garlic and Chinese five spice and simmer, stirring until the peanut butter melts. Keep stirring or the Sauce will stick to the base of the pan and will burn. If the sauce is too runny, make a paste with a little cornflour and water and stir into the sauce to thicken.

3. Place a little oil in a frying pan, and simmer the onions and pepper until just soft, but still slightly crunchy. When done, add the onions, pepper and prawns (or alternative) to the sauce. Simmer on a low heat, stirring frequently, whilst doing the next step.

4. Add 2 more tablespoons of oil back into the frying pan, and heat. When the oil is hot, add the cold rice and pea mixture, stirring so that the rice is evenly coated in the oil. Fry, stirring for 2 minutes and then add the chopped Spring Onion and a good dash of soy sauce. Stir so that the rice is evenly coated in the soy sauce for another couple of minutes.

5. Serve the rice on a warm plate, and top with the spicy peanut prawn mixture.



# LENHAM FILM CLUB

Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way

## Chariots of Fire

**Friday October 11th**

**Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00**

*Running time 2hr 5 mins*

Come along to watch the grand finale to the Olympic season in our October film club performance of **Chariots of Fire** (PG 1981) based on the true story of the 1924 Olympics, which, like this year's event, also took place in Paris. This famous film with its never to be forgotten music is the story of the two British athletes, Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams, who sprinted their way to glory after years of training. The two young men both have burning ambitions to win, but for different reasons, although both inspired by their faiths.

*Chariots of Fire* won four Oscars including Best Picture and three BAFTAs and is ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in the British Film Institute's Top 100 British films list. This is a film not to miss, especially with its magnificent cast. In this of all years, do join the race to see it; we can't offer you Paris, but we can provide you with a first-class evening's entertainment.

Directed by Hugh Hudson.

Our November film also centres on a race, this one NASA's 1960s space race to the moon.

**Fly Me to the Moon** is a great new romantic comedy, starring Scarlett Johansson and Channing Tatum. Come along on November 8<sup>th</sup> and enjoy the flight.

Please get in touch for more information or to join our mailing list.

**Admission:** Adults £5, under 16s £2; cash only, card payments not accepted.



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## **Grafty Green Gardening Club**

**Carole Frost** – Our dear Carole, who would have prepared the news for the magazine for a good number of years, has passed away at the beginning of August.

Carole joined the gardening club in the early days of the club's existence and became the secretary after Sandra Pilborough stepped down. Carole was diligent in the work that she undertook, particularly the organising of the weekend trips that the club enjoyed.

Carole loved her garden here in Grafty Green at Holly House and more recently at her home in Penenden Heath; she was an avid bird watcher and also involved in her local history group.

Another attribute was her commitment to supporting the cream teas at St. Nicholas Church for many years; she will be missed by so many.

Gardening advice that would have come from Carole will be undertaken by another committee member.

## **Gardening tips for October**

Time to take some cuttings or to split some perennials, making more plants for free, or you could collect your own seeds for next year.

Lift tender plants such as cannas, dahlias, and store in a cool dark place until the spring.

Planting hardy broad beans and peas for an early crop next year; also garlic cloves can also be planted now.

Cut the summer fruiting raspberry canes back to ground level and tie in the new cans.

This is the time of year when you might consider perusing the catalogues for seeds or for bulbs for the spring.

## Grafty Green Gardening Club – programme for 2024

Date	Speaker/Event	Topic
January 9	Joe Archer	From Kew to Kent
February 6	Steve Harmer	Arts and Crafts movement and their gardens.
March 5	Steve Kirk	Wild life reintroductions in Kent
April 2	Spring show plus Maureen and Sue	Encouraging wildlife visitors to your garden
Saturday April 27	Plant fair	
May 7	Vicky Golding – Outing to Marden Meadow	
June 4	Social in Bridget Samuelson’s Garden, Crumps Lane	
July 2	Outing to Hawkhurst – Hands of Hope garden	
July 30	Outing – Old Rectory Otterden	
September 3	Autumn Show and Sally Channon, Thanet Earth	
September 13 - 15	Weekend away to north Devon	
<b>October 1</b>	<b>Kevin Tooher</b>	<b>Choice trees for small spaces</b>
November 5	Davina, The story of the Dower House garden at Chilston Park	
December 3	Practical session – table decoration with guidance from Sandra Pilborough	

Tuesday October 1<sup>st</sup> at 7.30 in the Village Hall– our speaker is Kevin Tooher who will be giving advice on trees for small spaces. Kevin, a popular speaker having given talks to the club in the past; he has a wide range of gardening knowledge and shares it with the audience, entertaining us with amusing dialogue and visual slide show to illustrate his talk.

### Sue’s Nature Notes

**Red Admiral butterfly** This butterfly migrates to the UK and lays eggs mainly on nettle; you might observe leaves knitted together to form a tent with spun silk. The caterpillars feed on the nettle leaves and juicy stems until they pupate in July and August. Two weeks later the butterfly emerges. It is thought that many red admirals hibernate now in the UK.

The plants sought for nectar are bramble, buddlia, over-ripe fruit, blackberry, thistle, and ivy.



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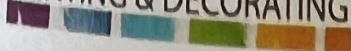
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# Christian Message October 2024

## To give and receive generously

A young woman approached us as we sat eating a picnic lunch next to Thirlmere, in the Lake District, and asked if we could change her £20 note for coins for the car park ticket machine.

Our minds flashed back to a year before, where, at a service station in the Alps, we had found we needed to convert Euros to Swiss Francs before using these to enter the toilets. A kind local man had seen us in a muddle and given us each a Swiss Franc coin - just in the nick of time!

We gave the young woman a £1 coin, despite her protests, and carried on with our lunch, enjoying the lake view and watching people exercise their dogs by the water's edge with sticks and stones to be fetched from the lake. As we set off to leave, the young woman ran up to our car and offered us a large bar of hazelnut chocolate.

'No, really' we protested. 'It was our pleasure to help and a mere pound wouldn't cover the cost of all your lovely chocolate.' The lady wouldn't be swayed, declaring it was all she had with her to offer and that she couldn't bear to think we were out of pocket. Eventually we caved in - it's not every day someone tries to make you eat such a delicious treat - but I rather wished we hadn't. We had just wanted to do a little something kind.

We drove to Keswick where a teenage girl was leaving the ladies' toilet. After her came another and then another, all giggling. 'There's quite a team of you' I teased as a fourth girl appeared round the corner and they giggled some more. Before I knew it one of them ran back to me:

'Would you like me to jump the barrier and push the button so you can get in for free?' She asked.

'No, it's fine' I replied, 'I'll pay to get in.'

'Are you sure? I'll happily do it for you if you like?'

'Thank you, but no, really, I'm fine' I answered as I pushed 50p into the machine, thinking about Keswick District Council and all their overheads, let alone potentially giving a teenager a criminal record!

We then walked to a shoe shop and as we paid for some shoes, it started to pour with rain. The shop assistant rushed behind the scenes and came out with a pretty, brand new umbrella.

'With our compliments' she beamed. How we praised her as we walked back to the car, dry and safe despite the downpour.

The prayer of St Ignatius tells us to give and not to count the cost:

"Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve;  
to give, and not to count the cost,  
to fight, and not to heed the wounds,  
to toil, and not to seek for rest,  
to labour, and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we are doing your will.'

Jesus made the ultimate gesture of giving by surrendering his life for us and the Bible tells us to love one another as he has loved us (John 13:34).

The people we met that day on holiday certainly all seemed to like being able to help each other in their own way, whether strictly legally or not! Maybe the challenge is to show generosity appropriately and humbly, avoiding grand gestures, but also to allow others the blessing of giving too, discerning when to accept help graciously and when it is better to gently refuse, for their sake or that of the greater good.

Pamela Cuerden

---



# Len Valley Benefice

## October 2024

*Everybody is welcome*



'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.'

*Matthew 13:31-32*

### *Caring for Creation Series*



#### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

- 9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
- 9.30am Harrietsham: Family friendly Harvest Morning Worship
- 11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion *with baptism*

#### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

- 9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)
- 11.00am Harrietsham: Chippendayle

#### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

- 9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion
- 9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
- 11.00am Lenham: Harvest Holy Communion
- 11.00am Ulcombe: Harvest Holy Communion
- 6.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Harvest Choral Evensong

#### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

- 8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion
- 9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion
- 9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church
- 11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion
- 11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

#### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October**

- 11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at All Saints, Ulcombe

*'A God who cares for His creation'*

#### **Harvest Supper Dates**

**Lenham & Harrietsham** (at St John's)  
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**Boughton Malherbe** (Grafty Green Village Hall)  
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