

MONACHORUM MATTERS

FREE

Issue 47, April 2023

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



A very busy Market in March – lots of bargain hunters checking out the wares. Picture David Bowyer

busy

EDITORIAL

As we move into April it's good to know that Spring is on the way, with longer days and, hopefully some warmer weather. After a very dry and cold start to the year it's not just the gardens that need a boost, we do too. Speaking of gardens, planning is under way for the Summer Show which will take place on 2 September. It's time to get planting - see page 4 for details of the potato grown in a bucket which is a regular feature of the show.

Still on the garden front, an early event this month is the annual opening of Monk's Croft, the beautiful garden of Ken & Jane Hogg in Western Road. The fishing lake will also be open and both are worth a visit, let's hope the weather is kind.

Many residents will have watched with interest as the new houses on the site of the old chicken sheds have taken shape. It's been a long haul but the first residents have now moved in and we send them a warm welcome to Zeal.

Another event to look forward to takes place on Monday 1 May at the Waie Inn – a fun Dog Show with a Coronation theme, details can be found on page 6.

Whatever you do this month, I hope you enjoy it.

DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE: 8 APRIL

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COMMUNITY NEWS

VILLAGE EVENTS IN APRIL

Every Weds	Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon at Village Hall
Sat/Sun 1/2 Apr	Monks Croft, Western Road, open for NGS, 12 - 5pm, page 10
Wed 6 Apr	WI, 7.15 for 7.30pm at Village Hall, see page 5
Sat 8 Apr	Easter Market, 10.00 - 11.30am at Village Hall
Fri 14 Apr	Mobile Library, 1.10 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross
Mon 17 Apr	Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop

ADVANCE NOTICES:

Bank Holiday Monday 1 May - Dog show at the Waie, see page 6.

Sunday May 7 - Big Coronation Lunch at the Village Hall, see page 15

BOW & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monday 24 April, talk by Erica Eden: Catastrophe at Hayne Bridge & the life of William Bibbings. This may be of particular interest to the readers of Monachorum Matters as it is about events and people from Zeal's history. 7.15 for 7.30pm at Bow Village Hall. Annual Membership £15, visitors £4, refreshments included.

People going from Zeal often share lifts. Get in touch with Erica, 82606, if you would like to join in.

RAINFALL

The rainfall for February was 24mm – a very dry month!

MOBILE LIBRARY

Friday 14 April between 13.10 and 13.45 at Waie Cross. Children at home for the school holidays? Take them to the mobile library, they will be able to borrow books immediately and will have the chance to participate in the Secret Book Quest. There are no fines if you return books late.

0345 155 1001 www.devonlibraries.org.uk

WANTED – OLD DUVETS

If anyone has unwanted washable duvets, these will be gratefully received by Mandy to up-cycle into elegant Pet Beds.

Part of proceeds of sale are donated to various animal charities.

Tel: 07855 830668.

COMMUNITY NEWS continued

ALLOTMENTS

As members of the village may know, I have been campaigning for allotments for the past 3-4 years and trying to secure land for this. We are, at present, going through some procedures at Burston Football field and, so far, it is looking very promising. There will be only 30 available spaces so allocation will be on the basis of first come, first served.

Mike Russell will be Chairman of the Allotments Society. If you are interested in securing an allotment, please let Mike know by texting your name and number to 07707 554313. If you cannot contact Mike, please call me, Ken Hogg, on 07749 329832, or pop in and see me at Monks Croft, Western Road. We would like another 4 committee members; if anyone is interested, please get in touch.

Mike Russell & Ken Hogg

SEED POTATOES

How many potatoes, by weight, can you grow in a bucket? Come to the April market to get your seed potato and bucket. This is a magical thing for children and adults too - put one potato in the bucket, cover with compost and keep watered, topping up the compost as the stems grow. When emptied at the show you'll be amazed to find just how many potatoes one plant can produce. The summer show will be held on 2 September.

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A QUIZ FOR APRIL

1. Which is the smallest of the eight planets in our solar system?
2. What material was traditionally used to make taffeta?
3. Which Briton invented the jet engine?
4. What nationality was the explorer Christopher Columbus?
5. Which Caribbean island is the most easterly?
6. Which character's name translates as 'Pine Head'?
7. Which two deer species are indigenous to the UK?
8. What is the only English word that begins and ends with 'und'?
9. In which war was the Victoria Cross first established to recognise bravery?
10. From which plant does Opium come?
11. Which county has two separate coastlines?
12. Which is the only letter in the alphabet to have three syllables?
13. What is the capital of Texas?
14. Which poet wrote 'The Ancient Mariner'?
15. What is the common term for a golf shot two under par?

And, if you only have a minute:

What is the next number in this sequence?

5th 8th 6th 2nd 3rd ?

Answers on page 14

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

Our March birthday evening went well, with the usual delicious variety of both savoury and sweet choices. Only a small amount of business was dealt with as the lure of the food called. We were disappointed that our soup 'n' pud event had to be cancelled; maybe it's due to the fact that we are all having to watch the pennies with the ever-increasing cost of the weekly shop.

The April meeting is our AGM. On May 3 we will have a 'Bring and Buy' sale and our member, Jess, will demonstrate decorating pebbles. Members' efforts will be judged by Jess to see who is "best in show". Please do come along to any meeting, information can be found in this newsletter. You do not have to be invited to come.

Jan Brealy
President

CORONATION FUN DOG SHOW

On a warm sunny day last summer, Mandy Smith organised a fantastic Dog Show which was very much enjoyed by both human and canine visitors. Mandy and her trusty helper, Ali Birchwhite, are doing it all over again. Kindly sponsored by St Boniface Vets the show will be held at The Waie Inn on:

Bank Holiday Monday, 1 May 2023, starting at 1.30pm

Tilly Vet & Belinda Vet Nurse - Judges from St Boniface Vets, Crediton.

CLASSES

1. Best King - Regal Fella
2. Best Queen - Regal Bitch
3. Best Heirs to Throne - Puppy up to 1yr
4. Golden Oldie - Most Noble over 10 yrs
5. Duke/Duchess - Best Paw Shaker
6. Best Jester - Trick/Talent
7. Best Prince/Princess - (Child Handler)
8. 'Orb & Sceptre' - Egg & Spoon (dog on lead) Adult
9. 'Orb & Sceptre' - Egg & Spoon (dog on lead) Child
10. Monarchy Consolation class (dogs who haven't won anything)
11. Coronation Class/Best in Show (All 1st Rosette Winners)

If participants, either dog or handler, feel like dressing up for each class (optional) this might further enhance one's position.

QUOTES

There's nothing better than a good friend, except a good friend with chocolate
Linda Grayson, English author

Easter spells out beauty, the rare beauty of new life
S.D Gordon, American author

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ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

April is a busy time for the church. It encompasses Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the solemnity of His crucifixion on Good Friday and His glorious resurrection on Easter Day. Our Easter Day Eucharist will be at 6.30pm. We look forward to seeing you all on this very special day in the Christian calendar. I very much hope that we will have a Happy Easter Celebration.

On April 30 we are hosting the service of Holy Communion for all our sister churches within the Mission Community. I hope as many as possible from our church family will come to worship and meet our mission community friends.

Church rota for April 2023

April 2 at 10.00am	Palm Sunday (lay led)	Family Service
Old Testament reading	Isaiah 50: 4-9	Miss Lynn Warren
New Testament	Matthew 21: 1-11	Mr Tony Brealy
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers
	Cleaner	Miss Margaret Harris
	No Flowers	

April 9 at 6.30pm	Easter Day Communion	
Old Testament	Jeremiah 31: 1-6	Mrs Jane Hogg
New Testament	Acts 10: 33-43	Mr Robert Peck
Gospel	Matthew 28: 1-10	Rev Robert Gordon
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy
	Flowers 9 & 16	Mrs Susan Bostock

April 23 at 6.30pm	Easter 3 (lay led)	Evensong
First reading	Acts 2: 14,36-41	Mr Tony Brealy
New Testament	John 10: 11-16	Mrs Becky Harvey
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers
	Flowers 23 & 30	Mrs Margaret Down

April 30 at 10.00am	Easter 4	Mission Community Eucharist
Old Testament	Acts 2: 42-47	
New Testament	1 Peter 2: 19-25	
Gospel	John 10: 1-10	Rev Robert Gordon
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers

Flower arranging for Easter Day will be from 10.00am on Saturday, 8th April

Easter is Good News! *Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed, Alleluia*

Holy week:

Maundy Thursday: 7.00pm at Zeal Monachorum, Communion to be led by Rev Robert. This service is open to everyone within the Mission Community.

Good Friday: there will be services at Colebrooke 9.00am; Morchard Bishop Walk of Witness 10.00am from St Mary's; Lapford at 2.30pm and Coldridge at 4.00pm.

Parochial Church Council Meeting 2023

The Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual General Meeting of the Parochial Church Council will take place on Wednesday, 26 April at 7.00pm in church. This is an opportunity to hear reports of activities in 2022 including the presentation of the audited accounts, churchwarden's report on the fabric of the church and churchyard, the bell ringers and Deanery synod report. We elect our churchwardens. Anyone who is both on the church electoral roll and electoral roll of the Parish is able to nominate and elect the churchwardens. Anyone can attend the annual meeting, only the church electoral roll members can vote to elect the PCC members who then elect their officers. Nomination papers are available from the church table. Our PCC is small now, so please consider becoming a member and help spread the load. We are proud of our lovely church which has served the parish for many, many years and will continue to do so with your support.

Bell Ringing

In 2025 the Devon Association of Bell Ringers are celebrating 100 years. It was formed here in Zeal Monachorum by the then vicar The Reverend Augustine McCarthy to improve bell ringing. As yet we do not know what form the celebrations will take. One thing we know is that it would be great if we can recruit more bell ringers here in Zeal to enable this long held village tradition to continue and prosper. Now is not too early to start preparing, not only for the centenary but also to keep bell ringing thriving here in Zeal Monachorum.

Margaret (Churchwarden)

REMEMBRANCE POPPIES



We have been exploring the idea of creating a Remembrance display on the village green this November using knitted and crocheted poppies. You may have seen similar wonderful displays in neighbouring villages last November. For this, we will need hundreds and hundreds of poppies but we believe we can achieve a good number if we get going now.

We have already tried out both a knitting and crochet pattern and, if you would like to join in with the project, these can be collected from Hazel Wainwright 82216 at Beam Ends or from the village market on April 8 at the village hall.

We will also need a large amount of red and black double knitting wool so, if you have some to donate, we would be extremely grateful or, if you see some in a charity shop, please buy it! The poppies do not have to be perfect or even uniform in shape or colour. We would just love many villagers to get involved and to help make our November display a spectacular one. Thank you.



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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

We are, at present, having work done on the wooden platform swim stands; it is being carried out by Alex Wrightson. Alex was previously a junior member of the club and once lived in Rose Cottage with his parents. He is now a landscape gardener in Ottery St Mary and he and his work colleague are providing their services completely free of charge to help the club out. This is very much appreciated by all.

We should be ready for our coming season. We have just renewed our fishing licences so please be aware that fishing without a licence is illegal. Juniors under 16 do not need one.

May I remind you all that our garden and the lake will be open for the NGS on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 April. All proceeds go to many charities, so please try and support us. We would also be glad of any bottles, any size and content, for our bottle stall.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane

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I'm Philip of PGLive

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A CAT'S TALE

There can't be many people in the village who have not seen Mandy and her dogs on their regular walks, always accompanied by a white cat – this is his story....

Rooney was born in my greenhouse in July 2010, looking like a chocolate box kitten, white & fluffy, along with his other two siblings, plus one black & white female. My daughter (Nicola) took both Rooney and his sister Roxy to live in Bow where both cats followed my young grandsons to school most days and quite often remained around the school until they came home. Nicola was called on numerous occasions to retrieve them from school. In 2014, Nicola moved to a new development in Okehampton, which meant Rooney and Roxy lived on a building site with all the heavy machinery constantly going up and down. This is where, I believe, he became very streetwise. During this time, Rooney was gradually driven out by his sister and became very isolated and scrawny. He was afraid of going home, understandably, as he didn't want to be attacked by his sister. Nicola became increasingly worried about him as his trips home were sporadic. In June 2017, he came back for an extended holiday in the heated greenhouse and has never looked back. With 5 star accommodation and meals on wheels, he soon put on weight. He started rambling with the dogs and me, becoming part of the pack, just as he had done earlier in his life with the children.

In 2020, Rooney ended up in the vets for 3 days on a drip with a form of pleurisy, during which time the vets told me the results of the X-Ray on his lungs had shown up a pellet embedded in his hip where we think he must have been shot! As it was an old injury and not of prime concern at the time, the vets released him saying they could do no more for him. I thought I would not have him home for long but somehow, he survived using up several of his 9 lives in the process.

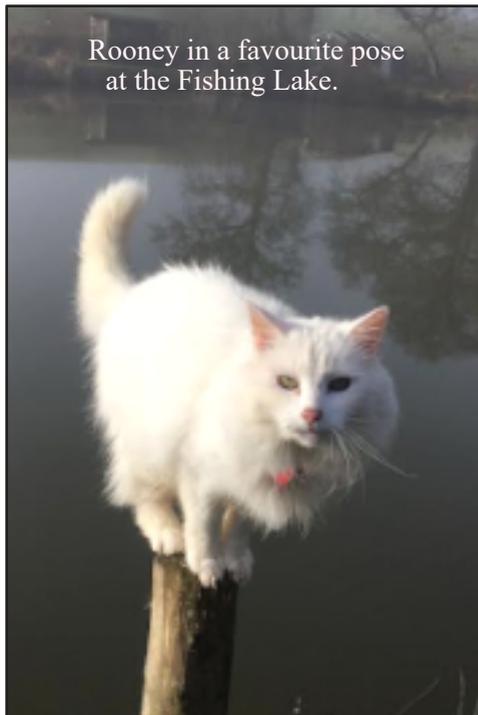
To date the longest walk Rooney has taken with me (he insists on coming too), is down to the woods behind the Waie Inn and the circuit back round across the top of the vineyard to the Church at the top. He doesn't rush and is always behind, picking his way carefully; any dangers encountered and he's straight up the first tree! He doesn't like getting wet feet so I lift him over any boggy land. He loves mousing with the dogs and, to my great surprise, was triumphant getting one over on the dogs by being much more patient than them.

There is no doubt about it, Rooney is a show off too. As the picture on the next page shows, he likes to balance on the smallest of poles, having little or no regard for the watery depths beneath him. If Rooney is not given breakfast at a certain time, he will come to my bedroom door and let me know it's time, either by scraping the door or by shouting at me in his loudest voice – this works.

Rooney has the kindest, most lovable nature. without a mean bone in his body. Indoors he cuddles up to the dogs and has even curled up with my not-so-wild 'Shelby' tabby living in the greenhouse, who has been with us for just over a year.

Mandy, pet beds by Mandy

Rooney in a favourite pose
at the Fishing Lake.



Answers to Quiz on Page 5

1. Mercury
2. Silk
3. Sir Frank Whittle
4. Italian
5. Barbados
6. Pinocchio
7. Red deer and Roe deer
8. Underground
9. The Crimean War
10. Poppy
11. Devon
12. W
13. Austin
14. S.T. Coleridge
15. An Eagle

The Sequence answer is 5th,
calculated as follows: George 5th,
Edward 8th, George 6th, Elizabeth 2nd,
Charles 3rd and Prince William will
be King William 5th

CREDITON FOODBANK

As always, **thank you** to all for the many donations of food and money given this last month. A delivery has been taken in each week to the Foodbank and, on two occasions, two loads. Also, £40 was taken in from donations given at the Village Market. An extra notice is now being posted each week at the bottom of the hill showing the most needed items. The numbers of food parcels needed are still high which means the Foodbank Coordinator and volunteers are kept very busy. They are always so thankful for all that you donate. It is very hard for them when stocks get low, but no one goes away empty handed.

Isaiah 58:11 says: 'Where God guides He provides'. How true that has been over the many years Zeal Monachorum has been collecting. X

BOOK SWAP

Don't forget that the book swap is still housed at the back of the church by kind permission of the PCC. The collection of books is constantly changing and you are very welcome to take any that catch your eye or bring some in for others to enjoy when you have finished with them.

'Reading is a conversation. All books talk, but a good book listens as well',
Mark Haddon, English novelist

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

In the last issue we invited people to ‘sell their stuff’, and at our March market six people took up the offer. As a result, the market was busier than it had been for a long time – there was a real buzz in the hall as shown in the picture on the front page. If enough people are interested, we will certainly repeat this exercise, and we’ll let you know dates in advance.

Our next market falls on Saturday 8 April, which is Easter Saturday. We will have a suitably ‘Easter themed’ challenge for visitors and hopefully the draw might include an Easter Egg or two. For those who have yet to collect one, seed potatoes will be available – see item on page 4.

I am pleased to report that we now have a dedicated Village Hall website page, which we will use to promote events and to share news about the hall including the proposed refurbishment. We are very grateful to Mike Bostock for creating this, visit: <http://www.zealmonachorum.org.uk/village-hall.html> .

Information is also on facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/269490237408257>

For readers who do not use facebook, you can receive Village Hall information by email – if you would like to join this list, simply send a message to:

subscribe@zealmonachorum.org.uk. And, of course, we will continue to report on progress and events through this newsletter.

For our next Village Hall event we are planning to hold a:

BIG LUNCH FOR KING CHARLES III CORONATION

To celebrate the coronation of King Charles III Buckingham Palace has suggested the "Coronation Big Lunch", at which neighbours and communities are invited to share food and fun together, across the country on Sunday 7th May.



The Village Hall will open its doors to welcome all of you to come and have a good time - bring your own food and drink. Children and adults can choose to dress-up in costumes of their choice and theme and there will be a grand parade to show them off. There will be more details in the May issue of Monachorum Matters, on Facebook, on our website and via email.

GROWING WELL GARDEN

The new garden project at Bow Medical Practice is an example of something called “green social prescribing” which supports people to engage in nature-based interventions and activities to improve their mental wellbeing as well as their physical health. We’re very grateful for the generosity of Devon-based The Cabin Company for another donation of timber which means we can build more raised beds. The next phase of development will see us adding more accessible planters and a central covered structure with seating. If you’ve got power tools, a passion for DIY and some spare time on your hands we’d especially love to see you!

From the end of March, with the help of “garden hosts” we’ll be opening for regular drop-in sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and, in time, we hope to be able to offer more specific activities. No gardening experience is necessary. We’d welcome any donations of garden tools in good/working condition (hand tools such as trowels, spades, forks etc) as well as clean plastic pots and seed trays/module inserts.

If you’d like to get involved or need more information, check our website: growingwellgarden.co.uk. There are posters at the surgery with details about opening times and you can also contact us by email at growingwellgardenproject@gmail.com.

Susan Taheri



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April is a busy month in the garden, with Spring coaxing out beautiful blooms and, fingers crossed, some lovely weather.

1. Apply a general-purpose fertiliser to borders and beds. Feed shrubs & roses, Bow has a large selection, including organic feeds.
2. Plant Summer-flowering bulbs, if not done already, and sow hardy annuals and herb seeds now.
3. If planting new trees, roses or shrubs use Mycorrhiza (a symbiotic fungus) to ensure healthy root growth. Empathy Rootgrow is available at Bow.
4. Prepare beds for the growing season. Dig in at least a 5cm layer of compost, and work in a general-purpose fertiliser, such as 6x, Growmore, or Fish, Blood and Bone.
5. If you haven't done so already, cut back any dead foliage on perennials and ornamental grass plants to make way for new growth.
6. Honeysuckle and Clematis will be putting on growth now, so tie new stems to train them along their supports.
7. Protect fruit blossom from late frosts by covering them with horticultural fleece on cold nights.
8. Continue deadheading spring bulbs and bedding, so they don't waste energy setting seed.
9. Clean ponds, and then add aquatic plants such as Waterlilies and water Irises.
10. Make good use of April Showers - attach guttering to sheds and greenhouses and install water butts. Rainwater is much kinder to plants, as it doesn't contain the chemicals that tap water does.

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- Village Hall: Chair: Erica Eden. Tel. 01363 82606
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Details of some nearest services

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- Library: Belle Parade, Crediton. EX17 2AA Tel. 01363 772 578
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- Primary schools: Bow: Station Rd, Bow, Crediton. EX17 6HU
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Lapford: Eastington Road, Lapford, Crediton.
EX17 6QE Tel. 01363 83292
- Secondary school: Queen Elizabeth's School, Western Road, Crediton
EX17 3LU. Tel. 01363 773 401
- District Council: Mid Devon DC, Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane,
Tiverton. EX17 6PP
www.middevon.gov.uk Tel. 01884 255 255
Email: customerfirst@middevon.gov.uk
Waste & recycling: [www.middevon.gov.uk/
residents/recycling-rubbish](http://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/recycling-rubbish)
- County Council: Devon CC, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2
4QD. Tel. 0345 155 1015 [general enquiries]
Email: customer@devon.gov.uk
Care Direct: Tel. 0345 115 100
- Highways: Tel. 0345 155 1004
- Hospiscare: Tel. 01392 688000 for services and support
Local shop: 129 High Street, Crediton; 01363 774836
- Devon Voluntary Action: www.devonva.org Tel. 01404 544 045
- Defibrillators: these are located on the West wall of the Village Hall (nearest to
Churchill Gardens) and at the Waie Inn



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