

FREE

Issue 39, August 2022

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Photo chosen by the Friend Family showing Grandfather Gerald and Great Grandson, Archie Friend, the next generation.

See features on Pages 10 & 11

EDITORIAL

Well, here we are in the dog days of summer and, as I write this piece, we are experiencing a heat wave. Perhaps the best way to cope is to find a shady spot and settle down with a cold drink and browse this newsletter.

This month we have several articles about people who used to live in the village, and some who still do, and their memories of their early lives. Perhaps the recent Jubilee History Exhibition has stirred visitors and encouraged them to set their recollections down on paper. My impression is that readers always enjoy these stories and they are certainly very welcome for the village archive that is kept by Erica Eden, so let's do all we can to capture these treasured memories.

Just recently, I met a lady who spent her early life here in Zeal and, over a glass of wine, she regaled me with tales of the people she knew as a child. This meeting occurred at a funeral for a mutual friend and it brought it home to me that, as we get older and we see people pass from our lives, it is all too easy to forget how life used to be. And yet our history shapes our future, so we should record these things before it is too late. I hope you enjoy the summer and this newsletter.

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE: 8 AUGUST

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COMMUNITY NEWS

RAINFALL

The rainfall for June was 50 mm.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The next visit by the Mobile Library will be on Friday 19 August stopping at Waie Cross 13.15 - 13.40 so it's the school holidays and would be a fun experience for children - getting on a van and choosing their own books. Joining is free, children of any age can join in their own right, no ID is needed, free borrowing can start immediately, there's no charge for returning books late and you can return the books borrowed from the mobile to any library.* There are also children's DVDs. The lovely librarian is always happy to make recommendations. Children could also join the summer reading challenge, it includes a poster and stickers!
www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/children-src

**PS I'm always happy to return books to the mobile library for you if you can't get to it.* For further information contact Devon County Council: 0845 155 1001

www.devon.gov.uk/libraries

Roy & Erica Eden

Phone:- 01363 82606

WARNING

Though they are always around, it seems there is yet another scam operating to separate innocent victims from their money. This one starts with a text message to a mobile phone and purports to be from the Royal Mail or Post Office. It says that a parcel delivery has failed because the householder was not in and they no longer leave a card because of COVID! It gives a link at which you can rearrange delivery and goes on to ask for your name, date of birth and your card details to pay the re-delivery charge.

Do not be fooled. Our lovely Post Lady, Charmaine, assured me that they do leave a card if no-one is in when they call and they never charge for re-delivery. I'm sure we all think that we won't be taken in by this but it's easy to do so particularly if you are awaiting a parcel delivery.

VILLAGE EVENTS IN AUGUST

Every Weds	Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Wed 3 Aug	WI at Truants, 7.15 for 7.30pm
Mon 8 Aug	Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop
Sun 14 Aug	Fishing Club bash at Gissage Lake, 12 noon
Fri 19 Aug	Library Van, 1.15 - 1.45pm at Waie Gardens
Sat 27 Aug	Bell Ringing competition, St Peter's Church, 3pm

NOTE: No market in August, next village market is on Sat 10 September

A BIG THANK YOU

Isabel Harris would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to the Jubilee Committee, for the wonderful Luxury Hamper which she accepted on behalf of all of the Harris Family, at the Jubilee Street Party held at the Waie Inn. The contents included a bottle of Italian Prosecco, box of Cheese Oatcakes, jar of Cadburys Chocolate Spread, a posh tin of Whittard of Chelsea (1886) Hot Chocolate Selection sachets, together with a couple of Chocolate Bombes with Marshmallows. She thinks the jar of Venison Game Paté could be kept, possibly for a forthcoming Coronation one day. After all, the sell by date isn't until 11/2025. In addition there was a box of Milk Tray and packet of mini cereal selection boxes, which she would like to give to the children who decorated their front garden so beautifully at Western Road, especially the chalk drawings which Isabel thought were brilliant. As for the rest of the goodies, she thinks she will have to hide those away, in the wicker hamper, until Christmas but will break open the Prosecco and raise a glass to the good health, wealth and happiness to everyone in our wonderful community here in our parish and a happy retirement to Boris!

Not only did her display give people pleasure to see, it gave Isabel much more, - a chance to express her artistic side and re-live her childhood ambitions of being one of the ladies who dress shop windows. As it turned out, 40 years later, now a mother, grandmother and married to a local farmer, she has fulfilled the dream she had all those years ago at Morchard Bishop C of E Primary School. She did dress a 'milk stand'. It may not have been a shop window but it was prize winning. Gold Star to that girl!

Isabel says "Being a farmer's wife is a wonderful life but, being a mother and wife is, by far, the most Important Job in the World!

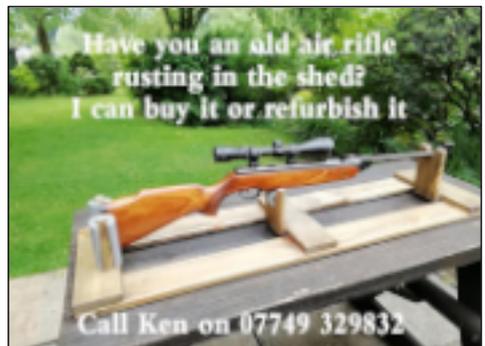
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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

The lake is fishing very well with some very nice tench, carp, roach and rudd landed recently.

We are very pleased to announce that we have eventually been able to finish the awning for Trevor's bench. We have put it out by the side of the lake and the views from it are amazing, please pop along and see. I want to thank all those who helped: the 2 Andys, Joss, Daz, Mike, Jane and Ali. The finished structure is pictured below, photo by Ken Hogg.

We would be pleased to see lots of the villagers along to the fishing competition on **Sunday August 14th**. There will be prizes to all who take part, as well as burgers and Zeal ale on tap from Taw Valley Brewery. We would like to have as many children from the village as possible to enter; please contact Ken or Jane on 07749 329 832. Hope to see you all at Ginge's Big Bash Fishing Competition – 14 August, 12 noon.

And finally, Ken thanks all who came to his recent 80th birthday bash, for their gifts and donations to the Fisherman's Mission.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane





ST PETER'S CHURCH

August is the month of school and family holidays. It is also a month when exam results are awaited and our young people prepare to make the transition either from primary to senior school, from school to work, university or college. We wish everyone a happy holiday time. However, our church continues in its usual steadfast way.

On the first Sunday in August our family service will be at the later time of 12.00pm, and it will include a Baptism. We look forward to welcoming a new member into our church family.

Church rota for August 2022

August 7, 12.00noon Family Service and Holy Baptism Rev R. Gordon

Reading Psalm 33

Sidesman

Altar Flowers 7 & 14

Church cleaner

Mr Colin Crothers

Mrs Sally Rowden

Mrs Jane Hogg

August 14, 6.30pm

Old Testament

New Testament

Gospel

Trinity 9

Isaiah 5: 1-7

Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2

Luke 12: 49-56

Sidesman

C W E

Miss Lynn Warren

Mr Robert Peck

Rev D. Rowbottom

Mr Tony Brealy

August 21

No Service, but see below re cream teas

August 28 at 6.30

Old Testament

Gospel

Trinity 11 Evensong

Jeremiah 2: 4-13

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Sidesman

Altar Flowers 21 & 28

Rev Robert Gordon

Mr Graham Rounsley

Mr Colin Crothers

Mr Tony Brealy

Miss Margaret Harris

On August 21 we are having a change to our usual **take away cream teas**; as well as take away teas we are having teas **in church** from 3.00 to 4.30pm - Cream Teas, a cup of tea and a chat, to be booked in advance please. **Orders for take away teas can be placed at anytime, but no later than 9.00pm on Saturday (day before).**

Two scones, clotted cream, raspberry/strawberry for just £3.50. Please state your jam preference when placing your order. Contacts: Margaret Harris 82251/ Margaret Down 82204.

Annual Bell Ringing Competition: On Saturday 27 August from 3.00-8.00pm our bell ringers are hosting their annual competition. Teams from across the county will be invited to take part, competing for the Zeal Monachorum Shield and the St Peter's Cup

Margaret (Churchwarden)

A QUIZ FOR AUGUST

1. Who was the youngest member of the Beatles?
2. Which Bronte sister wrote Jane Eyre?
3. Are there more stars in the universe or more grains of sand on every beach in the world?
4. What does a barometer measure?
5. Which English county has the longest coast line, Essex or Cornwall?
6. Which soft drink is the second oldest brand of the Coca Cola company?
7. Who or what is killed in the act of regicide?
8. Which vocal technique is used to sing notes higher than your normal register?
9. What colour are the eyes of a Siamese cat?
10. Which reptile commonly appears in a Punch and Judy show?
11. In which board game will you find Colonel Mustard?
12. What is the usual name given to a chimney on a ship?
13. What is the biggest selling variety of apple in the UK?
14. In maths, what sort of number is only divisible by itself and 1?
15. England captain, Ben Stokes, plays cricket for which county?

And a quick Teaser

Fourteen different Prime Ministers have served Queen Elizabeth II so far. How many can you name and which party did they lead? [Answers on Page 18]



Thanks to Rieuan for this lovely picture of a baby blue tit being fed, taken in his garden a few weeks ago.

FETCHING WATER AT STOPGATE IN THE 1950s

Here is another evocative memory from Cathy Cook who, in the 1950s, lived at Rowdens, Gissage Hill (now High Cottage). There will be more from Cathy in the September issue.

Our Grandparents, Sidney and Frances Howard lived in one of the cottages at Stopgate. Their home was furthest away from the junction. The large entrance to the side is still there, to the left of this entrance where Granfer had a large light and bright 'bird house' (he kept canaries and other small birds), a more substantial building now stands. Through this entrance to the garden and yard beyond and, abutting the back of the cottage, to the right was a lean-to shed. My sense is of it being stone built with a cobbled floor and a corrugated roof, it was dark, musty and home to lots of dusty cobwebs and an assortment of spiders.

The Kitchen/living room window appears unchanged although the front door is blocked up. The only other room downstairs was the narrow scullery which spanned the width of the cottage, at the end of which was the enclosed staircase. There was no running water, plumbing or electricity.

Like Rowdens, the room appeared dominated by the large range and under the window was a long stool/bench and kitchen table. There was also a big cupboard and Gran's piano. On dull days the laundry was hung in here and we would sit beneath it as it gently dried above and around us as we tucked into our boiled potatoes, cold meat and pickle for tea.

There was no easy access to water. The well was a short walk up the main road towards Winkleigh. It was on the opposite side of the road and set into the hedge. I can remember where it is and, although probably sealed long ago, it was the source of clean water for the cottages. The road, thankfully, was much quieter in the 1950s because to get the water you had to be at road level, lean into the base of the hedge, dip the bucket in and pull it back up, and out. It was awkward, heavy and not without risk. Gran would make this trip from the cottage carrying an empty galvanised bucket in each hand, they made a squeaking scraping noise when she walked as the handles swung back and forth within the galvanised eyelets on the bucket. Coming back, she would make her way around to the shed, walk past the coats, boots, tools, implements, tin bath, coal, lightings and logs, past the mangle and to the copper at the back. Setting down one bucket, she would raise and empty the other into the copper, then swap over.

This process was repeated time and again, up and back, up and back to the well until she had enough water for the day ahead, keeping some back for soaking and rinsing on wash days. Water for rinsing and the day's other needs was taken into the scullery. The fire would be lit under the copper on wash/bath days.

In remembrance of our cousin Allan Howard, aged 4 years and 11 months, son of Arch and Annie Howard, who was hit by a military lorry in April 1942 as he crossed the road to meet Gran on her return from the well. Allan is buried at Down St Mary. Arch was the eldest son of Sidney and Frances.

Editor's note: Cathy tells me that Sidney and Frances Howard left Stopgate in approximately 1960/61. They moved to Coppleshone and into the cottage next to her family at Furzedown. Sidney died in late 1962.

CREDITON FOOD BANK

Unfortunately, it was not possible to include the May Food bank input for the June Newsletter so I include here some of the information missed. Thank you for donations given, 11 bags of food, and £35 were donated for fuel payments i.e heating and electricity, or where most needed. The last three weeks of May were very busy. In one week, 110 adults plus children were fed. Stocks were depleting rapidly. Many people were finding it difficult to manage their finances due to unforeseen circumstances. Your donations, however small, are needed and very much appreciated. At the beginning of June at the village market, the Pink Box was well packed and £20 was donated for fuel payments, or where most needed.

Fiona Cochran, the new Food bank Coordinator and Support Worker, has now taken over her new role. During her first weeks into the post Fiona came up against record numbers of people needing the services of the Food bank. As you will be aware from previous newsletters, the Food bank is now a Charity and the Trustees are looking into different ways in which they can help all who are in need in these difficult times. Chris Parsons sent this notification:

The Springboard Project is our partnership with CHAT (Churches Housing Action Team) from Tiverton, to develop the support side of the work we have previously offered. CHAT is already based with us once a week, giving debt and money advice, and with this new 30+ hour post we plan to offer an even wider range of support. Our aim is to support more local people out of poverty, standing with them when times are tough and at the same time improving their sense of well-being. If anyone thinks they may be able to support this project or have links to possible funding opportunities, whether charities or businesses, please let us know by emailing this address treasurer@creditonfoodbank.org.uk. As always, many thanks for your continued support.

Chris Parsons Chair of Trustees

Fiona reports: due to increased Food bank users, we plan to open 3 times a week. We are looking for regular volunteers particularly on a Monday evening or Friday morning. This could be weekly, or less frequent to suit individual needs. This need for an extra day highlights the enormity of the problems facing us in our area at this time. If there is anyone in our village who, at any time, is in need of the services of the Food bank it is there for YOU. If you need help in contacting them, please give me a ring - Lois on 82982. All conversations will be completely confidential.

GERALD NORMAN FRIEND

5/12/1928 – 12/6/2022

Gerald was born on 5 December 1928 at Kempton House, Torrington, Devon; it was the day the new bridge for Torrington was opened, and the Town Band was playing. In the early 1940s Gerald moved with his parents, Ronald and Irene Friend and sister Jean, to live at Wootton Top Farm, Zeal Monachorum. They lived with his grandparents, Frederick and Grace Hunkin, and Gerald attended Zeal Monachoru School.

In 1952, Gerald married Grace Down from 'Great Punchardon Farm', Winkleigh; the marriage took place at the Methodist Church at Winkleigh. Their first home was in Eastern Road, Zeal Monachorum, where they lived until their bungalow, 'Hill Croft', was built close to Wootton Top. They had two children, Janis and Graham, and, after a few years, they moved into Wootton Top Farm where they kept dairy beef and sheep. They had five grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Son Graham and daughter-in-law Ruth and their family took over the farm when Gerald and Grace retired back to 'Hill Croft' in 1991. They both attended Zeal Monachorum Congregational Chapel for many years until it closed. At the beginning of 2020 Gerald lost his wife but he remained at the bungalow until recently. He still liked to help with jobs around the farm. A Thanksgiving service was held on 11 July at Bow Congregational Church.

Ruth Friend

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GERALD FRIEND

On a personal level, I would like to pay tribute to Mr Friend. Not only was he a fellow farmer in the parish, but I always regarded him as a kind of 'elder statesman' of Zeal Monachorum Chapel, when it was in existence.

Sadly, my family, the Dockings of Southcott Farm, Morchard Bishop, were one of the early victims of Foot and Mouth back in 2001. Mr Friend was one of the first people on the 'phone to offer condolences to me. Within a matter of weeks, it was my turn to 'phone him, to say how sorry I was to hear Wootton Top was then having to endure the same devastating news. It was an awful time affecting not only the farmers but, for those who remember, the whole community. Sadly, my dear Dad died not long after and I firmly believe it was the shock and shame he felt, that hastened his end. And dear Mr Friend understood just what the stigma of having F & M felt like and that the draconian rules, imposed by MAFF at the time, affected not just the farmers but those who had to implement them.

On a more cheerful note, St. Peter's Church and the Chapel shared a good relationship during the period I was the PCC Secretary, with both churchwardens, Nick Tyler & Charles Stericker and treasurer Margaret Down. The Chapel would shut of a Sunday evening and regular attendees would join us at St. Peter's Church to celebrate some memorable Harvest Festivals during the month of September. Likewise, St. Peter's would cancel their 6.30pm Evensong Service in favour of the Chapel Harvest Service which was always held in October. Norman Vicary took great pleasure in turning out his model tractor, which he proudly displayed at both venues. He had made this in memory of his parents who farmed at Higher Week.

Mr Friend, his family, including his beloved wife, who played the Chapel organ for so many years, together with other Chapel attendees, always gave us a warm welcome. It was a pleasure to join in their singing and share their hospitality after the services. I am sure other people have their own happy memories, too.

For the Songs of Praise Service, recently held in St. Peters, I chose the hymn 'Yes, God is Good, in earth and sky' as that is one of my abiding memories of Mr Friend and Harvest. Happy Days!

RIP Good Friend and Fellow Farmer

Isabel Harris, Nymphayes

QUOTE

Life is all about people. If we can make people happy and make a difference it makes us feel happy, and that's good for the heart.'

*Shaun Pledger, Industrialist and
Community Supporter*

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ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

Firstly, I must apologise to Stephen Watkins. Whilst thanking him personally on the afternoon of the WI Jubilee tea in June, I omitted to mention his generous gesture in providing the tea bags for said tea in the July issue of the village newsletter, so, thank you so much Stephen. We are still enjoying them at our monthly meetings.

Our July speaker was unable to attend due to, yes, the dreaded Covid. However, we have managed to book her for January 2023 when we will learn about the Street Pastor organisation. Our youngest member, Jess Standing, is to be married on 5th August so, as she won't be attending the August meeting, we bedecked her with suitable fripperies which she wore for the duration of the July meeting, see picture below. A gift was given and a cake was served with tea.

Jackie Watson has offered her garden for our next meeting on 3 August. It is Members' night, when the committee takes a back seat and members organise the activities for the evening. Please bring your own mug and would members [not the Committee] contribute a plate of finger food/nibbles for sharing.

Skittle practice has resumed on Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm at the Waie Inn, and all WI members are encouraged to attend. The averages will be noted down and the best 6 players will form the team for the WI County skittles Tournament beginning in September.

As always, new members are very welcome. Just come along on the first Wednesday of the month.

Jan Brealy, President



A picture and a little story from Isabel Harris – in April a hot air balloon came across the B3220, just making it over the roof of our silage barn. It had taken off from Tiverton and landed at Nymphayes Farm approximately 8.30pm. Jeffery Harris was presented with a bottle of champagne, presumably as an apology for any damage!

CHESS



I first learned the game of chess at least seventy-five years ago and, considering it has been a life-long love affair, I cannot remember how it started. In all the many places I have lived I have always managed to find a way of feeding this addiction. To start with it was just my mates and family, then school friends and National Service friends. At this time, I was introduced to correspondence chess. Each move had to be written down and posted off to your opponent, who could be in any part of the world. This enforced thinking time and a much deeper understanding of the game, no barmaid or football chat distractions. Then into civvy street I found the British Legion club that had a team in the Midland League playing real competitive chess. At this time our children were in primary school, and I started teaching the young ones there.

At this time my career and finances took centre stage, and I did not play at all for many years. Access was the problem, discovering local clubs and the time and the expense of getting to them were major access factors; the Internet came to the rescue. I had kept up my chess interest by reading the games in newspapers and reading chess books, checking facts and deepening my knowledge on-line (long ago enough to be using 'Altavista' as a search engine). Odd invites to on-line chess sites came up, firstly to play against a computer, definitely not for me, no emotion. Then more and more often, groups of people got together and built websites where you could play real life players, and slowly these became on-line clubs. I have tried out most, if not all of them over the last few years, and in 2012 I found the best one for me and still play on the site now.

Now, living in this beautiful part of the country, there is a special challenge of access and I want to share my experience with others. There may be other people in the area who have found the same access problems and it would be great to get together in some way. My first thoughts were of a village hall chess club, but the cost is enormous, with the purchase of enough chess sets, chess clocks and stationery, and the security of these valuable assets would also be prohibitive.

Then the light bulb moment - why not all meet on-line? And now this becomes an open invitation. The site is gameknot.com, my username on the site is thubery, my email address for more information is thubery@gmail.com

I have not said much about the site because I believe everyone should do their own research first, but I would love to see you there, have a few games and a bit of chat.

Tony Hubery



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August Garden Advice from Bow Garden Centre

1. Keep up regular watering, even if it rains, particularly for containers and new plants. An irrigation system helps with regular watering, especially useful if you are going on holiday.
2. Deadhead flowering plants like roses and petunias regularly to encourage them to flower.
3. Don't forget about your hanging baskets. If you water, deadhead and feed them regularly and they will last much longer, even into the autumn.
4. Feed your baskets and containers regularly with Miracle Gro to encourage flowers to bloom into early autumn. In summer feed weekly with a liquid feed, early morning or late evening, never in the heat of the day.
5. Give herbs and lavender a light prune after flowering. Cut back any perennials that have already finished for the year.
6. Enjoy environmentally friendly gardening with peat-free alternatives. Make a difference with either Melcourt, Rocket Gro, Coco Boost, or New Horizon peat-free compost. We recommend adding top soil to peat-free compost to maximise growing success and help prevent plants drying out.
7. Zap those weeds whilst they are in a stage of active growth. If you prefer to pull up the weeds by hand, wait until after a summer shower when the soil is moist as the weeds are easier to pull, or use a hoe. Bow also has a range of natural weed killers available, which protect wildlife.
8. Prune Wisteria to help maintain the preferred size & shape, and improve flowering.
9. Clean your patio, or terrace with Algon Patio Cleaner and treat decks with decking stain. Ensure that any moss and algae is cleared off, stopping it getting slippery in the Winter.
10. Take time to enjoy the garden. Entertain outside with a BBQ for friends & family, or have some 'you' time, relaxing in comfy furniture, listening to a relaxing water feature.

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HIGHER BURSTONE FARM

My story starts on Lady Day in March 1947 when my family - father, mother, grandfather and brother - moved from near Bideford to Higher Burstone Farm which the Carter Pedlers of Reeve Castle had sold to us. The Joslins had been the previous tenant farmers.

The house at Higher Burstone was a large Georgian building (*pictured below*). It had five bedrooms each with dressing rooms, a large dining room, a drawing room, large kitchen and scullery, dairy, servant's quarters, outbuildings, carriage house and livery stables. The stone farm buildings form a large square yard which included: a cattle yard; cattle sheds; a loft for stable lads; stables; shippons; pigsties; storage sheds; a roundhouse for cider making from the cider apples in the orchard (a disused ruin by then). There were also two large orchards with apples, plums and pears. In the 1980s all the farm buildings were converted to houses.

There was a shed for rearing calves; a shippon (cattle shed) to tie up fattening 2-3 year-old cattle; two shippons for milking, at most, twelve Devons or Shorthorns cows (tied up to be milked by hand, some of the milk scalded to make clotted cream and butter, the rest the calves would suck); a stable for 4 working farm shire horses and 2 pigsties. The pigs would be kept to eat up waste food and left over milk, they were killed when nice and fat and hung for 5 days for the meat to mature. When ready, they were jointed up and put in brine in big earthenware tubs to cure, then hung on crooks in the big dairy to dry - fat bacon fried well for breakfast. All the other parts of the pig - head, trotters, heart, liver, lungs were cooked, minced up with groats to make hogs puddings, Some of the sheds were used for storing turnips, mangels, potatoes and corn.

There was a large garden which produced all the vegetables and fruit for the household and, in the greenhouse, a grapevine. These were tended by my grandfather for 20 years till he was 90 years old. He would save all of his own seed. My grandfather had pear trees trained against a cob wall and we stored the fruit to eat at Christmas. Poultry was kept in the orchards and there was a small pond with ducks and geese for Christmas. My mother kept a lot of hens in barn deep litter and sold eggs every week to Wides at Morchard Road packing shed; they also took rabbits trapped on the farm.

The house kitchen had a big black range that was soon replaced by an ESSE stove. We cooked and ate in the kitchen, next to it was the breakfast room with black iron grate which was used in the evenings with light provided by oil lamps. A back room with a stone cobble floor - soon cemented over - had a boiler to boil up white clothes. Stairs led to a housekeeper's or butler's room. A hand pump provided cold water



from the well outside. From the back door there was a lean-to shed to hang washing to dry, an outside toilet with a wooden seat but no water supply, only a bucket from the pump. There was a brick furnace to boil up pig food waste, this was scrubbed out at Christmas to boil 10 Christmas puddings. There were stairs up to the loft where the stable lads, who attended to the horses and carriages slept. There was a wood/coal shed and ash pit. The next little shed had 3 pens with wooden partitions for farm and gun dogs. Then came the carriage shed with room for three and then the stable for 4 carriage horses - we never used carriages as we had an old car.

In the 1950s and 1960s a lot changed. An engine was installed to provide electricity in the house and some buildings. A new shippon for 24 cows and a new dairy for cooling milk, though it was still sold in churns. When mains electricity came in the mid 1950s a milking machine was added and a tractor was used. A few sheep were kept to tidy up the fields in winter.

My life changed: in 1954 when I left Bow school and went as a weekly boarder in Exeter - I hated it and left in 1960. I came home to help on the farm; keeping poultry, selling eggs to Wides; hatching ducks, hens and geese to sell as day old chicks for Christmas. I helped with housework, cooking, cleaning etc. I joined Bow Young Farmers Club and had lessons in bread making, cake icing, poultry dressing, root hoeing and lampshade making.

In March 1964 my parents retired, sold the farm and built Elmside Bungalow in the horse paddock. I worked 12 months for Webbers, who bought the farm, milking cows and the outdoor and indoor work.

My life changed again in 1966...

Margaret Down née Squire, Beer Farm

—ooo0ooo—

Answers to Quiz on Page 7

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----|----------------|
| 1. | George Harrison | 9. | Blue |
| 2. | Charlotte | 10. | A crocodile |
| 3. | There are more stars | 11. | Cluedo |
| 4. | Air Pressure | 12. | A funnel |
| 5. | Cornwall | 13. | Gala Apples |
| 6. | Fanta | 14. | A prime number |
| 7. | A king | 15. | Durham |
| 8. | Falsetto | | |

Teaser

Winston Churchill (C), Anthony Eden (C), Harold Macmillan (C), Alec Douglas -Home (C), Harold Wilson (L), Edward Heath (C), James Callaghan (L), Margaret Thatcher (C), John Major (C), Tony Blair (L), Gordon Brown (L), David Cameron (C), Theresa May (C), Boris Johnson (C).

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