

FREE

Issue 9, February 2020

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Snowy scene at East Foldhay by David Bowyer

VILLAGE EVENTS – FEBRUARY

Every Weds	Coffee morning in Village Hall, 10.30 - 12 noon
Thur 30 Jan	Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm
Weds 5 Feb	WI: Speaker Erica Eden: “Your planet needs you”, 7.30pm
Fri 7 Feb	Mobile Library, 1.15 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross
Sat 8 Feb	Market, 10.00am - 11.30am
Mon 10 Feb	Zeal Explorers, 2pm at bus stop
Weds 12 Feb	Bingo, doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm
Weds 19 Feb	Film night: ‘Downton Abbey’, doors open 7pm, film 7.30pm
Weds 4 Mar	Whist Drive at Waie Inn, 2pm
Sat 7 March	Quiz & Pasty night, 7pm. Book with Jan Summers, 82571

ACTIVITIES AT THE WAIE INN

SPORTS HALL

Mondays: 6-7pm Walking Netball,
8-9pm Walking Football, both £2.50

Wednesdays: Circuit training 9.30-
10.30, Body conditioning 10.30-11.30.

SWIMMING POOL

Tues: 7.30-8.15 Aqua Aerobics

Wed: 11.45-12.30 Aqua Aerobics

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EDITORIAL

The committee would like to extend to all the businesses who placed adverts our best wishes for 2020 and our thanks for kindly supporting our first productions of the newsletter. Without your help we could not have done it. We look forward to your continued support in the years ahead.

Some sad news to report - Mid Devon District Council regrets to announce the death of Councillor John Daw, who passed away on 9 January 2020.

Residents of Zeal Monachorum have shown themselves to be generous, caring and supportive of those in need, and at this time of year, it is not unusual to hear of people who have been ill or have suffered accidents and who need a bit of help.

When we put our successful application into to the Den Brook Fund for equipment for the newsletter one strand of our bid was to try and set up a Good Neighbour Scheme. Examples include taking someone to a medical appointment, collecting a prescription or perhaps preparing a meal. At this stage we're just putting out 'feelers' to gauge interest, but if this is something you need, would support or are interested in, please let us know.

Jan Summers

DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE: FEBRUARY 8

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ST PETER'S CHURCH NEWS

Our Christmas celebrations seem a long while ago now, but I'm sure you'll be pleased to know that we raised £215.01 for Balloons, a local charity that helps bereaved children. Thank you to all who contributed with donations or helped at the events which raised this amazing amount.

Now we look forward to our first February service on the 2nd, Plough Sunday. This is the start of the farming year so it is especially pertinent to our area. Reverend Jane Lucas will

be taking the service and there will be coffee and biscuits afterwards so please do come along and join us. The Eucharist Service on 9 February at 6.30 will be conducted by Reverend David Rowbottom. We continue the month with our popular Pancake Praise on 23 Feb at 4.30pm. We will be making pancakes during the service and explaining the significance of this, followed by a communal tea with more pancakes. The service for Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent and the lead up to Easter, is on 26 February at Down St Mary. I wish you all a peaceful month.

Susie

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S IN FEBRUARY

2 February	10.00am	Plough Sunday	Rev Jane Lucas
Presentation of Christ	O/T reading	Isaiah 28: 23 - 29	Lynn Warren
	N/T reading	Matthew 13: 3 - 9	Tony Brealy
		Sidesmen Welcome Offertory	Marian Quick
9 February	6.30pm	CW Eucharist	Rev David Rowbottom
Proper 1	O/T reading	Isaiah 58: 1 - 9a	Gavin Rowden
3 before Lent	N/T reading	1 Corinthians 2, 1 - 12	Colin Crothers
	Gospel	Matthew 5: 13 - 20	
		Sidesmen Welcome Offertory	Tony Brealy
16 February		No service	
23 February	4.30pm	Pancake Praise	Worship Group or clergy led
		TBC	
		Sidesmen Welcome & Offertory	Marian Quick
26 February	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday MCE	Down St Mary
1 March	Lent 1	Morning Prayer	Worship Group
	O/T reading	Genesis 2:15 - 17; 3: 1- 17	Lynn Warren
	N/T reading	Matthew 4: 1-11	Tony Brealy
		Sidesmen Welcome Offertory	Marian Quick

FLOWER ROTA

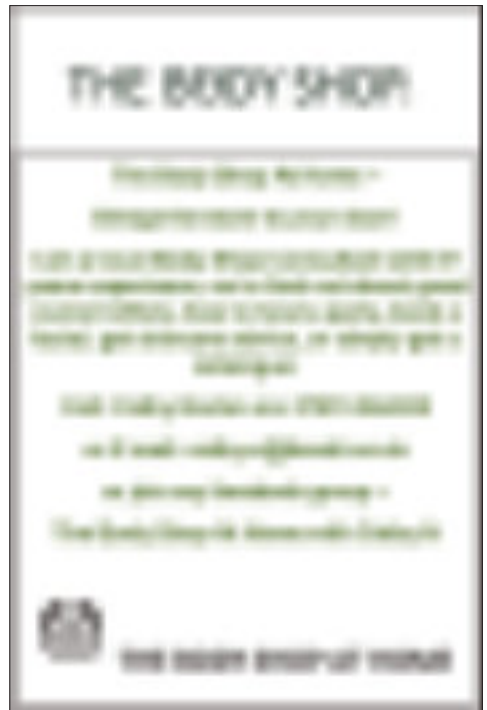
2 Feb - Isabel Harris;
9 & 16 Feb - Sue Down;
23 Feb & 1 Mar - Marian Quick

RAINFALL

The figure for December was 190 mm. We thought you would be interested in some comparisons with recent years: Total rainfall for the year was 1143 mm ($45\frac{3}{4}$ inches). The average rainfall for this area is 900 mm (36 inches).

Just for comparison, here are the annual rainfall figures for the last 4 years...

2018: 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
2017: 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
2016: 34 inches
2015: 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches



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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

First this month a brief report on our Annual Party held on Sat 4 January. We enjoyed a really good evening of fun, food and chat. Quizzes and games were organised by Sue Down and Marian Quick, and the Bring & Share supper was tasty and plentiful with very little waste. The photos below, all taken by David Bowyer, show how much we all enjoyed the evening. Thanks to all who made it happen.



Our next event is our **Quiz & Pasty night** on **Sat 7 March**, where you can pit your wits against friends and neighbours. This is open to teams of up to 6 people at £5 per head which includes your pasty and first drink of wine or cider. Further drinks can be obtained for a small donation. Please make sure to book in your teams, **no later than 1 March**, with Jan Summers on 82571 or jansummerszm@gmail.com and please tell me if you require vegetarian pasties.

Following that, our **Spring Flower and Homecraft Show** is on **Sat 4 April** - the draft schedule is included on the next page. We'd like as many residents as possible to join in and have a go at some of the classes. For those who don't feel able to do that, why not come and see the efforts of others and perhaps buy something at the auction? Further copies of the schedule are available from Margaret Harris, 82251, and the full programme will be published next month. Get out your garden tools, baking tins, cameras, needles, etc and get creating.

SHOW SCHEDULE (Draft)

Flowers

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. 3 Trumpet daffodils - yellow | 11. 3 Pansies |
| 2. 3 Trumpet daffodils - white | 12. 3 Miscellaneous daffodils |
| 3. Large cup daffodils – any colour | 13. 3 Stems Spring Flowers –
not covered by the above |
| 4. 3 Small cup daffodils – any colour | 14. 1 Single Specimen Bloom –
any type |
| 5. 3 Double (1 head) daffodils - any colour | 15. Spray of flowering shrub |
| 6. 3 Jonquils, multi headed - any colour | 16. Arrangement of flowers in a
jug (can be bought) |
| 7. 3 Miniature daffodils | 17. A pot plant |
| 8. 3 Tulips | |
| 9. 3 Grape Hyacinths | |
| 10. 3 Polyanthus | |

Homecraft

18. Fruit Cake – Recipe to be supplied
19. 3 Chocolate Brownies
20. 3 Sausage Rolls – any type
21. Jar of Jam
22. Jar of Chutney or Pickle
23. Photograph - 'Nature' with caption, not exceeding 6" x 4"
24. Photograph – 'Winter' with caption, not exceeding 6" x 6"
25. Handmade Birthday Card
26. Limerick (5 lines) – 1st line - There once was an Easter Bunny
27. Item made from recycled material(s)
28. Bird box or Bug hotel
29. Decorated welly boot
30. Item of needlework eg: knitted, crochet, stitched etc

Children

31. Decorated Hard Boiled Egg, age 11 and under
32. Decorated Hard Boiled Egg, age 12 and over

New Rule:

Exhibits must not have been shown in a previous show

Notes for Jam and Chutney entries:

1. No trade names on jars or lids
2. Jam can be covered with a wax disc and cellophane or screw lid
3. Chutney/pickle should be covered with vinegar resistant screw lid (not cellophane)
4. Label contents of jar and date made; new pots / lids available from Adams in Crediton




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ZEAL HISTORY

Many of us in the village know Tony Brealy well and we also know that he has lived here all his life. Tony's memory for people and events in the village is truly amazing and on a recent walk around the village he told us stories about some of the people he has known. This is the first of what we hope will be a regular contribution to our newsletter:

John Hooper 1862-1952

Married Emily Cockren 1889

John Hooper who lived his whole life in Zeal Monachorum, was born into a blacksmith's family. His father, also John, was smithing at Tuckingmill with the Drake family and married their daughter Susan in 1861. By 1871 the family had moved up into the village and by 1881/91 young John was helping with his father.

The first time he was recorded as Post Master/Blacksmith was 1901 at Yew Tree Cottage where the blacksmith's works was behind the house next to a thatched cottage. Norman Vicary, who will be remembered by many people in Zeal Monachorum today, told me his family at Higher Week were harvesting corn in the long field (on the left by the second chicken unit) with a fairly new binder equipped with a device which tied the corn into sheaves. When they saw the sheaves weren't being tied, a search was started for the vital missing piece. After walking up and down for some time without finding it, Norman decided to go up to the village to see if John Hooper could help. We don't know if John had ever seen the vital part, but he went back to his works and very soon returned with a part he had made. By the end of the day things were back to normal.

The Hooper family stamped many of the things they made: the churchyard gates are all stamped and dated as is the ladder in the ringing chamber (all between 1889 and 1908). Other iron work could be found at Partridge Cottage and Yew Tree Cottage, both of which had stamped gate fittings.

By the time of John's middle years he owned a lot of property in and around the village, a few of which are the cottages at the bottom of Town Hill. The triangle of ground, where Belle View and Higher Waie are, was always known as Hooper's Orchard. Other land owned by John included part of Tuckingmill, known as Inlands, and just over the boundary a barn and field known as Crab Down, part of Oak Tree farm in Down St. Mary

Tony Brealy

FILM NIGHT - MARCH

Our last Film night until the autumn will be on Weds 18 March, what would film-goers like to see? The two options are: 'Mary Queen of Scots' starring Saoirse Ronan and Margaret Robbie, or 'The Good Liar' starring Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen - please let me know. Tina Bowyer, 82423.

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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

We start this month by asking all members to kindly pay their club fees before the end of February. As reported in the last newsletter the fees have increased to £40 for adults and £15 for juniors. This money helps us run the club by providing a beautiful and safe environment to spend time, either fishing or just getting back to nature.

Just a word of warning - after all the rain the fishing platforms have become very slippery, so please be careful. As soon as we get a good dry spell we will be addressing this problem by attaching chicken wire over the platforms. Enjoy your fishing. Tight lines.

Ken and Jane



This picture, taken by Tina Bowyer, shows the fishing lake in the snow.

OUR POST LADY - CHARMAINE



Picture by Sally Rowden

We've all known, for a long time, how lucky we are to have Charmaine as our post-lady. Well, now it's official – Charmaine has been recognised by the Royal Mail as the **Christmas Star, 2019** for the whole of South West Region.

Charmaine's citation tells that the award is in recognition of the excellent service she provides, with no customer complaints and deliveries on time. As we all know she does this with a smile and a cheery chat so she truly is a star. She is absolutely over the moon to receive the award, and we can only agree that it is well-deserved. She is pictured here, delivering to Jan Brealy at North Star House.



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MOBILE LIBRARY

There is now just one stop in Zeal at Waie Cross on **Fridays 13.15-13.45**:
next visit 7 Feb.

Dates for the rest of the year are as follows: 6 March, 3 April, 1 and 29 May,
26 June, 24 July, 21 Aug, 18 Sept, 16 Oct, 13 Nov, 11 Dec.

Look forward to seeing you on the mobile van - invest less than 30 minutes of your
time and you get to borrow new [to you] books to peruse and enjoy for 4 weeks or
more and all for free <http://www.devonlibraries.org.uk>

Erica Eden

CREDITON FOOD BANK

Wishing you all a Very Happy New Year.

A quick update on our Christmas collection: the flow of food continued after it was
thought we had finished. £550 was the total sum taken to the foodbank plus four
more bags of food left at our door. Then there was the village market and more
food, and still more tins were dropped off at our door. The tins, as promised last
month, were taken to the Foodbank in the New Year, not seven boxes but ten.

Thank you everyone for your kindness. Many blessings to you all.

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

At the December Village Market the WI ran
a stall to raise funds and this was very
successful, bringing in £70. Thanks to all
who made a purchase and to those who ran
the stall.

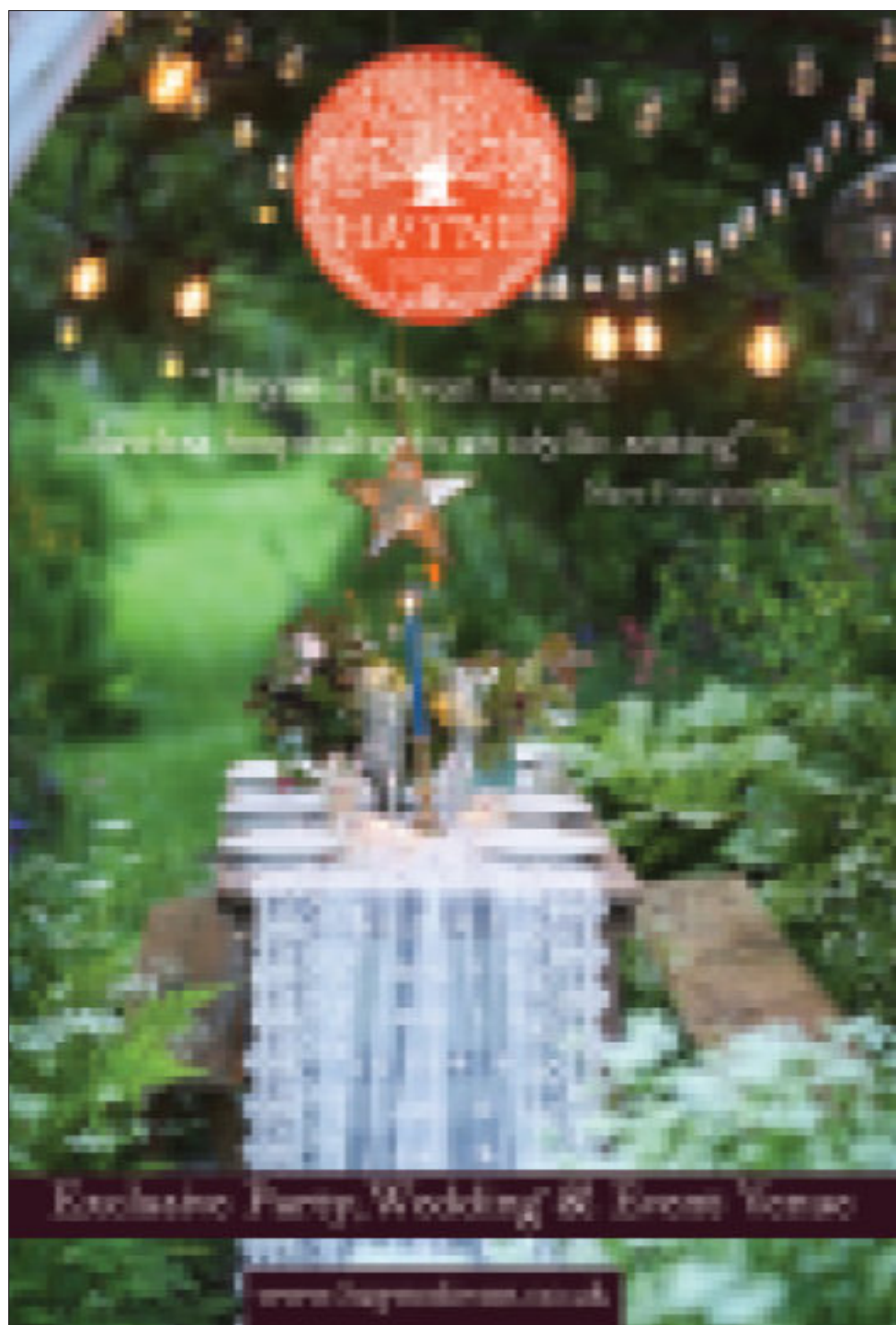
At the January meeting President Jan Brealy
presented to Moira Deacon a bunch of
flowers to mark a special '0' birthday.
Picture by Erica Eden

For our next meeting on 5 February, Erica
Eden will present "*Your planet needs you*",
and she invites members to use a heart motif
(see Dec *WI Life*, p 19) to submit an action
which anyone could take to help the
environment. [Excludes waste and
recycling ideas].



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH ...

"February is merely as long as is needed to pass the time until March".
JR Stockton



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CHRISTMAS MARKET

Christmas is well and truly over though it will all start up again probably in September, judging by recent trends. Before we forget all about it we wanted to show you some of David Bowyer's lovely photos of last year's busy market.





Decorative Furniture Samples

Manufactured by the same company
as the original furniture, but with
a different finish.



**Decorative
Furniture
Samples**

Manufactured by the same company
as the original furniture, but with
a different finish.



SHOCKING CATASTROPHE - HAYNE FORD

Part 4 POSTSCRIPT by Erica Eden

There is often an outcry when disasters happen with calls for a public inquiry. Similar feelings were being expressed in 1841 following the accident and the three deaths. The inquest concludes by saying that “Hayne Bridge is in a very bad state, and has been so for a long time. We do not know whether Mr Ley, the lord of the manor, or the county magistrates, should see that it is in a proper state to meet such occurrences as a flood. There is, however, an awful responsibility somewhere.”

Within a week of the first report in the Western Times on 11 December 1841 an anonymous letter is published from a ‘Passer-by’. “...Hayne Bridge has long been in a dangerous state, and no one, I think, could pass over it, even in the summer time when the weather was calm and serene, without shuddering. On the complaint of a respectable inhabitant of the Parish of Zeal, a meeting was called about a twelvemonth since, or more, to take into consideration the dangerous state of this bridge, when it was proposed either to build a new one, or to repair and widen the old one; and a mason in the neighbourhood tendered to build or repair, so as to make a good and firm bridge, £100. This, though supported by many respectable men, was over-ruled by the majority - whether on account of expediency or expense, I know not, but so the bridge has continued in this dangerous state, till this sacrifice of human life has occurred. I trust that by your insertion of this letter, it may meet the eye of some of the influential and opulent men of that neighbourhood, and stimulate their exertions to remedy the evils complained of; for should any further accident occur, I can only repeat your words, that an awful responsibility will lay somewhere.”

The Exeter & Plymouth Gazette 18 December 1841 follows this up by pointing out that the dangerous condition of Hayne Bridge is a subject of very general complaint; and we trust after such an awful catastrophe, it will not be permitted to remain in its present dangerous state. My researches can find no further mention of anyone being held accountable or of work being done to the bridge until nearly 20 years later. I don't understand how people could continue to use the original low clapper style bridge during that time without being in fear of their lives!

However, on 23 November 1860 the Exeter & Plymouth Gazette reports on a case in the County Court, where the defendant had been contracted to erect a bridge and make a new road at Hayne and the plaintiff had been employed as the sub-contractor. When the sub-contractor had looked at the site of the proposed road, he suggested that carrying it a little further round would save labour and make for a better road and that was agreed. But, a dispute arose over costs ending up in court. Those costs were around £70, somewhat less than the £100 tender to the meeting in 1840. I can conclude from that court case that the bridge now in use near Hayne was probably built around 1860. I am told that it is possible to see remnants of the original bridge and I look forward to being guided to them when the river is low enough next summer and perhaps providing a photo for a future edition of Monachorum Matters.

See below a postcard of Hayne Bridge built in 1860 taken circa 1960s [archive photo no. 78]



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ARCHIVE PHOTO

Forgive us for forcing you to turn your heads for this one, but as you can see there are many faces here, some of whom you will know. Details of the event are on the next page along with names of those we have been able to identify.



Eggesford Hunt Ball in the Village Hall 1959

[archive photo number 68]

The Skylarks Band played with Tom Wright on Drums and Reg Burrow on Accordion. John Poole remembers his father putting up a tarpaulin outside in the playground to shelter the drinks which were served from Glebe Cottage (opposite the Village Hall). The hunt met in Zeal the following day.

When I put this photo forward for the newsletter, I did not know who any of the 55 people were. So many thanks to all those who have, so far, provided 33 of the names: Mary & Paul Vicary, Isabel Harris, Margaret Harris, Marion Quick, Sue Down, Tony Breal, Marcia & John Poole. It would be great to identify the rest. Do get in touch with me if you can help - copies available through me.

Erica Eden 01363 82606

Each row from left:

Front row: 4 Lewis Quick Jnr, 5 Mr Sampson, 6 Ernest Burrow, 7 Ken Down;
right side: 8 Jack Gregory, 9 Dudley Palmer, 10 Archie Gregory;

2nd row: 1 Queenie Cockwill, 2 Hilda Elston, 5 Lucy Quick, 6 Lewis Quick,
7 Mrs Dennis, Mr Dennis (Margaret Dennis's parents), 9 Elsie Down;

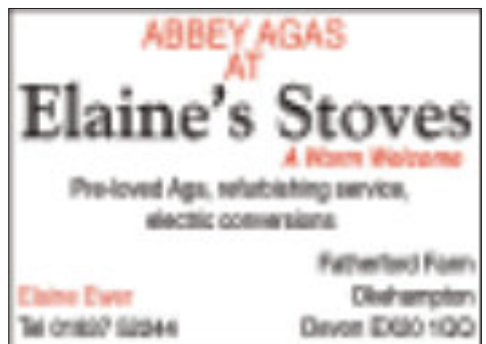
3rd row standing at the side front to back: 1 Betty Mitchell, 3 Linda Drew,
4 Grace Burrow;

3rd row: 1 Joan Burrow, 3 John Poole, 4 Marcia Poole, 5 Mary Vicary [Joe's wife], 9 Hazel Quick nee Down;

Stage: front 4th row: 1 Norman Vicary, 2 Margaret Thorne nee Down,
3 Joe Vicary, 4 Margaret Dennis nee Quick;

5th row: 4 Tom Wright (Skylarks band), 5 Esme Burrow, 7 Michael Palmer;

Back 6th row: 1 Paul Vennelle, 2 Jim Elston, 4 Reg Burrow (Skylarks band).



QUIZ

1. What is the capital of the Orkney Islands?
2. Why is the Early Spring Bank Holiday on a Friday this year?
3. Which famous poet's Christian names were Thomas Stearns?
4. What was athlete Zola Budd famous for in the 80s?
5. On the new Wallace and Gromit 50p coin, what does 'Caseus praetans' mean?
6. What was the previous name for Myanmar?
7. What does the 'i' in 'ipad' or 'iphone' mean?
8. What colour is cyan?
9. What year was McDonalds founded? 1955, 1965 or 1975?
10. What nationality is Hercule Poirot in Agatha Christie's mysteries?
11. What is 617 Squadron of the Royal Air Force often commonly called?
12. How many National Parks are there in the UK?
13. How many of these National Parks are in Devon?
14. Who is the Goddess of Strength, more commonly known as a sports brand?
15. What does the abbreviation 'Wilco' actually mean?

Minute Quiz

These are well known sayings:

A S For S E W U The B A D as A P O its L L T is M

January Answers

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. New Zealand | 8. Newlywed |
| 2. Newborn/New arrival | 9. Newel post |
| 3. Newcomer | 10. Pinewood Studios |
| 4. Sinew | 11. New Testament |
| 5. Sir Isaac Newton | 12. New Moon |
| 6. New Hampshire | 13. Newfoundland |
| 7. Newt | 14. Newtown |
| | 15. New Forest |

Minute quiz

Angel Instead Cater

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Over Christmas, our Lucy asked me if I could make a storage box each for the two boys and a family First Aid box. As the pictures show, in my Village Workshop I can make storage boxes of any size for any use .

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50 YEARS LONG SERVICE

In the 1970s / 1980s producers had to make provision for Emergency Milk collection, to be used when the Bulk Tanker could not reach the farm to collect the milk. This was usually due to adverse weather conditions, for example snow /ice. The farmer would have an emergency milk collection point where he could take his milk and wait for a Tanker to turn up. Often this meant a long wait of several hours. The collection point for Zeal was at Morchard Road or Bow. The farmer would milk his cows, probably with great difficulty as milking parlours would easily freeze up, and then pump into the farm vat and cool as normal. He would then transfer his milk into an emergency milk collection vessel. This could be one of a variety of containers, examples include a purpose built Desco tank made of fibreglass with a fitted lid, concentrated orange juice containers, poly containers which were like a big poly bag which was placed on a trailer and kept in place by straw bales. Some farmers had a good supply of churns. All these vessels were approved by the Milk Marketing Board along with many other types. The biggest job was to get the milk from the farm vat into the emergency vessel. Once in the vessel, the milk would be sucked out by the hose on the Bulk Tanker – it was a good job that there were good filters on these hoses.

Luckily, the times when this type of collection was necessary were few and the system is now obsolete. In recent years when the Bulk Tanker could not get to the farm, the producer would have to discard his milk and any loss would be compensated by Arla.

But bad weather was not the only challenge faced by dairy farmers. In February 2001 there was an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease. This was devastating to the farming industry with 2,026 cases and over 6,000,000 sheep and cattle killed. At Taw Valley, in common with all farmers, we had to operate a Bio-security system. All tankers entering the site went through a wash of diluted citric acid. I can remember the Monday after the first case was confirmed in Devon, the entrances to Gregory's and Taw Valley were strewn with straw soaking in disinfectant.

This brings to an end the story of my 50 year's service, but I must have enjoyed it; as a colleague once said "there is a 45 bus which passes the dairy every hour so if you don't like it, get on the bus". I found my first pay slip from 50 years ago, £7 7s 1d, it was paid in cash and in a brown packet!

Margaret Harris

Another thought . . .

"The flowers of late winter and early spring occupy places in our hearts well out of proportion to their size"

Gertrude Smith - Wister

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Tel. 01392 205 205 / 0845 140 5005

Email: D-CCG.corporateservices@nhs.net

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Rural Devon - 1 - 3 Bridge Buildings
The Strand, Barnstaple. EX32 8IW
www.ruraldevoncab.org.uk
Tel. 03444 111 444 (both of the above)

Farming Community Network: Manor Farm, West Haddon, Northampton
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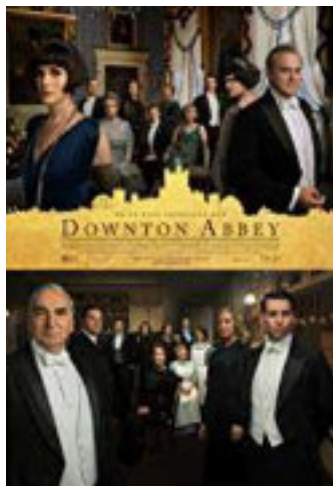
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