

FREE

Issue 8, January 2020

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Barn owl pictured locally by John Pinchcombe

VILLAGE EVENTS – JANUARY

Every Weds	Coffee morning in Village Hall, 10.30 - 12 noon
NOTE	Coffee Morning resumes on Wed 8 Jan
Weds 8 Jan	WI: Speaker Andrew Bowyer on World Equestrian Games, plus Bring & Buy; 7.15 for 7.30pm
Fri 10 Jan	Mobile Library, 1.15 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross
Sat 11 Jan	Market, 10.00am - 11.30am
Weds 15 Jan	Film night: 'Yesterday', doors open 7pm, film 7.30pm
Mon 20 Jan	Zeal Explorers, 2pm at bus stop
Weds 22 Jan	Bingo, doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm
Weds 29 Jan	PCC meeting at Hayne, 7.30pm
Thur 30 Jan	Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm

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

NEW YEARS EVE

Fireworks just after midnight

OVER 60S LUNCH CLUB

Tuesdays fortnightly: 2 courses plus tea/coffee £7.



EDITORIAL

Well, here we are in 2020 and I thought you might like to see some new names for the months of the year, courtesy of George Ellis: *Snowy, Flowy, Blowy, Showery, Flowery, Bowery, Hoppy, Croppy, Droppy, Breezy, Sneezy, Freezy*. They seem exactly right to me. And just for fun, here's another New Year quote: '*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves*'. Bill Vaughan. Whatever your way of seeing in 2020 we hope you have a good time and we wish all our readers and advertisers a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

We continue to receive very good feedback about the newsletter and we've had some really interesting stories to entertain you - please keep your articles coming. It seems there's a great interest in how people come to live in Zeal and their personal histories.

The other issue we have been considering recently is whether some of you would prefer to receive your newsletter as an electronic file. If you do, please let us know by emailing our newsletter address: zmon.news@gmail.com. For those who prefer the paper copy, don't worry - we won't stop printing it any time soon.

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE: JANUARY 8

Our newsletter is printed by Burridge Printers of North Tawton

The advertisement is a dark rectangular graphic with teal and white text. At the top, it reads 'YOUR LOCAL DESIGN & PRINT' in large, bold, teal letters. Below this, on the left, is the logo for 'bsharpdesigns' which includes a stylized diamond icon and the tagline '-LOCAL DESIGN FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES-'. To the right is the logo for 'Burridge Printers' which features a circular graphic with orange and blue segments and the tagline 'digital • branding • packaging'. Below these logos are the website addresses: 'hello@bsharpdesigns.co.uk' and 'bsharpdesigns.co.uk' on the left, and 'hello@burridgeprinters.co.uk' and 'burridgeprinters.co.uk' on the right. In the center, the phone number '01837 82386' is displayed. At the bottom, the address 'Upper Depot, Devonshire Gardens, North Tawton EX20 2CS' is listed, followed by a 'Find us' prompt and icons for Facebook and Twitter.



ST PETER'S CHURCH NEWS

It certainly doesn't seem like 20 years since we heard our lovely church bells ring in the new millennium. The Churchwardens and the PCC thank everyone who has contributed to our church life over the past year. We have had our fair share of joy and sorrow in the village with funerals, weddings and in December a christening to finish off the year. This gives us hope that the rhythm of church life continues whatever other, more worldly issues impinge on our lives.

We have some special thanks: to our 'Heavenly Dusters', i.e. All the people who faithfully clean our church each month - a big thank you. We have many lovely comments in our visitors' book about our church and the floral displays, so thank you to all who provide and arrange the flowers each week and participate in festival arrangements. Alan Hollingsworth and Jeff Burrows also deserve a special mention for their sterling work in the churchyard, and David Bowyer has recently taken the seat from outside the main porch door and is renovating it - thank you gentlemen.

Thank you to all the helpers and to those who came and supported our Advent Fayre, which raised over £587, an amazing amount to help our funds. Thanks to Erica Eden for the photo of Father Christmas and his little helper pictured below with three of his visitors: Lennon, Brodie and Ophelia Chandler.

Our Carol Service was led by Andrew Herniman, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. The choir, under the direction of Tim Herniman, sang beautifully, and the evening was enjoyed by all. January sees two services led by the Worship Group and the Eucharist with Rev David Rowbottom. The last service of the month is our Christingle, which takes place on 26 January at 4.30pm. It will be followed by a Bring and Share tea, and the collection will be donated to the Children's society. We hope to have the Rural Dean officiating - please come and support us.

The Parish Giving Scheme is now active; those who have signed up will be receiving the appropriate forms soon. Anyone can join at any time - there will be more information next month. Have you any ideas for fund raising? Could you help arrange an event? If so, please contact me, all help gratefully received.

We feel it is important to keep up with our charity donations. Plate proceeds from our three major events - Christingle, Harvest Festival and the Carol Service - are always donated to a chosen cause. All of us on the PCC thank you for your support and wish you a happy and peaceful New Year.

Susie

01363 82341

sabostock@gmail.com



SERVICES AT ST PETER'S IN JANUARY

5 January	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Worship Group
Epiphany	O/T reading	Isaiah 60: 1 – 6	Lynn Warren
Patriarchs	N/T reading	Matthew 2: 1 – 12	Tony Breal
		Sidesmen Welcome Offertory	Marian Quick
12 January	6.30pm	CW Eucharist	Rev. David Rowbottom
Epiphany 1	O/T reading	Isaiah 42: 1 – 9 Acts	Gavin Rowden
Baptism of	N/T reading	10: 34 - 43	Colin Crothers
Christ	Gospel	Matthew 3: 13 - end	Rev. David Rowbottom
		Sidesmen Welcome Offertory	Tony Breal
19 January		No service	
26 January	4.30pm	Christingle TBC	Rural Dean TBC
		Sidesmen Welcome & Offertory	Marian Quick
2 February	10.00am	Plough Sunday	Worship Group
Presentation of	O/T reading	Isaiah 28: 23 - 29	Lynn Warren
Christ	N/T reading	Matthew 13: 3 - 9	Tony Breal
		Sidesmen Welcome Offertory	Marian Quick

FLOWER ROTA

12 & 19 January - Jane Hogg; 26 Jan & 2 Feb - Isabel Harris

I have compiled the 2020 flower rota which I have placed on the notice board at the back of the Church. We have a list of volunteers but, if you would like to help, perhaps on a birthday or anniversary or other special occasion, just let me know and I will include you on the rota.

Finally but not least. A sincere thank you to everyone who provided and arranged flowers in 2019. A vase of fresh flowers provides a warm welcome for visitors to our church and our congregation. Thank you.

Contact Margaret Down on 82204

RAINFALL

November - 156mm

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SHOCKING CATASTROPHE - HAYNE FORD

Part 3 THE HERO

On 29 November 1841 there had been extraordinarily heavy rain in the afternoon. At around 7pm William Bibbings and his son set off from their home half way down the hill from the church (later called Hillside Cottages), to see the height of the water. On being told of the accident William took control. Despite being 60 years old and unable to swim, he got the others present to catch hold of him and he walked into the very cold water to a depth of 4 feet (1.2 metres), with only moonlight to guide him. He found the Rev. Hughes alive and carried him out of the water. He and the other rescuers continued the search for the missing three people until midnight, resuming at 6am the next morning.

William's bravery resulted in representations being made to the Royal Humane Society and consequently the Bishop of Exeter presented a silver medallion for 'saving the life of a fellow creature'. The medallion is pictured on the next page. So who was this hero? I have been researching his life and I find him to be an exceptional person.

He was born in Zeal Monachorum in 1781, the son of John Bibbings and his wife, Alice Mann. It seems likely that he went to Bow school which, at that time, served five parishes including Zeal. There is no information about whether he served an apprenticeship but we do know that by 1804 he was training his own apprentice in threshing machine making, which would point to him already being a master in the trade. In November 1801 he marries Thomazin Clotworthy and they go on to have nine children, two of whom did not survive childhood. In 1822, when his last child is only a year old, something goes wrong for William and he ends up in a debtor's prison. Fortunately he is discharged in November of the same year, presumably because someone had cleared his debts.

William continues as a threshing machine maker, he is listed as such in the 1850 trade directory. It is worth noting that the threshing machine was invented by Andrew Meikle, circa 1786, but the equipment became controversial because powered agricultural machinery was putting people out of work. Subsequently riots occurred in many parts of the country, particularly in the 1830s. William also had other strings to his bow and is variously recorded as a blacksmith, a carpenter and a builder. The two former skills would seem relevant for building threshing machines.

In 1837 he is appointed as the Registrar of the Bow District for the purpose of registering births, marriages and deaths, and he becomes an examiner of weights and measures. Clearly both of these important posts indicate a level of literacy and numeracy which would not normally be expected in a blacksmith or carpenter. These are apparent in the 10 yearly census returns for 1841, 1851 and 1861, for which he was responsible; his neat writing calculations and signature can still be seen in the records. In carrying out his weights and measures duties he goes to premises and tests the weighing apparatus for accuracy. He brings charges against anyone found breaking the law at courts of Petty Sessions held in, for example, South Molton and Witheridge. His visits to premises and testing of weights meant that he was clearly travelling some distances, either on horseback or with a carriage. He continued to do this work into his eighties.

I think the following report from the Western Times, 5 May 1867 gives a further sense of the man and a glimpse of his life in our parish at that time. ‘Zeal Monachorum Green Old Age: “On Wednesday there were the following persons mowing and making hay in a meadow on the Gillhouse estate in this parish: Mr William Ford, the occupier of the estate and once champion of light wrestlers, aged 80, who was mowing; Mr William Bibbings, late examiner of weights and measures, aged 86; and Mrs Christian Jeffery, aged 100 - the two last making hay”’.

William Bibbings died of old age in 1869, aged 88. He is buried in Zeal churchyard but the grave has not been able to be identified.

Erica Eden

Photographs courtesy of William Pike, a descendant of William Bibbings.



ZEAL EXPLORERS

Last month we were rather depleted in number with just four of us, plus Teal the dog of course, waiting at the bustop to see if our group would swell in number. Nobody else arrived but undeterred we set off in our wellies (the previous few days had been very wet) for a short walk.

We walked down the hill to Hayne Bridge, where Teal had a run in the very wet field, then we walked up hill past Gill House to the footpath which cuts across to Western Road and back to the village. We were kindly invited to finish off with a very welcome cuppa and a piece of cake at Ken & Jane's cottage.

Hopefully we will be a larger group next time - our next walk is Monday 20 January, 2pm at the bus stop.



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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Every November we have an Annual Meeting to elect members to the committee, and a second meeting to elect officers and to co-opt additional members. The committee for the coming year comprises the following people:

Chairman - Ken Down, 82204; Vice Chairman - Marian Quick, 83243;

Secretary - Jan Summers, 82571; Assistant Secretary - Sally Rowden, 82531;

Treasurer - Margaret Harris, 82251;

Members - Sue & Martyn Down, 82785; Tina & David Bowyer, 82423;

Margaret Down (Beer), 82357 and Becky Ringrose, 82869.

Bookings for the hall or the market can be made by contacting Jan Summers, 82571 or email: jansummerszm@gmail.com.

We have the following events planned for the early part of 2020:-

Sat 4 January - Annual Party, more details below;

Sat 7 March - Quiz & Pasty Night, £5 per head, includes first drink & pasty;

Sat 4 April - Spring Flower, Cooking & Craft Show.

The Annual Party on 4 January will be a social evening starting at 6pm. It will include games, a quiz and a draw plus a Bring & Share supper. Guests are also invited to bring their own drinks and glasses. Come along and enjoy an easy evening out in good company; please book with Jan Summers. Details of the other events will be in the next newsletter but, for now, mark the dates in your diaries.

FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

Happy New Year. Thank you to everyone who purchased our calendar, we have now covered our costs and have raised £100, which enables us to send Cancer Research a donation, and also helps the club. Once again our insurance for the club has increased and reluctantly, the membership fees will have to be raised. Seniors will now be £40 per year and Juniors £15; we still feel this is good value for a whole year's fishing. Fees are now due for the year 2020. Any ideas to boost our finances would be welcomed.

The lake is looking really good, the excess water has boosted the oxygen levels and the fish are very healthy. Tight lines.

Ken and Jane

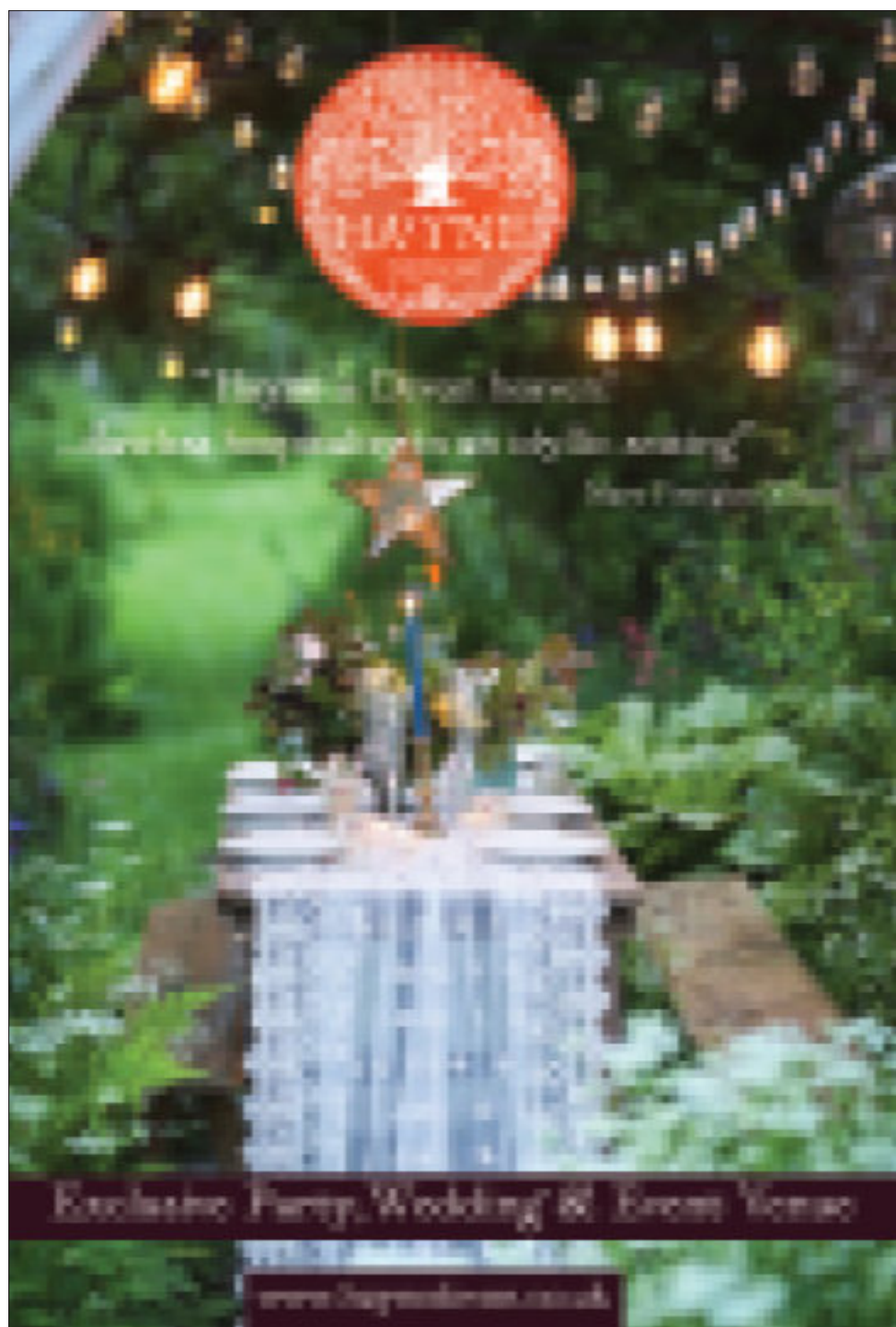
MOBILE LIBRARY

As predicted, in future the mobile library van will stop once in Zeal at Waie Croos, at the bottom of the hill. While it is disappointing, we still have a service and, to keep it, we need people to use it and more people to join. Just turn up and borrow immediately, no ID needed, and no fines for late return of books or DVDs. This is a wonderful positive aspect of our society, to be celebrated and used.

Next visit is on Friday 10 January, 1.15 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY SERVICE –

YOUR USE HELPS KEEP IT FOR OTHERS WHO NEED IT.



NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST

Happy New Year everyone. Most importantly, a healthy one. How is your own health? Here's a fact which you may not be aware of - scientific studies (DNA sequencing) have shown that only about 5% of the world's population carry the genes which would predispose them to diseases such as cancer, diabetes, neurological diseases, etc. meaning that in most cases these conditions are preventable. Here's something else to think about - a report from the World Health Organisation (WHO) states that an estimated two billion people world-wide suffer from 'hidden hunger', which means they lack the necessary vitamin and mineral intake to maintain optimum health. This problem is not just for low-income people, but for those of any economic status.

Everything we eat, drink, do, think, feel, and the environment we live in has an effect, either positively or negatively on our genetic activity. This means that you have control over your own health unless you happen to be among the 5% who have inherited certain genes. Good, optimum nutrition is one of the ways you can protect yourself from minor ailments and chronic disease alike.

I work by holding an initial consultation with the client, after which I put together a personal nutrition plan based on the results of assessments (questionnaires) which the client has completed. A week or so later, the client will come for a follow-up appointment so that we can discuss the findings and talk about the plan. An appointment will then be made for a date three months later for a reassessment of the symptoms.

Each session costs £50, which includes the very detailed plan and on-going support by email or telephone if the client requires it. I have information on over 40 ailments which can be added, as required, to the personal plan. Please note that my information does not replace the advice given to you by your medical doctor, but I am able to work with your doctor with your permission if needed. Your first discussion must always be with your doctor for serious health conditions. See my advertisement on the next page for my contact details.

Jacqui Bourne

A SHED LOAD OF GOODNESS

We are pleased to offer a range of dry foods including beans, pulses, fruits, grains, etc. at our brand new, locally made, log cabin shop. These will be available mostly loose, weighed into paper bags or your own containers; almost all the foods will be organic. As the year progresses there will also be seasonal vegetable plants for sale.

Find us along the road from Zeal Monachorum to Bow, past the turn towards Copplestone and on the right. A 10% discount will be offered to those who walk, cycle, ride a horse or travel in a people-full car as a way of trying to help mitigate the worst effects of the climate crisis. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind wishes and a Happy New Year.

Jacqui



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A NEW YEAR QUIZ

Every answer has the letters NEW in it.

1. A country in Oceania
2. A baby just delivered
3. Just moved in
4. Fibrous tissue
5. His discovery was under a tree
6. Its capital is Concord
7. A salamander
8. Just married
9. Bannister post
10. Iconic UK film studio
11. Second half of The Book
12. Is it waxing or waning?
13. Canadian Province
14. Television Z Cars' fictional town
15. Royal trees since 1079

Minute quiz

Solve the anagrams:

GLEAN A divine being SAINTED An alternative REACT Provide food

Answers for December

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Advent | 8. Away in a manger |
| 2. Deep and crisp and even | 9. Green |
| 3. Germany or Norway | 10. Dasher, Dancer, Donner (Donder) |
| (Germany started the tradition, Norway first gave GB a tree). | 11. Germany |
| 4. 25, there is no 'L' | 12. Olaf |
| 5. A carpenter | 13. Leaping |
| 6. The shepherds | 14. Holly |
| 7. The Angel Gabriel | 15. James |

Answers to Minute quiz

$$3 + 12 - 5 \times 7 = 70$$

THE VILLAGE WORKSHOP

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Exhibition *Exhibition* *Exhibition*

Exhibition of the 1960s
 Exhibition of the 1960s
 Exhibition of the 1960s



Exhibition of the 1960s
 Exhibition of the 1960s
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Exhibition of the 1960s
 Exhibition of the 1960s
 Exhibition of the 1960s



CREDITON FOODBANK

SAY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO A MOST AMAZING VILLAGE

Every New Year you astound the Foodbank workers with your generosity and this year is no exception; 19 bags/boxes were taken to the Foodbank. These included jam, sugar, cereals, biscuits, chocolates, mince pies, Christmas puddings, tea, coffee, sweets, juices, oodles of toiletries, toilet rolls, and - wait for it - a turkey! The cats and dogs were not forgotten. Presents were also donated along with £530.

Because Tesco and Morrisons plus other organisations have contributed food, the tins we collected from the village, which amount to 7 more boxes, will be taken to the Foodbank at the beginning of January when the shelves will need to be replenished again.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. I could go on and still it wouldn't be enough. You have given to people who are in situations they never dreamed they would be in. You have shown you care. Wishing you a very Happy New Year.

Many blessings from Christians working together in Crediton.

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI



Pictured at the WI Christmas meal at the Waie Inn, President Jan Brealy receiving a gift from members, presented by Jen Santer.

5 February 2020 - YOUR PLANET NEEDS YOU - presenter Erica Eden

The NFWI campaign 'Show the Love, February 2020' * is about starting a conversation on climate change. So for the February competition please use a heart motif* to submit an action which an individual could take to help the environment/planet [excluding waste and recycling ideas].

* See WI Life magazine, December 2019, page 19

PARISH COUNCIL

The council met on 28 November, all members were present including the latest addition, David Bowyer. There were no members of the public present for the Open Forum but I raised, on behalf of a resident, an incident on 26 November when hounds from a local Hunt chased a fox into a garden in the village and proceeded to kill it before any huntsmen arrived. The residents involved found this distressing and had contacted the police to check whether any offence had taken place. The resident was also in contact with the Hunt regarding making good the damage and asking for prior notice of Hunts so that pets can be kept safely inside. On behalf of the council I expressed sympathy to the residents and agreed that they had taken the appropriate steps. The council itself has no powers in this matter but noted that, fortunately, incidents like this are very rare indeed.

Speeding in the village is an on-going discussion at our meetings. I have been involved in robust correspondence with our county councillor, Margaret Squires, as it appears that county policy is NOT to agree to 20 mph limits in rural villages. I believe this is bizarre and wrong when we compare ourselves with towns where such limits are quite frequent. Towns have pavements, better street lighting and no buildings opening directly onto the highway, as many villages do. Margaret is very aware that rural areas appear to be ignored and we are looking to set up discussion with other villages to see if we can try and bring about a change of policy. Meanwhile, can I ask again that all residents set a good example by driving at no more than 20 mph; and a reminder to those on foot - please wear reflective clothing so that you can be seen.

The Parish representatives on the Den Brook Community Fund are Rob Peck and Sally Rowden. The parish has a grant allocation of nearly £4000 per annum and projects to use these funds are needed, (www.den-brook.co.uk). The next tranche of funding will be allocated early in the new year so please get your application in if you have a project.

The council has considered taking over the village telephone box situated outside the church but, due partly to a lack of ideas of how to use it and the cost of maintaining it as it is Grade 2 listed, they decided not to take it any further.

The provision of allotments was discussed. Whilst there has been some interest expressed, no site has been identified. The parish council does have the ability to assist in providing them if there is sufficient interest and a suitable site can be identified. Please email me if you are seriously interested in having an allotment and/or if you have any ideas where they could be situated. 'Ring and Ride' is run by Mid Devon Mobility; the council is asking that a rep comes to our next meeting to explain their work. I am aware that there are users in the village and the council is considering a donation towards the running costs. Please let me, or any councillor, know if you have thoughts about this service. All meetings are published on the notice board by the bus shelter or on the PC website: www.zeal-monachorum.co.uk. The next meeting is on 30 January 2020 at 7.30pm.

Andrew Chandler acchandler@btinternet.com

CONTACTS

Local Parish Council: Chairman Andrew Chandler. Tel 07831 167 728
Village Hall: Chairman Ken Down Tel. 01363 82204
Secretary & bookings: Jan Summers. Tel. 01363 82571

Mid Devon Councillor: John Daw. Tel. 01363 877 238
email: jdaw@middevon.co.uk

County Councillor: Margaret Squires. Tel 01363 84337
email: margaret.squires@devon.gov.uk

Parliament: Mel Stride MP. Tel 01392 823 306
email: mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk

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ZEAL MONACHORUM VILLAGE HALL
presents

YESTERDAY

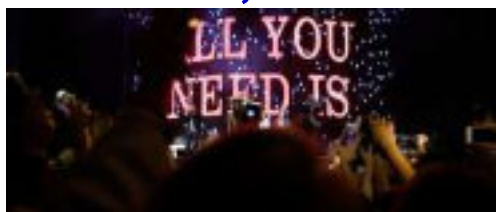
**A ROMANTIC MUSICAL COMEDY BY
RICHARD CURTIS & DANNY BOYLE**



**AFTER AN ACCIDENT,
A JOBBING MUSICIAN
WAKES UP IN A WORLD
WHERE HE IS THE ONLY
ONE WHO REMEMBERS**

THE BEATLES & THEIR MUSIC... STARRING

**HAMISH PATEL; LILY JAMES;
KATE MCKINNON; JAMES CORDEN**



WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY
Doors 7 P.M. starts 7.30 P.M.
TICKETS £4.00

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OKEHAMPTON MOVING PICTURES