

MONACHORUM MATTERS

FREE

Issue 46, March 2023

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Cloud formation at Foldhay Cross, early February

EDITORIAL

As I write this in early February, the sun is shining but there's a chilly breeze. It makes me think of that old saying 'Ne'er cast a clout till May be out' – how appropriate. Opinion is divided as to whether 'May' in the saying refers to the month or to the hawthorn blossom but my trusty computer assures me that it is the month. The saying is a reminder not to pack away winter woollies for a while yet.

However, if you have time and energy to have a clear-out, you may be wondering what to do with the results of your tidying up, and this month's market on 11 March might just provide a solution. We are inviting you to take a table and to sell your cast-offs, either to raise money for your favourite charity or just to make a bit of pocket money. Details can be found on Page 15 in the Village Hall news.

This month, more details have emerged of the plans for the crowning of King Charles III on May 6. There are many happy memories of the Jubilee celebrations last year and I think quite a few of us would like to see a public event of some sort in our village to mark the coronation. As yet, there are no serious plans but if you have ideas please let the Parish Council or the Village Hall Committee know as soon as possible, we don't have much time.

DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE: 8 MARCH

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COMMUNITY NEWS

RAINFALL

Rainfall for January 136mm.

BOW & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monday 27 February: talk on Ancient Trackways on Dartmoor by Emma Cunis.

Monday 27 March: talk on Grave Robbing and Body Snatching in Devon by Dr Peter Selley.

Meetings are held at 7.15 for 7.30pm at Bow Village Hall. Annual Membership £15, visitors £4.00, free refreshments.

Often people going from Zeal share lifts. Get in touch with Erica 01363 82606 if you would like to join in.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Fridays 17 March & 14 April between 1.10 and 1.45pm at Waie Cross.

You can join immediately, no ID necessary. There are no fines if you return books late. 0345 155 1001 www.devonlibraries.org.uk

FILM NIGHT

This was due to be shown in January, but the weather forced a postponement, so here it is : **‘TOP GUN: MAVERICK’ starring Tom Cruise**

This is a fairly new, fast-moving film showing many amazing flying scenes and an incredible surround sound which creates the feeling that you are actually there. It’s always exciting to see a film like this on the ‘big screen’ in the hall.

Please join us on **Wednesday 15 March**, 7.00 for a 7.30pm start, see back page.

VILLAGE EVENTS IN MARCH

Every Weds	Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon at Village Hall
Wed 1 Mar	WI, 7.15 for 7.30pm at Village Hall, see page 9
Weds 8 Mar	Bingo - doors open 7pm, starts 7.30pm at Village Hall
Sat 11 Mar	Market, 10.00 - 11.30am at Village Hall
Mon 13 Mar	Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop
Wed 15 Mar	Film Night, 7 for 7.30pm at Village Hall
Fri 17 Mar	Mobile Library, 1.10 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross
Thu 30 Mar	Parish Council, 7.00pm at Village Hall

ADVANCE NOTICE: Dog show at the Waie on **Bank Holiday Monday 1 May**, more details next month.



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A win for Win

It's a pretty rare event to go for a walk in Zeal and come across a Bagpiper, but that is exactly what happened recently to Roy and Erica Eden. This was the scene that greeted them in Western Road. Erica writes:

Many people will know Win Yelland, now 85, who has lived in Zeal for 46 years. Some will have heard her parrot as they passed her home on Western Road.

Before she retired, she worked for the Blakes at Paschoe House hotel for more than 40 years.

Recently her family arranged a surprise visit by piper Paul Kendall from Torquay to play for her. She was absolutely delighted by the experience. Her daughter, Rose Bosley, took this photograph.



What might you do for your community?

In ad hoc conversations with people during our daily walks I am always pleasantly astounded by the breadth of experience, knowledge, jobs, hobbies, interests of people, which are fascinating and sometimes seem like under-used talents.

Zeal Monachorum is fortunate to have a number of voluntary/charitable groups including the Parish Council, St Peter's Parochial Church Council, the Village Hall Management Committee, the Women's Institute and the Fishing Club. All of these function because of the unpaid efforts of numerous people, some of whom give their time across more than one organisation. Their work looks after buildings, land and water, and creates social events, all of which raise well-being and are beneficial to the people of the parish.

In the past there were also youth clubs and parent & toddler sessions. These and other activities could happen again, for example, and the Village Hall Committee might be able provide support to anyone wanting to get something going.

I know that there are many people who are volunteering elsewhere: working in charity shops; helping the food bank; raising money for good causes by sponsored activities; making things to sell etc; campaigning on issues. There are also those who are being good neighbours or quietly doing random acts of kindness.

Did you know that volunteering and acts of kindness cause the release of the hormones oxytocin and serotonin? These lower blood pressure and improve our overall heart condition as well as boosting the immune system, self-esteem and optimism. A study showed that, after helping someone else, many people felt stronger, more energetic, with increased feelings of calm and self-worth. The production of serotonin, in particular, can lead to experiencing happy and warm feelings when we do something kind or helpful for another.

Many people lead busy lives and don't have much time to offer but support to your community can be given in many ways: perhaps try to fit into your weekend dropping by the monthly village hall market - have a quick browse, maybe buy something, have a chat, get a raffle ticket; or go to film night and enjoy the quaintness of having an interval with choc ices and homemade cakes; attend WI as a visitor, you will find it's not all jam and Jerusalem but a place to make friends and hear interesting talks; go to a church service, you'll be welcomed and can find peace within our ancient church. Support of these kinds encourages the volunteers to keep going and the institutions to survive.

Most of our organisations need people to serve on their committees. The amount of time given can vary from turning up to meetings and helping to make decisions to spending time outside of meetings, perhaps preparing for events or doing simple maintenance on a building, or taking an officer role, according to your own inclination and the type of committee.

Of course, there are times when we can feel fed up and frustrated with the decisions made, or not made, by our parish groups. We can grumble among ourselves *or* we can get involved - present alternative courses of action, though in a democracy sometimes one has to accept the majority view.

On 4 May 2023 there are elections for Parish Councillors, nominations must be submitted between 1 March and 1 April.

Maybe you have ideas on how our community could do more for you, or you for it - I'd be interested to hear them.

Erica Eden 01363 82606 reden@rocketmail.com

QUOTE

‘The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month’.

Henry van Dyke, American author



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ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

March this year will encompass much of the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on 22 February. A lent group is being held at The Ark, Lapford on Mondays beginning on 27 February at 2.00pm. Rev Robert will be continuing to hold a zoom Compline service at 7pm on Thursday evenings from 2 March. If you would like to join him, please ask me for the contact details.

Our services for March are:

March 5 at 10.00am
Old Testament
New Testament

Lent 2 Lay led
Genesis 12: 1- 4
John 3: 1-17
Sidesman
Church cleaner

Family service
Miss Lynn Warren
Mr Colin Crothers
Mr Tony Brealy
Mrs Susie Bostock

No flowers in Lent

March 12 at 6.30pm
Old Testament
New Testament
Gospel

Lent 3
Exodus 17: 1-7
Romans 5: 1-11
Luke 13: 31-35
Sidesman

C W E
Mr Graham Rounsley
Mrs Jane Hogg
Rev Robert Gordon
Mr Colin Crothers

March 19 at 3.00pm
Old Testament
New Testament

Mothering Sunday
Exodus 2: 1-10
Luke 2: 33 - 35
Sidesman

Family service
Mrs Becky Harvey
Mr Colin Crothers
Mr Tony Brealy

March 26 at 3.00pm
Old Testament
New Testament

Lent 5 (Passiontide)
Hebrews 9: 11-15
John 8: 46-59

Evensong
Mr Ken Down
Miss Lynn Warren

On Mothering Sunday there will be posies for all the mums and simnel cake for everyone. We look forward to seeing you at any of our services.

Church Electoral Roll update. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is being held in April. The Electoral Roll is updated annually before the APCM. The revision begins on March 1st and closes on March 31st. If you would like to be included on the Church Electoral Roll please contact Tony, the roll officer **Tel. 82563** for an application form or collect one from the table in church. As a member on the Electoral Roll you are able to vote at the annual meeting and be eligible to become a member of the P.C.C. who make decisions on both the life and upkeep of our lovely church building.

Tea station/kitchen area The Parochial Church Council has agreed that a faculty be applied for to install the much talked about tea station/ kitchen area in the North Aisle Transept and replacement of the screen. I have, on behalf of the P.C.C., completed the petition to the Chancellor for the faculty and I anticipate having his reply toward the end of March. This project was first applied for in 2013 but the work was not carried out at that time.

Church Clock You must be all aware that the church clock is not striking the hour at the moment. Following a meeting with the Cumbria Clock Co, the P.C.C. has agreed to replace the automatic winding mechanism on the hour strike. I have made an application on behalf of the P.C.C. to the Den Brook Community Fund for funding to help with this project.

Margaret (Churchwarden)

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

Our speaker for February was Marilyn MacQueen, a former police officer. She gave us an account of her time in the police force from when she joined in the 1960s. We were astonished to learn how male driven it was and how the women in the force were not allowed to wear trousers until 1999!

At our February meeting our youngest WI member, Jess, advised us that there would be a lorry leaving for Ukraine on February 20th. There is a dire need for the following items: disability aids, e.g. walking sticks, crutches etc. bedding, toys and toiletries. Jess advised that lorries are going over regularly and, with that in mind, I am happy to have contributions left in my porch at North Star House, Town Hill. But it would be wise to let me know beforehand if you are making a delivery because, if I am going to be out, I can leave the front porch door unlocked. Thank you in advance for your kind donations.

1st March will be our 69th birthday and members agreed on a 'bring and share supper'. On Saturday 18th March, we will be hosting a soup and pudding event in the village hall from 12-2pm. There will be stalls and a raffle. To help with catering we ask for tickets to be booked from Jan Brealy by 11th March @ £5 per person. For bookings phone 07811 594528. April 5th is our AGM when our treasurer will be collecting the annual subscriptions.

Please feel free to come to any monthly meeting if you see a speaker that sparks your interest. This will only cost you £1 and of course, the invitation is extended to men as well. We are busy arranging our programme for 2023/24. All information regarding our monthly activities can be found in Monachorum Matters. New members are ALWAYS welcome.

QUOTE

You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.
Dr Seuss, American Children's Author

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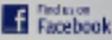
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THE MARCH QUIZ

1. Which planet orbits the sun approximately every 88 days?
2. A Jota is a traditional dance from which country?
3. In the world of radio, what does FM stand for?
4. Which country is known as Suomi in its native language?
5. The city of Gloucester lies on which river?
6. In the Six Nations Rugby Union competition, which 6 nations compete?
7. Which beans are traditionally used to make Baked Beans?
8. What do you look at if you study Virology?
9. How many sides does a trapezium have?
10. Can you name any member of the animal Mustelid family?
11. Who, what or where is Muckle Flugga?
12. Which creatures are the creation of Elisabeth Beresford?
13. Which heavy metal is known as 'plumbum' in Latin?
14. What title is given to the leader of prayers in a Mosque?
15. Which parts of the human body are studied by Myologists?

And, if you only have a minute:

1. Which American state is the longest single word?
2. Which three American states have 2 or more sets of double letters in their name?
3. Which four American states have a 'y' in their name?

Answers on Page 16

CREDITON FOODBANK

Thank you for the donations of food and money given at the January Village Market. Apart from bags of food, £80 was handed over last month. Thanks also go out for donations given at my door and for a collection from home.

The Foodbank is now catering for more people than ever before. The list of food needs each week is also growing to keep the shelves stocked. A list of these needs will be put in the notice board outside the village hall and the church, also on the lamp post by the phone box.

I understand that it is very difficult for many at this time, but if you are able to donate, no matter how small or large, it will go to help many who are struggling beyond our imagination. The Foodbank is there to help families, not just providing food but helping towards everyday eventualities that we all experience. Remember the Foodbank is for anyone in need.

FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

Last chance for fees to be paid or else you will need to buy a day ticket, as we have people on the waiting list. Thank you to all those who have paid their fees.

We are still waiting to hear if we have been successful in our grant application to build new fishing platforms out of recycled plastic. This, in the long run, will save us money as they are not perishable like the wooden ones. They are also impregnated with non-slip surfaces, which will alleviate accidents, as the wooden ones become very slippery and we keep having to wire mesh them. We would also appreciate it if anyone requires any of the willow for craft purposes before we trim it back.

The weather is now improving and we will probably be able to get the boat out and remove some of the line hanging from the trees around the island. On a more serious note, some unscrupulous person has cast a 'Meps' spinner into the trees leaving a load of gut and line hanging from it. This not only looks unsightly, but is very dangerous to wildlife and nesting birds. It makes me think that this person does not have many fishing skills and it is a bad advert for us as a club. Please, if you have any waste line, please wrap it around your hand, cut it in half and throw it in the bin.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane



Rainbow over Hayne, early February, Sally Rowden

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

First, feedback on the 'Cheer-Up-January' party held on 28 January. Apart from the usual local promotional activity, the event was reported on Radio Devon when Jan Summers was invited to take part in the Breakfast shows on Saturday and Sunday.

Altogether, 39 people sat down to a feast – see pictures below by David Bowyer. However, the food had to wait until we had overcome a couple of challenges organised by Erica Eden, Village Hall Chair. The main requirements for these were a knowledge of British Monarchs and their regnal dates, and the imagination to ask the right questions to establish which well-known person one might be; the name having been written on a post-it note stuck on your forehead. By then everyone was hungry and by the time we had finished, there was very little food left. More games followed and the evening was nicely rounded off with a superb draw. Thanks go to all the committee members who made the evening such a success, to those who brought draw prizes and, particularly, to everyone who came along and helped to make it such a sociable evening.



We now have Wi-Fi in the hall thanks to David Bowyer, who heard that this was available free-of-charge to community village halls. The password is on the sill to enable you to connect and you can charge your phone here too. Just bring the charging lead for your device, and remember to take it with you when you leave.

Sell your stuff - spring cleaning, de-cluttering, Marie Kondo-ing

At the market on **Saturday 11 March**, raise money for yourself or a cause of your choice. Tables must be booked in advance - call Jan on 82571. There is no charge for a table but we ask you to donate a good quality item for the draw, any cash you receive is yours. What have you got to lose but an hour or two of your time.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 13

1. Mercury
2. Spain
3. Frequency Modulation
4. Finland
5. The Severn
6. England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France and Italy
7. Haricot beans
8. Viruses
9. Four
10. Weasel, badger, otter, ferret, marten, mink
11. A small island in the Shetland Islands
12. The Wombles
13. Lead
14. The Imam
15. Muscles

The Minute Quiz answers

1. Massachusetts
2. Massachusetts , Mississippi and Tennessee
3. Kentucky, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Wyoming



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Ken Hogg, 07749 329832

QUOTE

‘Despite the forecast, live like it’s spring’.
Lilly Pulitzer, American Fashion Designer

March is an exciting time with Spring just around the corner and bulbs cheering up the borders. Here are some tips on what needs doing this month.

1. Once the weather has warmed, mix in a soil improver to your soil to help boost plant growth for the coming year.
2. Beware of overnight frost and be sure to protect any tender plants with fleece or by taking them into the greenhouse.
3. Keep on top of pruning climbing plants and tidying up Winter shrubs. March is a great month to prune varieties such as Sambucus, Buddleia, Hydrangea or Fuchsias.
4. Prune Rose bushes from mid-March, making sure any dying or diseased stems are removed as well as shoots which have become damaged. Fertilise soil well with organic compost and rose feed to their base.
5. The first lawn trims, lawn feeding and lawn sanding should start in March during dry weather in order to promote healthy lawn growth through the year. Top tip – Leave a patch of lawn to grow and sow in wild flowers for a mini meadow area that the wildlife will love.
6. Bare patches in your lawn can attract weeds so re-seed now, and regularly water to repair these patches and prevent any new weeds from becoming a problem for your lawn.
7. Continue deadheading spring flowers and any remaining Winter bedding so they don't set seed.
8. Once the soil starts to warm up again, you start to plant early varieties of seed potatoes, shallots and onion sets in your vegetable garden. Later seed potatoes require a little more chitting.
9. Prepare your vegetable garden – Dig compost or well-rotted manure into your vegetable beds to prepare for the growing season ahead.
10. Protect new bulb shoots from insects and slugs with our pest control range including, natural and organic products.

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ZEAL MONACHORUM PARISH COUNCIL

The November Parish Council meeting was held on the 26th. Apologies were given for councillors Sally Rowden and Ali Birchwhite. Under various matters for discussion, the meeting was informed that the Jubilee Seat shelter, after 2 years, has now been granted all its planning/ listed building consent. Councillor Hogg agreed to obtain a revised price estimate. It certainly won't be the original £4,000. The meeting was told that some members of the parish would like to have the seat relocated. There was no support for this and the idea was unanimously rejected.

Once again, the possible sites of allotments were discussed, without any positive news. However, since the meeting, a possibility has emerged; it's fingers crossed time on that at the moment.

The high hedges in Western Road were brought to the notice of the meeting. The Chair reported that he had contacted 2 of the 3 owners concerned and that he expected improvements in the near future.

The concept of a 20mph speed limit was raised. The Chair explained that Devon County Council had put aside £150,000 to convert 6 areas outside Exeter into 20 mph limits and they would like to receive applications. It was agreed by the council that we should apply although, having seen the criteria, I would not be optimistic about success. We have tried to improve our chances by offering to contribute to the cost ourselves. Whether we are successful or not there seems to be a definite trend to 20mph limits in all built up areas. It may well be that our past Chair, who sent numerous emails to DCC on the subject, may have helped to start the ball rolling.

There was a discussion on how we should celebrate the coming Coronation. It was decided that the PC, the Village Hall committee and the WI should plan jointly on this. If anyone has opinions on how we should celebrate this event, we'd love to hear from you.

The finances of the council were discussed in detail. We are mindful that this is financially a difficult time for everyone, so we have tried to keep the increase to the precept to a minimum. The increase on the precept represents an increase of £2.00 per month on your Council Tax bill. As with everyone, our regular payments have increased by 10% on last year. We have to put money aside for the Jubilee shelter and the agreed contribution to the repairs to the Church wall. The meeting closed at 8.35pm, the next meeting will be held on Monday 30th March 2023 at 7.00pm.

Rob Peck, Chair.

ZEAL MONACHORUM VILLAGE HALL

presents



After more than 30 years as a top naval aviator, Pete "Maverick" Mitchell is where he belongs, pushing the envelope as a courageous test pilot. Yet, Maverick must confront the ghosts of his past when he returns to TOP GUN to train a group of elite graduates. Bitter rivalries ignite as the pilots prepare for a specialised mission, which will require the ultimate sacrifice from those chosen to fly it.

WEDNESDAY 15th MARCH

DOORS 7 P.M. STARTS 7.30 P.M.

TICKETS £4.00