

MONACHORUM MATTERS

FREE

Issue 60, May 2024

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



New life.

Thanks to Mike Bostock for this beautiful picture

EDITORIAL

For this month's issue I have given over the space to include the words of someone who has played an important part in the lives of many of us - Dr Bower. Here is his farewell message...

I wanted to write and thank everyone for their kind words on hearing of my departure from Bow Medical Practice.

After some 17 years as your GP, many of you have become friends and I have been touched by your many messages. Many of you I know by your first names, although I could never quite bring myself to call 'Uncle Bonzo' from the waiting room! I have seen many of you grow and start families of your own and sadly been present when many of your relatives have died.

It has been a privilege to be your GP and I hope over the years I have helped some of you through your difficult times. I am moving on to pastures new but will never forget the support and thoughtfulness many of you have shown me during some difficult times.

With Best Wishes for the future.

Dr AMJ Bower

DEADLINE FOR JUNE ISSUE - 8 MAY

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COMMUNITY NEWS

VILLAGE EVENTS IN APRIL

- Every Weds Coffee morning, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.
Wed 1 May WI, 7.15 for 7.30pm at the Village Hall, see page 7.
Sat 11 May Market, 10 – 11.30am at the Village Hall
Mon 13 May Village Walk, meet 2pm at bus stop
Mon 20 May Bow & District Historical Society, 7.15 for 7.30pm. See below.
Thur 30 May Parish Council, 7pm, Village Hall

BOW & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Talk on the Exeter Ship Canal, speaker from Topsham Museum. Bow Village Hall EX17 6HU. Annual Membership £15, visitors £4. Enquiries: 01363 82468.

RAINFALL

Rainfall for March 141mm. Rainfall total for last 6 months October 2023 - March 2024 was 37 ½ ins.

JUBILEE SEAT

Following the piece in the March issue, Marian Quick writes to correct one detail. The original Silver Jubilee seat was commissioned by Zeal Monachorum Parish Council and it was a second seat, made by special request, that was presented to the Queen and sited at Windsor Castle, not the other way round as reported by Erica.

CASINO NIGHT

Sparkly clothes and dinner suits were the dress code at the Waie Inn on 13 April as people turned up for a much publicised Casino Night. What a brilliant evening it was and full credit to the organisers who had worked hard over many months to make the event a reality. For a report and pictures turn to Page 19.



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A QUIZ FOR May

1. What is the birthstone for May?
2. Brian May, the Queen guitarist, is also well known in which other field?
3. Mae West was well known as an actress but she also gave her name to what garment?
4. On which shrubby plant do we see 'May blossom'?
5. What is the birth flower of May?
6. In the UK, what form of dancing is usually part of the May Day celebrations?
7. Which two Zodiac signs feature in the month of May?
8. What word is missing from this old saying: '*ne'er cast a ----- till May be out*'?
9. Roger Bannister was the first man to run a mile in under 4 minutes in May of which year?
10. The Eurovision Song Contest usually takes place in May each year, when was it first held?
11. In May 1937 Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for what novel?
12. Which Tennis Grand Slam Tournament traditionally starts in late May each year?
13. Who wrote '*Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May*'?
14. At which event is the 'Palme D'Or' presented each May?
15. In what year did the 'Mayflower' take pilgrims from England to America?

Answers on page 13

QUOTE

"May is the month of promise and the sweet beginnings of summer."

Unknown

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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

Firstly, I would like to thank everybody for their kind wishes whilst I was away in hospital. I am now back up and running thanks to Exeter and Plymouth hospitals.

Looking forward to some better weather, I don't think we can have any more rain, or possibly the next generation of humans will be born with webbed feet. Once again, I keep promising to trawl the lake, but we have just not had the correct weather conditions to do so.

We have recently made an application for a grant to replace our old wooden hut with something more substantial, hopefully by next year. Jane has been wanting to mow, but unfortunately the ground is far too wet. The cameras are working well and seem to be deterring any possible vandals. Maintenance is being carried out by Andy Richardson, thanks to him. Has anyone managed to take any photos of our resident kingfisher this year?

Tight lines

Ken and Jane

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contact: **KEN HOGG 07749 329832**

TONY BREALY REMEMBERS...

Another thing my father, Fred Brealy, spoke about was this war-time story. He was in the garden at The Elms, where my son and his family now reside, shutting in the chickens. Planes were going over and he heard a collision of metal followed by an engine revving up.

In the village of Morchard Bishop there is a memorial stone commemorating thirteen crew of two Halifax bombers that crashed at Crookstock Farm in Morchard Bishop Parish on 15th November 1944. The planes were on a wartime exercise, flying without lights, from RAF Wombleton (near York). They had rendezvoused over Cornwall and were returning to base. It is believed that one plane rose up underneath the other and the two craft collided.

The crews were made up of eight Canadians, two Australians and four Royal Airforce Volunteers (RAFV). Sadly, the lone survivor, an Australian who was thrown clear, died in another crash one month later. Dad always believed the collision was over Zeal Monachorum but it took the distance between the two villages for them to actually come down.



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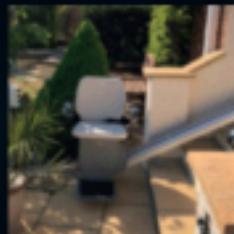
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ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

We have been busy of late, firstly organising our 70th Birthday celebrations in March (of which more later), then preparing for the AGM in April. We now have our President and committee and a committee meeting will, hopefully, sort out the remaining officers e.g., secretary, treasurer and vice president.

As I write this in April, I can really only assume our May meeting will be a total eye opener: Speakers from "Farms for City Children", one of Michael Morpurgo's charities, will no doubt enlighten us.

On Monday 8th April seven Institutes, which make up the Red Earth Group, met for their Spring meeting in Bow, the host Institute. We were fed and entertained very well by a speaker who told us of her change of career from travel agent to milliner. There is always a competition and for this meeting each institute had to make a fascinator. There were five entries and ours came first; it was made by Jess, our youngest member, and she is pictured below with her creation and the trophy. We look forward to the Autumn meeting in October hosted by North Tawton.

Bit of a chuckle regarding our 70th. We received a certificate from head office "DFWI". It was very smart and something to be cherished and put in the archives - until it was noticed - they'd made us 100 in their writing of 1924-2024 but still affording us our 70th status. I was onto them like a rat up a drain and I'm pleased to say, just in time for our April meeting, we received the correct certificate: 1954-2024. Until next time, with more news on the Farms for City Children!

Jan Brealy
President.



Below: close up of the beautiful flowers and insect made of beads created by Jess.

Thanks to Jan Brealy for the picture



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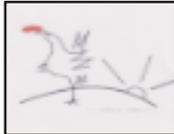
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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

This month, to help your advance preparation, we are including the schedule for our Autumn Show which will be on **Saturday 7 September**.

Section 1- VEGETABLES AND FRUIT- *same variety in each class*

1. 3 Potatoes - white (purely white)
2. 3 Potatoes - coloured (those with any other colour Inc. Eyes)
3. 3 Carrots
4. 3 Beetroot - (remove leaves but leave stalk)
5. 3 Spring Onions grown from sets - tops trimmed and tied
6. 3 Spring Onions grown from seed - tops cut
7. 3 Shallots
8. 3 Runner Beans
9. 3 French Beans
10. 3 Tomatoes (calyces attached)
11. Any other vegetable i.e. Cucumber, Courgette, Lettuce
12. Herbs - 3 kinds, 2 of each
13. 3 Apples - cooking or eating
14. Any other fruit
15. Potato in Bucket, seed potato distributed at April Market
To be judged on weight of **good** potatoes only

Section 2 - FLOWERS

16. A fuchsia spray
17. 3 Dahlias - decorative (single blooms, remove buds, leaves allowed)
18. 3 Dahlias - ball (single blooms, remove buds, leaves allowed)
19. 3 Dahlias - any other variety (single blooms, remove buds, leaves allowed)
20. 1 Gladiola spike
21. 1 specimen bloom HT rose
22. 1 spray floribunda / multiform rose
23. Spray of flowering shrub
24. 3 marigolds or calendulas (single blooms, remove buds, leaves allowed)
25. 1 vase of flowers - perennials and/ or annuals 3 kinds 2 of each
26. 3 Sweet peas

Section 3. HOMECRAFT SECTION

1. Lemon drizzle cake
2. 3 Shortbread fingers
3. 3 Jam Tarts
4. Jar of Jam - no trade names on pots or lids
5. Jar of Runner Bean Pickle - no trade names on pots or lids
6. An Item of Handicraft made from Wood
7. An item of needlework eg knitted, crochet, stitched etc
8. Photograph of tree or trees in Zeal (max. size about 6" x 8", 21cm x 15 cm approx. or A5)
9. Photograph of people with caption (max. Size about 6" x 8", 21cm x 15 cm approx. or A5)
10. A drawing or painting entitled "My Dream House" [max A4]
11. A collage entitled "Harvest Time"— any medium " [max. A4]
12. A wind chime made from recycled materials
13. A dinosaur's garden on a plate max 10" diameter, any medium including plasticine and play-dough.

Finally, dates for your diary...

On **Saturday 22 June** we present an evening with Rob Barratt, a wordsmith who combines word-play with satire, verse, song and audience participation. His material is very funny and this is sure to be a very entertaining evening.

Also coming up on **6 July** is our ever-popular Boules and BBQ. The hall has recently been gifted a Party Tent, so even if the weather is less than perfect, we can all get together and enjoy a fun-filled family evening with good food and hard-fought competition.

More details on both of these events in our next issue.

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Full Menu: 12pm - 9pm (8pm on Sundays)



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- Our Swimming Pool is available for family & bubble sessions at £30 per hour. Please call us to book.
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ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

In May we move from the Sundays after Easter toward the Ascension on the 9th, the last of the festivals when Jesus's earthly ministry draws to a close. Pentecost is on Sunday 19th when the Holy Spirit of God is poured out in power on the expectant disciples as Jesus had promised and we share with them their joy. This feast in the Christian year marks the beginning of the Christian church's mission to the world.

You are all welcome to any or all of our services.

Church rotas for May 2024

5 May at 10.00am

First reading
New Testament reading
Gospel reading

Rogation Sunday

Joel 2: 21-26
Acts 10: 44-48
John 16: 23-33
Sidesman
Altar Flowers 5th
Cleaner

Mrs Tina Young
Mr Colin Crothers
Mr Graham Rounsley
Mr Tony Brealy
Mrs Hazel Wainwright
Mrs Becky Harvey

12 May at 6.30pm

First Reading
New Testament
Gospel

Easter 7 Sunday after Ascension C W E

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26
1 John 5: 9-13
John 17: 6-19
Sidesman
Altar Flowers 12th & 19th

Mrs Jane Hogg
Mr Robert Peck
Celebrant
Mr Colin Crothers
Mrs Susan Down

26 May at 3.00pm

First reading
New Testament

Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6: 1-8
John 3: 1-17
Sidesman
Flowers 26th & 2nd June

Evensong

Mr Tony Brealy
Mrs Becky Harvey
Mr Colin Crothers
Mrs Marian Quick

Churchwardens meeting On 6th March the churchwardens of the North Creedy West Mission Community met with the Archdeacon of Exeter to hear how we move forward following the death of Robert our vicar. A letter from the Archdeacon is expected shortly with his proposals.

Would you like to join our band of bellringers? We invite anyone who is interested in becoming a bell ringer to come along. We practise on Tuesday currently at 8.00pm. We have a long tradition of bell ringing in Zeal, the first 5 bells were installed in 1749, the 6th bell was added in 1925. The Devon Association of Bellringers was formed here, and next year it will celebrate 100 years. Just come along on any Tuesday or contact me 07903 445301 or Adam 07713 186941. It would be really good to have all 6 bells ringing again.

ZEAL MONACHORUM PARISH COUNCIL

The last Parish Council meeting was held on March 28th. After apologies were heard from Ken Hogg, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved by the council.

During the open forum, it was pointed out that, at the recent District Council bye election, no list of candidates had been posted on the PC notice board. We didn't recollect having done this in recent elections but may well be a good idea for the future. If anybody was looking for details that weren't displayed, we apologise.

We welcomed Alex White as the newly elected member of the District Council. In the Council report it was confirmed that from now on, black bag rubbish would only be collected when placed in wheelie bins, with closed lids.

We received a report from our Village Hall member outlining the improvements already completed in the hall. He reported that the PC's previous request for a contribution to the memorial seat for Ken Down had, for various reasons, been unsuccessful. The council was also informed that the Village Hall's bid for £4000 to the Den Brook Fund, necessary for future improvements, had been successful.

We had a planning application request from the developers of the houses at Monk's View to alter the agreed surrounds. Some residents in attendance objected to the changes, citing that original plans were far more 'farmstead' appropriate. The council agreed a site visit was needed, along with a copy of the original plans.

It was brought to the notice of the council that unsightly political graffiti had been daubed outside the entrance to Hayne quarry. Although some attempt had been made to cover this up, a member of the council offered to make a more effective outcome. The meeting closed at 8.10 pm. The next meeting will be held on May 30th at 7.00pm.

Rob Peck . Chair.

Answers to Quiz on Page 4

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Emerald | 8. Clout, ancient word for a vest |
| 2. Astrophysics | 9. 1954 |
| 3. A lifejacket | 10. 1956 |
| 4. Hawthorn | 11. <i>'Gone with the Wind'</i> |
| 5. Lily of the Valley | 12. The French Open |
| 6. Morris dancing | 13. William Shakespeare |
| 7. Taurus to 20 May;
Gemini from 21 May | 14. Cannes Film Festival |
| | 15. 1620 |

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CREDITON FOODBANK

I hope you all had a Happy Easter and a restful long weekend. Although the weather was changeable, we did have some bursts of sun to cheer us up. Plus of course the spring flowers, and the lambs were a real treat to see.

Thank you to all who donated so generously to the Foodbank during March. The Foodbank was very busy and there were empty spaces on the shelves. Fiona and Helen have said “as soon as food comes in to us it is going out”. They did however make sure there were treats to be enjoyed by all at Easter time.

It seems the list of most needed items gets longer each week and these last weeks were no exception. Of course, the list changes each week but the following items tend to go out more quickly than most: tinned carrots, sweetcorn, chopped tomatoes, ham, tuna, meat meals (meatballs, hot dogs, Ravioli), fruit, custard, jars of pasta and curry sauces, small bags of rice, small bags of sugar, breakfast cereals (not porridge), bottles of fruit squash, long life fruit juices, toilet rolls. However, everything that is donated is very much appreciated. THANK YOU.

CREDITON LIBRARY

Did you know, Crediton Library holds a monthly Reminiscence Group? It's a chance to have a chat about your memories in relaxed, friendly company over a cup of tea. Each month we explore a different theme using photos, books, objects or music. Attendees can also bring along items or photos they'd like to share.

Upcoming dates and themes are:

10th May- Film, TV and Radio

14th June- Recipes and Food

12th July- Music

9th August- Holidays

13th September- School

Reminiscence Groups take place at the library on the second Friday of each month, 2-3pm. You can also book a 1-1 Reminiscence Interview with one of our volunteers, to chat more generally about memories from childhood and school through to work and family (or anything else you'd like to reminisce about). These 1-1 conversations are audio recorded at home or at the library and added to an online collection.

Part of the Reminiscence Project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. For more information, or to book a place at a Reminiscence Group session, please email crediton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk or call 01363 772578

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May brings an air of excitement to the garden with Summer just around the corner! Here are some tips on what needs to be done in your garden this month.

1. Get instant colour with summer bedding plants, and keep deadheading them regularly to help them flower all summer long.
2. Apply a liquid feed to Spring bulbs to encourage them to flourish next year.
3. Protect less hardy plants from late frost by positioning them in elevated sunnier spots, and use fleece when frost is forecast.
4. Earth up potatoes, and promptly plant any maincrop or 2nd earlies still remaining.
5. Position supports in place for perennials that are top-heavy such as peonies or phlox.
6. Keep on top of watering during dry spells – invest in a water butt to collect any rain water if you don't already have one. Using saucers under pots with thirsty plants and ensuring new hedging is watered regularly during the first year will help ensure you have a beautiful blossoming garden for summer.
7. Start mowing the lawn more regularly, and apply lawn feed; you can also compost your cuttings.
8. Keep on top of weeds, and hoe your beds regularly, as well as using preventative weed killers.
9. Protect your plants from slugs using natural friendly alternatives such as Organic Slug Stop.
10. Plan a garden project now such as, a patio, shed or summer-house. Get your garden furniture and BBQ now in time to enjoy them for the Summer.

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CASINO NIGHT

Well, we did it! On Saturday 13 April we staged a casino night at the Waie Inn with an auction and raffle in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. It was a fabulous evening and very well attended. We raised a magnificent £2,008.00!

We thank everyone who came and supported us and those who could not make it but kindly donated prizes and auction items. We extend special thanks to the Waie Inn for providing the room and an excellent buffet and our auctioneer, Will Jones, who did an amazing job and was so entertaining – he is wasted as a farmer!

Thanks to Susie Bostock for the report and to Mike Bostock for the pictures.



*LEFT A game of
Blackjack in full swing.*

*BELOW The organisers,
from left to right:*

*Ali Birchwhite,
Mandy Smith
Nic Grose,
Susie Bostock
Eleanor Wilson*





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