

FREE

Issue 34, March 2022

# MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



*Lambing time in Zeal Monachorum*

## EDITORIAL

The national news is now full of details about the upcoming Platinum Jubilee celebrating the 70 year rule of our Queen, a record achieved by no other British Monarch. Here in Zeal, lots of activities are planned which we hope will appeal to all of our residents. None of us is ever likely to see such a moment in history again, so let's really push the boat out and get together to celebrate this historic event. On Page 5 we have details of one of the first events as well advance notice of an exciting competition next month for our younger residents. If you have any questions or ideas about our programme please contact Sally Rowden on 82531.

One of the events which will be running over the first two days of the Bank Holiday is an exhibition in the Village Hall all about Zeal Monachorum and its residents over the years. The exhibition is being put on by Erica Eden and you can read all about it on Pages 6 and 7. Erica would love to hear from anyone who has materials for the exhibition, or who can help staff the hall on its open days.

After a gap of two years, returning this year is our Summer Vegetable and Flower Show; this is planned for August 6. To help you start getting your entries under way, we have included the show schedule in the centre pages of this newsletter, so that you can easily pull it out and keep it for reference. Time to get seed sowing!

### DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE: 8 MARCH

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## MOBILE LIBRARY

Fridays 4 March and 1 April stopping at Waie Cross between 13.15pm and 13.45pm. For all ages, join and borrow books immediately, ID not necessary. No overdue fines. To find out more: Tel: 0345 155 1001, [devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/mobilelibraries](http://devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/mobilelibraries)

## RAINFALL

Rainfall for January - 60 mm.

## CREDITON FOODBANK

I mentioned in the February Newsletter the amount of food, money and soap which had been donated at the January Market. Amazingly it equated to 7 bags. Since then, I have made two more deliveries in January. Six bags in all, plus £20 from the market and an additional £10. Crediton and three other local Foodbanks are all seeing the benefit from having received a substantial amount of sweet-smelling soap. It did wonders for my car too.

Needs for the Foodbank. Over the last month the items that seem to run out the fastest are: UHT green top milk; sugar; jam; the following tinned goods - meat meals, tomatoes, peas, sweet corn, beans (not baked), custard, rice pudding, fruit; and finally, squash and toilet rolls come in handy. It goes without saying whatever you give is always appreciated very much. Thank you and God Bless.

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## VILLAGE EVENTS IN MARCH

Every Weds	Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Wed 2 March	WI, Village Hall 7.15 for 7.30pm - Birthday Night
Fri 4 March	Library Van, 1.15 - 1.45pm at Waie Gardens
Sat 12 March	Village Market, 10.00 to 11.30am, Village Hall
Mon 14 March	Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop
Wed 16 March	Film night, doors open 6.30pm, film starts 7.00pm
Wed 23 March	Bingo, Village Hall, eyes down 7.30pm
Sat/Sun 26/27 March	Open Garden at Monkscroft, Western Rd; 12 - 5pm

**NOTE: These are the last Film and Bingo nights until the autumn.**

## FILM NIGHT

Our March film is James Bond's '**No Time To Die**'. This is our last film for this season, so please come along to swell the numbers and enjoy the evening. This is Daniel Craig's fifth and final James Bond film and by all accounts, his best; there is plenty of action throughout and he certainly goes out in a big bang, with much emotion.

**Starring: Daniel Graig, Rami Malek, Ana De Armas, Christoph Waltz, Lea Seydoux, Lashana Lynch, Jeffrey Wright, Ben Whishaw and Naomie Harris.**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, see back page**

**PLEASE NOTE: As this film is longer than normal, we are opening earlier, 6.30 for 7.00pm**

And finally, a letter has flooded into the newsletter postbox. . .

Dear Editor,

When I visited the church this week I was delighted to see that the Book Swap had been relocated there. It seems to be the ideal place for the books - central to the village, accessible all day, secure at night and with space to sit quietly to choose a book. Hopefully it will also encourage more villagers to visit and appreciate our lovely church.

Thank you so much to all involved in this move.

A Zeal book lover.



# THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

## 2 – 5 June 2022

### Zeal Monachorum Platinum Jubilee Front Gate Competition

Why not create a Royal display outside your house this June? Along with the miles of bunting being sewn by energetic volunteers as we speak, your displays will add to the village's colourful celebration of this historic event.

There are no rules or categories, just your imagination and flair. Try planting red, white and blue flowers or create a 'Royal' Scarecrow, have fun decorating your front gate or door, or plant up an unusual container to look royal maybe using the purple and silver colours of the Platinum Jubilee. The list is endless – but get thinking now and register your entry nearer the time so that our District Councillor, Peter Heal, can judge all the entries on the morning of Thursday 2 June.

The winning household will receive an amazing hamper to be presented at the Village Big Jubilee Street Party on Sunday 5 June. We look forward to a village full of colour, fun and some surprises.

### Advance notice of the: PLATINUM JUBILEE POSTER COMPETITION

Calling all school children:

For the Village Celebrations in June, we will need an eye catching poster design to highlight all our planned events. So, why not begin thinking of a clear, colourful Royal idea in any medium.

More details of how to enter will appear in the April edition of this newsletter.





# **ZEAL MONACHORUM HISTORY EXHIBITION**

## **THURSDAY 2nd & FRIDAY 3rd JUNE 2022**

The Jubilee Group has decided that another Zeal Monachorum History Exhibition would be a good addition to the Jubilee celebrations. Consequently, I have started to put one together from the archive I have collected since moving to Zeal 38 years ago. Initially I was interested in finding out about our old cottage. The best source was local people and the WI. The latter had scrap books made in the 1970s containing newspaper cuttings, photographs and more.

In 1990 I mounted an exhibition for the WI; then in 1994 in the Village Hall for everyone; in 1995 for the Zeal Recycling Group's AGM; another in 2004. The biggest exhibition, so far, was in 2009 which ran for 1 evening and 2 days. Over 200 people attended, not just from Zeal, but also from more distant parts. Each time I was amazed by the interest; people would be looking at an old photograph and pointing out those they recognised only to have the person next to them say 'that's me' and find that they knew each other from childhood.

Many people have helped by sharing documents, naming those in photos, telling stories of life in Zeal, seeking out information and generally making collecting the archive a pleasure. Of course, history is still happening and I believe it is as important to collect information, memories, posters, photos etc from this moment and this year as well as the distant past. The Archive will never be complete!

All the material I am loaned is carefully copied and returned to its owner, unless they have donated it to the collection. With the advance of technology, where possible, I have made digital copies so they can be easily shared and viewed on a computer or other device. I now look after about 500 photographs between late 1800s and the 1970s. I have catalogued these digitally so they can be searched, for example, by the names of people in a photo. The Archive contains thousands of modern photos of people, events, houses and landscape; old Ordnance Survey and other maps; aerial photos; the censuses for Zeal 1841-1939; newspaper cuttings; reminiscences; letters from those on military service; conveyances and land records and more. Examples include: a handwritten sheet of the words for the music the WI Kitchen Band played as it marched in 1956; a butter making certificate from 1926; a programme from an Irish Village Fete in 1914 - these may all seem trivial things which would be likely to be thrown away, but they really help to bring the past to life.

I suspect there is much more to be found and I am asking you to dig out for this next exhibition: school photos; albums; Zeal ephemera; postcards; letters; house and land records. I'd love to hear your stories and memories, old or new, about life in Zeal. They could be written down or simply tell them to me and I'll try to write them down for you, or record them.

While clearly it will be of great interest to anyone who has ever had connections with Zeal, others will be charmed by the photographs and caught up in the lovely accounts which show how things used to be in rural villages throughout Devon.

### What did you do on Coronation Day in 1953?

The archive has no photos taken in Zeal for the Coronation and hardly any from the 1977 Silver Jubilee. To compensate I would like to include in the exhibition peoples' favourite personal photos of Coronation celebrations from wherever they were at the time and, from those "youngsters" not around in 1953, a photo from any of the Queen's Jubilees.

If you have anything to contribute or would like to have a chat, please get in touch with me on 01363 82606 or [reden@rocketmail.com](mailto:reden@rocketmail.com)

### Erica Eden

#### HELP NEEDED . . .

*Volunteers will be needed to welcome people to the exhibition on both days - no experience or knowledge required! Anyone who can offer 1 or 2 hours on the rota would be very much appreciated. Please get in touch with Erica or Sally.*

*Exhibition stands are essential to mount the displays and, currently, there are only a few in the village hall. If you know of an organisation, school or business which might lend, or even hire to Zeal for just 4 days [31 May-4 June], please get in touch. The Exhibition is on during the half term bank holiday, so equipment may be less likely to be needed by organisations.*

#### QUOTE

'Keep your face always to the sun and the shadows will fall behind you'.

*Walt Whitman, American poet, essayist & journalist*



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A short poem by Benjamin Disraeli, 1804 - 1881:

"As a rule, man is a fool.

When it's hot, he wants it cool;

When it's cool, he wants it hot.

Always wanting what is not."

# FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

Not much to report last month, but I was pleased to see our brave angler Andy Richardson, who managed to fish in all that cold and frosty weather, landed 2-3 carp all around 6lbs. Hats off to him. Things are a little dormant at the moment awaiting spring weather to start all our little jobs. Can I just remind all members who haven't paid their annual fees to let me know if you wish to join again, as we have a waiting list.

We are opening our garden again for the NGS on 26th and 27th March and this will be the first time since Covid. This also includes walks around the lake, so if anyone wishes to offer their services on one of the days, it would be much appreciated. Please give us a ring on 01363 82400 or 07749 329832.

Hoping to see you all at our Open Garden.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane



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For details contact  
Ken Hogg 07749 329832



A man sent a message to his friend:  
"I've accidentally drunk a bottle of invisible ink; I'm currently in A&E, waiting to be seen"





# ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

March this year will encompass much of the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. A service of Eucharist and Ashing to begin our Lenten journey will be held at Down St Mary Church at 7.00pm led by Prebendary Anthony Geering. Rev Robert will be continuing to hold a Zoom Compline service at 7pm on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to join him, please ask me for the contact details.

Our services for March are:

<b>March 6, at 10.00am</b>	<b>Lent 1</b>	<b>Lay led Family service</b>
Old Testament	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11	Mrs Becky Harvey
New Testament	Luke 4: 1-13	Mrs Isabel Harris
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers
	Church cleaner	Mrs Jane Hogg

### No flowers in Lent

<b>March 13, at 6.30pm</b>	<b>Lent 2</b>	<b>C W E</b>
Old Testament	Genesis 15: 1-12,17-18	Mr Graham Rounsley
New Testament	Philippians 3: 17- 4: 1	Lynn Warren
Gospel	Luke 13: 31-35	Rev David Rowbottom
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy

### March 20<sup>th</sup> No Service

<b>March 27 at 3.00pm</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	<b>Family service</b>
Old Testament	Exodus 2: 1-10	Mrs Becky & Jocie Harvey
New Testament	Luke 2: 33-35	Mr Colin Crothers
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy

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

**Confirmation.** Our vicar has asked if anyone in Zeal, either children or adults, would like to be confirmed. Please let me know and I will forward your names to him. When we know, we can begin to think about lessons; contact me on 82204.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and closes on March 31<sup>st</sup>. 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 PCC who make decisions on both the life and upkeep of our lovely church building.

## **Churchyard Maintenance.**

Following the retirement of Alan Hollingsworth, we are looking for someone to help with grass cutting and tidying of the churchyard. Some of the churchyard is kindly cut by Geoffrey Burrow with his ride on mower but there are areas which he is unable to do. If you are interested, please contact me Tel: 82204/07903 445301

The **Devon Association of Ringers Novice Competition** is being held here at Zeal on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> March from 12.00pm This will be the first competition led by the association since the beginning of the pandemic.

## **Church Repairs.**

The tower louvres were repaired and refitted at the beginning of February.

The work to edge and resurface the church paths has also begun and hopefully will be completed by the time you read this edition of Monachorum Matters.

## **Margaret (Churchwarden)**

### **GROWING WELL GARDEN**

We are excited to announce plans for a new community garden and social prescribing project based at Bow Medical Practice.

Situated in a corner of the field attached to the practice site, we hope that this will become a valuable resource for all of our community. We have received a small amount of seed funding from Mid Devon Primary Care Network (PCN) to help with our initial set up but we will be starting from scratch with a limited budget.

Over the coming weeks we will be getting the basic design of the garden laid out. If you have any specific skills such as joinery/carpentry/building or are a keen DIY-er and can spare us some hours we'd love you to get in touch.

We will also need more general help and enthusiasm with getting beds prepared and planted. If you are already planning your own garden or allotment for the season, we'll be very happy to take your spare plugs or plants.

If you have any materials (such as scaffolding boards, old pallets or timber), old tools or other garden equipment that you think might be useful to us we'd also be delighted to hear from you. If you are the owner of an unwanted polytunnel or shed please contact us.

Let's grow well together.

Susan Taheri  
Stuart Breal  
[growingwellgarden@gmail.com](mailto:growingwellgarden@gmail.com)





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# 2022 SUMMER SHOW – Proposed schedule

## Section 1 – VEGETABLES

1. 3 Potatoes – white
2. 3 Potatoes – coloured
3. 3 Carrots
4. 3 Beetroot
5. 3 Spring onions grown from sets
6. 3 Spring onions grown from seed
7. 3 Shallots
8. 3 Runner Beans
9. 3 Tomatoes
10. Any other vegetable
11. 3 Apples – cooking or eating, all the same variety
12. Potato in Bucket, seed potato distributed in March/April Market  
To be judged on weight of **good** potatoes only  
Separate class for children

## Section 2 – FLOWERS

13. A fuchsia spray
14. 3 Dahlias – decorative }
15. 3 Dahlias – ball } all the same variety
16. 3 Dahlias – any other variety }
17. 1 Gladiola spike
18. 1 specimen bloom HT rose
18. 1 spray floribunda / multiflor rose
20. Spray of flowering shrub
21. 3 marigolds or calendulas
22. 1 vase of flowers – perennials and / or annuals 3 kinds, 2 of each
23. 3 Sweet peas
24. Sunflower, seed distributed in March/April Market, to be judged on height /head. Separate class for children

## Section 3 – HOMECRAFT

25. 3 Cup cakes
26. Gingerbread Man or Lady - Decorated
27. Lemon Drizzle Cake – see recipe on next page
28. An item of Handicraft made as a hobby, woodwork, knitting, sewing, etc
29. Photograph with caption
30. Photograph – photo suitable for a calendar

## LEMON DRIZZLE CAKE

4oz Margarine or softened butter  
6oz caster sugar      6oz self-raising flour  
4 tbsp milk              2 large eggs  
Grated rind of a lemon

## FOR THE SYRUP TOPPING

3 tbsp icing sugar      3 tbsp lemon juice

## METHOD

1. Grease and line a 2lb loaf tin. Set oven to 180C/350F/ Gas 4
2. Cream together the marg/butter with sugar until light and fluffy, beat in eggs
3. Stir in sifted flour, lemon rind and milk, mix well, turn mixture into tin, smooth over
4. Bake for 40 – 45 minutes until firm. Whilst cooking, make the syrup topping
5. Mix sifted icing sugar and lemon juice and pour over top of cake as soon as it comes out of the oven.
6. Leave in tin until completely cold

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# THE MARCH QUIZ

1. What sort of creature is a Hoopoe?
2. Which German city is the capital of Bavaria?
3. What is the motto of the Three Musketeers?
4. In which county is Skegness?
5. In geometry, what name is given to an angle measuring between 180 and 360 degrees?
6. What is a 'perfect hatrick' in football?
7. What is slightly unusual about the zero on the front door of Number 10, Downing Street?
8. Lambda is the eleventh letter of which alphabet?
9. What is the anatomical name for the shoulder blade?
10. Who were the twin sons of Isaac in the Old Testament?
11. In which nursery rhyme will you find the lines 'your house is on fire, your children all gone'?
12. The full name of actor Will Smith is not William. What is Will short for?
13. What is the study and science of maps called?
14. What is name of the only venomous snake found in Britain?
15. Which popular tree is found in the Cornish name for the Lost Gardens of Heligan?

## The Minute Quiz

Peter likes to wear a bow tie on every day of the month that carries a prime number and only wears each tie a maximum of twice. How many different bow ties will he need for the month of March?

## February quiz answers

- |                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Portsmouth                         | 9. What you see is what |
| 2. 9                                  | you get                 |
| 3. Ready to eat                       | 10. Spanish             |
| 4. 42                                 | 11. 5                   |
| 5. Cheese and Onion                   | 12. Polo                |
| 6. The Elizabeth Tower                | 13. Jason               |
| 7. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation      | 14. 118                 |
| 8. It has no meat: it is a vegetarian | 15. 1999                |
- sausage of cheese, leeks and breadcrumbs

## Minute Quiz answers

Germany has 9 neighbours and borders more countries than any other state in Europe: Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Switzerland, Austria, the Czech Republic and Poland

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Council held its most recent meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January. The minutes of the previous meeting in November are on display on the notice board.

At the open forum at the beginning of the meeting a representative for the owners of Lower Burston Farm made a short presentation about the planning application for 5 new houses, to be built on the site of redundant farm buildings. The Council felt this was a more preferable solution than trying to adapt the existing barns so resolved to support the application. The Council made no comment on two further applications, one at Reeve Castle and one at Venn Lake, Bow.

The Council noted that the recent Village Survey about a possible new Village Hall resulted in a close vote but the majority was not in favour of the idea at present. There was, however, a majority who supported the idea of the Parish Council financially supporting the Village Hall. There are no proposals to do so at present or in the foreseeable future.

In my last newsletter I mentioned the Council has received a quote for a new canopy for the Jubilee Seat in the style of the adjacent village sign. We have now heard that a formal Planning Application must be made. This will be pursued as soon as possible but delays to the replacement are now inevitable. The Council intends to proceed with much needed maintenance to the seat if we can find a contractor to take on the work. Please contact me if you have any suggestions.

Peter Heal, District Councillor, reported that waste collections (black bin) are likely to move to a 3 weekly cycle instead of 2. There are cost savings but it also reflects how much is now being recycled. Other collections will remain unchanged. This information may be old hat by the time you read it, but announcements will be made by MDDC if and when the change takes place.

MDDC is also starting a revision to the Local Plan for the years 2033-43. This is an important process and we await the consultation timetable. Special meeting(s) might be necessary for the village to consider its attitude to further development. This is a subject likely to divide opinion and I would hope that we can generate some village participation.

Plans by a working party to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee next June are now being finalised thanks to the very hard work being put in by a few gallant villagers. The Council has agreed, in principle, to assist with some funding towards the costs and it is hoped as many as possible will participate. More details will emerge over the next month or two.

Finally, the Council considered its precept for next year, starting 1 April. This is the money we raise for the Parish Council as part of the Council Tax on every property. Currently the income of c. £5400 runs slightly ahead of expenditure.

Reserves of c. £11k have been built up for large items of expenditure and these monies are more than sufficient to pay for renovations to the Jubilee Seat. The Council resolved not to increase the precept for next year.

The next meeting of the Council will be on the 31st March in the Village Hall and notice of the meeting will be published in the usual way on the notice board and on the PC website [www.zeal-monachorum.co.uk](http://www.zeal-monachorum.co.uk). The Clerk can be contacted at [zmpcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:zmpcouncil@gmail.com) and myself on [acchandler@btinternet.com](mailto:acchandler@btinternet.com)

Andrew Chandler  
Chairman 07831 167728

## SPECIAL EWE

The Quick family of Loosebeare Manor, Crediton recently sold a Texel cull ewe for charity at Exeter, with all proceeds going to Dementia UK. The ewe was originally sold at Agri-Fest South West, back in November 2017, by Mike & Melanie Alford of Foxhill Livestock. At that time, she was coloured pink (*see picture below*) and all proceeds went to Cancer Research. She was purchased by Bill Quick who is now, sadly, suffering from Vascular Dementia. His family deemed it only right that the ewe, having scanned empty, was once again sold for a worthy cause. She sold three times for £200 and was put back up again, first by Russell Steer of Kivells, who had previously auctioned her, then by Ben Comer of Wedmore, and Simon Norman of Wiveliscombe before finally realising £350, bought jointly by Tim Hawkins of Bishops Lydeard and Mike Alford of Stillman's Butchers. A charitable donation from Robert Mackintosh of Milborne Wick Farms, Sherborne brought the total raised to the round figure of £1000. Thanks to all who supported such a worthwhile cause.



## ZEAL MONACHORUM W.I.

Our February WI meeting went extremely well with an almost 100% attendance. Business included reading out the five resolutions to be voted on for the NFWI meeting in June.

Our speaker, accompanied by her husband, was from the Devon Air Ambulance. She was exceptional - clear and precise - showing, pictures of a new and larger helicopter. We are, it seems, very lucky insofar as we are serviced by either Eaglescot or Exeter. Exeter Air Ambulance flies 24 hours a day and it is hoped that, in the very near future, Eaglescott will follow suit. We should be very aware of the need for this service given where we live. The time difference between the arrival of a land ambulance and the air ambulance is critical in a lot of cases. Thick fog is the only prohibitive weather condition for the Air Ambulances. The organisation is completely independent with no financial assistance from the Government.

March is our birthday month and a fish and chip supper was voted for. Members were reminded that subs are due in April at the AGM.

Jan Brealy  
President

## Take a look at these tips on what needs doing in the garden in March

1. Prepare your vegetable garden – Dig compost or well-rotted manure into your vegetable beds to prepare for the growing season ahead.
2. Beware of the evening 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 tidy 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, ensuring 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 to promote healthy lawn growth through the year.
6. Bare patches in your lawn can attract weeds so new turf or re-seeding now along with good watering will 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 can 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. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials.
10. Protect new bulb shoots from insects and slugs with our pest control range which includes natural and organic products.

Bow Garden Centre is a great place for all your garden essentials, including an expanded range of trees, plants, shrubs, bulbs, and seeds. Also, plenty of gardening tools, garden buildings and everything you need for gardening, plus fish and pet supplies, a lovely welcoming Waterside Cafe, and Post Office services too.

[www.bowgardencentre.co.uk](http://www.bowgardencentre.co.uk),  
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**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

DOORS **6.30 P.M.** STARTS **7 P.M.**

TICKETS £4.00