

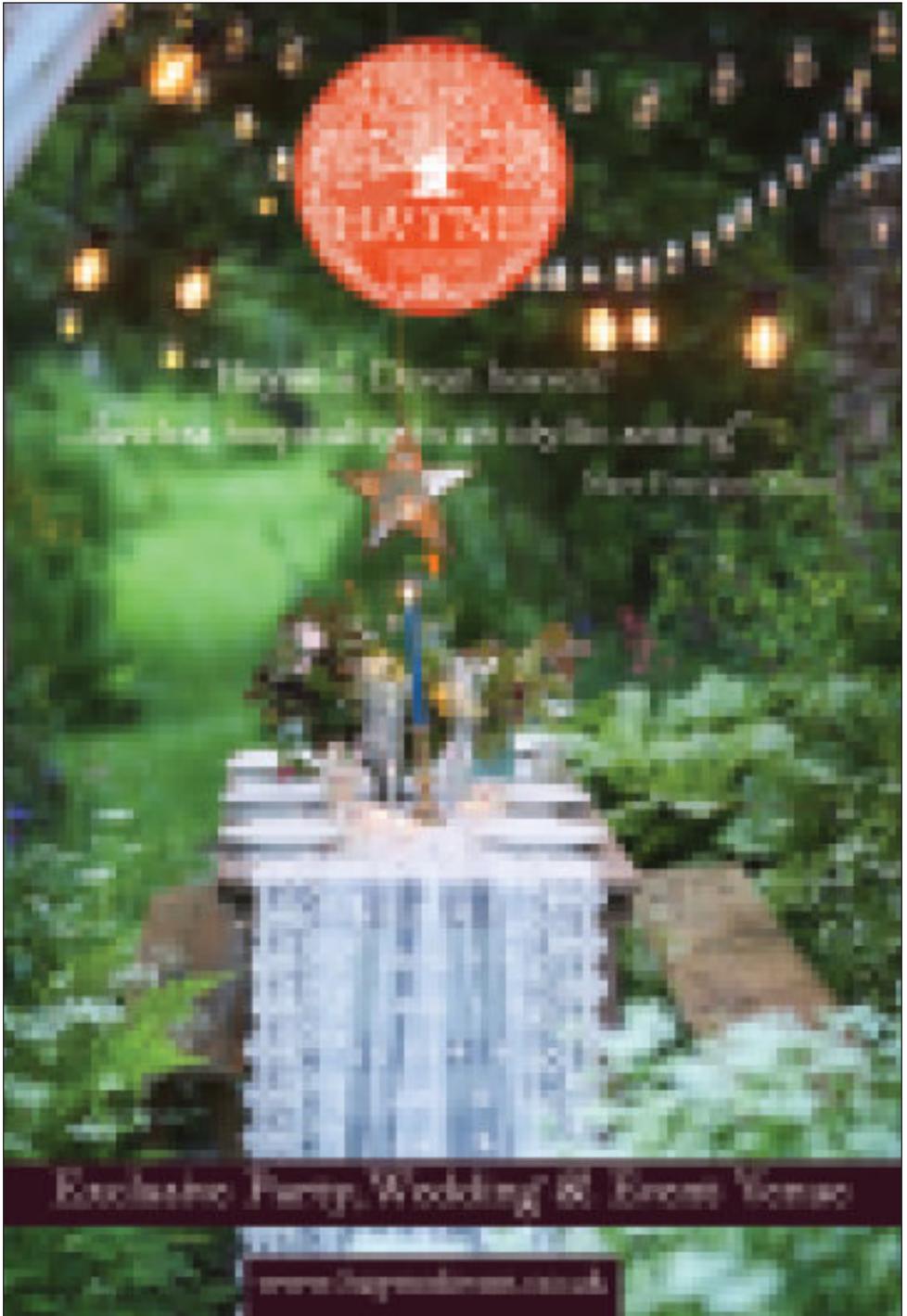
Issue 4, September 2019

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Raddon Top nr Crediton, overlooking Mid Devon - Mike Russell



EDITORIAL

This month I decided to go with a countryside theme, prompted by the launching of a super new book: 'The Village Survival Guide', published by the Prince's Countryside Fund.

This book is full of ways to help our village survive life in the 21st Century, with ideas on how to improve our community. I heartily recommend it for anyone who lives in a village like Zeal Moachorum. More details are available on the website: www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk/research/village-survival-guide, follow links to 'The Village Survival Guide' to download.



I like to think that with this newsletter we have made a good start on improving communication within our community; we continue to receive positive feedback, but I think there is more we can do. For now, however, let's just enjoy our surroundings, celebrate what we have and live life to the full in this most idyllic of settings.

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER: SEPTEMBER 1 WALK & TALK

We reported last month that we will be running a 'Walk & Talk' session around the village on Sunday 8 September. This will be an opportunity to learn about the history of the village and hear stories about some of the people who have lived here. The walk will be led by Tony Brealy, who has lived all his life in the village – what he doesn't know about Zeal isn't worth knowing.

The walk will start at the Church Car Park at 2pm; it will take about 2 hours and will cover the central parts of the village, not the outlying footpaths, so will be mainly on a road surface; wear something comfortable on your feet and clothing suitable for the weather. There is no charge for the walk but we will have a box available at the end for optional donations; these will go towards the running costs of the newsletter. It is not essential to book but it is always helpful to know numbers in advance, so if you plan to come please let us know – 01363 82571 or email: zmon.news@gmail.com.

ZEAL EXPLORERS

A warm and sunny afternoon saw five of us and Teal the dog set off on another walk. Our walk last month was cancelled as, hard to believe with the weather we've had lately, it was pouring with rain!

We decided to take it fairly gently as it was rather warm, and we stuck to the lanes on a circular walk to Down St. Mary, via the lane opposite Higher Week and back down to Nymphayes, through the farmyard and up the hill back into Zeal. A fairly uneventful but enjoyable walk with some lovely views. Please join us next month when we will be meeting at the bus stop on **Monday 9 September** at 2pm.

STOP PRESS: At the Okehampton Show in August, success for Bill Quick, winning the Interbreed competition with one of his Texel sheep, and for the WI ladies who achieved third place in the annual craft competition. Well done to all.

VILLAGE EVENTS SEPTEMBER

- Wed 4 Sep: WI, Sugar Craft demo with Geraldine Jury, 7.15 for 7.30pm
Fri 6 Sep: Mobile Library - see below
Sun 8 Sep: Walk and Talk with Tony Brealy, 2pm at Church car park, see page 3
Mon 9 Sep: Zeal Explorers, 2pm at bus stop
Sat 14 Sep: Market, 10 – 11.30 am
Sat 21 Sep: Afternoon tea to raise funds for Craig Dennis, Venue to be advised
Wed 25 Sep: Bingo returns, doors open at 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm

ADVANCE NOTICE

- Thu 3 Oct: Parish Council, 7.30pm
Sat 5 Oct: Harvest Supper, 7pm. Adults £8, children £4, tickets Jan S 82571.
Sat 2 Nov: Hallowe'en party – details next month

MOBILE LIBRARY FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

Stopping at: the LAYBY NEAR OLD SHOP 13.05 - 13.25
and WAIE CROSS 13.30 - 13.50

September used to be the time for learning new things and joining evening classes. Sadly, austerity has meant there are few of those left but through the mobile library you can request books on particular subjects and perhaps be inspired to pick up a neglected hobby or find a new interest. More information from Devon Libraries: www.devonlibraries.org.uk

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

With summer holidays coming to an end, things are getting back to 'normal' in the village, by which I mean that both Bingo and the Monthly Market return; in October our Film Nights start again, a sure sign that autumn is under way.

The market is on Saturday 14 September and we'll have all the usual stalls including: eggs, baked goods, Body Shop, books and bric-a-brac, Emma's cards and the Food bank collection. We're open from 10 to 11.30 and, as usual, we finish with a draw.

Bingo sessions start again on the fourth Wednesday each month, the first session being on Weds 25 September. This change will allow for Film Night to move to the third Wednesday of the month from October (Wed 16) which we hope will make it easier for more people to come; the first film is 'Fishermen's Friends'.

Finally, advance notice that we are holding our annual Harvest Supper on Sat 5 October. More details in the next newsletter, but for now save the date.

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Waie Inn Activities

Badminton Monday evenings 6.30-8pm
 Parent & Child £5, additional children £2.50, Adults only, £4.50.
 (details on our Facebook page)

Walking football: 8 - 9 pm

Open netball: Weds 7 - 8pm, for intermediates/good players; contact Nicola or Sue 01363 82348

Walking Netball or 5-a-side football: contact Waie direct (01363 82348), dates will be organised dependent on interest.

Weekly on Tuesday evenings there is an open Water Aerobics session in the swimming pool from 7.30-8.15pm.



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FISHING CLUB

Hi All

As we sit and write this chat the much awaited rain has arrived. It has been a busy old week tidying up the lake. We had to remove and saw a limb that had fallen from an old oak tree across the surrounding fence of the lake.

But along with the work we've had a couple of good nights, teaching our newer junior members. We have accompanied this chat with a picture of our newest junior recruit, 4 year old Bowyer, shown with her parents Andrew and Emma. A good time was had by all.



Also pictured on the right is our 7 year old grandson, Finlay, who lives in South Devon. He's pictured holding his first ever catch - it's almost bigger than him. Not bad for a first effort.

And finally, we have just recruited two new members from Bow, who read about us in the newsletter. So that's all good then.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane



Our newsletter is printed by Burrige of North Tawton

THEFT / ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Between 29 June and 2 July a theft occurred from fields belonging to a local farmer, approximately 30 sheep handling hurdles (fences) were stolen. These items are worth several hundred pounds. If anyone has any information or has seen suspicious vehicles or persons in the area please ring 101 and quote CR/052515/19.

Over a period of time, unknown persons have been removing metal gates to gain entry into fields to walk their dogs. This is irresponsible and dangerous as some of the fields contain livestock, and such actions can lead to the livestock escaping and going onto the roads/lanes, therefore leading to potential traffic accidents.

Dog walkers have also been seen allowing their dogs to run freely even though there are livestock grazing in the fields. If you walk your dogs where livestock are grazing, please ensure that your dogs are kept under control on leashes.

On another anti - social point, unknown persons have regularly been entering fields presumably whilst on a walk, and have been using the area as a toilet, leaving evidence and wet wipes behind. Not only does this action have the potential to cause serious ill health and even death to any grazing animals, additionally it could mean the field(s) becoming unusable for the farmer. If you have any information on any of the above issues please contact me via 101 or my email address of David.waring@devonandcornwall.police.pnn.co.uk

Dave Waring
PCSO 30422
Credon Neighbourhood Policing Team

PERSONAL NOTICES

Gardeners - we have well-rotted & fresh horse manure. If you want a bag or 3, please contact Heather or Steve to arrange collection. Manure is free but always pleased to trade for plants or produce. 01363 82300 before 9.30pm please.

Mandy is still looking for unwanted washable duvets for her pet beds; a percentage of each sale goes to animal charities. Contact Mandy on 07855 830668.

Susie Bostock writes: A big thank you from me to all those who helped look for my missing cat. For those who have not heard, he was eventually found by Ken Down in his slurry tank where he'd been trapped for over 3 days. After a trip to the vets and 24 hours on a drip, he seems none the worse for his experience. A special thank you to Ken.

An Afternoon tea will be held at 3pm on **Saturday 21 Sept** to raise funds in aid of Craig Dennis who has been paralysed following an accident. Venue t.b.a.

MEL'S CHICKEN LIVER PATE

Ingredients:

250g salted butter
1 small onion finely chopped
2 cloves garlic
250g chicken liver
50ml port
50ml brandy

Method:

Place butter in saucepan and gently fry onions and garlic. Add the chicken livers along with the port and brandy. Simmer until the liver is fully cooked.

Blend with a hand blender or mixer until a smooth mixture is achieved. Then decant into small ramekins.

Chill until set and serve. Suitable for freezing



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COMING HOME (2)

Last month I introduced you to my Uncle and Aunt from Thorverton, where I spent my school summer holidays. They lived close to the railway station, on the Exe Valley line, which ran from Dulverton to Exeter. Sadly, like many lines, it was closed by Dr Beeching in the sixties.

Aunt Rachel used the train to go to Exeter for shopping and to Tiverton to visit Uncle Sid's sister Edie. My abiding memory of these visits is that, whenever we arrived, Edie was ensconced in bed, which for some unexplained reason had been moved to the sitting room, breast feeding yet another baby. This was very embarrassing for an innocent young lad like me. Edie had 11 children in total, all of whom survived. My last memory of Edie was when she came to Aunt Rachel's funeral; she was in a wheelchair surrounded by her children and grandchildren.

Living so close to the railway, we could hear the train approaching, and it gave a friendly toot as it neared Thorverton station. I often thought it would leave without us but my aunt knew better. She always told me that Bill, the signalman, (who lived next door) would not let the train go without us as I was a special guest. The truth was rather more prosaic. The Exe Valley line was a single track line and Thorverton was one of the few places where trains could pass; so our train had to wait for the Exeter train to arrive before we could leave. I realised eventually and much later in life, that Aunt Rachel always knew the train times by heart but it was typical of her to make me feel special, and I enjoyed being a V.I.P. for a while.

The carriages had wooden seats, highly polished by generations of Devon bottoms, and the backs were moveable allowing for different seating arrangements – a cosy two side by side, or a more gregarious foursome, making it easier to have a good gossip. This was something Auntie Rae was good at, and she indulged her passion for gossip to the full on every train ride. She certainly seemed to know all about the comings and goings of Thorverton residents.

I have so many memories of the Exe Valley line, which has the most beautiful scenery, and in places runs alongside the River Exe. Since moving to Devon I have discovered the Tiverton Museum which contains many details, artefacts and pictures that take you back to those times. One very special feature is the 'Tivvy Bumper'; an engine that worked on the Exe Valley line. Museum visitors can stand on the footplate and pull the steam whistle: 'Toot Toot'. The last time I visited I did just that, and I dreamed that I was driving the train, pulling those carriages in one of which was a little boy whose love of Devon would eventually bring him back here – a little boy whose Aunt made him feel like a V.I.P.

I haven't yet told you how Uncle Sid came to have a cow's head through his car windscreen, but I'll save that for another time.

Alan Summers

GARDENING NOTES

The worst thing about growing your own fruit and vegetables is that many other creatures in the garden want to enjoy them before you do. This year has been a particularly hard one: pigeons, mice, rabbits, wasps, aphids, flies, caterpillars; the list seems endless. The most annoying thing is that these pests seem to know just when you are ready to pick your hard earned prize and they sneak in the night before and munch their way through them. There is nothing quite so infuriating as spotting a crop of delicious looking plums, ripe for the picking, going down first thing in the morning to fill up your kitchen bowl only to find a wandering gang of delinquent wasps drilling holes through them. Then just to rub salt into the wound they don't even finish, they leave the riddled fruit for the fungus and bacteria to have the second sitting.

There are, of course, numerous commercial insecticides, repellents, kill this 'n' kill that solutions and sticky traps on the market. All have their place, their advantages and disadvantages, but in a world that is, at last, realising the harm we have been doing to our planet, everyone feels better when they can use something naturally produced, that can be made at home and which is cheap and does the job. With this in mind, here is my own secret recipe for discouraging the nasties from your treasured garden produce which won't, quite literally, cost the earth.

The idea behind this solution is to make the foodstuff as unpleasant for the unwelcome diners as possible without spoiling it for us. Therefore, the first ingredient is garlic. Most animals and insects don't like the pungent aroma and certainly don't like the taste. Take 2 whole bulbs, puree them, add to a couple of pints of water and mix well.

Next add what T.V. chefs refer to as a 'glug' of cooking oil. This has two purposes; it increases the viscosity of the mix so that it sticks to the target and it also sticks to the insect pests making it unpleasant for them to land.

Add a spoonful of Cayenne pepper, made of ground up and dried chilli peppers (Strangely enough chilli powder is made of a blend of spices and not just chillies). Boil these ingredients together, cool and put them into a bottle. Give it a good shake and then strain into a spray bottle. Keep it in the fridge for up to a month and use liberally wherever the attacks occur.

I wouldn't recommend spraying this directly onto soft fruit as it will taint the flavour for you as well as the pests, but you can spray onto the leaves. The idea is that the pungent smell discourages the freeloading creatures and the coating leaves a nasty taste which will send them packing.

Just remember to wash the sprayed items thoroughly before eating or you may find yourself munching the hottest, most unpleasant apple you've ever eaten!

Steve at Homeleigh



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CHURCH NEWS



It has been a quieter month in the Church after the success of the fete in June; hope you like the picture below. We have had two services as our third fell on the MCC weekend at Colebrooke and was a joint lay led service to say goodbye to Lindsey. The emphasis was on celebrating Lindsey's time with us; the choir sang and the music was very good. It was a lovely service with all the churches participating; thank you to all who contributed to making it such a success. Lindsey was presented with a gift and there was also a gift for Laurie, her husband. That was followed by lunch where Lindsey received flowers and a magnificent cake. We said our own goodbye to her at our Eucharist service on 11 August.

Advance notice: Harvest Festival this year is on Sunday 13 October at 5.30pm. The slightly earlier time we hope will encourage children to come along.

Finally, another goodbye, this one to Debbie Stericker, who has been a stalwart supporter of the church for many years, including offering a venue for the annual Church Fete. We will miss her and she leaves with our good wishes for the future.



Visitors at the fete: from left to right: Sally Rowden, Had, Josh Coles (Mandy's grandson), Alan Hollingsworth, Andy Smith, David Wainwright, Mandy Smith, Jan Hollingsworth, Margaret Dennis, Moira Deacon, Jane Dale (Moira's daughter). Photo by Margaret Tucker

FLOWER ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER

25 Aug & 1 Sept: Isabel Harris; 8 & 15 Sept: Margaret Harris;
22 & 29 Sept: Hazel Wainwright

Services at St Peter's in September

1 September 10.00am Morning Prayer Worship Group

Trinity 11 O/T reading Ecclesiastes 10:12-18 Lynn Warren

Proper 17 N/T reading Luke 14:1; 7-14 Tony Brealy

Sidesmen Welcome

Offertory

Marion Quick

8 September 6.30pm Common Worship Preb. Anthony Geering

Trinity 12 O/T reading Deuteronomy 30: 15- end Colin Crothers

Proper 18 N/T reading Philemon 1- 21 Gavin Rowden

Gospel Luke 14: 25-33 Preb. Anthony Geering

Sidesmen Welcome

Tony Brealy

15 September No Service

22 September 6.30pm BCP Evensong Worship Group

Trinity 14 O/T reading Amos 8: 4 – 7 Graham Rounsley

Proper 20 N/T reading Luke 16: 1-13 Becky Harvey

Sidesmen Welcome

Offertory

Tony Brealy

29 September 10.30am MCE, St Michael and all angels Coldridge

6 October 10.00am Morning Prayer Worship Group

Trinity 16 O/T reading Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2; 1-4: Lynn Warren

Proper 22 N/T reading Luke 17: 5-10 Tony Brealy

Sidesmen Welcome

Offertory

Marion Quick

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ZEAL ARCHIVE

This message comes from Anne Bayliss, and relates to the photo of the Village Fete in the August edition:

“I'm almost sure that the two ladies standing behind the (produce?) table in the bottom left are Rev. E.H. Smith's wife & youngest daughter. I know it's tricky as they have their backs to the camera but they are my Gran & Mum respectively. I'm sure Grandad Smith was still at Heron Court in Zeal at this time”.

“Just a little anecdote told by Mum.....Heron Court used to have lovely solid wooden gates onto the road. The weeds on the gravel drive were always a problem to Grandad so he bought the modern weed controller of the time....a paraffin powered flame gun. He set to one afternoon & burnt off all the weeds with great satisfaction & retired for the night. The following morning all that remained of the gates was charred wood & ash! I imagine the wrought iron ones there now were the replacement”.



Fred Elston's father skittling for a pig [no.385]. Any further information about when, where and who are the other people in the photo would be welcome so I can add the information to the Zeal Archive.

Erica Eden



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LET'S GET CRAFTY!

Knitting competition

Magistrates and justices appreciate seeing an art effort on all levels to create new to utilize, reuse and recycle to meet needs in our communities.

This competition is open to all residents and allows you to explore and share your creative abilities (also while showcasing your creative ability to professionals and peers).

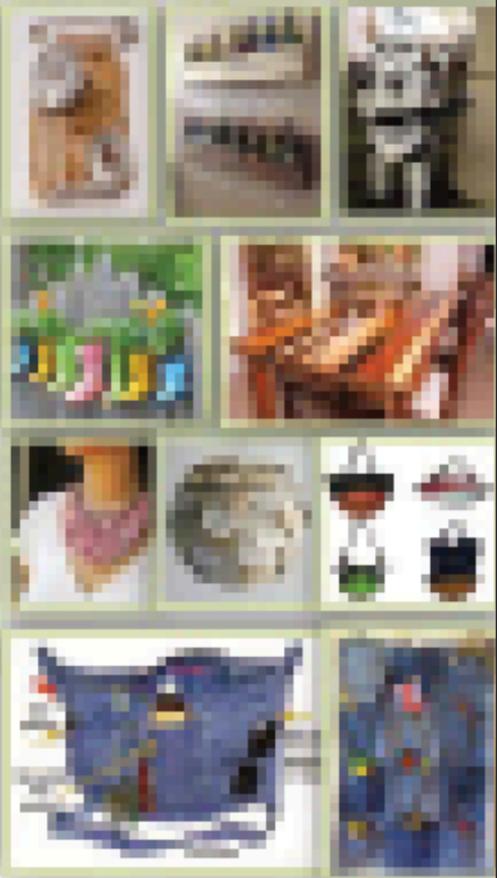
An online report that you to send a photograph of your art and craft creation made throughout January until September 2022.

Send to: judicial@zmonnews.com

Some examples of art displayed below that could be used:

Old clothing and accessories, hats, shoes, paper, fabric and wool, but not, wooden clothes, aluminum, but the, cardboard, sports equipment, cardboard, etc. Etc. Knits, crochets, knits, crochets, etc.

Some Ideas



Art would have to have from your



NATURE NOTES

A few years ago, I noticed several seedlings coming up in my vegetable patch and left them to see what grew. It turned out to be a plant called a Shoo-fly Plant. Having consulted the internet, I have found out it is an annual that is sometimes grown from seed to add interest to borders. However, as occasional seedlings may appear in the garden (such as seed fallen from a bird feeder), it is sometimes thought of as a weed.



It is a member of the potato family and is native to South America. The plant has bell-shaped flowers that are most commonly pale blue and white, but there are also forms with violet flowers. My plants this year are violet and will grow to approximately 4' tall. The flowers appear from June to October. Cherry-like, green-brown berries are encased within green or black-mottled calyces. Branches of the mature Chinese lantern-style fruits can be dried and used for winter decoration.

The Victorians grew them at the entrance to their houses to deter flies. I would be interested to know if anyone else has discovered this beautiful plant growing in their vegetable patch near the bird feeder.

Do NOT eat the berries, they are related to Deadly Nightshade and are poisonous.

Isabel Harris

QUOTES

“Nature is the one thing for which there is no substitute”.

From the diary of Anne Frank

“Our countryside is one of the most wonderful things about our little island.”.

Miranda Hart, Village Survival Guide, 2019



*Owls at East Foldhay
David Bowyer*

**RAINFALL
FIGURES**

June 89mm
July 42mm

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QUIZ

1. The ordination of first female Bishop in 2014 took place in which city?
2. Lepidoptera is the scientific name for?
3. Where was the Doggie Lita Roza asked about?
4. What was the first name of the sculptor Epstein?
5. Who owns the Oval Cricket Ground?
6. Which chemical element shares its name with a theatre?
7. What is the only book in the Bible to begin with the letter 'O'?
8. In the UK, where is the National Space Centre?
9. Which single word was the title of Yotam Ottolenghi's 2010 bestseller?
10. In which palace was Winston Churchill born?
11. Which foot did Neil Armstrong place on the the moon's surface first?
12. What does COBR stand for?
13. Who is the current Sports Personality of the Year?
14. Which US president is referred to in 'All the President's Men'?
15. Where would you experience a 'Williwaw'?

MINUTE QUIZ

Find 6 pairs of words from the following;

Heart, Mouse, Spread, Lion, Copy, Hare, Glove, Eagle, March, Fox, Church, Cat

Here are the answers for August's quiz questions. How did you get on?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. 17, in the order 5.7.5 | 11. Plant it, it is an Amaryllis |
| 2. Norman Hartnell | 12. Cycling |
| 3. A bat | 13. Providing classified |
| 4. The Hot Air Balloon | scientific information to |
| 5. In the rose bed | the government |
| 6. Simon Armitage | 14. The Strand Bridge |
| 7. 2, Zirconium and Zinc | 15. Top Gear |
| 8. Saint Cecilia | |
| 9. An edible underground tuber | |
| 10. A Puffling | |

Lastly – apologies for omitting the answers to the July quiz:

Minute Quiz (July) Demand Hunch Napoleon Willow

Minute Quiz (August) Abraham Samaria Canaan Barnabas Ararat



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PARISH COUNCIL

I am the Parish Council representative on the Monachorum Matters Committee and intend to provide you with news of recent meetings. The Parish Council only meets about 6 times a year so a regular monthly update from me may not be appropriate.

Zeal Monachorum Parish Council is, by national terms, a council covering a small area and population. Some parish councils have quite far ranging responsibilities as they may have substantial assets and responsibilities. (Useful information on the powers of a PC can be found on the Mid Devon Council website).

In Zeal the council owns the Village Sign and the Jubilee Seat and these are the principal assets. The PC also provides a grant to the PCC each year to help maintain the grounds around the church. In addition, the council acts as a focus on local community matters such as Denbrook Windfarm and the funds that are being made available. The council is also a statutory consultee on all planning applications in the parish. As a consultee we can only make recommendations and no decisions.

District and county councillors are invited to meetings and at each meeting there is an open public forum for members of the public to raise matters of their choosing. Mike Bostock, the chairman, in his annual report in last month's newsletter, gave a précis of matters discussed.

The council last met on Thursday 26th July and the meeting was well attended by residents of Zeal. Concerns were expressed over a private access to a property in the village and a planning application for 2 holiday lodges around a fishing lake near Hayne Cross. In instances where disputes relate to private rights of way, the council has no power to intervene. Sadly, it is for the owners to resolve the issue themselves.

The planning application near Hayne Cross has been closely followed by an adjoining owner who gave a full report on the work undertaken at the site. Where planning matters are concerned, the parish council has the ability to comment and has objected in the past to the application. It is also noted that the council seeks confirmation that the unauthorised work has been rectified before considering the application again.

The council always encourages the applicant or their agent in any planning application within the parish to address the meeting so their point of view can be heard. All meetings are published on the notice board by the bus shelter or on the PC website www.zeal-monachorum.co.uk. And the next meeting will be held on the 3rd October at 7.30pm. (NOTE change of date)

The council currently has vacancies and is particularly under represented by females as all present councillors are male. If you are interested in finding out more please speak to any councillor or contact the clerk.

Writing up on the work of the parish council is not the most riveting of subjects and any suggestions or feedback are always welcome.

Andrew Chandler acchandler@btinternet.com

SCHOOL NEWS

Could you be a school governor? The Governing Body of Bow Community Primary School is looking for two governors to join the team in September 2019. You do not need to understand the education system to be a governor, just have a commitment to helping to oversee the school within your expertise.

At this time we are particularly looking for new governors with an interest in, or experience of, HR, law, health & safety, premises or safeguarding and inclusion. Professional training for new governors, and specific aspects of a governor's role, is provided by Babcock Education. As a governor, you would attend four meetings per term, usually 6-8pm on Tuesdays.

If you would like to know more about what the role entails, please contact the Chair of Governors: ajellings@bowcps.devon.sch.uk, who will provide you with more information. You may also like to visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/become-school-college-governor>

Term Dates 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019: Tuesday 3th September - Friday 20th December

Half-Term Monday 21st October - Friday 25th October (inclusive)

Spring Term 2020: Monday 6th January - Friday 27th March

Half Term Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February (inclusive)

Summer Term 2020: Tuesday 14th April - Friday 17th July

Half Term Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May (Inclusive)



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