

MONACHORUM MATTERS

FREE

Issue 52, September 2023

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Intrepid WI members and their guests on a recent visit to the Den Brook Wind Farm - they did not make it to the top of the windmill. (Not so intrepid then!)

Picture by David Bowyer

EDITORIAL

There is a spirit of change in the air and it is affecting Monachorum Matters as well as our readers. One of the features we have included from our first issue back in June 2019 is a quiz and I have been truly amazed at the range of questions these have covered. Our resident 'Quiz Mistress' would like to step down at the end of this year, so our first question is: would anyone like to take this on? However, it also gives us a chance to consider whether there is something else we might like to see in each monthly issue. If you would like to volunteer your services or give us some ideas about content, please contact me: Jan Summers on 01363 82571 or email jansummerszm@gmail.com. Or you can just send something in to the newsletter address shown on each page.

On page 4, there is a further appeal for volunteers, this time for ideas and practical help with our film nights which run every month from October to March. And on Page 15, we invite you to submit a book review. Like most villages, Zeal Monachorum thrives on the willing volunteers who take on all manner of roles to ensure that there is some social life right here on our doorstep. There is no end of research to prove that volunteering is beneficial to health and happiness. Volunteers have much to give and much to gain. So, if you can, why not get involved? You'll be warmly welcomed in whatever you choose to do.

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE: 8 SEPTEMBER

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COMMUNITY NEWS

VILLAGE EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- Fri 1 Sept Mobile Library, 1.10 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross, see page 6
Sat 2 Sept Autumn Flower, Ptoduce & Craft Show, Village Hall, entries 10 - 12, open to public at 2.30pm, details on page 4
Tues 5 Sep BSI class, 10 - 12 at Waie Inn, see below
Wed 6 Sept Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon at Village Hall
Wed 6 Sept WI, 7.15 for 7.30pm at Village Hall, see page 5
Sat 9 Sept Market, 10 - 11.30 at Village Hall, Emma will be raising funds for Hospiscare
Mon 11 Sept Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop
Wed 13 Sept Bingo, Village Hall doors open at 7pm, starts at 7.30 pm, entry £5
Mon 25 Sept Bow & District Historical Society, 7.15 for 7.30 Bow Village Hall talk by Anthony Geering on the History of Clannaborough. . Members £15 per year, visitors £4 an evening.
Fri 29 Sept Mobile Library, 1.10 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross, see page 6

RAINFALL

Rainfall for July was 125 mm

BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE

Interested in British Sign Language? Curious to see if you could learn a new skill? British Sign Language is on course to become a GCSE subject in 2025. Why not join me for four FREE BSL Taster Sessions? The sessions are fun and easy to be part of. You'll learn about Deaf history and culture and what it is like to live in a hearing world. You will learn enough BSL to sign your name, age, family members and even order a pizza, among other things. The sessions are free.

I'm trying to limit numbers to 10. Please contact me with your name and contact number if you are interested. Initial classes begin on Tues 5 September from 10 - 12 by kind permission of the Waie Inn.

Lesley Rogers

07704 367284

THANKS

A big thank you to everyone who has left donations for flowers at Sally's gate, ELF were really grateful for the £50 she gave them at their fete last month.

Also, thanks to everyone who is busy knitting and crocheting poppies for Remembrance this year. We have collected quite a pile already and are getting our ideas together for displaying them. Please keep making them and bring them along to the village market on Saturday October 14, or contact Hazel on 82216 to arrange collection.

If you are new to the village and would like to make some poppies it's not too late, so please ring Sally 82531 for the patterns.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

AUTUMN SHOW

On Saturday 2 September we hold our Flower, Produce and Homecraft Show. Please take your exhibits to the hall between 10am-12 noon. Open to the public 2.30pm, admission £1 (children free). At 3.15pm there will be the Prize Giving presentation, followed by an auction of some exhibits, and draw.

More info 01363 82571. For Schedule & Rules see www.zeal-monachorum.co.uk/village-hall.html

PROJECTIONISTS

Do you fancy learning a new skill? The Village Hall is looking for trainee Cinema Projectionists. Volunteers have been putting on monthly film nights in the dark months for a number of years. However, we need to take the pressure off individuals by increasing the number of projectionists. Free training will be provided.

We are also calling for film buffs who would like to curate our sessions, i.e. choose a good selection of films that will pull in an audience from our community and beyond. We expect these voluntary roles to take up just a few hours per month [autumn/winter only] or less if several people come forward.

If you are interested in either or both aspects do get in touch for a no obligation chat with Erica or any other Village Hall Committee Member.

BINGO

Bingo is back - Wednesday 13 September 7 for 7.30pm at the Village Hall. It always runs on the second Wednesday of the month from September to March. For just £5 you can enjoy great fun in good company. You might win a prize or two AND you will be helping to keep the Village Hall going. Why not come along and give it a try?

Erica Eden

82606

QUOTES

‘Autumn leaves don’t fall, they fly. They take their time, and wander on this their only chance to soar’. *Delia Owens – Where the Crawdads Sing*

‘The heat of autumn is different from the heat of summer. One ripens apples, the other turns them to cider’ *Jane Hirshfield – The Heat of Autumn*

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

On a warm evening on 19 July several WI members, friends and family met at the entrance to the Den Brook Valley Wind Farm where we were warmly greeted by RES colleagues Carey and Lee. We followed Carey and Lee in convoy, to the "inner sanctuary" where we spent a most interesting and educational couple of hours learning all sorts of things. These included enquiries on conservation, wildlife, (we encountered at least 3 hares, wonderful), and all manner of technical questions. Our two guides were not flummoxed by the quick-fire questions, and what one wasn't sure of the other one knew.

Our August WI meeting was Members' night, with card and board games played, accompanied by 'Pimms'. and nibbles. A very enjoyable evening.

If you attended the Okehampton Show on 10 August at Stoney Park Show ground, hopefully you visited WI tent and saw the display of competition entries on the theme of 'A Celebration'. Our entry (pictured below) depicted a celebration of our forthcoming 70th birthday in March 2024 and we were surprised and delighted to win second prize.



For our 6 September meeting our speaker is former villager Colin Andrews on "History of Morris Dancing". It's also a Bring and Buy month.

Jan Brealy
President

A Quiz for September

1. Who was the first ever presenter on Radio 1?
2. In Greek mythology, which creature had the body of a man and the head of a bull?
3. On which river do 'Three Men in a Boat' travel?
4. Which Premier League football team play their home games at the Vitality Stadium?
5. How many years form a quinquennium?
6. What nationality is Erno Rubik?
7. In which city in Normandy is William the Conqueror buried?
8. In which TV soap did Bonnie Langford play Carmel Kazemi?
9. In which modern day country was the 1815 Battle of Waterloo fought?
10. How many sheets of paper in a ream?
11. In which Scottish castle was Princess Margaret born?
12. Who is the current presenter of Countdown?
13. What do you call a baby Kangaroo?
14. The name of which museum is abbreviated as MoMA
15. Who wrote the musical score for Chariots of Fire?

Answers on Page 9

MOBILE LIBRARY

According to the North Devon Journal, the ruling Conservative cabinet of Devon County Council has voted to close the Devon mobile library service because 3 of the 4 vans are coming to the end of their serviceable lives. However, several opposition councillors criticised the plans urging the cabinet to delay a decision and the Liberal Democrats have "called-in" the decision for further examination. It means no decision will be taken until October.

The last journeys by Devon's mobile libraries are currently expected to be made at the end of the year. Therefore, I think the mobile will probably visit Waie Cross on the following Fridays 1 & 29 September, 27 October and 24 November between 13.10-13.45.

The August mobile was a great example of why they are so beneficial. As well as 9 adults, 6 children came [more than usual because it was the school holidays]. They delighted us all by their bounce and enthusiasm for books, exclaiming with joy over old favourites and new discoveries, sharing what they liked with the rest of us, before dragging a good haul up the hill. The adults also get more than books out of the experience, catching up with people who might live close by but they don't necessarily see. Sometimes it's not good news but at least hearing it in person means sympathy and offers of help can be made. The mobile library closure will be a big loss to our community.

Erica Eden

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ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

As I write this item for the September Monachorum Matters in early August, we are experiencing a very different time than we were last year. Then it was hot and dry, now we are experiencing the other extreme.

September will see the start of the new academic year with some starting school, some moving to senior school, some to university/college and some starting their new life in work. We wish them all well on whatever path is theirs.

In September, the Church marks the Season of Creation. Prayers are said for the works of nature and the preservation of the environment. This will climax for us on 24 September which will be our **Harvest Festival**. As a church we come together to give thanks not only for the harvest of field, garden and sea but also for the wonderful countryside we are lucky enough to live in. A collection will be made and donated to the Farm Community Network. This year we are having an added extra when we will be giving thanks for all who work for our church. After the service we will have bring and share refreshments. Work is underway for the installation of the kitchen area and we are very much hoping that it will be completed in time for this event. The church will be decorated on the Saturday, items of vegetables and fruit that are donated will be available for a donation after the service and any money raised will be added to the collection.

Come, ye thankful people, come.

Church rota for September 2023

Sept 3 at 10.00am	Trinity 13, Creation 1 (lay led)	Family Service
Old Testament	Jeremiah 15:15-21	Mrs Jane Hogg
New Testament	Matthew 16: 21-28	Mr Colin Crothers
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy
	Altar Flowers	Miss Margaret Harris
	Church cleaner	Mrs Susan Bostock
Sept 10 at 6.30pm	Trinity 14, Creation 2	C W E
Old Testament	Ezekiel 33: 7-11	Miss Lynn Warren
New Testament	Romans 13: 8-14	Mr Robert Peck
Gospel	Matthew 18: 15-20	Rev Robert Gordon
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers
	Altar Flowers 10 & 17	Mrs Hazel Wainwright
Sept 24 at 6.30pm	Creation 4, Harvest Festival + thanksgiving	
	Readings and readers to be arranged.	
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy
	Altar Flowers	Miss Lynn Warren

Devon Historic Churches Trust Day. Saturday, 9 September.

The Devon Historic Church's Day is the major fundraising day for the Trust and it incorporates the annual **Ride and Stride**, a day when anyone can take part in fund raising for our historic church buildings. Any money raised through sponsored events is divided between the Trust and a church of your choosing. All the information is available on the website for each church. Sponsor forms can also be downloaded from the Trust's website for anyone who wishes to take part.

Margaret (Churchwarden)

CREDITON FOODBANK

It was, as always, a privilege to be able to deliver not just food to the Foodbank but other much needed household and personal necessities.

It was quite a bit later than usual when I delivered the Foodbank donations on the 19 July, and they had been really busy. I was greeted by Fiona the Coordinator and she said our donations had come at the perfect time.

She took me into the front room from where food is taken to fill the bags; there were empty spaces on the shelves. She then took me into the back room which, in effect, is the storeroom. I couldn't believe my eyes! There were some tins but the empty shelves just hit me. Fiona explained, "as the food comes in it is going straight out". Fiona is so thankful to all those who donate, this enables them to keep the Foodbank going.

It is a wonderful thing to think that we can join with others in the Crediton area to help those who are in need at this most difficult time. Thank you so very much for your generosity.



Answers to Quiz on Page 6

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Tony Blackburn | 8. East Enders |
| 2. A Minotaur | 9. Belgium |
| 3. The River Thames,
book by Jerome K Jerome | 10. 500 |
| 4. AFC Bournemouth | 11. Glamis |
| 5. 5 | 12. Colin Murray |
| 6. Hungarian | 13. A joey |
| 7. Caen | 14. The Museum of Modern Art |
| | 15. Vangelis |



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September Garden Advice from Bow Garden Centre

1. Plant new shrubs and trees to get them off to a flying start for next Spring, as they will have had all Winter to settle in. Bow has an expanded range of shrubs and trees, so it's worth a visit!
2. Prune roses including climbing, rambling and standard to just above a 5-leaf shoot, once they've finished flowering. Prune late-Summer flowering shrubs, and any dead or diseased growth. Give evergreen hedges a final trim to make sure they are in good shape for Autumn.
3. Now is the time to use Winter tree wash to remove insect debris, dust and wax which insects use to secure their eggs. Suitable for use on all plants, but particularly evergreens, it removes contaminants from the leaf surface to increase light exposure and encourage photosynthesis. Also use 'Seal & Heal' to seal any tree wounds, and protect pruned branches against ingress of diseases and harmful pests such as coral spot and silver leaf. Use grease-bands and Moth Pheromone Traps on trees as a pest barrier for fruit trees – these pesticide-free grease bands & traps are ideal for organic gardeners and effectively trap moths and other insects.
4. Refresh hanging baskets, pots and borders with colourful Autumn bedding.
5. Repair any brown-looking grass and patches on your lawn now, using 'Patch Repair', lawn & turf dressing, grass seeds, and lawn feed, all available in-store. Scarify off heavy moss or thatch.
6. Keep your garden looking tidy by gathering up leaves from lawns and pathways now. Use a garden vacuum or rake, and leaf collector to help make the job easier.
7. Divide overgrown perennials to maintain their health and promote better growth in the coming seasons.
8. Start planting & planning your spring-blooming bulbs like tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths so that they flower in time for Spring next year (save tulip bulbs for Oct/Nov planting). Bow has a wide range now in store, so you can choose your favourite display of colours.
9. Cover your pond using a pond net to protect it from leaves falling. Debris can result in algae and sludge which, if left for long enough, will reduce oxygen levels and harm your fish. Pond vacuums also help to maintain a clear healthy pond this time of year.
10. Clear out your greenhouse and clean the glass to increase the amount of sunlight coming in. Also get to work on removing any pests and disinfect inside your greenhouse. Get bubble wrap and greenhouse heaters ready for Winter.

Bow Garden & Aquatic Centre is a great place for all your garden essentials, including an expanded range of Devon-grown plants. Also, plenty of bulbs, seeds, gardening tools, garden buildings and everything you need for gardening, plus fish and pet supplies, an award-winning Waterside Cafe, and Post Office services too.
www.bowgardencentre.co.uk, 01363 82438.

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PARISH COUNCIL

The most recent Parish Council meeting was held on 27 July. The minutes of the last meeting were approved by the council.

Margaret Squires was present, representing Devon County Council. We had an up-to-date discussion on the DCC finances. She said that the council had been awarded Green Flag status for Tiverton Canal and Stover Park; these are well worth a visit if you have the time.

Allotments were discussed. It was pointed out that there are some issues at Bow Recreation field that had to be rectified before we could carry on discussions.

Three members of the Council met the Highways officer on 25 July. He agreed to examine pot holes on Eastern Road and on the road to the Waie Inn. Unfortunately, we were informed that there was no possibility of getting a legal 20 mph limit in the village in the near future. Nor was there any chance of moving the present 30 mph restrictions to the far side the new developments on the eastern side of the village, on the site of the former chicken shed.

We had a report on the Den Brook fund. Our allocation stands at £6523, and needs using. Applications for the next round of bids close on 31 Jan 2024.

Planning permission has been requested for conversion of out buildings at South Park. After discussion it was felt that extra buildings were out of proportion on a small site and there were issues with the discharge of drainage on neighbouring ground. The council voted unanimously to reject the application.

Under Correspondence, letters were read from Ken Down to the Village Hall committee regarding the possibility that land from the estate of Mary Vicary may become available for purchase for allotments and even a new village hall. This will be on the agenda at the next meeting. I suspect this will be beginning of a long discussion on the topic.

During Members Statements it was disclosed that volunteers may be required for Road Wardens to supervise the safety outside the village hall . This will also be on the agenda for the next meeting which will be held on 28th September at 7.00.pm.

Rob Peck
Chairman

NOTE

During the PC meeting held in May, concern was expressed about the parking in Western Road. It is felt that much difficulty is caused by family multi car ownership. If you are affected by this or have any thoughts on solutions, please come to the next PC meeting on 28th September.

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BOOK REVIEW

This my first book review and it probably shows. But I thought it might be a good idea to have a regular book review article. I like reading books that others recommend, it is a great way to broaden and build one's literary taste. If this passes the editorial committee we will need a volunteer for the next review.

The Thursday Murder Club – Richard Osman

Have you ever taken a chance on a book only to find it is the second book in a series, and you are so taken with it you have to go back to the first. It happened to me with *'The Lord of the Rings'*, Harry Potter and many others. This time it was *'The Thursday Murder Club'*. So, to start on the first of the series...

The scene is a very affluent retirement village in Kent. Four of the residents get together every Thursday to discuss and analyse old unsolved murders. Then there is a real murder and the gang of four decide, against all the rules, to help the police to solve it.

The glue to the four is Joyce, a retired nurse whose diary forms part of the narrative. She describes herself as being overlooked and underestimated, and has a wicked, sardonic humour. The leader is ex secret service Elizabeth, a ruthless planner and longsighted action women in her seventies. Her best friend is dying of dementia, and when the local shop decided to stop selling her favourite shampoo "Elizabeth paid them a visit and they changed their mind". Ebrahim is the intelligence side, a retired psychiatrist, still occasionally practising. Finally, Ron, gruff ex militant Union Man who always speaks his mind. Joyce is by far my favourite character. After a scuffle amongst the men with her in the middle, when it is over, she thinks "the testosterone was lovely while it lasted".

They make allies and, eventually, friends with two of the local police officers, who, like all the protagonists in this book have deep and well-drawn characters. My only criticism is that there are too many characters and interweaving plot lines for my simple mind but you may love that. All in all, a good read and I would heartily recommend you try it, I am certainly waiting for number three to be released.


(P. S. I've just discovered that Number Four is out!)


Tony Hubery


EDITOR'S NOTE: I like the idea of a regular book review. If you've read a book that you particularly like, why not tell our readers about it. And don't forget, there is an excellent selection of books at the church that anyone may borrow.

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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

It is a very sad bulletin this month: As you may have already seen on Facebook, some mindless individuals have broken into our clubhouse down at the lake, vandalised and left a disgusting mess in the toilet and generally behaved in a despicable manner. This grieves me as this is not the first time this has happened. Fortunately, the last time this happened Tina Bowyer alerted us to cars going up to the lake at night. The individuals were caught fishing illegally without licences and without permission to fish. It was reported to our PSO when we had one, but unfortunately the Police took it no further. Those individuals were not children, members of them lived in the village.

I have tried to call the Police today to no avail and have reported it on line. We have an incident number and that's probably all we will get from our report. We have probably had about £500 of fishing equipment stolen, plus any monies in our day ticket box. Cost of repairs is probably going to be a couple of hundred pounds. Thank you to Mike and Sue Bostock and Andy Richardson who kindly gave us a hand out clearing up as I am still incapacitated with my leg. It is so sad for the people who give us a hand there and enjoy the facility. We will now be trying to raise some money to install a solar powered camera system.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane

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- Village Hall: Chair: Erica Eden. Tel. 01363 82606
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- Mid Devon Councillors: Natalia Letch, email: natalia.letch@gmail.com
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residents/recycling-rubbish](http://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/recycling-rubbish)
- County Council: Devon CC, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2
4QD. Tel. 0345 155 1015 [general enquiries]
Email: customer@devon.gov.uk
Care Direct: Tel. 0345 115 100
- Highways: Tel. 0345 155 1004
- Hospiscare: Tel. 01392 688000 for services and support
Local shop: 129 High Street, Crediton; 01363 774836
- Devon Voluntary Action: www.devonva.org Tel. 01404 544 045

Defibrillators: these are located on the West wall of the Village Hall (nearest to Churchill Gardens) and at the Waie Inn



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