

FREE

Issue 19 December 2020

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Christmas arrangement by Hazel Wainwright, photo David Wainwright

EDITORIAL

The Editorial Committee is particularly pleased that we have been able to continue producing the newsletter throughout this year, thanks to the following:

- the advertisers who have maintained their support for us, without whose income we could not continue;
- the Parish Council, which has also supported us financially;
- but most importantly: all those contributors who have produced puzzles, articles and pictures and other items for the newsletter.

Thank you to every one of you. Please keep your contributions coming in to zmon.news@gmail.com. If you prefer pen and paper, you can always drop it into me at 3 Churchill Gardens.

As we gear up for our Christmas shopping, can we urge you to think about using local suppliers whenever you can; our local traders need our business to survive. Here are some ideas: vegetables, turkeys and christmas trees from the Plant Shed, Venison from Great Wootton Deer Farm, books from CREDITON Community Bookshop where you can book on line and have your books delivered, or the website at uk.books.org, (order through CREDITON Community Bookshop).

Finally may we wish all our readers and advertisers a very Happy Christmas.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

MOBILE LIBRARY

The next scheduled visit is on Friday 11 December, 13.15 – 13.40 at Waie Cross.

VILLAGE HALL

The Hall Management Committee was very disappointed at having to cancel the November market, following the imposition of lockdown 2. But we hope that we will be able to hold the market at the Waie Inn on 12 December, as planned. It should be a bumper affair with all the regular stalls as well as Isabel Harris's draw in aid of Children in Need; great prizes and a worthy cause. Don't miss it (keep your fingers crossed).

THANKS

Erica Eden says 'I just wanted to say how nice to see someone has cleaned the post of the signpost next to the telephone box - a big thank you to them'.

RAINFALL

Rainfall for October was 144mm, a big increase on September. I bet we can all remember how wet it was.

Archive photo no. 447: *Angels. 1954. L-r: Rosemary Rounsley [m Barker], Trudi Cox [m Trickey], Muriel Cox [m Harvey], Shirley Cox [m Greenslade], Monica Keener [m Roker], Jill Keenor [died aged 20], Sheila Webber [m Bastow]. Photo provided by Rosemary Barker and Tony Breaaly.*



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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi all

As I write this we are once again in lockdown. We have received confirmation from the Angling Trust that fishing is a permissible activity during lockdown; however it is restricted to two people from the same household or bubble.

Recently I have made contact with our new Environment Agency Officer, Callum Munday. He has promised to visit the lake and has agreed to get us some tench and possibly a larger pike. I can tell you that Pete Henshaw fished the lake just before lockdown, he didn't tell me what he caught but I hope he did well.

I wish you all well, stay safe and let's hope for a vaccine in the near future. If anyone would like a calendar we have about 8 left, just call or email us. The proceeds will be divided between Cancer Research and the Fishing Club.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a better New Year.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane



Ken and Jane have started a new venture - called HOGWASH, they specialise in refurbishing old tools for house and garden.



DECEMBER PUZZLE

Anagrams of words and phrases connected to Christmas

1. IGDRPERTA
2. BE THE HELM
3. ROBUST SPURLESS (7,7)
4. TEACHERS TRIMS (9,4)
5. LEGBNIJLSLE (6,5)
6. CAUSAL ANTS (5,5)
7. VICARS THEMES (9,3)
8. SRETSPEN
9. TOTEMSILE
10. UNREADY CABS (6,5)

And some Christmas Jokes

- a. What do you call an old snowman?
- b. What do monkeys sing at Christmas?
- c. Why is it always cold at Christmas?

(Answers at the bottom of page 21)

Answers to the October Quiz

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| 1. | Number 11 | 9. | 2013 |
| 2. | The one hundred | 10. | 1 million |
| 3. | 5 Shillings | 11. | 22 including the white |
| 4. | 13 stripes | 12. | 9 ladies |
| 5. | 12 sides | 13. | 4 granddaughters |
| 6. | Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky | 14. | 206 bones |
| 7. | 13 | 15. | 7 books |
| 8. | 600 test wickets | | |

Here are the names of the 14 neighbouring countries to Russia.

Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, North Korea, Norway, Poland and Ukraine.

How many did you know?

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We are now OPEN!

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With the current social distancing regulations we have 5 tables available inside the premises and 5 outside, weather permitting.

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Due to the small number of customers possible at any one time and to keep our business viable we are asking you to be considerate in these difficult times.



We look forward to seeing you soon!



look out for further information regarding extended opening hours.

Further details and bookings contact Ashley or Harriet:-

Tel: 07772254005 / 07940157555 Email harrietcresswell@yahoo.com

Or Message on Facebook:- Eggesford Crossing Café

1.9.



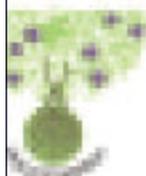
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PLEASE NOTE

We will be closed Christmas Day
and Boxing Day

We wish all our patrons a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year



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ROUND THE BEND—IN PICTURES

I have often thought about what makes me take photographs. The short answer is, they are a signpost to memories, to where and what, much more than when. The first camera I used was very much a ‘you press the button we do the rest’.



HMS Belfast, Plymouth Navy Days, 1958. Kodak Duaflex II, shop processed by Homan Ham

in desperation, she took me into her darkroom. “Teach the boy a lesson” she thought, “show the fool how difficult it is, that’ll shut him up” So, into the darkroom with the enlarger: “the paper here, set the timer, move that piece of cardboard over the paper like so, every 10 seconds—you are listening, right?—take the piece of paper like so, slide under the liquid in that tray, rock the tray—you are sure you’re listening, yes?—like so, as you set the timer here”. It took all of thirty seconds for an image to start appearing.

Magic! Hooked for life. The camera was acquired. But Fate had used a Gnome enlarger to kick me where it really mattered.



In those days, everything was manual. We even mixed up most chemicals by weighing powders on a balance that sits here still. Only the stop came out of a bottle, acetic acid and it was the only liquid until Geoffrey Crawley’s developer arrived, Acutol FX14.

Dawlish 1962, Whitelegg’s Fair. Halina 35x, home produced and enlarged.



*Becky Falls, 1971.
Practika Nova, printed in
a Meopta Opemus II.*

Determining camera settings was a nightmare, very hit-and-miss. We started with a cardboard dial: set the conditions: sun bright, cloudy, dull, plus the film speed in ASA, BS or Scheiner, and read off the result. It worked, sort of, but was useless shooting into the sun and as for shutter times over a couple of seconds, forget it. Then there was Ansel Adams and his zone system. Magic by numbers, at last you could do *exposure*.

A few years afterwards, I joined a camera club. Ben Habberton, of the Old Rectory, sidled up to me one day, said he'd seen me taking photographs. This was something new to me; never thinking anything of what it meant: it couldn't be anything special, just, well, it was what I did. He persisted, Crediton needed new members. So at the back of the room, a whole year was spent, looking and listening. At the AGM, the newly-elected chairman [now a life-long friend]

stood up and called for contributions to next year's programme. Hesitantly, I volunteered sensitometry. What's that he asked, so I gave an outline of everything, confident it would either be turned down, or at least postponed many months. Wrong. He was on the phone the next day: "could this be done, well, immediately?"

We put a talk together. With pictures. It was a major mistake: one that was shown to them—me confidently explaining "and of course if you do this, well, here's an example of a print made with a single exposure, no darkroom fakery . . .": just they were never told that's the only negative I have ever, ever produced that does it. I am no longer a member of that club, believing the business of a photographer is to somehow convey to the viewer why the image exists, rather than please some judge.



The fatal picture, Foggintor, 1989.

When someone asks me to take some photographs, they are reminded that amateur status does not guarantee good pictures. Yet modern cameras are wonderful. Used correctly, they are supremely simple, a far cry from that Halina with its dial-up exposure card!

Opposite, top: 50th wedding anniversary, Barbara and John Pincombe, last year. Bottom, next time, further round the bend!—Mike Russell.



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ST PETER'S CHURCH



On the second Sunday in October we held our first communion service since March, this was combined with Harvest Festival. Alas, we were not able to share in light refreshments after but we look forward to a better 2021.

On 21st October the long delayed Annual Parochial Church meeting was held on zoom. Reports of the life of the church in 2019 had been circulated in advance to help the meeting run smoothly. Following the retirement of Mike Bostock, who has been our churchwarden for six years, I was elected as your new churchwarden. Susie also stood down from the the PCC. Thanks were expressed to Mike and Susie for all they had done for our church over the last few years.

Mr Gavin Rowden, Mrs Becky Harvey, Mr Tony Brealy and Mr Tim Herniman were elected to the Parochial Church Council.

The **Annual Parochial Church** council meeting was held in church on Wednesday, 28th October and the officers were elected as follows:

Chairman, Margaret Down (Churchwarden)
Secretary and Electoral Roll Officer, Mr Gavin Rowden,
Treasurer, Mrs Becky Harvey
Safe Guarding Officer and Deanery Synod Representative, Mr Tim Herniman
Sides men Mr Tony Brealy, Mr Colin Crothers, and Mrs Marian Quick

The future of worship was discussed. It was decided that we would have a Common Worship Eucharist on the second Sunday and Evensong on the fourth Sunday of each month both at 6.30pm. However, as I write this article, our plans for November have been thwarted due to the second Covid-19 lockdown and the church will be closed at least until the 2nd December.

We will, however, continue our plans for December and hope the current measures taken will make it possible for us to resume worship. Every precaution will be taken for the church to be Covid secure.

December 13th Common Worship Eucharist at 6.30pm
December 24th Christmas Eve Communion at 9.30pm

Church Rotas

I am now preparing the reading, altar flower arranging and cleaning rotas for 2021. If you would like to be included along with our regular volunteers, please let me know, tel. no 82204.

Nobody needs to be reminded that 2020 has been challenging for everyone and in that I include our church.

We are planning a cake stall at the December village market, at the Waie Inn.

I look forward to welcoming you in church as soon as we are able to recommence worship.

Margaret Down (churchwarden)

A Happy Christmas to you all

CREDITON FOOD BANK

October has been another amazing month with donations every week, over 30 bags of food delivered. Thank you so very much.

As mentioned in November's newsletter, we will be holding our 10th Christmas collection be starting on Tuesday 1st December. As in other years, we will try to get as much done as we can in the first two days, weather permitting; the rest of that week will be used to catch up or pick up where needed. Jan Brealy and I will be coming around, we will be masked, observing social distancing and equipped with hand gel – a sign of the times. The appropriate license for this collection has been received, and we will be wearing identification, with our photos, to reassure those of you who are new to the village.

It would be very much appreciated if, when you are donating, you are able to include festive treats to put smiles on the faces of young and old alike. These are unprecedented times and mental health issues are at the forefront. Even confident, strong professionals have been unexpectedly hit hard. So those unexpected treats will be very welcome.

The items that run out, perhaps more than any others are: toilet rolls, UHT milk, sugar, jam, juices and orange or blackcurrant squash. NO pasta please, the foodbank has an abundance in its store. In previous years some people have said they find it easier to donate money so that the foodbank can use it to buy fresh goods, i.e. fresh meat, vegetables, cheese, spreads etc. Whatever you can donate will be very much appreciated.

If you are unable to donate, or have already done so, please put the newsletter in a prominent place where we can easily see it and we will not disturb you. If you are out when we call and would like to donate please ring Lois on 82982 and I will be happy to collect from you.

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

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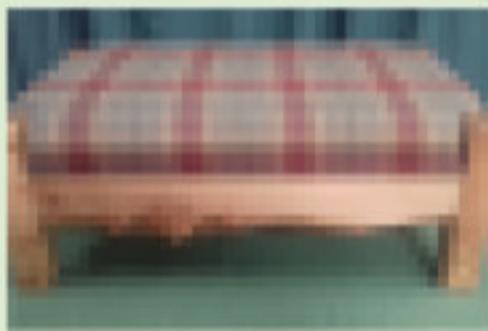
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CLIMATE CATASTROPHE - SAVE THE PLANET – CHRISTMAS TREES

A natural 2 metre tree that is properly disposed of afterwards — by burning it on a bonfire, planting it or having it chipped — has a carbon footprint of around 3.5kg of CO₂. An artificial plastic 2 metre tree has a carbon footprint of about 40kg of CO₂, more than 10 times greater than a properly disposed of real tree.

Tip: if you already have an artificial tree keep using it, but don't buy another.

LED LIGHTS for tree and home are up to 80 per cent more efficient than traditional lighting such as fluorescent and incandescent lights. If every UK household switched a single string of incandescent lights for its LED equivalent, more than £11 million and 29,000 tonnes of CO₂ could be saved just over the 12 days of Christmas.

Tip: turn Christmas lights off at bedtime; worth noting LED stay cooler and the bulbs are less likely to fail.

CANDLES Paraffin candles are made from petroleum residue and are not good for your health, or for the environment. *Tip:* instead, buy more eco-friendly soy, beeswax or natural vegetable-based wax which are biodegrade and smoke-free.

CARDS The environmental impact of a greetings card derives from the four main parts of its lifecycle: paper production, printing, posting, decomposition. The carbon footprint of sending one card is 140g of CO₂. Try to avoid glitter on cards, wrapping paper, crackers, advent calendars. Even “eco-glitter” is as damaging to rivers as standard plastic type glitters. Any kind of glitter or foil means they will not be acceptable for recycling

Tips: E-cards are becoming much more the norm these days, so you can send your Christmas spirit online instead of using paper. Many people send a donation to charity instead of cards and their postage. Reconnect with people through a festive phone/Skype call! Before you recycle the cards you have received, make gift tags for next year.*

GIFTS Each Christmas, 4,000 tonnes of products arrive from China. Stocking fillers tend to be small, plastic trinkets that end up broken or lost by the end of January. Before shopping, think about your own reaction to gifts you're received that weren't what you wanted - are you doing the same? Sometimes it's hard to find a gift for someone, so you buy something which has been specially created for the Christmas market but often not quite right for the person you've got it for.

Tips: Discuss with family and friends to whom you usually give gifts whether you can show appreciation and Christmas spirit in some other way. ‘Re-gifting’ i.e. passing on a gift you received but do not need or want, is OK and certainly better than gathering dust or going to landfill. Buying sustainable presents made locally or in the UK mean you will be supporting small suppliers and the local community, while minimising your carbon footprint. Choose gifts that come with as little packaging as possible, or at least some you can recycle. Fill stockings with treats like dried fruit, nuts, clementines and homemade holiday cookies. Remember the theme of Christmas is “Peace on Earth”, avoid children’s toys that promote violence. Make gifts yourself. You can choose your own packaging, and the personal effort makes a gift priceless.

WRAPPING Paper waste over Christmas is equivalent to 5-12 million litres of bio-fuel. That’s enough to power a bus to the moon 20 times.

Tips: Sellotape is made of plastic, use it sparingly, or not at all. Lots of wrapping paper contains plastic. Opt for brown parcel paper tied up with string – adding natural decorations like spruce or homemade cookies, or wrap a present with a scarf or other textile. Save and reuse wrapping paper.

FOOD

According to a study done by Warburtons, this festive season ‘Wasteful Brits will throw away’: 130 million sprouts; 93 million roast potatoes; 85 million helpings of stuffing; 91 million slices of turkey; enough gravy to fill an Olympic swimming pool; 82 million roasted parsnips; 77 million pigs in blankets; 60 million glasses of wine; 63 million glasses of flat beer. They also found that on average households will make enough food to feed 3 extra people

Tips: defrost your freezer before Christmas, it will work more efficiently and create more space to store leftover food. Check your menu plan and shopping list for realistic quantities. If you end up over-catering, don't bin what's left. Transforming leftovers can be a great way to create new meals, save money and cut waste. Challenge your family to suggest recipes with whatever you’ve got in the fridge. Waste food is an environmental and a social issue.

Finally instead of a 21st century Christmas, recreate an old-fashioned traditional Christmas where less is consumed but happiness is not diminished

Erica Eden

**Please don't let any of this deter you from sending me cards or I'll have nothing to make into gift tags!*

Answers to ‘Scene Around Zeal’

We hope you enjoyed searching for answers around the village.

1. They are guarding ‘The Old Barn’ half way down Town Hill
2. The flowers are on the large double metal gates in Western road, opposite Rose Cottage
3. He is made of coloured glass in the front door of No.3, Western Road
4. The cat is reclining on the wall at Hoggets, Western Road
5. The question is ‘How should we do for drink?’, carved into the canopy over the Jubilee Seat at the top of Town Hill
6. The Waie Inn use it to advertise ‘Waie 2 Play’
7. Beside the first yellow water hydrant after Western Road Cottages. They are names on the metal drain covers in the middle of the road
8. The villages of North Tawton and Bondleigh
9. A small metal tulip is in the front garden of No.2, Hillside Cottages
10. The Neighbourhood Watch sign at Higher Week between Stop Gate and the village
11. Street light number 13 is on the corner of the parking area in front of Eastern Road Cottages
12. Thanks be to the Rector Reverend E.H.Smith MA in 1939
13. They live at Beam Ends in Western Road. Their sign says they only have ‘very large hungry dogs’
14. I am standing outside Moor View in Eastern Road looking towards the birds on the thatch of both Partridge and Yew Tree Cottages
15. On the sign at Blueberry Hill Market Garden on the way to Bow are raspberries, blueberries and blackberries

QUOTE

‘The happiest people don’t have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything’. *Anon*

THE VILLAGE WORKSHOP

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*Always happy to give advice
on all things made in wood*

One of the many varied items that I am either refurbishing or making is this lovely old-style wooden bed. I am also currently making a tall oak bookcase with adjustable shelves.



Thanks to Isabel Harris for this super picture of a sea gull feeding frenzy – how do they know when and where to gather?



BRAINTEASER

I've included this page for a bit of fun and, if nothing else, you may learn something about Devon. I was amazed to find that there are 69 rivers in our county, though some of them are actually called brooks. Anyway, lurking in the following text are the names of 16 Devon rivers – see how many you can spot.

I first met Mike Creedy at a school reunion back in 2010; I was not in his year group so didn't know him. When I entered the room, he flew over to me and introduced himself, saying 'Ta Ma really good of you to come'. I was always known as Ma at school, but was completely poleaxed that he knew my nickname.

The 10 years since that first encounter have been good for him. Now having the appearance of a rather torrid gentleman, he looks like a prosperous yeoman farmer, rather than the school teacher he is. We meet from time to time for a walk, ham sandwich and a drink at a country pub. The tavern that he prefers has a somewhat tawdry décor but the food is OK and they serve a decent wine. The walls in the main bar are painted a deep red above yellow textured panels, and it always makes me think of a bawdy house.

At our last meeting I got there first and a few minutes later Mike darted in and announced, rather breathlessly, that he had an exciting tale to tell. He has been promoted to be Head Teacher at a school in Totteridge in London. Not only that but he will have an executive role in the running of other schools in the area. All in all, his promotion will culminate in a considerable improvement in his fortunes, so I suggested he could afford to buy me lunch, and he readily agreed.

His news rather side-lined my own, but eventually I was able to tell him that I am moving to a new area where I'll be able to ply my trade with more success than hitherto.

Answers next month

CONTACTS

Local Parish Council: Chairman Andrew Chandler. Tel. 07831 167 728
Village Hall: Chairman Ken Down. Tel. 01363 82204
Secretary & bookings Jan Summers. Tel. 01363 82571

Mid Devon Councillor: tba
County Councillor: Margaret Squires. Tel. 01363 84337
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