

MONACHORUM MATTERS

FREE

Issue 57, February 2024

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



*Thanks to Ken Hogg for this super picture taken on Dartmoor
Just right for Valentine's Day*

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

As part of a programme to refurbish the Hall, we made an application for funding to the National Grid Community Matters Fund. We were successful and have been given a £7100 grant towards creating a warmer place by improving insulation and window coverings. We plan to install louvered shutters inside to keep the warmth in and to provide darkness for films etc. The main hall roof space will be better insulated and reflective panels will be fitted behind the radiators which should help to make the hall feel more comfortable during cold weather. Outside works will start in the spring. We hope that disruption to the use of the hall will be minimal, but please bear with us - the improvements gained will be worth it.

Saturday 24 February - Quiz and Pasty night

We're pleased to announce the return of our popular event - time to brush up on your general knowledge. Teams can be up to 6 people but if you haven't got a full complement, you can be matched up with others on the night. Cost £6 per person which includes a pasty. Wine, cider and soft drinks will be available for a donation. Please book by **20 February** and do let us know if you want a vegetarian pasty instead. Contact Jan Summers on 82571, secretary@zealmonachorum.org.uk

DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE - 8 FEBRUARY

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COMMUNITY NEWS

VILLAGE EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

Fri 2 Feb	Mobile Library, 1.10 - 1.45 pm at Waie Gardens - see below
Wed 7 Feb	WI – 7.15 for 7.30pm, Village Hall.
Sat 10 Feb	Market, 10 – 11.30am at Village Hall.
Mon 12 Feb	Village Walk, meet 2pm at the bus stop.
Wed 14 Feb	Bingo at Village Hall, doors open 7pm for 7.30, entry £5
Sat 24 Feb	Quiz & Pasty at Village Hall, see page 2

Advance Notice - Save the Date!

Charity Event Fund Raising for Devon Air Ambulance

Casino Night 13 April 2024 -7pm for 7.30pm, at the Waie Inn

Buffet/Auction/Raffles and a chance to win a holiday in Portugal.

A fun social event with no monetary gambling taking place.

Further details to follow in March Monachorum Matters.

MOBILE LIBRARY

We have finally been told the date of the last visit of this facility - Friday 2 February 1.15-1.45 at Waie Cross. Books can be borrowed on that day although they will need to be returned to a static library. However, anyone who has difficulty doing that can contact me and I will return them.

Erica Eden, 013563 82606

RAINFALL

December rainfall was 168 mm. The rainfall figure for October to December combined was 479 mm / 19 inches. The overall rainfall for 2023 was 1301mm / 52 inches; annual average for this area is 36 inches. 2023 was the 2nd wettest year since records began in 1996, the wettest year was 2012 when we had 55 inches.

BOW & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monday 26 February, 7.15 for 7.30pm, Bow Village Hall EX17 6HU: talk by Nigel Browne on History of Bow. Membership £15, visitors £4. Enquiries 01363 82468 or Erica 01363 82606

COFFEE MORNINGS

These have ceased for the time being but there have been recent requests to start them up again. They provide a welcome chance to sit down over a drink and catch up with local news so, if you would like to participate and are happy to take a turn making the teas and coffees, please contact Jan Summers, 01363 82671 or secretary@zealmonachorum.org.uk

BOW MEDICAL PRACTICE

News broke as we were going to print that Dr Bower is leaving in March; I'm sure we will hear more soon but I think we can say he will be much missed.

FEBRUARY QUIZ

1. On the 12 February 1554, who was beheaded at the tower of London?
2. Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles founded which colonial state in February 1819?
3. In February 1909, Belgian chemist Leo Baekeland announced the creation of what synthetic material?
4. From February 1918, British women over the age of 30 who met minimum property qualifications could do what?
5. Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, and D. W. Griffith launched which film company in February 1919?
6. In which resort city on the Black Sea was the Crimea Conference held in February, 1945?
7. What happened in Britain on the 15th of February, 1971?
8. In February 1977 the first Space Shuttle that 'boldly' made its first flight on top of a Jumbo Jet – what was it called?
9. President of Haiti, Jean-Claude Duvalier, fled the country after a popular uprising in 1986, ending 28 years of one-family rule in the nation. How was he generally known?
10. In February 2003 which spaceship disintegrated on re-entry killing all 7 crew members?
11. Which Welsh actor born in Newport in February 1969 is famous for Bafta nominated roles as Tony Blair, and as Brian Clough in the film '*The Damned United*'?
12. What star sign are you if you were born in early February?
13. Which violet variety of quartz, often used in jewellery, is the traditional birthstone for February?
14. In the DC Comics, on which date in February is Superman's birthday?
15. Which American federal holiday is celebrated on the third Monday in February?

Answers on Page 9

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TACKLE THE WINTER BLUES BY SHARING YOUR MEMORIES

Do you feel a bit deflated in the new year? Maybe you miss the cheer and hustle associated with the festive season, feel wiped out or even underwhelmed after all the build-up. What better way to overcome the winter blues than by sharing your memories over a chat and a cup of tea?

The Reminiscence Project is an ongoing project run by Crediton Library which collects memories of people living, or who used to live, in Mid Devon. Volunteers visit people in their own homes or in the community to chat about their younger years, school, jobs, or anything else they might like to talk about.

Conversations are recorded and stored online in a digital collection. This is open to the public for all to access, whether they want to find out about how their local area has changed over the years, whether they'd like to know what it was like to live in a certain time period or whether they just enjoy hearing other people's stories.

Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, this project has been made possible thanks to money raised by National Lottery players.

If you would like to set up a time to have a chat with one of our volunteers, or if you'd like to find out more about the project, you can get in touch via email: crediton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk or phone: 01363 772578.

'Just be yourself, there is no one better'
Taylor Swift, American Singer

Blueberry Hill Co-operative

After more than 15 years of running the market garden as a partnership small business, we have decided to hand it over to a group of people to be run as a social enterprise or co-operative. The idea is for the group to produce vegetables and fruit for themselves and to supply the customers of the veg round, which will go a long way to covering the expenses. Any other areas of productivity could then potentially generate a small profit for the group (there are several ideas for this).

There is now a small but keen core group of people with a range of skills between them. In order to make the best of this exciting scheme, it would be wonderful to have more local people to join in.

If you have some spare hours a week available, enjoy gardening and growing food and being part of a positive social group, this may well be something for you.

Please contact Jacqui on 07932 083623 / blueberryjacqui@hotmail.co.uk

The co-operative will hopefully take the garden on in the spring, exact month tbc.



ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners,

Christmas seems like a long time ago, however, I cannot let it pass without saying thank you to everyone who read lessons at the carol service and all who came and shared in this joyous occasion, and all who decorated the windows and tree. Thank you for the mince pies, mulled wine and coffee which were enjoyed after the service. The offertory was £89 and has been forwarded to the Children's Hospice Southwest.

The old year ended and the new year began very wet, but early January has brought the winter chill and some welcome sunshine.

February rotas

February 4 at 10.00am	2nd before Lent	All age worship
Old Testament	Proverbs 8:1,22-31	Miss Lynn Warren
New Testament	John 1: 1-14	Mrs Jane Hogg
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy
Altar Flowers	4 th & 11 th	Miss Margaret Harris
	Church cleaner	Mrs Jane Hogg

February 11 at 6.30pm	1 before Lent	CWE
Old Testament	2 Kings 2: 1-12	Mrs Becky Harvey
New Testament	2 Corinthians 4: 3-6	Mr Robert Peck
Gospel	Mark 9: 2-9	Rev Matthew Tregenza
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers

There are no flowers in Lent

February 25 at 3.00pm	Lent 2	BCP Evensong
Old Testament	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16	Mrs Tina Young
New Testament	Mark 8: 31-38	Mr Colin Crothers
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy

Everyone is welcome to join us for any or all of our worship

Ash Wednesday, 14 February. A service for Ash Wednesday is being held at Down St Mary Church at 7.00pm. The Prebendary Anthony Geering is leading the service.

Lent Course We have barely said goodbye to Christmas but are already planning the season of Lent as Easter is early this year. A Lent course is taking place at The Ark, Lapford on Mondays at 2.00pm beginning on the 19th February. The theme of the course has not been decided as yet but I know it will be interesting as we prepare ourselves for Easter.

Churchwarden's meetings The churchwardens meet monthly with the Rural Dean. These meetings are held to bring together the plans for our immediate future within the Mission Community.

Reminder: Cross Country magazine 2024. Payment of £6.00 is now overdue. If you wish to receive a copy and have not paid your contribution, please let our treasurer have it as soon as possible.

Best wishes Margaret (Churchwarden)

CREDITON FOODBANK 2024

Wishing you all a very **Happy New Year** and the hope that 2024 will give Blessings to all.

For the many who are unable to say it for themselves, thank you for your continued generosity. And it goes without saying the Foodbank was overwhelmed by all that you donated for our Annual Christmas House to House collection, and throughout the whole year. I can't remember a week that went by without giving a donation into the Foodbank. When writing in the January newsletter you had donated an abundance of food and Christmas goodies as well as £1,361. I can now tell you that amount escalated to an amazing £1,655. What generosity! Thanks, too, to Simon for keeping the figures right year after year; so very much appreciated

I received a text from Fiona and Helen, the Foodbank Coordinators, to say that spaces on the shelves are starting to appear once again. Sadly, this means Foodbanks for now are not a thing of the past. If **anyone** is in need of the Foodbank through 2024 **PLEASE REMEMBER IT'S THERE FOR YOU TOO!** Contact Fiona or Helen on help@creditonfoodbank.org.uk or 07740 202721.

—ooo0ooo—

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

Our January 2024 meeting was a social gathering but the usual business had to be dealt with first. Notices were read out plus four resolutions to be discussed and voted on before the annual National WI Meeting in June. Learning to knit or crochet had previously been requested for January and there was also a lesson in Canasta – all good fun.

Celebrations for our 70th birthday in March were discussed but attendance was low so this will be brought up again at our February meeting. Our speaker in February will enlighten us on 50 years of gardening on Dartmoor, quite a challenge, I am sure. As usual, all are welcome.

Jan Brealy, President



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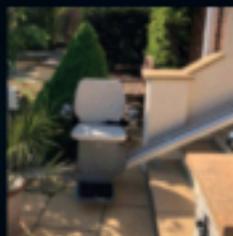


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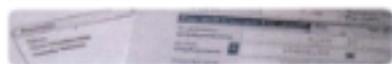
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Answers to quiz on Page 4

1. Lady Jane Grey
2. Singapore
3. Bakelite (the world's first synthetic plastic)
4. Vote
5. United Artists
6. Yalta
7. Decimalisation
8. Enterprise
9. Baby Doc
10. Space Shuttle Columbia
11. Michael Sheen
12. Aquarius
13. Amethyst
14. 29 February
15. President's Day

February 29 – a strange amazing day that comes only once every four years. For the rest of the time, it does not 'exist'. In mundane terms, it marks a 'leap' in time, when the calendar is adjusted to make up for the extra seconds accumulated over the preceding three years due to the rotation of the earth.

FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

Happy and healthy New Year to all members and visitors to our fishing lake. The first thing we have to report is that, after this year, we will no longer be using the Angling Trust. We feel somewhat aggrieved for our angling club as we have been members of the Trust for over 15 years; we made our first insurance claim, which was less than a £1000 and they felt they were not able to pay out. As from 2024 we will be looking to source new insurers. We will be having talks with NFU and will keep all members posted on developments.

We are pleased to report that our cameras are now up and running and everyone should be aware, whilst fishing or walking around the lake, you are being observed by cameras. We are sorry that we have had to do this but unfortunately there are certain people who feel they must spoil a lovely wildlife area and venue. Hoping that the weather steadily improves and we can all get some good fishing in.

We would like to get our fees in asap as we have had a lot of expense this year due to vandalism and the weather. Fees will be the same as last year: £50 for adults and £16 for children under 16 years. Day tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for children.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane

Garden advice courtesy of Bow Garden Centre.

1. Prepare vegetable beds by removing all weeds and forking in plenty of compost. Once finished, cover prepared soil with sheets of recyclable black plastic to keep it drier and warmer ready for Spring planting.
2. In raised beds, the soil warms up faster and water drains quickly, so they are ideal if you want to make an early start in the garden.
3. Start outdoor sowings of early crops.
4. Chit seed potatoes - Bow has a wide range of varieties available.
5. Plant out summer bulbs if it's not too wet, with gravel and bulb fibre underneath to stop them rotting, or pot them up and put them in the greenhouse to give them a head start.
6. Pot up containers, hanging baskets and pots with lovely Spring bedding plants. Bow has a beautiful selection including Violas, Pansies, and Primroses.
7. February is a great time to prune deciduous trees & shrubs before new growth begins. Don't forget to remove any damaged or dead branches to encourage healthy growth.
8. Keep roses and other flowering shrubs healthy by sprinkling slow-release fertiliser around the bases.
9. Net winter cabbages and broccoli to protect them.
10. Continue to leave out plenty of food and water for the wild birds in your garden, particularly in cold weather conditions, it's a good idea to check that there's plenty of food twice a day.

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 warm, welcoming Waterside Cafe, and Post Office services too

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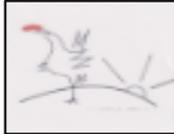
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I'm Philip of PGLive

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