

FREE

Issue 32, January 2022

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Iced berry by Claire Lewis

EDITORIAL

The festive season is over for another year and we look forward to a New Year. What it will bring is anyone's guess and, as the old year passes, there are still enormous issues with COVID to overcome. Let us hope that 2022 will bring a better outlook for everyone, businesses and individuals alike.

Last month there was considerable interest in the future of our Village Hall and whether we should plan for a new facility on a different site. The long-awaited survey was carried out in November and the initial outcome is reported on Page 5. There is still work to be done to assimilate all the ideas and thoughts that the survey encouraged and these will be reported as soon as possible.

We are still hearing stories of residents who find dog mess on paths and verges, occasionally on their own property. At a time when some of us are making New Year resolutions, can we urge some of our less disciplined dog owners to be more considerate to others and clear up after their dogs please.

Finally, let us end on a positive note. In 2022 there is a historic event to celebrate – the first ever Platinum Jubilee of a monarch of the United Kingdom. On Page 20 there is news of some events that are being planned for our village, and it is hoped that there will be something for everyone to get involved in and enjoy.

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE: 8 JANUARY

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Erica Eden

Phone:- 01363 82606

RAINFALL

Rainfall for November was 50mm.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to all who supported the Children in Need raffle, held at the November Village Market. The winners were: Breakfast Hamper won by Emma Rosenbaum, Chicken Dinner won by Suzie Bostock and Chocolate Bar Hamper won by Jeffery Harris. We are pleased to report £56 was raised.

Thank you from Lynn Warren and Isabel Harris

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VILLAGE EVENTS IN JANUARY

Every Weds	Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Wed 5 Jan	WI, Village Hall 7.15 for 7.30pm
Sat 8 Jan	Village Market, 10.00 to 11.30am, Village Hall
Sat 8 Jan	Christmas Party Bring & Share, 6.30pm, Village Hall
Mon 10 Jan	Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop
Wed 19 Jan	Film night, doors open 7.00pm, film starts 7.30pm, see below
Mon 24 Jan	Village Hall Management Committee, 7.30, Village Hall
Wed 26 Jan	Bingo, Village Hall, doors open 7.00pm, eyes down 7.30pm
Thur 27 Jan	Parish Council, 7pm at the Village Hall

FILM NIGHT

Our January film is **'Cruella'**. Before she became the famous Cruella de Vil of *'101 Dalmations'*, she was a teenager called Estella. She has a dream, having been gifted with talent, innovation and ambition in equal measures, she wishes to become a fashion designer. But life seems intent on making sure her dreams never come true, and she winds up penniless and orphaned in London at the age of 12.

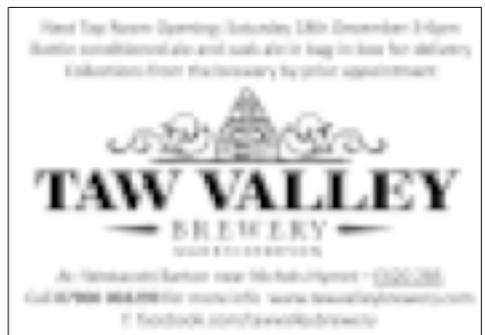
Ten years later Estella runs wild through the city streets with her best friends and partners-in-(petty)-crime, Horace and Jasper, two amateur thieves. However, when a chance encounter vaults Estella into the world of the young rich and famous, she begins to question the existence she's built for herself in London and wonders whether she might be destined for more after all. When an up-and-coming rock star commissions Estella to design for him a signature piece, she begins to feel as though she has truly arrived. But at what cost of keeping up with the fast crowd, and is it a price Estella is willing to pay?

Stars Emma Stone; Emma Thompson; Joel Fry and Mark Strong.

Wednesday 19th January, see back page



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ZEAL MONACHORUM VILLAGE HALL SURVEY

Prior to the first Covid lockdown in March 2020 a sub-committee of the village hall had been looking at the possibility of commissioning a new village hall. The sub-committee was chaired by Ken Down and its membership comprised David Bowyer, Margaret Harris, Emma Davis, Ken Hogg and Andrew Chandler. (David Bowyer resigned in 2021).

The Committee had agreed that before any major work was undertaken the view of villagers was essential to identify a site or funding. Early visits were made to other villages to view new and existing halls and advice was sought from Devon County Council which provided a draft survey and other information about grants and funding. A survey for the village was prepared by the committee but just before its launch in March 2020 lockdown was imposed.

After the 2021 lockdown was lifted, the Committee met again and reviewed the survey and agreed it would be delivered to all villagers. An open meeting was called on 29th October 2021 in the Village Hall to launch the survey and explain why it was taking place. The survey set out to establish what villagers want from a village hall, what they would use it for and how much they might use it. This information will be helpful for both the existing hall and any new hall that might be provided. The survey also sought the views of people in the village as to whether they wanted a new hall or not.

The public meeting was well attended with the village hall being close to capacity. After the meeting surveys were delivered to all houses in the parish and a locked collection box placed outside the Village Hall. I emptied the box daily until the closing date for return of completed forms - 21st November. All the surveys were retained unopened until the committee met on the 26th November.

The purpose of the meeting on 26th was to establish, broadly, the numbers returned and the key result of whether or not there should be a new hall. The survey contains a lot of information which will take time to process. The results below are, to the best of my knowledge, correct but they have not been double checked or assessed by any independent expert. However, I believe they give an accurate picture of the votes cast in the survey with the majority of those expressing a view not supporting a new hall at the current time.

144 surveys were distributed and 85 returned (59%)

180 people responded in the 85 returned surveys

71 voted **yes** (39.5%), 82 voted **no** (45.5%) and 27 were **undecided** (15%)

Andrew Chandler

Chairman ZMPC (28/11/21)

FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

We recently had a call from our local Environment Agency Fishing Officer Callum, asking if he can do a trawl in our lake to take out a lot of the small fish and we have given him our permission. He'll be doing this when the weather improves, so if any of you guys would like to come and lend a hand, please let me know. It is a very wet and messy business but good fun. He will inform me of the date.

Also, fees are due the end of January, still the same price of £45 for adults and £16 for juniors. Children under 10 are free. We will now wait until the spring to install our commemorative bench for Trevor.

Looking forward to your support in the New Year. Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year. Please all stay safe.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane



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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Council held its most recent meeting on Thursday 25th November. A copy of the minutes of the previous meeting, held in September, has been put on display on the notice board.

At the open forum at the beginning of the meeting a representative for the applicant explained that at the request of MDDC a planning application for 5 essential workers cottages at West Newton Farm had been amended to 3. The Council resolved to support the revised application.

The Council received a report that a public meeting regarding a possible new village hall was held on the 29th October and that a village survey had been carried out with the closing date being 21 November. No information on the result of the survey was available at the meeting and at the time of writing this I am unable to give any results of the survey, although information is likely to be available elsewhere. However, I am pleased to report that the completed surveys represented some 59% of those distributed which I believe to be a very good rate of return for such a survey.

The Council has received a quote for a new canopy for the Jubilee Seat in the style of the adjacent village sign. This should be more durable than the current one, but the planning status is currently being checked as the seat is located within the conservation area.

Plans by a working party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next June are coming on well and celebrations will include lighting a beacon and a street party. The Council has agreed in principle to assist with some funding towards the costs and it is hoped as many as possible will participate.

A request has been made for first aid training and in particular how to use a defibrillator. The Council is looking to see how this can be provided and any guidance would be appreciated. Please email me or the clerk.

The next meeting of the Council will be on the 27th January 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. The Clerk can be contacted at zmpcouncil@gmail.com and myself acchandler@btinternet.com

Andrew Chandler, Chairman
07831 167728

QUOTE FOR JANUARY

'I love beginnings. If I were in charge of calendars, every day would be January 1st'.

Jerry Spinelli,
American author of children's books

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ST PETER'S CHURCH

Dear Parishioners

A happy new year to you all from St Peter's Church.

2021 has come and gone very quickly as we have become used to a different way of life in continuing to live with Covid 19. The roll out of the vaccines is hopefully making a difference but as new variants come along we still need to be cautious and follow the government guidelines. However, we managed to have regular worship resuming to a more settled pattern.

On Remembrance Sunday our bell ringers greeted the congregation with a muffled peal. For those of you who do not know what happens, this is when the bells have a leather collar put on one side of the clapper resulting in one round sounding normal, the other round in shadow. The bells are rung like this for funerals and other sombre occasions.

Rota of duties for January.

January 2, 10.00am	Christmas 2 (Epiphany)	Lay led Family service
Old Testament reading	Isaiah 60: 1-6	Mr Tony Brealy
New Testament reading	Matthew 2: 1-12	Becky and Jocie Harvey
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers
	Altar Flowers 2 & 9 January	Margaret Down
	Church cleaner	Mrs Sally Rowden
January 9, 6.30pm	Epiphany 1 & Plough Sunday	C W E
Old Testament	Isaiah 43: 1-7	Mrs Isabel Harris
New Testament	Acts 8: 14-17	Mr Robert Peck
Gospel	Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22	Rev D. Rowbottom
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy
January 23, 3.00pm	Epiphany 3	BCP Evensong
Old Testament	Genesis 14: 7-20	Mrs Jane Hogg
New Testament	Luke 4: 14-21	Miss Lynn Warren
	Sidesman	Mr Colin Crothers
	Altar Flowers 16 & 23 January	Miss Lynn Warren

On December 4 we held a very successful Advent Fayre in the Village Hall. The sum raised was a magnificent £685.00. The full balance sheet is on display at the back of the church. Thank you to everyone who ran the stalls, donated items and came along and supported us on a not very pleasant afternoon weather wise.

As we come to the beginning of a new year I would like to express my sincere thanks to all who participated in any way to the life of the church in 2021: The Rev David Rowbottom who, although retired, comes regularly to lead our CommonWorship Eucharist when Robert is unavailable; our readers, bell ringers, altar flower arrangers, church cleaners, churchyard mowers and tidiers, together with all who supported the church financially by the Parish Giving Scheme, annual

and monthly donations, weekly envelopes or offertory. All this support is invaluable to the smooth running of St Peter's. **Thank you one and all.**

If you would like to join our list of volunteers please let me know, the rotas run to December 31. Our financial year begins on January 1.

Cross Country

The Cross Country magazine serves both the North Creedy East and North Creedy West mission communities and it contains news from each of the eighteen parishes. The year begins in February. If you would like to continue to receive it or would like a copy by either hard copy or via email, please let me know by 15th January, then I will order the number required. The annual cost is £6 per annum, payment by February please, which can then be forwarded to the mission community treasurer.

Margaret



*Many thanks to
David Bowyer for
these pictures of the
very busy
Advent Fayre*

Take a look at January's Garden Advice, from Bow Garden Centre.

1. Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch.
2. Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already. Turning the soil will expose pests to hungry birds, helping you keep your pest population under control.
3. Protect any tender plants with fleece or take them into the greenhouse.
4. Prune apple and pear trees while they are dormant, between leaf fall and bud burst, and apply winter tree wash and pheromone moth traps. Now is a great time to do this.
5. Use this time to carry out any repair work in your garden. Fix fences, garden gates and furniture now, ready for the spring
6. Plan, plan, plan! Whilst you've got some spare time, take a few minutes to plan your garden for spring time planting. Bow Garden Centre has a large selection of seeds to choose from, so you can start planning now.
7. Get your propagation needs now - such as seed compost, plant pots and trays. Be prepared so that you are ready to get ahead for the season.
8. If you have planted potatoes in planters take them into the greenhouse to avoid them getting frost damage.
9. Continue to provide food and water for birds. It's particularly hard for them at this time of year with the cold weather conditions and reduction in the number of food sources accessible to them.



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A QUIZ OF FIRSTS – HAPPY NEW YEAR

1. Which fairy tale adaptation became Disney's first full length animated film?
2. Who was the first person to win two Nobel Prizes?
3. Which James Bond book was published first?
4. Of the twelve James Bond books, which was made into the first James Bond film?
5. Who was the first wife of Henry VIII?
6. What is the first sign of the Zodiac?
7. Which is the first book in the Narnia series by C.S. Lewis?
8. What was the name of the first dog in space?
9. Who was the first actor to play Dr Who?
10. Which city was the first capital of the modern day kingdom of Italy?
11. Leila Williams was an original presenter of which BBC programme?
12. Which tennis player was the first ever to be a qualifier in a Grand Slam tournament and go on to win it?
13. What was the name of Elton John's first single to make the UK charts?
14. Who were the first visitors to see the Baby Jesus?
15. What position did Carol Ann Duffy hold in 2009?

Minute Quiz

These countries all have their vowels removed; can you name them?

1. CND
2. STRL
3. RGY
4. LGR
5. STN
6. ND

Answers from the Christmas Quiz

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Capricorn | 9. Mexico |
| 2. The Night Before Christmas | 10. 5 reindeer: Dasher, Dancer, Cupid, Donner, Rudolph |
| 3. Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar | 11. Prague |
| 4. Hen | 12. Matthew & Luke |
| 5. 6 | 13. Precious load, or Mary |
| 6. £3.50 | 14. Sandringham |
| 7. Holly and Ivy | 15. O Little Town of Bethlehem |
| 8. Silent Night | |

Minute Quiz Carols

1. Silent Night
2. The First Noel
3. O come all ye Faithful

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CLIMATE CATASTROPHE: SAVE THE PLANET-BIRDS

The red list of Britain's most endangered species has increased to 70 with the recently added swift and house martin. These migratory birds winter in Africa, and arrive back in the UK in late March/early April, leaving again in September or October. They nest in colonies and return to the same nests every year. The nest is made of mud pellets mixed with grass and lined with feathers and vegetable fibre.

Even just a few years ago, they were regularly nesting locally in the eaves of houses and other buildings but, recently, I have noticed a shocking decline. The reasons include climatic changes which may have affected their over-wintering sites, caused migratory routes to become more difficult and created wetter and colder summers. Changes in farming practices can reduce their food source. A reduction of suitable nesting sites due to loss of old farm buildings, a lack of appropriate sites and increasingly negative attitudes to birds nesting in, or on, peoples' property all have had an impact. In addition, some years we have had very dry springs, resulting in fewer muddy patches with which to construct their nests.

We can take positive actions to encourage and support their survival. First, see it from the birds' point of view: they've flown 6000 miles from Africa and arrive here exhausted, needing to rest and concentrate on regaining strength before breeding, only to find their old nest is gone. This forces them to build a new one from scratch, a process that can take two to three weeks and involve more than 1000 beaks full of mud. We are the top predator on the planet which we share and we must concede some inconveniences for the survival of other species.

Some people find the bird droppings a nuisance. But rather than destroying the nests and discouraging the birds, we could reduce the mess by laying a plastic bag weighted down with stones on the ground below; this can be regularly replaced. Or fix a shelf 250mm wide about two metres below the nest to catch the droppings. Creating a muddy pool or puddle where birds can collect nesting material is helpful, especially during a dry spring. We could also make nests, or buy artificial ones, to fix under eaves. <https://devonhousemartins.org.uk/information/how-to-make-a-house-martin-nest/>

Planting native trees, shrubs and wild flowers will further increase insect populations to keep them and other insectivores well fed.

Further information available from the RSPB

NB It is illegal to remove a nest while it is being built or in use

Erica Eden

Edited version also published in Bow & Arrow January 2021

ROBERT ARNOLD, BAKER - from humble beginnings

Robert Arnold, born in 1845 in Cheselbourne, Dorset, was the fourth son of a labourer. In such circumstances, he could be considered to be fortunate to have been taken on as a “miller’s boy” in nearby Cerne Abbas, as an apprenticeship would cost more than a labourer could afford. Nonetheless, by 1871 he was working as a miller and baker and so it must be assumed that he did, in fact, receive training as an apprentice, even if his father couldn’t pay for it. He lived at Bank Cottage in Cerne Abbas and worked at the mill next door until 1882. He married Emily Shepherd in 1868 and five of their children were born in Cerne Abbas.

In 1879 an advert was placed in the Western Times offering to let, in Zeal Monachorum, “a substantial built house late in the occupation of Mrs Elizabeth Castle, deceased, in which a small grocery business has been carried on the last 25 years, together with a carpenter’s shop, garden, bake-house, flour loft, stables etc”. This is Temperance Cottage where Henry Pady, the baker was moving to Australia.

Robert Arnold with his wife Emily and five children moved there 1882 and by the following year he was listed in the Devon trade directory as baker and shopkeeper at Temperance Cottage. They transferred their membership of a Methodist Chapel in Dorset to the Zeal Monachorum Chapel and their three children, born in Zeal, were baptised there. Sadly, Emily died in 1890 and their oldest daughter Annie, who herself has a year-old son, took on the care of the children and the household as well as working in the shop and bakery. In 1894 Robert married Mary Jane Challice from Lapford. It’s likely they met through the Chapel as she was a member of Lapford Chapel and members in the area would often go to other chapels to hear visiting preachers. The bakery and shop appeared to thrive and Robert trained his sons Robert, Thomas, James and John as bakers. He also installed a large “60 quartern bread oven”. A quartern is a loaf of 4lbs in weight sold as full or half quarterns. It seems, from the name, that the oven would bake 60 loaves at a time.

Bread making was hard physical work requiring a very early start. Mechanical dough mixers were not generally available during Robert Arnold’s time and some needed electricity which did not come to Zeal until much later. The dough would be kneaded in a trough. I found this description of the task: “the closed knuckles must be violently thrust into a huge mass of tenacious dough, which must be raised by the muscular effort of the arms, and turned and tossed over repeatedly with the most violent exertion. The workman who performs this hard task has consequently received the too-expressive appellation of moaner, because the exhausting nature of his toil is betrayed by the heavy stifled groans which it forces from his chest. Every part of his body is soon overflowing with perspiration, which falls in large drops, and is amalgamated with the dough he is kneading; and he is entirely overwhelmed with fatigue by the time he has reached the end of his killing labour.”

Robert ran the bakery and shop for an incredible 43 years, adding farmer to his other occupations by 1911. His second wife Mary Jane died in 1917, and Robert died in February 1925, aged 80. Probate showed the value of his effects as £2397 12s; a considerable amount at that time. They included Temperance, Rose and Elm Cottages, Gutter Pit Meadow and other properties in Lapford.

His son Robert established a successful bakery in Exeter but in July 1925 he was painting the outside of 'the shop' when an ox cart caught the ladder he was on and he fell and broke his neck and died. He left an even larger inheritance to his widow Emma of £9364 13s 3d. Robert senior's other children James and Louisa Mary lived in Temperance and Rose Cottages respectively but they both died in 1927 leaving over £600 each to their sister Annie who had married John Blackmore an engineer; they lived in Exeter and she died in 1947. Thomas died of a coughing spell in 1930. Joseph moved to Canada and died in 1951.

Past Zeal resident Queenie Cockwill born in 1915 remembered Robert Arnold's shop with its bakery down the drangway beside it and that Miss Louie Arnold used Rose Cottage, next door, for storage and for the sale of crockery, pots, pans, tin kettles etc.

Erica Eden



Archive photo no. 410 Early 1900s Rose Cottage and Temperance Cottage & Shop, Western Road. Photo courtesy of Sue Hocking.

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NORTH TAWTON BOWLING CLUB

There was a good turnout at our recent Annual General Meeting, the first for two years. There were accolades for the excellent green-keepers Rob Arscott and Dave Cooper who, along with a merry band of volunteers, ensured that we had a playing surface in superb condition throughout the summer season.

Also in line for an accolade was Club President Mike Thwaites who was awarded Life Membership of the club in recognition of his many years of service and, in particular, his efforts in establishing our new clubhouse, which opened in 2017.

After the formalities while we enjoyed cheese and biscuits along with a drink from our bar, President Mike awarded trophies to the worthy winners of this season's club competitions – some of which are pictured below.



Ladies Pairs winners: Chris Ainger and Jan Summers, trophy presented by President Mike Thwaites



Ladies Triples winners: Margaret Denham, Chris Ainger & Margaret Arscott, with President Mike Thwaites

North Tawton Bowling Club offers facilities for bowling throughout the year, both indoors during the winter months from October to April, and outdoors on our fabulous green during the spring and summer. Our club is located in North Street in a former walled garden and the site truly is a hidden gem. Bowls is a very sociable game which gives a gentle level of exercise for both mind and body. If you would like to try it out contact Jan Summers on 01363 82571, you will be given a very warm welcome.

PLATINUM JUBILEE

On 6 February 2022 The Queen becomes the first monarch in the United Kingdom to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, having served 70 years on the throne. Throughout the year Platinum Jubilee celebrations will take place across the UK and around the world bringing people together to celebrate The Queen's historic reign. There will be an extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June, providing opportunities for people throughout the country to celebrate this historic milestone.

In Zeal, a small group has formed to co-ordinate a series of events and activities intended to give everyone in our community the chance to enjoy our own celebrations, and to mark this momentous occasion. We need to raise funds to meet the costs of some of the planned events, and we have already made a start on this. At every market between now and next June we are holding a series of challenges for a small entry fee, each one offering prizes. Our goal is to ensure that all Jubilee events are either free of charge or offered at minimal cost because we want to ensure that as many residents as possible, of all ages, can participate. We are grateful for the support of the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee, the WI and the Waie Inn. Here is what we are planning:

Before the Bank Holiday, households will be invited to create a display in a window or outside their home; it could be in any form – to tie in with the theme 'Royal'. This will be judged by our District Councillor, Peter Heal, early in Jubilee week and prizes will be awarded later over the weekend.

On **Thursday 2 June** there will be a display in the village hall of materials held in the Zeal Archive, we are grateful to Erica Eden for organising this. Erica will also be co-ordinating a Yard Sale which was very popular earlier this year. (This will be held on Friday in the event of inclement weather). On Thursday evening we will be lighting a beacon in Drummers Field, behind Churchill Gardens, as part of a nationwide event. Before the lighting we hope people will gather at the Waie Inn where food will be available to sustain us all for the walk up the hill.

On **Friday 3 June** the Archive display will still be on and we are also planning to run a fun Dog Show for our canine residents and their owners.

On **Saturday 4 June** Zeal WI will be hosting Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall. We have kept the evening free for people who might want to watch the Live Concert at Buckingham Palace which will be shown on TV.

On **Sunday 5 June** we finish our celebrations with a Big Street Party. There are still some details and locations to be finalised and we will be releasing more information in the coming months. But everyone can get in the mood and help us with the fund-raising by coming along to our monthly markets and testing themselves with our challenges.

Jubilee Group: Ali Birchwhite, Sally Rowden, Mandy Smith, Jan Summers, Hazel Wainwright.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Our Village Markets have attracted lots of visitors over the last few months and it is really pleasing to see so many people come along to see what is on offer. Our markets are always held on the second Saturday of every month and regular stalls include cakes and savouries from Jan and Kayleigh, Emma's lovely cards and craft creations, eggs from Serstone Farm, refurbished tools from Hogwash run by Ken & Jane Hogg, home-grown vegetables from Margaret Down, books, bric-a-brac and more from Lois in aid of the Foodbank, and also from Sue and Martyn Down. Apart from the opportunity to buy locally, the market is a chance to sit and enjoy a piece of home-made cake with a cup of tea or coffee over a natter with friends. It's well worth a visit.

The next social event at the hall will be the Annual Christmas Party, which is on Saturday 8 January. We call it a Christmas party although it will be after Twelfth Night, but we've never yet been able to fit it in before Christmas. Also, after all the excitement and activity of the festive season January can often be a bit quiet, so we think it's a good time for a get together. It's a very informal evening with a Bring and Share supper, including bringing your own drink and glasses and, after the feasting, by way of entertainment we'll play a few party games and then we have a draw. So come along on 8 January at 6.30pm and enjoy a bit of fun with us.

The next event after that will be a Quiz and Pasty night on Friday 18 February starting at 7.00pm. Teams of up to 6 people can enter for a charge of £5 per head; this will include a pasty and your first drink of wine or cider. There will also be a draw which will take place while the winners of the quiz are being identified. Advance booking is essential for catering purposes – please call Jan Summers on 01363 82571.

Our Annual General Meeting on 29 November, was well attended by members of the public, some of whom were elected or co-opted to the committee. At a subsequent meeting on 6 December the following officers were elected:

Ken Down, Chairman [82204]; Sally Rowden, Vice Chairperson [82531];
Jan Summers, Secretary [82571]; Margaret Harris, Treasurer [82251].

Committee members stand for the year to November 2022 and, in addition to the officers listed above, include:

Simon Allanson Bailey; David Bowyer; Colin Crothers, (PCC rep);
Rupert Dodge; Margaret Down (Beer); Sue Down; Raj Panchal;
Marian Quick, (WI rep); Becky Ringrose.

If you have any requests or concerns please contact one of the officers listed above. If there are any events you would like us to organise please let any member of the committee know and we will do our best to accommodate your ideas.

CREDITON FOODBANK

Every Christmas since 2011 Zeal Monachorum has never failed to deliver to those in need, and this year is no exception. Indeed, not just at Christmas; in the other 11 months of the year the Foodbank received food parcels and monetary donations from Zeal Monachorum villagers. How amazing is that, your generosity knows no bounds. Jan Brealy and I have this year had the pleasure of being joined by Kayleigh, a young woman very new to the village, helping us with the collection. What a difference a young pair of legs makes. We were amazed yet again at the extent of your generosity. We collected twenty-five bags of Christmas goodies, tinned food, soaps, toothpaste etc. and £615. Thank you never seems enough. It sincerely is so very much appreciated.

Many thanks to Simon Grose for checking and signing off the Financial Return which he does every year. Thank you, Simon.

I would like to say welcome to those who are new to the village and to say thank you to those of you who have been able to join with us. We hope and pray you have all had a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS in spite of Covid, and that the New Year will bring many Blessings to you all.



There is no WI report this month but the happy faces in these pictures show just how much they enjoyed their Christmas meal at the Waie Inn.



HOW THE INTERNET STARTED, According to the bible

In ancient Israel, a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of Dorothy (Dot for short). Dot Com was a comely woman, large of breast, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com. And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?". And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and hard and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent. And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are." And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "YAHOO," said Abraham. And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside. It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

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