

FREE

MONACHORUM MATTERS

The newsletter for Zeal Monachorum and St Peter's Parish



Picture by Susie & Mike Bostock

Issue 44, January 2023

EDITORIAL

As we move into 2023, I thought you might appreciate a reminder of the changes to our waste collection in the first weeks of the New Year: instead of our usual Monday collections the vans will call on **Wednesday 4 January** for Food Waste, garden waste and non-recyclable waste, and on **Tuesday 10 January** for food waste and recycling. Back to normal on Monday 16 January.

It's now 3½ years since we launched Monachorum Matters and, as it's a new year, I thought it might be good to have a new look, at least on the cover. Please let me know what you think of it; call Jan on 82571, email jansummerszm@gmail.com. And, on the subject of covers, I always like to use photos taken by our own villagers and many of you out there take superb shots. Please send me your favourite scenes – I may not be able to use them immediately but I store them in my 'photobank' for later use. Similarly, many of our readers enjoy reading about family stories, historical tales and memories from yesteryear, so please keep them coming in.

Finally, let me tell you about the annual the Village Party at the hall on **Sat 28 January at 7pm** with a draw and entertainment. Bring your own food, drink and glasses, admission on the door £1. Everyone welcome.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to all our readers and advertisers.

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE: 8 JANUARY

Our newsletter is printed by Burridge Printers of North Tawton

The advertisement features a dark background with large, bold, teal text. At the top, it reads 'YOUR LOCAL DESIGN & PRINT'. Below this, there are two logos: 'bsharpdesigns' with a stylized house icon and the tagline '- LOCAL DESIGN, FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES -', and 'Burridge Printers' with a circular logo and the tagline 'digital • branding • packaging'. Contact information for both is provided, including email addresses and a phone number. The address 'Upper Depot, Devonshire Gardens, North Tawton EX20 2ES' is listed at the bottom, along with social media icons for Facebook and Instagram.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

CALLING KNITTERS AND CROCHET EXPERTS

Please can you help make red poppies throughout this year? We aim to create an impressive display for Remembrance in November 2023, wool and patterns can be supplied if needed. Please call Hazel Wainwright on 82216.

THANKS

Ken, Jane, Graham and Ruth would like to thank everyone who came to the party at the Waie on 9th December. The Waie's food, as always, fantastic and the efforts of Sue and the staff with Christmas decorations was very special, it was much appreciated. Philip of PGLive entertained us and I think everyone who came enjoyed themselves so keep a space in your diary for next year's Zeal Bash. We raised money from the raffle and have a donation for the Air ambulance.

MOBILE LIBRARY

Have you got that brand new diary at the ready? Here are the 2023 dates to satisfy your reading habit, all on Fridays between 1.10 and 1.45pm at Waie Cross: 20 Jan, 17 Feb, 17 Mar, 14 Apr, 12 May, 9 Jun, 7 Jul, 4 Aug, 1 Sep, 29 Sep, 27 Oct, 24 Nov

If you've never been on the Mobile - make it your new year resolution to give it a try. There are not that many public services that come to Zeal Monachorum - this one is free and friendly and full of interesting books that you get to take away to enjoy for a month or two. You can join immediately, no ID necessary. There are no fines if you return them late.

0345 155 1001 www.devonlibraries.org.uk

RAINFALL

Rainfall for November - 154 mm.

AUDIO NEWSLETTER

For those who have difficulty reading the newsletter because of visual impairment, an audio version is available. Contact Mike Bostock on 82341.

VILLAGE EVENTS IN JANUARY

Every Weds	Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12 noon at Village Hall
Wed 4 Jan	WI, 7.15 for 7.30pm at Village Hall see page 7
Mon 9 Jan	Zeal Explorers Village Walk, 2pm at bus stop
Weds 11 Jan	Bingo - doors open 7pm, starts 7.30pm at Village Hall
Sat 14 Jan	Market, 10.00 - 11.30am at Village Hall
Wed 18 Jan	Film Night, 7 for 7.30pm at Village Hall, see back page
Fri 20 Jan	Mobile Library, 1.10 - 1.40pm at Waie Cross
Thu 26 Jan	Parish Council, 7pm at Village Hall
Sat 28 Jan	Village Party, Bring & Share, 7pm at Village Hall



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ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

2022 has come and gone very quickly. A year when we celebrated the Platinum Jubilee in June of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a long weekend of events. It was therefore with great sadness that we mourned her death in early September. Each ending brings a new beginning with the Accession of King Charles III, a year we have not seen the like of before.

On Remembrance Sunday our bell ringers greeted the congregation with a muffled peal as we welcomed our friends from Bow, Colebrooke and Down St Mary. The offertory was donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

On Advent Sunday we again welcomed a good number of members of our Mission Community when Rev Gordon led a service of Advent Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion. This was a really joyful occasion to celebrate the New Year of the church.

Below is the rota of duties for January.

January 1 at 10.00am *Mission Community Eucharist at Knowle for New Year's Day* *Rev Robert Gordon*

January 8 at 6.30pm	Epiphany & Plough Sunday	C W E
Old Testament	Isaiah 42: 1-9	Miss Lynn Warren
New Testament	Acts 10: 34-43	Mr Robert Peck
Gospel	Matthew 3: 13-17	Rev D. Robottom
	Sidesman	Mr Tony Brealy
	Flowers 8 & 15	Miss Lynn Warren
	Cleaner	Mrs Sally Rowden

January 15 **No Service**

January 22 at 3.00pm	Epiphany 3	BCP Evensong
Old Testament	Isaiah 9: 1-4	Mrs Jane Hogg
New Testament	Matthew 4: 12-23	Miss Lynn Warren
Sidesman		Mr Colin Crothers
	Altar Flowers 22 & 29 January	Mrs Sally Rowden

January 29 10.00am *Mission Community Eucharist at Down St Mary*

From the registers: Interment of Ashes, December 3rd Walter Frederick Mears

On November 26th we held our Advent Fayre in the Village Hall. The sum raised was £477.67. The full balance sheet is on display at the back of the church. Thank you to everyone who ran the stalls, donated items and all who came along and supported us. A special thank you to Margaret Harris for her magnificent cakes.

Finances January 1 is the beginning of our new financial year and it is a real benefit to the church if we have regular income. If you would like to make a donation by weekly envelope, monthly or annually by standing order or join the Parish Giving scheme or, if you are new to our parish and would like more details, please contact our treasurer Becky Tel 07841 027617

Cross Country

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

Margaret (Churchwarden)

ZEAL MONACHORUM WI

Goodness me, here we are again, so soon it seems, having our Christmas dinner at the Waie Inn. With 25 attending, nearly a full contingency of members. We began with a complimentary drink courtesy of our WI (with the blessing of our treasurer, of course). Our starters, mains and desserts were followed by games, a raffle and President's prizes which were won by Tina Bowyer, Hazel Wainwright and Margaret Denham. It was all jolly good fun as illustrated by the pictures below. Huge thanks to the Waie as usual, they never let us down.



For our next meeting on January 4 the speaker will be a member of Exeter Street Pastors. This should be an interesting and eye-opening talk, please feel free to attend if it sparks an interest. The competition will be a winter photograph.

Jan Brealy

THE WAIE INN

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Full Menu: 12pm - 9pm (8pm on Sundays)



- Indoor & outdoor seating available (indoor table reservations to be made in advance where possible)
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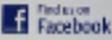
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Bow and District Historical Society

Bow and District Historical Society is a friendly group of people who welcome everyone—whether you know a lot about history, very little, or are just interested in learning more. They meet on the 4th Monday of each month at Bow village Hall, 7.15 for 7.30 start, for a presentation by someone who really knows their subject. This is followed by tea, coffee, biscuits with time to chat afterwards. You can pay on the door for an annual membership of £15 or come as a visitor for £4. No need to book, just turn up.

Next meeting on **23 January** with **Prof James Clark on Exeter's medieval monasteries**. On 27 February, Emma Curtis - Ancient trackways on Dartmoor. On 27 March Dr Peter Selley - Grave Robbing and Body Snatching in Devon.

Erica Eden

A QUIZ FOR JANUARY – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

1. The Elizabeth Line (Cross Rail) opened in London last year but what colour is it on the map?
2. What is a Clerihew?
3. If you saw a Dolmen on Dartmoor, what are you looking at?
4. Stanley is the capital of which island group?
5. In which district of London is 'Call the Midwife' set?
6. What does Wi Fi stand for?
7. How many pockets does a snooker table have?
8. Australian Dame Nellie Melba won fame as what?
9. What term is used for animals with a backbone and spinal column?
10. Who won November's 'I'm A Celebrity Get me out of Here'?
11. Where would you find Victor, Mike and Romeo listed together?
12. What word, meaning a tiny amount, is taken from the 9th letter of the Greek alphabet?
13. How is a 'soubriquet' more commonly known?
14. Rabat is the capital of which North African country?
15. What is the term for the location where honey beehives are kept?

And , if you only have a minute.....

Where will the next World Cup be held in 2026?

Answers on Page 14

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES FROM TONY HUBERY

These were games we played towards the end of WW2, rationing in full swing, no toys being manufactured. To us it had always been like this, we were born into it.

It was an inter-war housing estate in the middle of the Black Country, built on the slopes of the Rowley Hills. Deep quarries filled with water to make lakes or being filled with the district's rubbish, the Tip. Great for young fishermen with a broken broom stick, string and a matchstick float, or searching the rubbish for saleable brass or lead or anything of interest. And most boys love to rush headfirst into danger.

Pram axles and wheels, a plank of wood and a length of rope from the Tip, stir together and you have a trolley. Put the trolley and a young boy at the top of a hill and you have a mindless missile that will produce tragedy, or ecstasy and either one will be full of fun. These wonderful monstrosities start to appear when the switch inside the young male mind turned, in some unknown and unknowable way, to "trolley season". The best trolleys had small front wheels and larger back ones, which of course meant finding two old prams from the Tip, one was hard enough to fight for, but two took a degree of military skill known only to a few. The best planks were heavy scaffold planks for the body and floorboard planks for the steering bar and again, these were hard to find, especially if you were late in seeing the switch for the start of the season. Wood tended to disappear quickly because everyone had open fires.

These games and all the boys' activities followed each other in a complicated series of seasons. We all played the same games in the same season. No one knew when one season started and another ended, it was just a law of life and seemed as natural as breathing.

It was the same for the girls of course, but they had different games in different seasons. For now, they lived on another planet and were foreigners, like parents, and shopkeepers, not quite the weird mysterious monsters called teachers and policemen, but they were foreigners and spoke a different language, for now.

Season: The adrenalin flowed with the wind in your hair and if you held the stick at just the right point on the wheel and at the right angle, you could run as fast as you could run, with the wheel racing by your side. You could guide it with gentle touches of the stick on either side of the rim and you were the master of gravity and centrifugal force, the athletic skill was something to see.

Season: From the thumb and forefinger, you shot your marble at the chalked ring containing two marbles for each player. If you could knock out marbles from the ring without your shooter staying in the ring, those marbles were yours, won fair and square. Your shot needed to be accurate and strong, trying to hit a half inch diameter target from a distance of eighteen inches, with enough force to send both marbles out of the six-inch ring was a grand skill to hold over the others. Derrick could not only do that, but on a regular basis he was so accurate that he could cannon off the target marble to knock out two, three and sometimes even all of the marbles out of the ring, he was a winner. But Derrick had a shooter marble, red

veined and worn rough so that it did not slip on his fingers. It looked the part in that cut-throat game of “ringy”, this shooter was called a snake, and only the top marble players could win them and hang on to them. I had shiny new marbles bought from the shop, they looked pretty, but had no sting, and they would soon be lost to Derrick.

More from Tony in the February issue.

PARISH COUNCIL

The November Parish Council meeting was held on the 24th. After approving the minutes from the previous meeting an Open Forum was held. Concerns were expressed about the height of hedges in Western Road. Once again there were queries about the progress on providing allotments. This has been ongoing for many months, with no success. If anyone can think of a suitable site, it would provide another excellent facility for the village.

We had reports from both Mid Devon and Devon County councillors, mostly about the cuts in funds from central government. I think £65 million was mentioned at one point, they are bound to make reductions to the services they provide. I think we will all have to be patient about pot holes for the time being.

There followed a discussion on the village hall refurbishment project and various views were aired. The decision was made not to take a vote on whether to support the project as it was an idea in its early stages and, as yet, there are not enough agreed details about what is proposed.

There were 3 items for planning discussion: a croquet pavilion at Reeves castle and new windows at Yew Tree Cottage, both approved. The third item concerned the units at Serstone. Rob Peck and Mark Burrows declared an interest and left the meeting. The council voted to make no comment on the application. As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 8.20pm. The next meeting will be held on January 26th 2023 at 7pm.

Rob Peck, Chairman

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FISHING CLUB CHAT

Hi All

Happy New Year to you all. We have been so busy and haven't done any more work down at the lake. Here's another call out for anyone who needs any willow, you can help yourself at the lakeside. It is ideal for any budding basket weavers or hurdle makers. WI, please take note, it could be your next project!

We are still negotiating grant money to carry out our new facilities, we will keep you all informed. As for our next year's fees, juniors stay the same at £16 per year and I am afraid with our insurance increase, adults will have to pay £50 for the year, which is still very reasonable. Please can we have this money in before the end of January to make sure we have all the members catered for. Day tickets will stay the same at £5 per day for adults and £3 per day for juniors.

Tight lines

Ken and Jane

PS Thank you to whoever left fishing gear on our doorstep last month, it is very much appreciated.



Answers to Quiz on Page 11

1. Purple
2. A non-sensical poem
3. A burial chamber or tomb with standing stones and a horizontal stone on top
4. The Falkland Islands
5. Poplar
6. Wireless Fidelity
7. 6
8. An opera singer
9. A vertebrate
10. Jill Scott MBE
11. The NATO phonetic alphabet
12. Iota
13. A nickname
14. Morocco
15. An apiary

The next world cup is to be held jointly in Canada, the US and Mexico

QUOTE

‘January looks forward to the new year and back to the old year. He sees past and future.’ *M.L. Stedman, Author*

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

At the Village Hall AGM on 21 November the new committee was formed comprising: representatives of Parish Council (Ken Down), Parochial Church Council (Colin Crothers) and WI (Marian Quick), elected and co-opted members: Simon Allanson-Bailey, David Bowyer, Martyn Down, Sue Down, Erica Eden, Margaret Harris, Sally Rowden and Jan Summers. At the first Management Committee meeting in December Erica Eden was elected as Chair, Sally Rowden, Jan Summers and Margaret Harris were re-elected as Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. At the AGM after Officers' annual reports the following document on plans to refurbish the Village Hall was presented:

As a result of the survey carried out in 2021 to investigate the desire for a new Village Hall, in February the Village Hall Committee agreed to form a sub-committee to take forward refurbishment ideas and to seek expert advice on options, costs and grant opportunities. At a second vote in September the committee agreed to proceed with the project and, this month, a grant application for £10,000 was submitted to National Lottery Awards for All. If successful, this grant will fund the majority of the costs of architect and other specialist services to seek planning permission for the refurbishment.

In the summer three architects were interviewed to identify approximate costs of stage 1. The sub-committee has not given any consideration as to which, if any, of the architects interviewed it would recommend to be appointed. If the grant application is successful, consultations with the community will begin to bring ideas together. The following ideas have been identified but it must be emphasised that no decisions have been made on any of them. More ideas and comments are encouraged so that they can be brought together for consultations.

The issues to be addressed and possible solutions

The ageing extensions to the rear are increasingly difficult to maintain - they suffer from damp and cold, are awkward and inconvenient and not fit for a modern hall. It is proposed to replace the rear and east extensions with a modern-built wrap-around extension incorporating the exterior areas which currently have no use or purpose. The new extensions might include: a welcoming entrance hall/foyer/lobby, a larger more convenient kitchen with lower hatch, giving catering access to the hall, high quality toilets and cloakroom, a meeting/multi-purpose room, improved and more accessible storage.

Ideas relating to the overall site – what we would like to achieve

- Reductions in emissions through improved insulation and alternative energy sources e.g. solar, battery storage and heat pumps,
- Affordable and rapid warmth from heating,
- Improved access and usability across the site for those with disabilities,
- Internet connectivity and wi-fi,
- Parking.

Specific ideas for the main building

- More inviting and comfortable environment,
- Improved heating, ventilation, lighting, sound system,
- Blackout provision for films and projections,
- Improvements to the stage area and its access, or replace with portable staging,
- Redecoration throughout.

One idea for improving access is to move the telegraph pole at the Churchill Gardens end of the pavement which would enable entrance on foot/wheelchair to the west playground with a ramp to give step-free access to the entrance hall/foyer

.Simon Allanson-Bailey, Jan Summers, David Bowyer, Erica Eden

CREDITON FOODBANK CHRISTMAS HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION

At the end of November, I was asked if I would collect a donation of food for the Foodbank which, of course, I was delighted to do. It filled the back of my car! I already had two bags to take plus £80, so this greatly swelled November's collection. Thank you so much for all those donations, it was amazing. As always, it was accepted at the Foodbank with much appreciation.

On December 5th Jan Brealy and I started the Christmas house to house collection. The weather was perfect, dry and sunny, making it a pleasure to be out and about. We met many lovely, friendly people, new acquaintances and old, who were only too pleased to be able to donate. At the end of our first day, we were truly blessed having received much needed food including Christmas puddings, mince pies, small gifts for children and even Christmas crackers! All of these things we see as normal at Christmas but for those in need, these have become out of reach luxuries. To our amazement, at the end of the day, when the money was counted, it added up to more than the whole of last year's donations.

Day two was equally blessed with a generosity that the Foodbank does not take for granted. In fact, this year Christmas has been the highlight of such generous giving. Day three was our day off for a breather. We are getting older of course but still enjoy doing what we were called to do. Days three and four we were following up on homes where residents were either out or needed more time. Day five, all offers were wonderfully delivered.

Then WOW, it was the time to add up the money which was so graciously given, with smiles and loving care for those who are in desperate need.

This year, residents of Zeal Monachorum Parish have donated 28 bags of food, toiletries, festive fare and £1,400. YOU ARE AMAZING. Many thanks go out to Simon Grose who every year signs off the Financial Returns that go to the Licensing Department at Mid Devon Council Tiverton

May God Bless each and every one of you, not just those who donate on our journey round the village but those of you who donate all year round and at supermarkets. THANK YOU. WHERE GOD GUIDES GOD PROVIDES!

January 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. Take a walk around your Winter garden, and look for gaps where you could add some Winter colour.
7. Plan, plan, plan! Whilst you've got some time spare, take a minute to plan your garden for Spring time planting. Bow Garden Centre have a large selection of seeds and bulbs in store to choose from, so you can start planning now!
8. 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.
9. If you have planted potatoes in planters take them into the greenhouse to avoid them getting frost damage.
10. Continue to provide food and water for birds. It's particularly hard for them this time of year with the cold weather conditions and reduction in the number of food sources accessible to them.

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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WEDNESDAY 18th JANUARY

DOORS 7 P.M. STARTS 7.30 P.M.

TICKETS £4.00