

Welcome to the ..FEBRUARY 2010... issue of Minster Matters

The Editors accept all advertisements, articles and notices in good faith and actively encourage the support of the local traders and services. However, we cannot be held responsible for the quality of goods or services offered.

Please mention the magazine when replying to advertisers.

The magazine and CD are published eleven times a year, at the beginning of each month, from February to December, inclusive.

Views expressed herein are strictly those of their author and do not necessarily agree with those of the Editor and/or the editorial team.

MM Subscriptions

Copies of the Magazine or CD are now available on subscription to all non residents, worldwide.

Revised payments from 1st August 08 quoted below, are in advance

To a UK postal address :-Single Issue £1.50

Annually (11 issues) £14.00

Costs to an overseas address are available on request, and we will be pleased to quote for this service.

This month's meeting of Minster Parish Council

will be held on: Tuesday, 2nd February. in the Neighbourhood Centre at 7 pm.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and can arrange to speak to the Council through the Clerk or by requesting the Chairman before the start of the meeting.

Copies of the Agenda are available from the Clerk and are posted in the Library.

Clerk to the Council is Mrs Kyla Lamb and the Council Office is normally open

from:-

9.30 am - 12 noon weekdays;

tel: 821339 fax: 825269

Email: minsterpc@tiscali.co.uk

Next month's meeting will be held

on: Tuesday, 2nd March 2010.

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EDITORIAL

Didn't the Christmas break fly by, it seems only a couple of weeks since I was struggling to write my last editorial and now I've got to do it all again.

Firstly I'd like to say thank you to everyone who has complimented us on the magazine, I don't take praise too easily, it always make me feel somewhat uncomfortable, but inside, I do appreciate it, as does the rest of the team. This year, as you've probably already read on the front page, we are hoping to raise enough money to purchase a Braille Embosser to enable us to offer the magazine in yet another format and to be able to offer this service to others who may want to use it. We thank the St Nicholas and Sarre Hoodeners for getting us started towards our target and also to Audrey and Shirley for once more offering us the proceeds from their charity dance (remind me to thank them after the event as I forgot last time and was truly regretful that I did so)

I think it is now ok for me to report that our team member Nora and her husband Barry are expecting a baby boy in the Spring, (Santa told them on Christmas day what sex it was) and another of our behind the scenes members, Diane, has just told

me she has become a Nana again, to a baby girl called Nala, sorry but I don't have any more details.

Due to the imminent arrival of Norals offspring we have had to find other premises to do our audio recording, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the new manager of the Holiday Inn Express, Paul Etheridge, for his extremely kind offer, to use one of their conference suites for this purpose, free of charge, and with coffee thrown in. What more could we ask (maybe a bikini as well)

Well the snow has come and gone, and for a very short while there was a very tall snowman in the Rec, I was asked to photograph it before the younger members of the community wreaked havoc with it, which they did that very same morning. Such a pity and how things have changed, when I was younger I would have built a snowman like that it would have lasted until it finally thawed on its own, without others intervention. Any how thanks to his creators who were Thomas and William Hole, Oliver Barnes, Maximilian Shorter, Alistair Mannings and William West, it certainly looked good while it lasted fellas. (Can't have been that easy in the dark !)

Finally thank you to all my team, including deliverers, without you all this wouldn't be the success that it is, so pat yourselves on the back, you deserve it.

Thanks also to Teresa at the Gossip Shop who answered my plea for someone to take on the delivery and distribution of the magazine. She tells me she intends to get the customers involved so if you're asked to count and box some magazines for us, please don't say no. That's it, for another month.

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PATIENT LIAISON GROUP (WORKING WITH MINSTER SURGERY)

NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2010

We would like to start by wishing all of our Patients and Friends a very Happy and Healthy New Year

Verruca and Wart Clinic

Please note that this clinic will close permanently with effect from 10th February 2010. Please speak directly to Reception if you require further information.

Surgery Training Days

Please note that the surgery will close at 12.00pm on the following dates for staff training purposes:

Tuesday 23rd February , Thursday 18th March,

Tuesday 20th April, Thursday 13th May.

Should you need to see a doctor during these times please contact the „Doctors on Call Service via the normal surgery number - 821333.

May Day Fair

We are holding another "Craft Fair and Boot Fair" on Saturday 1st May at the Old Schools (for more info please see ad on page 24). Stalls for our previous fair in November sold out very quickly so if anyone wishes to hire a stall/table for this event, please contact Ken Self on 821200 as soon as possible.

Patient Liaison Group Meeting Dates

Our next meeting will be held at the Surgery on Tuesday 2nd February at 6.00pm. If anyone would like to attend or has issues they wish to raise, please contact either of the numbers shown below. All are welcome.

In the meantime if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact:

LOCAL NEWS

FUND RAISING FOR OUR BRAILLE EMBOSSER

We are pleased to report that the evenings entertainment from the St Nicholas & Sarre Hoodeners at The Saddler was extremely well attended, and across the whole of that week it is believed that somewhere around £700-£750 was raised, towards our £2.5k target, although we have yet to receive this from the group (Photo Call being arranged !!).

The next event on the calendar, where the profits will go towards this figure, is the Country & Western Charity Dance at the end of January.

Do you have any bright ideas as to what we might do to raise the shortfall ?

Any thoughts, please send your suggestions to us here at MM Towers.

If you can't come up with something worthwhile we may have to sent the guy in the red suit round to help you out

Now there's scary !!

MINSTER ACTION GROUP YELLOW LINES

Subject to any objections, Kent County Council propose, through the Kent Parking Manager, to introduce single or double yellow lines in some parts of the village.

Although a petition was introduced and signed by 672 people, indicating their wish not to have such lines in the village, the Action Group has been formed with the aim of assessing the views of villagers and those who use the village for shopping, or other pursuits.

With this in mind the group invites attendance at AN OPEN MEETING to be held in the VILLAGE HALL on SATURDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2010 at 10.00am.

Your attendance and views at the meeting will be welcome.

Any further enquiries to either telephone number 822858 or 821483

Village of the Year

For winning 2 of the 4 sections in this competition last year, Minster were awarded £500 to spend for the benefit of villagers.

The Parish Council are looking for suggestions as to what this might be used for, and to that end are asking via Minster Matters for your input.

It needs to be something that we can show to Calor that has or will benefit the local population, as they wish to know for what purpose the money has been used.

Minster Matters suggested it be used to install an Internet WiFi Hotspot in the village centre that would radiate an acceptable wireless link, for laptop users, in the area between BenIs and the Gossip Shop, and possibly beyond, but the Parish Council would like to hear of other ideas before they make any final decision.

Please send us your thoughts and ideas, by 8.00am on Tuesday 22nd February and we will pass them to the Parish Council. If you don't wish to write or email us, we have added a short poll to the village website, where you can add your thoughts.

Please visit:

<http://www.minster-in-thanel.org.uk/polling/>

LOCAL NEWS

TS Alert Message from Kent Trading Standards -Trading Standards has seen

an increase in reports of unsolicited telephone calls being used to fraudulently get people to give them money, which is particularly worrying in the cases of those who are susceptible to this.

Recent examples include callers regarding government grants, offering saving on council tax and, topically the reimbursement of bank charges. A warning was also issued by the Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) and the Office of Fair Trading about lottery criminals based in Jamaica, www.offt.gov.uk/news/press/2009/142-09 targeting the UK.

If you are in any doubt as to the nature of a call, then please don't be afraid to end the call. If the caller is claiming to be from a well known business or organisation, then check with the business or organisation itself first.

Trading Standards implores anyone not to give out their telephone number, or personal details, to people they do not know and to be especially careful about giving information away in response to unsolicited letters or emails.

The Tele Preference Service (TPS) can stop sales and marketing calls from companies who abide by the law, and you can register free on 0845 0700707 or at www.tpsonline.org.uk

But always be mindful that the type of calls highlighted in this message are made by criminal gangs - usually based abroad, who have no regard for the rules.

If you want to report a scam, and especially if you or someone you know has been a victim, please contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040 506 or visit www.consumerdirect.gov.uk/watch-out/Scams where you can report it online.

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE: Monkton Parish Church

Significant repair and maintenance work is being carried out inside the church and it is impractical to try and maintain the usual Sunday services there.

Thanks to the generosity of the Methodist Chapel we will be holding all our services at the Methodist Chapel this month. The service times and format will be the same as usual (please see page 23 for this information).

2010 MISS MINSTER SELECTION DANCE

It has come round to that time of the year again where we are looking for new girls, to put themselves forward for selection, to represent the village in 2010. **The Annual Selection Dance will take place in Minster Village Hall on 13th February at 7.30pm.** Girls must be at least 14yrs old by mid June 2010 and up to a maximum age of 20yrs. Entry to the dance is free for girls wishing to be considered.

For further details please contact Roy or Carol on 821705.

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LOCAL NEWS

POTHLES !!!

Following the recent spell of bad weather do you know of potholes in the area that need attention - **then please contact Kent Highways on 0845 824 7800 and pass the details on to them.**

Please note the very large pothole in the Co-op (Somerfields) exit road is not their responsibility.

AA PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM, THANET

Dear Editor,

I am a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, and, at a local Group I was encouraged to try to get the attached articles published in local magazines wherever

possible (part published below - full articles supplied can be read on the MM website at www.minstermatters.org.uk/aa-articles). Members of AA are asked to preserve their own anonymity but the Fellowship itself cannot afford to be invisible, so articles of this nature help AA to carry the message of hope to anyone who suffers from this fatal illness. I would be pleased to hear from you if you wish to ask any questions and I will be delighted to be of any further help.

Yours sincerely, Donald G. (Member of AA Public Information Team, Thanet). I can be contacted at: Domhna1_g@yahoo.co.uk

“Adam started drinking alcoholically at age 45 when he was a school inspector. Initially, drinking was in bouts, usually in school holidays. It had little impact on his work. But over the next four years the bouts became more frequent as promotions and a new school inspection regime increased the pressure at work. Soon, his drinking was manifesting itself in panic attacks, physical symptoms and numerous days off work. Eventually the drinking led him to five nightmare days of continuous drinking followed by a vain attempt at two days work. He could no longer function without alcohol. His body could take no more and his life was only saved by urgent hospitalisation. But the hospital introduced Adam to AA where he embraced AA’s 12 Step Recovery Programme. That was four years ago. Today Adam attends five AA Meetings a week and enjoys a quality of life he was convinced he would never experience and has loads of AA friends to help him 24/7. “

There are over 3,800 weekly meetings of AA in the UK and thousands worldwide. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking and there are no dues or fees. For more help and information, just ring AA’s confidential helpline: 0845 769 7555 or log on to: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

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LOCAL NEWS

YOUR NHS AMBULANCE SERVICE

AND HOW YOU CAN HELP US!

Your local ambulance service - South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb) is aiming to become an NHS Foundation Trust in 2010. Foundation trusts (FTs) have been around since 2004, although ambulance trusts were only able to start to apply for foundation trust status from April 2009, and the authorisation process takes at least a year!

Foundation trusts are still NHS organisations, providing free care and treatment to patients. They still have to meet national targets and are regularly inspected. The main difference is that foundation trusts are run locally, and are accountable to patients, local people and staff rather than to Government, by way of the “membership” they establish. We believe FT status will be good for everyone because our members, and the Council of Governors they elect, can have direct influence on the way we develop. As an FT we’ll be able to respond to people’s needs much more immediately because we’ll be working with them as members. We will also have more say over how and what we invest our money in - training, new ambulances, adopting the latest clinical technologies and techniques, etc. - meaning our public, patients and staff will get the ambulance service they want and need.

Becoming a member of our NHS Trust is simple, free and it’ll mean you’re supporting us as well as having your say about how we can make our services

even better. Membership doesn't need to take up your time -you can just

receive our free quarterly newsletter, with details of the latest developments in lifesaving treatments and technology, useful tips, interesting public health information -

but it will also give you the chance to get more involved if you want to. Please join

us today or visit our website for more information and where you can join

online:www.secamb.nhs.uk

For membership forms contact Izzy Allen on 01273 897840 or

ftmembership@secamb.nhs.uk

Thank you very much for your support.

Isobel Allen

Membership Manager

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LOCAL NEWS

SPORTS VOUCHERS FOR MINSTER TEENAGER

A Minster teenager has been presented with £50 worth of sports vouchers, after giving her views on sport in Thanet.

13-year old Susan King couldn't believe her luck when Colin Rouse from the Council's Sport Matters team presented her with the vouchers at Sport 4 NRG bowling.

Susan's name was picked out of a hat, filled with the names of all the young people who completed a Sport Matters Summer Survey. It aimed to improve communication between the team and young people and the results have already led to a new weekly street dance session for girls, being set up by Sport 4 NRG at Hartsdown Leisure Centre.

Susan is a regular at Sport 4 NRG sessions, now a year after first joining, she attends with her two sisters and younger brother. Sport 4 NRG is a free sports activity programme for young people in Thanet, aiming to keep them active, occupied, off the streets and out of trouble.

Colin Rouse said: "Much of the work we do is targeted at Thanet's young people and so it's vital that we find out what sports they want to see us putting on. We've already listened to what they've said and introduced sessions that they wanted to take part in. The results of the survey were really useful and very encouraging, with most young people taking part in some form of sport or physical activity outside of school."

St Lucy's Christmas Fair

Minster Abbey on 13th December

This was a great success and raised around £700 in aid towards CAFOD's work (Catholic Aid for Overseas Development) in the Middle East – in particular projects in the Gaza strip involving children who are traumatised by the violence in this area. The organizers and the Minster Abbey Community wish to thank all the Parish members and people from within and outside of the village who attended and supported this event and gave their time and money so generously to this worthy cause.

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YOUR LETTERS..

PLEA TO REPAIR HIGH STREET FOOTPATH

Dear Editor -

I have been trying for almost 6 years to get something done about the dreadful

footpath in the High Street. It cannot be used by elderly or disabled people because it is not level and it is too narrow. It is also extremely difficult for mothers with push chairs. About 4½ years ago, when I was the MATCH Project Manager, I arranged a site visit with Kent Highways.

The then MATCH Chairman Bob Christian, former Parish Councillor Paul Willins and I met a Kent Highways Officer on site to discuss what could be done. He told us that the footpath could be scarified to make it level, that it could be extended by 12 to 18 inches without affecting existing two-way traffic flows, and that it would cost in the region of £30,000.

Since then, Yvonne Chapman (resident of Rivers Court) and I have been working incessantly to try to persuade KCC to undertake the work. This year we have had the support of recently elected TDC Councillor Bob Grove. KCC have refused to do the work because they say it will cost £100,000.

Our County Councillor, Charles Hibberd, refuses to do anything to help, the other two District Councillors do nothing, and the Parish Council have discussed it but refuse point blank to do anything.

The wonderful suggestion by Parish Council Chairman Dennis Neville is that elderly and disabled residents can use Kings Steps to get to the main shopping area!

Unfortunately, the Highways Officer now denies what he told us at the site visit.

My recollection of what was said can be confirmed by both Bob Christian and Paul Willins. The campaign to get something done is supported by residents of Rivers Court, the Women's Institute and the Salvation Army. We will shortly be raising a petition, and I ask all residents to support it.

Many thanks - *Gerry Glover*.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE MINSTER SCOUTS

The Minster Scouts would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and to let you know that scouting is not just for boys, girls can join too.

Currently, there is only one girl in the troop, who can, and does, beat the boys hands down at football! They would welcome having more girls in the troop.

Boys and girls, from age 10 1/2, are encouraged to come, give it a go and see how they like it, before they commit to buying a uniform and investing, so there is no pressure.

Please be advised the Scouts meet on Fridays at Parkminster, in the Abbey grounds, rather than the Old Schools as is advertised, on the out of date poster in the library.

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YOUR LETTERS

SAVE MINSTER'S WOODLAND

Dear Minster Matters I am writing to express my great concern and anger over the state of the woods opposite the scout facilities in Watchester Lane, Minster.

For some time now local youths have been cutting down trees, digging large holes, making ramps to ride bikes over (the largest hole is undermining an oak tree), they have started fires, stripped bark from trees, tied rope to trees and left tons of rubbish i.e. glass and plastic bottles, cans, food wrappings, disposable BBQ trays, plastic bags, lengths of rope etc.

Myself and a friend were so sick of looking at the rubbish that we spent an afternoon clearing it all up. We collected five black sacks which we then sorted for

recycling.

This is a small but very important woodland for flora and fauna in Thanet and should be preserved and cared for. However if things are allowed to continue it will be destroyed.

I have since been told that the woods have some sort of protection order. Does anyone know if this is true? Can people contact the owner, Ed Spanton and Mr John Vahid at Thanet District Council Planning Dept regarding this and can we all get together to work to save this precious jewel. *From a concerned resident (Name and address supplied)*

THANKS & PRAISE TO LOCAL TRADERS

Dear Editor - Whilst our village has not suffered as much as some parts of Kent, it is fair to say that our weather of late has been a bit atrocious.

Could I extend my thanks to all the traders of the village for their fortitude in staying open and stocked despite the prevailing conditions. As a regular user of the various traders in the village it was good to see "new" faces in the shops. On quite a few occasions I was privy to comments made like " I didn't realise you stocked these" or "you are just as cheap as Tesco/Sainsbury etc.". We are very fortunate in Minster to have a range of shops to service virtually every need. I have always been impressed with the friendliness and helpfulness of the staff/owners and the way they will go out of their way to assist you. Perhaps those "new" faces will now become regular customers and help keep those traders in business.

We are very lucky to have such dedicated people in the village, lets all make a new year's resolution to use them more and keep them before we lose them! Yours sincerely, *Andrew Local.*

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YOUR LETTERS

RICHARD of KENT G.H.M. - I would like to say that I recently had some work done by Richard and must say how pleased I was with the work done - quickly and efficiently carried out nothing was too much trouble. I can highly recommend him to work for anyone.

Brenda, MM

Daylight and Dusk

Again I have to speak about the Robin.

Can there possibly be a friendlier chum to have in our gardens?

To watch and study can be so much fun.

This morning as I gathered herbs from their bed.

I studied once again this bird with breast of red.

He sat on a box by the greenhouse studying me,

Bright eyed, bright red feathers, adorable as can be.

I said out loud, "hi there, you are a beauty," and I am sure he replied.

"I am only doing my duty, repaying you for your kind deeds.

By supplying shelter and water, and most of my daily needs.

Almost eight in the evening, he sings his last notes for the day.

The melody is sweet and I enjoy it greatly,

I feel somehow, his tune is „stately!.

It is dusk outside, twilight reigns, this bird's song sounds a

little melancholy, does the chorus from the bird of red-breast fame.

The above is an excerpt from my little book titled „The Robin“ which is on sale at Attwells, as they are kindly helping me once again. If all goes well with this, I hope to be able to make a further donation towards the school garden.

Yvonne Chapman

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Salvation Army, Minster Corps

COMMUNITY SHOP

Many thanks to all those who have already shown support for our new shop, through donating items, buying items and also volunteering to work in the shop.

We are in particular need of the following:

- Small items of furniture

- Electrical goods

- Volunteers to work half a day a week or more

Next Community Shop Volunteer Meeting:

Tuesday 2nd February 2010, 6pm @ The Salvation Army Hall

FREE HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

For carers, those with ill health or disabilities. Want to know more? Call us on

01843 821442 or visit our website www.kent.gov.uk/libs. Click 'Services for

everyone' then 'homebound'

GEOFFREY JAMES BEAK (February 10th)

If tears could build a stairway, and memories a lane, We'd walk right up to

Heaven and bring you home again.

From all your family with Love xx

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP working with Minster Surgery

Do You Have a Health Related Problem? Don't Know Where to Turn? Then

Perhaps We Can Help?

WE CAN OFFER

-

To liaise between yourself and members of the practise.

-

You the opportunity to express your views and concerns.

-

To provide a forum to help influence decisions made by the surgery and PCT.

-

To encourage "Health Education" activities.

YOU CAN OFFER

-

First hand knowledge of your illness, disabilities and needs.

-

Wide ranging skills and experience that may benefit others.

-

Time! We always welcome new members who can contribute to

the

Group.

WE PROMISE

-

Empathy

-

Understanding

-

And above all CONFIDENTIALITY

WANT TO KNOW MORE

•
Telephone : 821200 or 845072 •

e.mail : minstersurgeryplg@gmx.com
•

See our notice board in the surgery waiting room

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Get on in School - Get online at home

Home Access is a government drive which will help low-income families to get access to a computer and the Internet to get online at home.

If you are a low income family in receipt of certain benefits you could qualify for a grant to buy a computer and/or a minimum of one year's Internet access. The programme is aimed at those that need it most and targets families that do not have access to a computer or the Internet at home.

Depending on what you need, the grant allows eligible applicants to buy one of the following packages:

- Full package (a computer, one year's Internet access, service and support)
- A computer with service and support only
- One year's Internet access only

If you are a parent and think you are eligible for a Home Access grant simply call the Home Access Grant Help-line on 0333 200 1004* to get an application form.

* Calls may be monitored or recorded to maintain high levels of security and quality of service. Calls to this number cost no more than a call to an 01 or 02 number and count towards inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls.

These rules apply to calls from any type of line including mobile, BT, other fixed line or payphone.

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MINSTER-IN-THANET WI.

January's meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions, and so our first meeting for 2010 (hopefully!) now takes place in February. It seems a long time ago to the beginning of December, when Branch President Joan Backler welcomed members and guests to our Christmas Party. Business was kept to a minimum, and after the usual superb buffet we were treated to "in-house" entertainment by Mesdames Backler, Day, Hammond (Pam), Fuller, Linihan, Rose, Tinker, Todd, Ulrich and Welsh, with Joyce Sharp acting as MC, and Val Dyer's "stage managing".

However, the highlight was an hilarious Alternative Twelve Days of Christmas

performed by Sarah Eaton-Brown, Suzanne Greenstreet, Cathy Hoenes and Liz

Shervington, featuring members of the committee in lieu of birds, lords, maids, etc!

A raffle and Joan's farewell closed 2009's enjoyable and successful Christmas party, and once again we must thank her son, John, for his sterling work as washer-up. **Our**

next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9th February at 7.30pm in the Village

Hall, when the speaker will be Ron Lobech (the "Weather Man"). "Crafty" members

are asked to bring a decorated stone to show their skills!

Visitors and new members will be made welcome.

THE MINSTER SHOW 2010

The theme for this year's show is "Earth, Wind & Fire" so get your thinking caps on!

Remember Show Day is 24th July and Schedules will be available from Attwells closer to the date.

The Committee are also looking for an Official Photographer for the day, to take general pictures around the grounds and to photograph all the trophy winners - interested then speak to Karen in Attwells.

MINSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

Would like to express a special thanks to local young carpenter Finlay Mannings for designing and building the club's new trophy cabinet.

The Club's latest asset which was funded by Minster's local club sponsor JJ Budd Building Services Ltd, sits proudly in the Minster and Monkton Royal British Legion for all to see.

Due to the grand space available, Minster would love to try and reclaim some old memorabilia (shirts, medals, cups, etc.) from past players to place on show.

If you are interested in donating/loaning your old Minster football memorabilia, to the club, please contact :

Tom on 07899 858 696.

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MINSTER BOWLS CLUB

It's January 2010 and the club plus members are building up steam for all the games we have lined up in our fixture list.

The snow didn't stop members going down to the club for some gentle exercise and a social chat amongst friends. Have you managed to start losing those pounds that the Xmas festivities helped to put on?

Picking up a bowl before you roll it down the mat, and bending to deliver it is, one of the more gentle ways of exercising & shedding a little weight.

As a club we will have had two social evenings by the time this is in your home.

They were January 15th & 29th.

The 24th saw the Mixed Pairs competition. We hosted the East Kent Singles on the 17th and on Sunday 31st we will be hosting the East Kent Pairs.

On to February and on the 21st members will be partaking of one of Pam's

Special Sunday Lunches, this one is to be roast lamb. See what you are missing by not being a social member, or one wanting to play indoor bowls during the day, seven days a week, plus some evenings.

On the 26th we will be holding a quiz night.

As you can see I have been asked to continue giving you these snippets until the AGM in the autumn.

On behalf of the Club Committee a Happy New Year to you the readers, to club members, and to anyone who will be joining during the year.

Glynne Hibbert

Minster Mayhems

Usual call for anyone new to join as we are now practising for next year.

The first "Dance Out" of the new season will be on St Georges Day

We use the Old Schools for practice, and if anyone would like to join us please

phone 821795 first. Anyone over the age of six is welcome, but be prepared to learn

and then enjoy dancing in front of crowds of people!!

Dominique

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JOURNALIST CLUB

Editors this month are **Matthew Lacey** and **Oliver Rochford**

VALENTINEIS DAY

Valentines Day is a sort of special occasion it has a really special meaning. If you have a boyfriend or girlfriend you will celebrate Valentines Day. You normally give them gifts and cards saying you love them! You normally give them flowers,

chocolates or sweets and a card! by Keeley and Helen

ITIS WINTER

Look how fast winter has come soon we might be rainy for a few days but we could be hailstones or more rain.

by Rosie Malloy

DEMELZA HOUSE

Demelza House is a charity to help look after poorly children. A man came into our school and talked about Demelza House. He bought some stickers and showed us a presentation about what they do at Demelza House. They have several rooms and families can go to Demelza House and special volunteers help look after the poorly children.

The clown is the Demelza House logo.

by Emma Holland and Helen Birch

LEPRECHAUNS

Leprechauns are found at the end of the rainbow, protecting their gold. Their pots of gold are huge, round and shiny. Leprechauns are short and very clever.

You can't trust them

by Tom

ANIMALS

Animals live all over the world. I don't have a favourite animal because I like them all. Animals can be big and small. They can be cute or scary. Animals live in all different places but it depends what they are. For example pets live in cages or have beds. But fish, dolphins, whales and sharks live in the sea. Some animals live in forests or in cold places like Antarctica. I love animals and I hope that they won't all become extinct.

by Emma Holland

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JOURNALIST CLUB

DRAGONAGE : ORIGINS

Dragon Age: Origins is a great game on the computer where you can be Human, Dwarf or Elf, and can be a Mage, Thief or Warrior.

In this game you play the role of a grey warden who needs to kill the reincarnated, zombie-like darkspawn archdemon.

by Scott

SNOW

When it snows it is hard to travel around because there is lots of ice on the roads.

Children love making snowmen and love having snowball fights. We love the snow

but if you are not careful you could slip over and hurt yourself.

by Emma and Helen.

HEALTHY EATING

On Wednesday 13th January 2010 Minster CofE Primary School had a Science Show that was all about healthy eating. There were these 2 very nice people called Holly and Chris. This show was about a man called Mouldy who was very fat and he even had his own catch phrase. „Don't be rash, just eat trash! and then an FBI agent told us to say to him „Don't be a twit, just keep fit! and Mouldy jumped in the air every time we said it. There was also an apple headed alien and it really scared me. Good thing I had Katy (my best friend) to hold on to. It really was fun because we were having fun and learning about eating healthily all in one. It's like 2 in 1 shampoo. Ha! They also got children involved because a person in the other Year 6 class called Lewis Chub went to the front and he had to wear a nappy over his head it really was funny.

Actually it was hysterical!!

by Libby

SNOW

Snow is cool literally, I like building snowmen and having a snowball fight.

But most of all the school shutting.

by Callum Philpott

PIES

Pie is a meat, fruit, vegetable, or meat and vegetable enclosed in pastry.

There are strawberry pies, chicken pies, chicken and mushroom pies, turkey pies, pork pies, cherry pies, mince pies, apple pies, blackberry pies, apple and blackberry pies and many more!

by Scott Oakes

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WHAT'S ON

AUDREYIS AND SHIRLEYIS CHARITY DANCE

IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ON SATURDAY 30th JANUARY 2010

in aid of the Minster Matters appeal to enable the purchase of a Braille Embosser

Starring MANDY WINTERS and her Band

Tickets are just £6.00 each and available from either

Audrey on 821792 or Shirley on 822015

Bring your own food and drink. Please support this worthwhile event.

“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”

Great British Fish and Chip Supper on Friday 21st May 2010

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work?

Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 21st May 2010 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Last year we had over 80 suppers taking part in England and Wales. In 2010 we want to double that figure and ensure we can provide more support to spinal cord injured people.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, “The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives.”

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on

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WHAT'S ON

MINSTER PLAYHOUSE

Presents

„Ghost Writer“

No sooner has Minster Playhouse finished a very successful panto run with “Once Upon a Time” that they are now preparing for the next spring play.

Due to the success of “Sex Drugs Rick and Noel” the playhouse has chosen a

„haunting“ comedy called “Ghost Writer” by a writer who is becoming one of our favourites - David Tristram.

So what is it all about?

Ruby Pinfold was a talented, yet tempestuous actress with a reputation for burning the candle at all three ends - until one night she is found dead after an overdose of naughty pills and booze. The theatre world went into a state of mourning that barely lasted into the afternoon. We join the story on the first anniversary of the death of Ruby Pinfold.

Read Minster Matters month by month for more information !

THE SALVATION ARMY, Minster Corps, Tothill Street

Community Shop Volunteer Meeting on Tuesday 2nd February, 6pm

at The Salvation Army Hall

The Salvation Army are also holding a „QUIZ & FIZZI event

On Saturday 20th February 2010 from 4pm – 7pm

(including refreshments)

Bring along a team!

Minster Patient Liaison Group

May Day Craft Fair & Bazaar

On Sat 1st May from 0900-1300 In the Old Schools

Only £6 per stall/table

Refreshments, Brick-a-brac, Cakes & Cards, Tombola, Local Antiques, Bring

& Buy, book early to avoid disappointment. Contact Kent Self on 01843

821200

OPEN GARDENS 2010

Held on 19th-20th June.

12th anniversary

We already have many gardens but are always looking for more!

If you are considering entering your garden then please contact RevId Bob Coles on

01843 821250

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NOTES & EVENTS

MINSTER-IN-THANET WI

NEXT MEETING

On **Tuesday 9th Feb at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Speaker will be Ron Lobeck.

New members and visitors welcome.

MINSTER IN THANET WI'S COFFEE AND CHAT

Is on Thursday 18th Feb, 10am - 12noon

In the Village Hall Committee Room

All welcome

MINSTER & MONKTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

NEXT MEETING Monday 8th Feb at 7.30pm

Theme „Decorate a Heart“

Bingo Speaker or Quiz. Raffle prizes needed for all meetings

For further information please contact Miriam Smith 822589

SATURDAY MARKET

On 13th February at 10am to 12noon

In the Old Schools. All the usual stalls. Drop in for a chat!

SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancake Day on 16th February at the Old Schools

We will be open from 11am to 2pm for pancakes -

savoury and sweet

All welcome

CLIFTONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

Last Sunday of each Month

Next Market is on 28th February in the Oval Lawns, Eastern Esplanade

For further info contact June Chadband on telephone number **226033**

Or e.mail at k.chadband@btinternet.com

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NOTES & EVENTS

MINSTER AND MONKTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

. Wednesday 17th February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Speaker will be Mr Stevens

“Over the Garden Fence”

Points Table

Stem of Winter Flowering Shrub

Visitors 50p. All Welcome

Advance Notice of the Spring Show will be on 10th April

1st MINSTER BROWNIES

meet at Minster Pavilion 5.00pm - 6.30pm on Monday evenings.

Girls aged 7-11 years old are welcome.

It is £1.50 per session and £10.00 Joining fee.

If you are interested please call Jackie Cooper (Brown Owl)

on (01843) 822970.

1st MINSTER SCOUTS

Note New Venue

now at Parkminster (formerly Minster Museum)

In the Abbey Grounds

Starts Friday 11th Sept - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

in term time

Boys and Girls from 10 to 14.

This new troop is starting with no money, and almost no equipment. They are looking for equipment, money and manpower.

The District Scouts would love for Minster to have its own Beaver colony so if you feel that you could offer an hour or two each week to help start one, you would be welcomed with open arms.

For further info contact Barbara or

Richard on 581014 or email: barbara@grahamhorne.co.uk

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NOTES & EVENTS

MOTHERS UNION

A quiet morning will be held on **Monday 8th February**

at Holy Trinity Church, Margate with coffee available at the "Cafe" from 9.30am.

Our quiet time begins at 10.00am and finishes at 12.00 noon after the Holy

Communion Service .

Lunch is available in the cafe at 12.00 noon if required

Anyone interested in the Mothers Union is welcome to attend

NEXT MEETING will be held on **Wednesday 10th February**

At 2.00pm at St Mary's Church

Advance Notice of the Womens World Day of Prayer

will be held on Friday 5th March. Venue to be announced

MINSTER SENIORS

Royal British Legion Club Ladies and Gents

Come and join us for a "Cuppa" and Chat. Bingo - Raffles

EVERY WED 2pm - 4pm.

All Welcome.

For further info phone 823782 Mrs. Joan Cordwell

SANDWICH FARMERS' MARKET

Last Saturday of every month

From 9am to 4pm at Guildhall, Cattle Market

HAVE A BREAK.....

have a cuppa and a chat with us in the Old School Hall from 11.00am to 12noon on

Wednesdays. *Everybody welcome*

MINSTER & MONKTON

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Royal British Legion Club, Augustine Road

Come and join us for a "Cuppa" and Chat. Bingo and Raffles.

EVERY WED 2pm - 4pm

All Welcome

For further info phone Joan Cordwell on 823782

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NOTES

AMBERS ADVICE

To a mind that is still - The whole universe surrenders *Chuang Tzu*

SCALE ON CHROME

Neat ammonia on a cotton wool pad will remove scale staining on chrome taps.

ZAC'S MUSINGS

A Happy Valentine's to all those good looking single girls out there

GOING GREEN WITH NORA

If Santa was nice to you this year, you may now have some unwanted goods around your house.

Ecotip:

Don't throw perfectly good items away! Join Freecycle Thanet and help your usable items find a new, appreciative home! Advertise the item for free within the group, and quite possibly someone will be looking for something just like it!

<http://frgl.it/inthanet>

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THANK YOU'S

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has generously supported us again in 2009 either by donating your pennies or buying from our fund raising activities.

Thanks to you we have been able to send to the Royal British Legion Benevolent fund £2,550 and £349 to the Poppy Appeal. Your support honours those who have given and continue to give so much for our protection. Be assured that the money you so generously give goes to a good and necessary Charity whose work is as crucial today as it has ever been, in assisting hundreds of thousands of servicemen and women.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank The Minster & Monkton British Legion Club for their invaluable help.

A Happy New Year to you all. (R.B.L. Women's Section).

THANK YOU FROM LIL AND ESTHER - Thank you to all who supported us with fund raising for the Pilgrims Hospice.

Past events included: Bell Inn Raffle and Quiz : British Legion Quiz

Christmas Bazaar : Band Concert etc

Bob Groves at The Attic and to the people who gave us some very generous donations. Thank you.

NOTICE BOARD THANK YOU-The Chairman of the Parish Council would like to thank the two residents who helped him to remove the notice board at Rose Garden after it had suffered serious wind damage.

The first resident moved the board from the pavement in the rain and very high winds, the cold and the darkness closing the evening of the 17th December.

Unfortunately, by the time I had stopped my car, he had disappeared into the night.

The other helper made it possible to move the fallen notice board and wedge it behind the tree and secure it for the night. It was very windy, muddy, raining and dark, and he was very willing.

I don't know who the helpers were but thank you. It did need to be moved and secured to prevent a possible accident. *D Neville*

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THANK YOU'S

CHRISTMAS TREES - Thank you to everyone who braved the weather to take

the trees down (hopefully they will be down by the time you are reading this).

Many thanks to Nik Mitchell for dealing with the electrical problems during the Christmas period. As you will have seen, some of the lights have gone out so straight away funds will be needed for next year. Jars will be available for your donations in Attwells, Archies and The Bell Inn.

Thanks to Leanne in Envy for the donation from book sales, all help is very much appreciated and thank you to Roy Bailey for removing the trees once they had been taken down. He has taken them to Howetts for the apes and gorillas to play with and eat! *Karen & Ann*

VICAR'S CHRISTMAS THANKS

I would like to give a big "thank you" to everyone who helped make our celebrations of Christmas such wonderful occasions.

First of all to those who supported the Toy Service – over 160 boxes and £320 were dispatched to "Operation Christmas Child".

Then there was the marvellous turn out for the Lychgate Carols. Thanks to the Margate Salvation Army Band, Roy Bailey for the P.A. system and those who provided drinks and mince pies afterwards. £225 was collected on behalf of the Demelza House Children's Hospice.

Thanks too to all who came to our Christmas Eve Crib Service, Midnight Mass or Christmas Morning Communion. Finally, thanks to all those who decorated the church and to Chris Randall, our organist, and the choir for leading the worship.

It all added up to give a really wonderful (and this year actually warm!) atmosphere.

Rev'd Bob Coles.

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THANK YOU'S

ROTARY CLUB THANK YOU

Dear Editor,

I'm writing on behalf of the Rotary Club of Ramsgate to express our sincere gratitude for the wonderful generosity of the people of Ramsgate and Minster. Our collections with Father Christmas and his sleigh around houses and outside local shops in the run up to Christmas raised the magnificent sum of £5,667.45. (Many thanks also to Dunelm Mill, Sainsbury's, Tesco Extra and Tesco Manston for allowing us to collect outside their stores.)

We'll donate this money to charities and other worthy causes, many of them local such as the Dumpton Youth Project. One of the main charities we're supporting this year is Let's Face It, a locally based charity that helps people coping with facial disfigurement. A full list will be available on our website (where there are also photos of our collections and other activities) at www.rotary1120.org (click on Ramsgate), and in the local press in the late spring.

Our grateful thanks also to the pupils, staff and parents of the local primary schools (Chilton, Holy Trinity, Minster, Newington, Priory, St Joseph's and St Laurence-in-Thanel) who took part in our annual toy collection, along with the wonderful residents of Napleton Court in Ramsgate. Between them they donated many hundreds of toys and other presents, which the KCC Social Services Department very kindly distributed to local disadvantaged children.

**Church News
and Service Times**

St. Mary's the Virgin, Minster
Rev. Bob Coles, 821250
**Sunday Services In
FEBRUARY 2010**

7th February

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Family Praise
6.30pm: no service this month

14th February

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Family Communion (CW)

21st February

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Morning Worship

28th February

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Holy Communion (CW)

Mid week service at St Mary's
Wednesdays 10.30am

LENT 2010: St Mary's Minster

*"Do this in remembrance of me."
A celebration of Holy Communion*

*We invite you to this celebration
during which we remember Jesus.*

*"Do this in remembrance of me,"
Jesus said to his disciples*

*at the Last Supper when he took bread
and wine, and gave thanks to God.*

During Lent, there will be an opportunity to join a weekly, evening celebration of Holy Communion at Minster church. **It will be held every Wednesday at 7.15pm from Ash Wednesday, 17th February until the 31st March inclusive.**

In order to emphasize the corporate nature of this special remembrance celebration there are alterations to the usual form of seating, and the giving of communion.

Worship songs will form the preparation, whilst the celebration will be interspersed with songs and Taizé chants appropriate to the liturgy.

We would be very pleased to be joined by anyone ~ whether or not Confirmed.

Further details from Rev'd Bob Coles: Thanet 821250

**SS Ethelbert & Gertrude Catholic
Parish Ramsgate and Minster**
Rev S. Fisher, 592071
ethelbert@fastmail.fm
www.rc.net/southwark/ramsgate

Parish Office:
SS Ethelbert & Gertrude Church
72 Hereson Road, Ramsgate, CT11 7DS
Catholic Mass each Wednesday and Holyday of Obligation at 12 noon in the Church of St Mary the Virgin
For other services in Minster please see Minster Abbey entry.

Minster Abbey

www.minsterabbeynuns.org

The Abbey Chapel is open for prayer throughout the day

Lauds: 7.30am

Mass 8.15am, Sunday 10am

Mid day prayer 12.10pm

Vespers 6pm

Compline 7.50pm

(followed by Silent Prayer)

All our visitors, not only Christians but people of all faiths and spiritual tradition, all who 'truly seek God' (rule of St. Benedict) are warmly welcomed to join us in prayer, in our beautiful monastic chapel.

**St Mary Magdalene, Monkton
Sunday Services In
FEBRUARY**

**Please note that all services this month
will be held in the Methodist Church**

7th February

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

14th February

10.15am: Holy Communion (BCP)

21st February

10.15am: Holy Communion at the Methodists

28th February

10.15am: Family Service

**Christians Together:
Lent Course 2010**

This will be held at the Abbey, starting at 7.30pm from Tuesday 23rd February to 23rd March.

We will be looking at "When I survey ... Christ's Cross and ours".
All welcome.

**The Salvation Army
11 Tothill Street, Minster**

**Major Denise Cooper
825178 / 822308**

Weekly Programme

Sunday

Jigsaw (Sunday School)
11.00am - 12.00pm
Morning Family Service,
11am - 12pm
Evening Service, 6pm - 7pm

Monday

Baby Group
(Parents & Babies up to 12 months),
9.30am to 12.30pm
Friendship Club
(Over 50's), 2.15pm - 3.30pm

Tuesday

Parents and Tots,
9.30am - 11.30am

Wednesday

Keep Fit, 10.15am - 11.15am
Home League, 2.00pm - 3.45pm
Pilates, 6.30pm-7.30pm
& 7.30pm - 8.30pm
(for details ring Andy on
07505399512)

Thursday

Prayer Meeting and Quiet Time
9am - All are Welcome
Please contact for details
- not held at Hall

Friday

The Youth Clubs

are taking an extended break in order to implement changes required. Starting date will be notified in due course.

For further information, please contact Major Denise Cooper

Saturday

There are events happening on most Saturdays please see other pages of Minster Matters for details.

Salvation Army telephone number for the new building is 01843 825178
For more information please visit the website

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/minster

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CHURCH NEWS

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Councillor Bob Grove

Monthly Surgeries

Bob will be holding regular monthly surgeries as from 2nd September and then on every 1st Wednesday of each month in the Neighbourhood Centre at 1.15pm.

All residents are welcome to attend.

Contacting your District Councillor

Councillor Mike Roberts

Conservative Ward Councillor for Thanet Villages

You are most welcome to contact Mike with any issues or problems you may have

regarding Council matters

Tel: 01843 595065 email: marlec@fsb.com

Contacting your MP:

Dr. Stephen Ladyman:

South Thanet Constituency Office

28, Newington Road, Ramsgate, CT12 6EE

Tel: 01843 852696

e-mail:stephenladymanmp@souththanetlabour.org.uk

An MP's Surgery is held every week please phone for an appointment

Appointments are available every Friday from 4pm in the Constituency Office at Ramsgate.

Additional surgeries are held once a month on a Saturday morning in one of the villages or towns of the constituency and are advertised locally. Dr. Ladyman will visit the elderly, disabled and people without transport at their homes if preferred.

Thanks for listening

Your readers this month were

.....

Musical interludes supplied courtesy of

Brenda Saker, Daryl Booth and Richard Spendlove MBE