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Welcome to the ..MARCH 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.

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

Payments 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 March. 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: clerk@minsterparishcouncil.org.uk

Next month's meeting will be held

on:Tuesday, .6th April 2010.

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EDITORIAL

What a busy month I've had this month, I just don't know where the time has gone.

Add to that all the copy and pictures we have received and needed to include this month, and it's meant Amy and I have had to make an executive decision to add an extra 4 pages to accommodate it all. Amy says this is special and not to become the norm. The big problem was we had a great influx of new advertisers and now we've started it they're squabbling over colour pages !! So to try to overcome some of this workload we've added another 2 pages in colour so we have 6 colour pages for you this month including the cover (when will it stop ?)

The Public Meeting reference Yellow Lines could have been better attended, but a good few points were thrashed out and many had a chance to air their views. Another Public Meeting has been arranged for April see front page for details.

Minster now has a claim to fame with it's own Valentines Massacre, a 30mph limit in a built up area obviously meant nothing, listen to the details elsewhere in this issue !!

Have you driven over the block paving at the entrance to the new Heronsbrook development, it is already uneven after just a week or two of being laid, so what chance does it stand once the road is fully re-opened and we get heavy trucks etc running across it every day, it could well end up looking like an extension to one of Ed's ploughed fields !

Now my pet hate rears it's ugly head yet again !!! **DOG POO**

- If you own a dog and you walk it in this village then clear up after it, the local alleyways, village pavements and the recreation ground are becoming regular minefields for the unwary, and it is JUST NOT ACCEPTABLE !!! Most local dog owners are conscientious and do pick up after their pet but there are obviously some who feel this is beneath them, (it doesn't bite you know) so if you own or walk dogs in Minster the majority of residents expect you to clear up its mess and not leave it for them to walk in YUK !! The Thanet Dog Warden will come out here if requested and fine anyone whom we can prove has allowed their dog to foul the footways or recreation ground so be warned, if you get reported it will without a doubt cost you a fine. Some local problems with youths, throwing stones and other objects, at peoples homes, have been reported to us. Whilst our only suggestion was to ring the police, it seems the police aren't interested unless they are causing criminal damage, so just how much do we have to take or how much damage must be done before someone will do something. I know the police probably have other more important issues to deal with, but to show a presence once in a while and make it known to the offenders that it isn't acceptable surely isn't too much to ask, is it. Actually answering a 999 call would help !!

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PATIENT LIAISON GROUP (WORKING WITH MINSTER SURGERY)

NEWSLETTER - MARCH

Surgery Training Days

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

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 – Thanet 821333.

May Day Fair

A date for your diary! Saturday 1st May, Craft and Boot Fair at the "Old Schools".

9.00 am till 1.00 pm.

To date we have already sold nearly half of the stalls/tables so if anyone would like one then please ring Thanet 821200 as soon as possible.

For further details please listen to our advert elsewhere in the issue.

Patient Liaison Group Meeting

The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 10th March at 6.00 pm in the Surgery

Conference room. If anyone would like to attend, or has issues they would like to raise, please contact either of the numbers shown below. All are welcome.

In the meantime, if you require further information please contact:

Jean Taylor on 845072 or Ken Self on 821200

COMMUNITY WARDEN

We were expecting an article from Steve this month , but I am sorry to have to tell you that he was rushed into hospital on Saturday with a suspected hole in his bowel, which may require an operation. He is in the William Harvey at Ashford and his wife tells us that they expect him to be there for at least a week. So I am sure you will all join me in wishing him a speedy recovery and may we soon see him back in the village. I might regularly give him stick for what he does or doesn't do, and I was going to make some comment about the promised article, but that probably isn't in such good taste at present so I'll wait to rib him when he returns.

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LOCAL NEWS

MINSTER CARNIVAL COURT 2010

We present to you the Minster Carnival Court for 2010. This year's Queen is:

Paige Allen and her two princesses are Anjelica Sefton and Feya Campbell.

Minster Matters hope they all have a very enjoyable year and we are sure they will promote the village to the best of their abilities.

GO Girls !! We love you !!

HELP FOR HAITI

VOLUNTEER KNITTERS NEEDED

ARE there any ladies out there who would like to help me knit small ribbed vest/tops for babies up to 12 months old, who were orphaned in the recent disasters.

Knitted in double wool these can be made up in any colour (NOT WHITE). Plain, striped, or multi colours. One 100gm ball plus oddments is all that's needed. Size No. 8 or 4mm needles. The finished items measure approximately 10x7.

I can supply the official Charity pattern. My aim is 100 garments asap. PLEASE help me reach this target.

Please ring Gwen on 821221, for the pattern, or call at 21, St. Mildreds Road where you can see finished vests/tops.

ROAD CLOSURE - Cottington Road, Minster

(Prohibition of Driving) Temporary Order 2010

We have been notified that Cottington Road will be closed to through traffic

For an estimated period of 7 days or until work is complete from a date on or after 3

March It will be closed from its junction with Ebbsfleet lane and Foads lane and the alternative route will be Eastbound via Ebbsfleet Lane, A256 Sandwich Road,

Cliffsend Road and Foads Lane and Westbound via Foads Hill, A299 Canterbury

Road East and Thorne Hill. This order is to remain in force for a period of 18

months to allow the same restrictions to be implemented as and when required for construction work on the East Kent Access Road. Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout these times.

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LOCAL NEWS

HIGH STREET PAVEMENT HAZARD

Dear Editor,

I would like to fully support the letter from Gerry Glover in your Feb issue.

The width is a major problem, especially outside my property in the High St.

People with young children in push chairs and people being pushed in wheelchairs being forced into the road because the pavement is too narrow. This is made even more hazardous by cars with wheels on the pavement or wing mirrors of cars making the pavement even more narrow. The actual quality of the pavement is so bad it is a receipt for a trip and fall for even the most fleet footed people.

When you think about Gerry's disability, imagine how much more difficult it is for him?

I believe it is incumbent upon the Parish Council to do something. Possibly a start would be, for them to walk the stretch of pavements concerned. With a push chair, someone in a wheelchair and Gerry. Might be a good idea to take a camera with them and send the photos to all concerned parties.

(If Gerry would like someone to walk with him it would be my pleasure).

Malcolm J Farley, High Street

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

I have not given up the fight regarding the foot path in High St. I believe a realistic compromise is possible.

The path is definitely a risk area, not just to the elderly and disabled, but to everyone. K.C.C. may not have the funding to carry out the original plan, but the path could be widened in areas where it is dangerously narrow, and levelling other areas where needed. I think this is worth looking into.

In the past months I have been in discussions with members of T.D.C. to establish a policy in favour of Minster residents getting priority on the new houses in Monkton Rd. I am very happy with the result as they have agreed.*

If you have any questions, or queries please come and see me. Remember I am available the first Wednesday of the month at 1.15pm in the council office above the library.

Bob Grove

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT HERONSBROOK - UPDATE

As we have previously reported there are a number of affordable housing units allocated on the Heronsbrook site. There are 30 in total 9 of which are intermediate rental dwellings and the remaining 21 are socially rented. Southern Housing Group have taken the properties on and in conjunction with Thanet District Council will be

allocating them in accordance with the Section 106 agreement attached to the

planning application which forms the basis of Thanet's Local Lettings Plan.

The properties will be advertised through Kent Homechoice, Choice Based Lettings.

The advert makes it clear that preference will be given to households with a

connection to Minster. Unfortunately Minster Parish Council have only recently

received this information after the first 14 properties were advertised, however the

following properties are expected to available in August 2010

Socially Rented: 5 x 3 bed houses 2 x 4 bed houses

Intermediate Rent: 6 x 2 bed flats 3 x 3 bed houses

To be considered for any of the above properties you must fulfil some of the criteria

below and BID on the Kent Homechoice Website for the properties. Even if you have

told Minster Parish Council you are interested you must bid on the properties

yourself and the Parish Council can back up your application when the applications

are considered by Southern Housing and Thanet District Council.

To be considered for the housing you must fulfil the following Criteria:-All Applicants must be on the Thanet District Council Housing Register, priority will

be given as follows:-Local Connection

1) An applicant who is normally a resident in the Parish of Minster and has been for a continuous period of 5 Years.

2) An Applicant who has lived in the Parish for any period totalling at least 7 years within the past 10 years immediately before making an application.

3) The family of the applicant are a resident of the Parish of Minster and have been for a continuous period of 5 years.

4) The applicant is employed in the Parish of Minster, or needs to move to the Parish to take up full-time employment (min of 10 hours per week).

5) The family of the applicant are employed in Minster

6) The applicant is ordinarily a resident of the Parishes of Thanet (these being Birchington, Acol, Cliffsend, Monkton, St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre)

7) The family of the applicant are a resident of any of the Thanet Parishes.

8) The applicant is employed in one of the Thanet Parishes.

9) The family of the applicant are employed in one of the Parishes of Thanet.

Contact the Parish Clerk if you think you are eligible and need support

with your application but remember you must BID for the properties to be

considered.

Kyla Lamb Clerk to Minster Parish Council

Email – clerk@minsterparishcouncil.org.uk

4A Monkton Road, Minster, Nr Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4EA Tel 01843 821339

www.kenthomechoice.org.uk –To place bids you will need to set up an account for you to be able to login.

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LOCAL NEWS

PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS

This is a summary of the open public meeting in the Minster Village Hall on

Saturday, 13 February, 2010 held for the purpose of obtaining village views on the original proposals of the Kent Parking Manager of Kent County Council.

The proposal was made in June 2009 to introduce Experimental Traffic Regulations, followed by a Traffic Regulation and then proceed to place double and single yellow lines in specified parts of the village aimed at October 2009, and said to be subject to any objections.

BACKGROUND

The action began by the three main village traders (Store, Butcher and Greengrocer) being featured in the local Thanet press as being against the proposals and the possible effect it could have on them and the village as a whole. This was followed by raising a petition against yellow lines and restrictions which attracted 672 signatories. After that it was decided to start a Minster Action Group – an unofficial group — to put pressure on Kent County Council and resist the proposals.

That resulted in considerable correspondence by the traders and E Gibbon and PW Sackett with various members of the Kent CC. And the central point was that the Kent Parking Manager had not engaged in consultation with Minster Parish Council, Thanet District Council nor local residents but had just delivered an edict to a few residents but not to all those to be affected. Requesting under the Freedom of Information Act Mr Gibbon had been informed that the basis of the proposal was that Eastonways Coaches from their point of view had instigated the issue by citing traffic problems in the village for their coaches and to this had been added for measure that similar problems would beset the emergency services.

THE MEETING

72 people attended on what was a very cold morning. Apart from a few, they were villagers. The press in the person of a reporter from the IOT Gazette was present.

The meeting was chaired by Edward Gibbon, supported by Ben Patel of the local Londis Store and Philip Sackett MEE. They represented the local Minster Action Group which had been instrumental in protesting against the proposals of KCC, started by the traders. And the central point was that the Kent Parking Manager had not engaged in consultation with. First up Mr Sackett explained about his correspondence with Kent County Council and apart from lack of consultation he had been misled about the availability of information to Thanet Transportation Board members and was considering pursuing a claim of maladministration on the part of Kent CC. It was also mentioned that Kent CC had already instituted traffic restrictions by placing two notices on Taylor Road, again without consultation.

Next Mr Patel described how he felt the main problem in the village centred around the north to east end of Monkton Road and in particular the congestions caused by the extended footpath placed on the north side by the County Council.

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He explained he had proposals to alleviate some of the problems and referred to the map which was displayed at the meeting. Briefly this meant doing away with the new pavement on the north side of Monkton Road, slightly widening the pavement on the south side, placing priority narrowed chicanes across two points and some other smaller measures. That was debated at length with many contributions from residents. The roads leading to the school featured as another major issue and it was clear that there was no need for Eastonways buses to drive to the school and a much better situation would prevail if schoolchildren were dropped off at the Old Schools in Church Street.

CONCLUSIONS

On taking a straw poll there was a substantial vote for:

1. Getting rid of the new pavement on the north side of Monkton Road from Londis Store to The New Inn. (About 98% in favour).
2. In favour of a restricted pavement on the north side — about 65%.
3. Virtually total agreement that Eastonways buses should drop off children at the Old Schools and not proceed to the School via Taylor Road.
4. A new Traffic Study for the whole of the village being started — the last one undertaken in 2000.

OTHER ISSUES RAISED

5. The Thanet DC car park off St Mary's Road appeared to have unnecessary restrictions and these should be reviewed with the prospect of assisting fewer resident parking in that road.
6. Speeding traffic in Tothill Street caused major problems and was considered dangerous.
7. Damages to residents cars in the east end of Monkton Road was mentioned by various.
8. The Monkton Road car park arrangements could be usefully reviewed.
9. Speeding in Watchester Lane was deemed to be a traffic hazard.
10. The farm land rear of the Salvation Army venue could be considered for parking.
11. Also land behind the The New Inn could be a parking prospect.

Addition from Editor:

It was noted from what our County Councillor told the meeting that all objections should be sent as a letter from each individual that wished to voice their concerns, as no matter how large a petition is or how many signatures it carries it is only ever tabled as ONE objection.

So if you have previously signed a petition against the lines or you wish to raise any new objection or even support the proposal then the person YOU MUST write to is as follows:

Mr Ryan Shiel

Transport Planner (Canterbury & Thanet), Kent Highway Services

Transport and Development Team, Ashford Highway Depot

Henwood Industrial Estate, Javelin Way

Ashford TN24 8AD

PLEASE – DO IT NOW !!!

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LOCAL NEWS

COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS SERVICE

In essence, Kent County Council's Countryside Access Service is working with the NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust to deliver a project to enable and encourage people living in areas of health inequality to take more exercise and live healthier lifestyles.

One element of this project involves a campaign in Thanet to raise awareness of the great opportunities for walking in East Kent. The campaign includes a prize draw called 'Walk to Win'. Full details can be found on the Explore Kent website (www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent) - or directly at this campaign page -

http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure_and_culture/countryside_and_coast/walking/walk_to_win.aspx

The campaign runs until 31st March 2010. It involves walking events, radio advertising, adverts on buses, coverage in the local newspapers, online blogs, direct

mailings and much more. The wider project also includes new opportunities for residents in East Kent to become Countryside Access Wardens and it will also see the launch of a new on-line searchable database of all guided walks in Kent. This is being formally launched on the 24th April in Sturry, together with the 2010 Explore Kent Walking Festival. This system will be a first in the U.K. Further details will be made available about the launch of the database on the Explore Kent in the next month, or so.

Regards, Ian Baugh MIPROW

Development Manager, Countryside Access Service, KCC

www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

BROADBAND QUESTIONNAIRE

There is a chance that KCC are about to invite tenders for suppliers to install LLU equipment in rural exchanges within this area, thus enabling subscribers to obtain a much better and more stable broadband signal.

If this was introduced into the Minster area would you be interested, especially if it was offered at a better rate than you pay at present ?

Please answer the questions online via the polling page on the village website (click through from link on homepage)

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

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LOCAL NEWS

KENT TRADING STANDARDS ADVICE

Kent Trading Standards has recently been in receipt of a number of complaints relating to ‘free’ tooth whitening trials online that have led to the victim being charged hundreds of pounds in continued subscription fees. In many cases the companies impose all sorts of restrictions on the return of the trial equipment within an unrealistic timescale, making it unlikely that consumers will actually receive a refund.

By law, when buying online consumers are entitled to a 7 day cooling off period during which they are entitled to cancel their agreement. Kent Trading Standards strongly advise consumers to steer clear of adverts offering ‘free’ trials as usually if it seems to good to be true it normally is. Although terms and conditions can sometimes be very long winded it is important to read and understand these fully before signing up to any form of agreement, otherwise you could leave yourself open to ongoing charges.

For advice on your civil rights or to report a similar matter please call

Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06.

TIMELY WARNINGS from KENT TRADING STANDARDS

Kent Trading Standards are warning consumer's to be wary of companies offering visas for America known as ESTA's (Electronic System for Travel Authorisation).

It is now a requirement to have an ESTA before travelling to America however

these are free when applying through the US or UK embassy.

Some companies are offering to provide ESTA's and charging for this service. If they produce the ESTA then there is no breach of legislation as the consumer has agreed to pay for the service they are providing but some consumers' may not realise that this service is free.

Kent Trading Standards are warning consumers to be wary of these types of businesses and if in any doubt to contact the US or UK embassy.

Kent Trading Standards has been made aware of scam e-mails appearing on the internet following the Haiti earthquake. Some of the e-mails have what look like logos from genuine charities and are asking for donations.

Scam e-mails tend to list only mobile numbers, which a bona fide charity would steer clear of.

If you receive an e-mail asking for a donation but you are unsure if it is from a genuine charity, you can contact the Charity Commission on 0845 3000 218 who can tell you if they are registered with them and may be able to give you legitimate contact details.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8517243.stm>

For advice on your civil rights or to report a similar matter please call Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06.

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LOCAL NEWS

RSPCA KENT - ISLE OF THANET BRANCH

(reg. charity 209365)

incorporating the Woodchurch Animal Centre

Patrons: June Brown, Suzy Gale, Dave Lee MBE, Paul O'Grady

Patron June Brown, the much loved actress who plays Dot Cotton in Eastenders, paid a surprise flying visit to the RSPCA Woodchurch Animal Centre whilst in the area recently.

June was very impressed with the facilities and care at the centre. She was amazed at what had been achieved by a small local group of volunteers in building such a centre with the support and generosity of local people and hoped to see it grow into the future. June's delightful sense of humour soon had us all laughing and we hope it won't be too long before we have the pleasure of her company again.

The Isle of Thanet Branch would like to thank June very much for taking the time to visit the centre when she has such a busy schedule.

BRaille EMBOSSEr FUNDING

UPDATE - RAISED SO FAR

Hoodeners £745

A&S Dance £355

WI £100

Anon Donation £30

Total £1230

A BIG THANK YOU to The Hoodeners for their visit to The Saddler and the money they raised throughout the week before Christmas, also thank you to Audrey and Shirley for the Charity Dance and to the WI for their very kind donation.

MINSTER LIBRARY TEEN READING GROUP – AWARD

The Teen reading group were asked to write a book review on a new series of books by American Author Rachel Caine, entitled —The Morganville Vampires.

Laura Rochford's entry was successful in winning the National Competition, organised by Independent Book Publishers —Allison and Busby

Laura holding —Glass Houses the first in the series, received her prize of the complete gift set, of the present seven Morganville Vampire books. Author, Rachel Caine is visiting the UK in May to promote the publication of the eighth book in the series.

Publishers website: <http://www.allisonandbusby.com/>

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LOCAL NEWS

VALENTINE'S MASSACRE IN MONKTON ROAD

Well luckily no one was seriously injured but there was certainly a lot of metal massacred on Valentines evening, at around a quarter to nine, in Monkton Road. One of the biggest road traffic accidents that has ever happened in this village took place that evening, when a red Seat Leon driven by an Essex man damaged not one, not two but six, yes six vehicles including his own, four or possibly five of which are now write offs. It has been rumoured the Seat could have been travelling in excess of 90mph !! (or 145kph in new money) heading towards Minster and just short of the bottom of Prospect Road. Gill Hollands, whose family's vehicles sustained the majority of the damage, told MM that she and her friend Dolly were sitting in the kitchen just finishing off a cup of coffee when what sounded like an explosion from the neighbour's property had them running for the front door. Opening the door Gill immediately saw her van out in the middle of the road, the very van her and Dolly would have been in had it been 5 minutes later. She couldn't immediately see what had caused the accident, as the offending vehicle was the other side of her van sitting across the new wall that has only just been erected, outside of Eden Hall. Passing around the van she saw the remains of the Seat with the driver still inside, so she ran across and told him not to move in case he had unseen injuries, however the car started to fill with smoke so Gill and Dolly helped him out and away from the vehicle. It was only after this that she saw the damage caused to her husband's Jaguar, her son's Astra and the more minor damage to her house. It would appear the Seat first tagged Wally's Mitsubishi Shogun parked some three or four houses away, it then hit and destroyed two temporary road signs, before smashing into her blue Peugeot van, which in turn then hit the Jaguar, the Jag then hit the Astra which again in turn hit her house. Gill's van also collided with her neighbours

boundary wall, dislodging brickwork that flew into the neighbour's Mondeo causing considerable damage to that as well, before it finally came to rest in the middle of Monkton Road. Police, Fire and Ambulance services attended and after Gill's husband insisted that the driver was breathalysed, he was then taken off to hospital with minor injuries. The following morning, in daylight, Gill discovered yet more damage, this time to the roof of her caravan that is parked in her front garden. It would appear that a section of angle iron from one of the road signs, that was hit, had flown up and broken the roof-light and pierced the roof panel. An insurance assessor has been out to look at the damage and his remarks, in regard to the caravan, had Gill fuming, when he told her they could put a patch over the damage. What Gill said to him is not repeatable within these pages. What a nightmare for Gill and her 'three' insurance companies, especially as the offender had still not reported it to his own insurers on the Wednesday following the incident, when Gill last spoke to them. Gill also wished us to report that she thinks very little of the 'Police Pledge', the new initiative, that they have been advertising of late, which says they respond to all calls within 24hrs. Gill tells us she phoned them twice on the Monday and once on the Tuesday and she was promised someone would speak to her, but 5 days later, when we spoke to her, she was still waiting for them to return her call.

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She, quite rightfully, feels very let down having been left to deal with everything on her own, especially with no response from the Police, as no-one appears willing to offer her any advice on what she should or shouldn't be doing. They didn't even tell her where her van had been taken to following it's recovery.

We wish her luck in her quest to get full compensation for all of her family's losses, and we also take this opportunity to thank Bill Darby for the photos he sent us

Ray – Editor

THE SALVATION ARMY

Minster Corps

COMMUNITY SHOP – THE GRAND OPENING

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**

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POEMS.

My Thoughts

Every cloud has a silver lining,
though sometimes it is difficult to find.

It seems that life is so complicated,
problems loom of this or that kind.

Yet there is no doubt, that one must shout,
out loud for all to hear;
and count your blessings, every one,
to realise, you have many near.

Yvonne

The Spell Chequer

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.
As soon as A mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My chequer tolled me sew.

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YOUR LETTERS

GRAND PRAISE FOR GOZZI'S

Dear Editor,
Yesterday (18th February) it was my Mum's Birthday and Dad (Window Cleaner, Roy) decided to celebrate this occasion by frequenting the village's newest Restaurant, —Gozzi's|| Italian Restaurant for a family evening meal. I would like to, through Minster Matters, praise this establishment, not only for its high standard of service but also the delicious, reasonably priced food served It was such a shame that we (four of us) were the only ones in the restaurant all evening.
I would like to highly recommend —Gozzi's|| and ask that the locals consider this as a venue instead of going out of the area for a meal After all, the restaurant is situated in the heart of the village.

So, come on you locals support your local traders - They need our support if they are to continue.

As a final note and in the words of a well known Italian celebrity chef the meal was —FANTASTIO!!!

Yours sincerely, Karen London

(aka Lollipop Karen)

ANNOUNCEMENTS**IN MEMORY OF Len Coeshott**

Who passed away peacefully after a short illness at the QEQM Hospital on 2 February, aged 81yrs. Len was a true friend and always had time to listen or just pass the time of day. He was an active member of the Bowls Club and I well remember playing, with him and against him, on the old green, back in the days when I too was a member. Len had been my Mums neighbour for more years than I can recall (but then I can't remember what I did yesterday – so that could be anytime) and we had always had a good bit of banter across the fence whenever I was visiting. I'll truly miss seeing him around the village but I was extremely pleased to see how many turned out to pay their last respects, showing just how much he was thought of by friends and relatives alike. He would have been pleased to have seen so many of his friends and relatives there and to have been able to partake in the delicious spread that the bowls club had laid on. We all did a fair bit of reminiscing, that afternoon, whilst watching some old cine-camera footage, that was showing at the club. We were able to see how many past members have already gone before Len, so there ought to be a great Minster team playing bowls on the other side and one day we'll all be along to join them.

Rest in Peace, Len.

Ray, Editor

FOR SALE**Static Caravan 32' x 12'****7 yrs old 'Carnaby'**

- 2 Bedrooms • 1 with en-suite toilet & basin
- Separate Shower Room & Toilet
- Excellent Condition
- Quiet family site (no dogs or club)

Walmer, Nr. Deal - 10 minutes to Beach

Site open 1st March - 31st October

£6,000 ovno includes site fees for 2010

Would leave 70% of contents

Tel: 01843 821 834

Disabled man, mid 30's,

seeking help in taking him swimming.

The helper would preferably be first aid trained and male.

Payment negotiable.

If you are interested in applying for this please call The Direct

Payment helpline on 0845 365 2010 quoting ref. no. SMMA41 for an application form.

SPRING SHOW

The Horticultural Society Spring Show

will take place on **Saturday 10th April from 2.00pm - 4.30pm**

and will be held in the Village Hall.

Exhibitors at this show must be members of the Society, except for the

Children's classes.

It is not too early to start thinking about something to enter, just one entry each helps

to make a successful show. Schedules, giving details of the various classes are

available from Joan Card (the Show Secretary) at 71a High Street.

If you have any problems such as how to present the exhibit, how many items to put

in etc. contact Joan or another member of the Committee who will be only too

pleased to help. Always make sure you read the Schedule properly and enter the

correct number, size etc, as stated, or the entry will not be judged. Vases are

provided.

Don't think your exhibit is not good enough, very often members think this is the

case and don't bother to enter, and then on seeing the other exhibits realise that theirs

is probably better, if only they had entered it. Exhibits can be brought to the Hall on

the Friday evening before the show between 7.00pm and 9.00pm or between 7.30am

and 9.45am on the day of the Show.

Entry forms are included in the Schedule and must be given to Joan in advance, there

is no entry fee. Members and visitors are more than welcome to attend in the

afternoon from 2.00pm at a small charge of 50p for adults (children free). As well as

viewing the exhibits and having a chat with your friends, you can get refreshments

plus there is always a raffle and a sales table where you can purchase plants etc.

Altogether an enjoyable afternoon. If you are not already a member then how about

joining? The Annual subscription is just £2.25.

We hold our meetings (with speakers) in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of

every month, with the exception of July, when we usually organise an outing. There

are also two coffee mornings when we have a tombola, cakes, plants, books etc for

sale, and we have a Spring and Autumn Show. In August we link up with Acol and

Birchington Societies to hold a Mini Show and Social Evening, alternating between

the three villages. At our December meeting we have a bit of a party with music, and

in March a wine and wisdom type quiz.

MINSTER MAYHEMS

Thank you to Archies for their kind offer of a donation towards the purchase of

brooms, so as we can learn a new style of Morris dances !

Dominique Vaughan

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MINSTER-IN-THANET WI.

Ron Lobeck proved to be a most humorous and entertaining speaker at the February

meeting, regaling us with stories of his time in the Royal Navy as a meteorological

officer and subsequent television career, as well as enlightening us as to the gathering and analysis of data for weather reports: we all now know how to tell rain from drizzle, thanks to Ron. Oh, and wet snow from dry - very appropriate given the next day's weather conditions! The meeting was well attended, with 10 visitors, including 1 honorary 'woman'. It was reported that the Craft Group's gift of quilts for babies born in prison, or taken in with their mothers, was well received. The Group had also been busy knitting hats for the troops. The annual draw took place for a bursary to attend the WI College at Denman, Beryl Daulby being the lucky recipient. A competition for hand-made cards on a Japanese theme was judged by Ron, and those made by Jennie Pay and Ann Wilks will go forward to the Group Meeting in March. Members were asked to bring a favourite recipe to the next branch meeting: perhaps we will be able to publish a recipe book. It was agreed to make a donation to the purchase of the Braille Embosser, and the 'honorary woman' (aka Ray Owen) attended the monthly Coffee and Chat morning to receive a cheque. February is also our Birthday month, and so we met for celebration dinner at The Toby Inn, where we enjoyed the carvery - some of us even had room for pudding.

The next branch meeting will be on Tuesday, 9th March at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, when the speaker will be Tina Cesbron from The Chai Shop.

Visitors and new members will be made welcome.

Our popular Wine & Wisdom Evening will take place on 10th April

MINSTER BOWLS CLUB

It has been a very sad month for the Bowls Club. We have had to say Goodbye to two long standing members who passed away. They were Len Coeshott, and Francis Gimblet. Our sympathy goes to our Secretary, Mike, who lost his wife after a very long illness.

Hosting the East Kent Competitions went very well. Unfortunately our 6 entrants in the singles did not make the last two, luck was against the 3 pairs who entered that competition.

In the leagues the team in the 3rd division are holding 3rd place as I write, the first division team are down in 5th place.

Out of the three friendlies played against Betteshanger, Deal and Pfizers we won two games. Well done to those players. The finalists for the Club triples & pairs have been decided, they will play the final on 4th April.

Socially, on a much happier note a packed audience saw the very VERY last performance of John Snowdon & his famous four variety show. Club members, friends from the village, and followers from other parts of Thanet enjoyed a huge buffet provided by Pam and Ken before the show. A change was made for the last show, as we had two performances from a professional saxophonist. His services were provided for free, and when this was known the applause was much louder. The Hospice and the Club will benefit by this special evening.

JOURNALIST CLUB

Editor this month was **Ray** *due to the Snow*

1ST MINSTER SCOUT TROOP

1st Minster Scout troop is a scout troop in Minster, the first one in about 14 years!

Normally they go in the old Minster museum, now park Minster, on Fridays and play games, earn badges, and participate in events like the cross country (not really, just a mile or so run) race event. You have to be 10 and a half to be in Scouts and you have to leave Scouts and become an Explorer when you are 14 or so.

GOODBYE – MISS JACKSON

We will all miss Miss Jackson as she is leaving Minster school on the 12th of February 2010. She was my year 3 teacher and the best ever of course. She has been here for a long time now and has always put smiles on all of our faces. Sadly she will miss our Hind Leap Warren trip, which is in May. We will always remember Miss Jackson as the person that put smiles on our faces and brightened up our day. I hope Miss Jackson has a great time at her new school and makes new friends there. I will miss you loads and loads and I'm sure that everyone else will as well so GOOD UCK in your new school.

By Sophie Christina Stevens

SEND A COW

On Thursday 21st January 2010, the Send a Cow foundation came into our school and did a presentation for us all about Send a Cow. What is was about is people all over the world that aren't as lucky as us, people who need food and water get some because if you give a cow away to a family it could provide healthy things for them. You might find this disgusting but when a cow wees or poos it helps the soil so the crops can grow and the children can have something healthy to eat. Cows also produce milk and dairy so the children can have some milk. They showed us all about the people who live in places like Uganda and other places in Africa. They told us that they had helped almost 16,000 people over the year. Remember: People in Africa now have a meal 3 times each day and they have nice things to eat and drink all because of Send a Cow!

By Libby Thomson

JOURNALIST CLUB

JONAS

Jonas is a new TV program on Disney channel!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It has lodes of Laughter, Fun and mayhem it also explains a lot about the Jonas brothers. If you have sky or the internet you tune in any day on Disney channel!

By Rosie Malloy

WHEN WE WORE A FUNNY HAT TO SCHOOL FOR HAITI

On 5th of February 2010 we had a wear a funny hat to school to raise money for

Haiti. I, Helen, have gone around by my house and raised money for Haiti and altogether I have raised £52.08. I'm so glad that I have done this, and I am glad that I arranged to wear a funny hat to school. I hope I will raise enough money for Haiti.

Helen Birch

DANCE

There are lots of types of dances here are a few of them: Folk dance, Hip-Hop dance, Country and Western dance, Ballet but there's MUCH MORE! You can listen to all types of music when you are dancing then you learn how to get into the rhythm and how to do the right steps! I used to do ballet, street dancing and cheerleading and I'm hoping to start going to some of those clubs again but I still make up routines with my friends!!!

By Keeley Allen

SEND A COW

On Thursday 21st January we had an assembly on send a cow to Africa so it would be easier to get milk out of the cow rather than walking all the way down to the water wells. It will be better to send a cow than a meal because the cows provide milk, cowpat to help the crops grow and the wee will be like a fertilizer to keep the insects away.

By Helen and Keeley

MONKEY MAN

Monkey man is the latest thing yo!

He is a cartoon monkey that goes on adventures.

He has a song and a dance. But most of all I made him up

Moshi Monsters

Moshi Monsters is an online game for kids, where they can adopt a monster for free. There are 6 monsters to choose from and you can choose what colour you would like your monster to be. When you adopt a Moshi monster you get a Moshi house, that you can decorate however you want. There is a Moshi town where you can go shopping with your monster and you also have a garden where you can grow plants, and if you are lucky moshlings appear and you can keep them as house pets. Moshlings are little animals that get attracted to plants. If you want to become a Moshi Member you have to pay £12.39 every year. I love Moshi monsters it is the best online game ever.

By Emma Holland

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JOURNALIST CLUB

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WHAT'S ON

Patient Liaison Group (Minster)

May Day Craft Fair & Bazaar

Sat 1st May 0900-1300

Old Schools

Only £6 per stall/table

Refreshments, Bric a brac, Cakes & Cards, Tombola, Local Antiques, Bring & Buy.

Book early. Contact Ken Self: 821200

MINSTER PLAYHOUSE

WINE & WISDOM

FRIDAY MARCH 12TH AT 7.30

THE OLD SCHOOL'S

£3 PER HEAD - TABLES OF 8ish

Bring your own drink and nibbles

To book phone Debbie 01304 615263

The South East (Kent) Get Together, Make Music, Hike and Walk Group :

7TH MARCH AT SANDWICH BAY 4 MILE LOOP

commencing 10am from Sandwich Station

To book a place please contact Diane on 07717 453 106

www.meetup.com/South-East-Get-Together-MakeMusic-Hike-Walk

Minster Playhouse

Casting has been completed, recording of the play has happened and we are now into the first few weeks of rehearsals.

Ghost Writer promises to be another Playhouse triumph with what has been described as a —Dream Team! being involved both back and front of stage.

Recognisable faces together with a few new ones are fully geared up and really looking forward to this production. This Play has been labelled — *Blythe Spirit with*

Attitude! Written by David Tristram, this comical piece will guarantee to bring you

laughs. So what is the story line? A year after his wife's death, Edward is still deeply affected, unable to face the emotional torment of living in the house he shared with his wife, he has moved into the attic room of one of his oldest actor friends, Alex.

One night however he receives a visitor who will change the course of events.

With special effects and laugh a minute lines, this is one not to be missed! This show is directed by Scott Steele.

12th – 15th May and Tickets £6.00 and £5.00

available from Terry on 01843 220208

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NOTES & EVENTS

MINSTER-IN-THANET WI

NEXT MEETING

On **Tuesday, 9th March, 7.30 pm**

Village Hall

Speaker: Tina Cesbron from

The Chai Stop

Newmembers and guests welcome

Coffee and Chat

Thursday, 18th March,

10am - 12 noon

All welcome

WINE & WISDOM EVENING

Saturday, 10th April 7pm for

7.30pm start

Village Hall

Quizmaster Peter Warr

Tickets £5 per person,

includes supper

Maximum 8 per table

Further details and tickets from

Ann, 821152

MINSTER & MONKTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

WOMEN'S SECTION

NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th March

7.30pm

Make 5 Easter biscuits

Bingo Speaker or Quiz

Raffle prizes needed

for all meetings

For further information

Miriam Smith 822589

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NOTES & EVENTS

SATURDAY MARKET

On 13th March

In the Old Schools. 10am to 12noon. Cakes, preserves, plants, Bric a brac.

All welcome.

CLIFTONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

Last Sunday of each Month

at the Oval Lawns, Eastern Esplanade

For further info contact June Chadband on 226033

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

MONKTON OPEN GARDENS

5th & 6th JUNE 2010

11am-5pm

This long-established (1992) biennial event is run in aid of our Church and Village Hall, which are both in desperate need of funding. As a small village it is difficult to raise money, so any support from outside is particularly welcome.

Please make a note of the date in your diary.

MINSTER OPEN GARDENS 2010

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

Rev'd Bob Coles: 821250

FREE HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

For people unable to get to the library, carers and those with ill health or disabilities

Want to know more?

Call us on 01843 821442 At Minster Thanet Library

Or visit www.kent.gov.uk/libs Click *Services for everyone* then *housebound*

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NOTES & EVENTS

MINSTER AND MONKTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

Spring Social Evening

Saturday 13th March

7.30pm at Village Hall

Quiz night with a buffet

Tickets are £5 members, £7 non-members

Contact Don on 821152 for more details

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 17th March

7.30pm Village Hall

Mr —Dusty Miller

—Growing vegetables from scratch

Points table: a vegetable flan

Visitors welcome 50p

1st MINSTER BROWNIES

meet at Recreation Ground Pavilion

from 5.00pm to 6.30pm on Monday evenings in term time

Girls aged 7-11 years old are welcome.

If you are interested please call Sharon Charman

on 834457

1st MINSTER SCOUTS

Meet at Parkminster (formerly Minster Museum)

in the Abbey Grounds

Every Friday from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in term time

Boys and Girls from 10 to 14.

For further information contact Barbara or

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

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NOTES & EVENTS

MOTHERS UNION

Wednesday 10th March

2pm St Marys Church

Primrose Northrop is leading

us in a Lenten Meeting

WOMENS WORLD DAY

OF PRAYER

Friday 5th March

2pm

St Mary's Church, Minster

Everyone Welcome

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

THANET QUILTERS

Please note amended date – Tuesday 9th March 2010

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start

Held at Church House, Kent Gardens, Birchington, Kent CT7 9RS

Admission £2 – All welcome.

For more details visit the website at www.thanetquilters.org.uk

AMBERS ADVICE

The dream was always running ahead of one.

To catch up, to live for a moment in unison with it, that was the miracle.

TIGERS TIP

- To remove date skins -

Squeeze fresh dates at the stem end to remove their tough skin

ZAC's MUSINGS

Why are fellow dogs in this village getting some of us a bad name, by not training

their owners to pick up after them

It just ain't nice !!!

Church News and Service Times

St. Mary's the Virgin, Minster
Rev. Bob Coles, 821250

Sunday Services In MARCH 2010

7th March

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Family Praise
6.30pm: Evensong

14th March

9am: no service this Sunday
10am: **Mothering Sunday Service**

21st March

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

28th March

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Palm Sunday Service

Mid week service at St Mary's
Wednesdays 10.30am

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.

Funerals:

25th January: Elsie Rendell (95)
at Thanet Crematorium

1st February: Kitty Hicks (91)
at Thanet Crematorium

2nd February: Joyce Farrant (85)
at Minster Church & Thanet Crematorium

4th February: Ethel May Swan (92)
at Thanet Crematorium

8th February: Vincent James Rabassa (52)
at Thanet Crematorium

15th February: Leonard Eric Coeshott (81)
at Thanet Crematorium

Home Communion:

Anyone who is unable to join us for our
Easter Celebrations but would like to
receive Easter Communion in their own
home, please contact
Canon Bob Coles (821250)

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

St Mary Magdalene, Monkton
Sunday Services In
MARCH

(Please note that some services this
month will be held in the Methodist
Church)

Please check local Notice Board for
information as to when services might
return to the Parish Church following
completion of the repair work.)

7th March

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

14th March

10.15am: **Mothering Sunday Service**

21st March

10.15am: Holy Communion at the
Methodists

28th March

10.15am: Family Service

Christians Together: Lent Course 2010

This is being held at the Abbey,
at 7.30pm each

Tuesday following Compline at 7.15pm.
We will be looking at "When I survey
... Christ's Cross and ours".
All welcome.

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CHURCH NEWS

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Contacting your District Councillors

Councillor Bob Grove

Independent Ward Councillor for the Thanet Villages

Tel: 821195 email: cllr-bob.grove@thanet.gov.uk

Bob now holds a regular monthly surgery, on every 1st Wednesday of each month, in

the Neighbourhood Centre at 1.15pm. All residents are welcome to attend

Councillor Mike Roberts

Conservative Ward Councillor for the Thanet Villages

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

regarding Council matters

Tel: 595065 email: marlec@fsb.com

Contacting your MP:

Dr. Stephen Ladyman:

South Thanet Constituency Office

28, Newington Road, Ramsgate, CT12 6EE

Tel: 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

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Musical interludes supplied courtesy of

Brenda Saker, Daryl Booth and Richard Spendlove MBE