

# **MONKTON NEWS**

## **SEPTEMBER 2020**



*Butterflies that can be seen in the village- read about them  
in nature notes.*

# MINSTER 1936 GARAGE

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## WHAT'S IN YOUR MONKTON NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER, 2020

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### *To Autumn*

[John Keats](#) - 1795-1821

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,  
 Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
 Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
 With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;  
 To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,  
 And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
 To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
 With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
 And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
 Until they think warm days will never cease

## **WHO DOES WHAT IN MONKTON NEWS?**

editor	Denyse Cole	Tel: 01843 821657 <a href="mailto:denysecole@btinternet.com">denysecole@btinternet.com</a>
finance	Sharon McPherson	
advertising	Denyse Cole	As above
Church liaison	Rev. Canon Peter Gausden	01843 825374
Distribution	Kay Horne	01843 823849 <a href="mailto:shudy@talk21.com">shudy@talk21.com</a>

This magazine is distributed free of charge to residents and friends of Monkton by volunteers.

Articles and letters for Monkton News should be sent to the editor as above or 112 Monkton Street, BY THE 19<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH Villagers not receiving a copy should contact Kay Horne (as above).

### **ADVERTISING RATES**

Full page	£53.00
Half page	£26.50.00
Quarter page	£17.00
<b>ONE MONTH ONLY</b>	
Whole page	£8.00
Half page	£5.00
Quarter page	£4.00

All fees payable in advance – please make cheques payable to St. Mary Magdalene Church.

**ALL ADVERTISEMENT COPY TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH.**

**Do you have or know of any businesses who would like to advertise in Monkton News. It's easy to place an advert – contact Denyse at 01843 821657. Email [denysecole@btinternet.com](mailto:denysecole@btinternet.com) for info and friendly advice. All Monkton or local enterprises welcome.**

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, MONKTON**

We are part of the benefice of the Wantsum Group which comprises the Church of England parishes of **Minster, Monkton, St. Nicholas with Sarre and Chislet**. This benefice also belongs to the **SEAMARSH** group of parishes

St. Mary Magdalene, Monkton, and Monkton Methodist Church occasionally join for worship. . Services for the entire benefice are noted as appropriate. All ministerial staff work throughout the group, but focal areas of ministry are indicated in the right-hand column.

**TO ARRANGE BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS OR FUNERALS AT  
ST. MARY MAGDALENE PLEASE CONTACT THE VICAR**

Vicar of the benefice	Rev. Dr. Richard Braddy	821250 Richard Braddy <arichard.braddy@gmail.com>	Minster And Benefice
Assistant curates	Rev. Vicky Coneys  Rev. Michael Darkins	585437	
Group administrator	Matthew Hergest	823347 mjhergest@hotmail.com	For the benefice
		Rev Karen Gooding has relocated to ministry in Westgate	
Reader	Mrs. Sally Willins	822428	Chislet
Methodist minister		Rev Colin Telfer has moved to ministry in Norfolk.	
Retired clergy	Rev. Canon Peter Gausden	825374	
Ret Reader	Mrs Diana Davies	823017	St. Nicholas

## USEFUL NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY 101	MINSTER DOCTORS' SURGERY 821333. Out of hours call 111
CRIME STOPPERS 0800 555 111	SOCIAL SERVICES 860000
COMMUNITY WARDEN – KARL AYLETT 07811 271 299 <a href="mailto:Karl.aylett@kent.gov.uk">Karl.aylett@kent.gov.uk</a>	MONKTON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL 821394
PCSO Adrian Butterworth. To contact email <a href="mailto:56550@kent.pnn.police.uk">56550@kent.pnn.police.uk</a> PCSO Debbie Forsyth <a href="mailto:60457@Kent.pnn.police.uk">60457@Kent.pnn.police.uk</a> or call 101	MINSTER LIBRARY 03000 413131
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELP 07926 842 183 <a href="http://www.domesticabuseservices.org">www.domesticabuseservices.org</a>	SOUTHERN WATER to report a leak 0800820999 Supply or sewage problems 0330 303 0368 Billing 0333 200 3015
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 Free and confidential.	Parish clerk – Sara Archer <b>821989</b> <a href="mailto:clerk@monktonparish.co.uk">clerk@monktonparish.co.uk</a> <a href="https://www.hugofox.com/community/monkton-parish-council-18134/home/">https://www.hugofox.com/community/monkton-parish-council-18134/home/</a> . WEBSITE
<b>THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL</b> – for all department information <a href="https://www.thanet.gov.uk">https://www.thanet.gov.uk</a> PHONE 577000	RSPCA 0300 1234 999
Recycling and fly tipping 577115	LOCAL RETAILERS offering deliveries. Attwells, Touchwood chemists. Brills DIY, Birchington. And others on enquiry.. .
Planning 577591	NEAREST POST OFFICE Minster 821291
Dog warden and noise control 577580	MONKTON VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS 821439
QEQM HOSPITAL 225544 Outpatients appointments line 01227 868686	MINOR INJURY UNITS Kent and Canterbury Hospital 24 hrs 01227 864244 Estuary View , Whitstable CT5 3SE 8-8 daily 01227 284301



## WHAT'S ON AT THE VILLAGE HALL IN SEPTEMBER 2020

DAY	TIME	EVENT	CONTACT
MONDAYS	9.30-10.30  7.00pm	Zumba style exercise Canine behaviour and obedience training classes	Chris Paris Brown MBIPBT 01227 365381
TUESDAYS	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday</b> 3.15pm-5.15pm  7.30pm except third Tuesday. Monkton WI third Tuesday, 7-30 pm	Messy Church  Adults Table Tennis Club	Eileen Brackstone 825390  Gilly Brown  Penny 821539
WEDNESDAYS	10-12  2-4 pm (school holidays only)  7.00pm	Social morning for retired villagers Family fun afternoon  Line dancing all grades beginners upwards	Gilly O'Neill     Theo Loyla
THURSDAYS			
FRIDAYS	4.00pm -no classes in August	La Dance Academy	Laura 07772173424
SATURDAYS	9.00am <b>as above</b>	La Dance Academy	Laura 07772173424
SUNDAYS	11.00am-1.00pm	Ballroom Latin and Argentine Tango –tuition available	Dorothy 01843 840825

*ACTIVITIES are graduallu starting again following Covid 19 public health guidelines. Please contact your organiser for details.*

## VILLAGE NEWS AND EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER 2020

### COVID 19 VILLAGE HELP HUB

## **TO VILLAGERS WHO STILL NEED TO SHIELD OR SELF ISOLATE DUE TO COVID 19**

if you live in Monkton and continue to need to shield or self-isolate you can call the number below if you need emergency help with: -  
prescriptions, shopping, mail posting.

We have local volunteers who are willing to assist you.

Contact Del or Pete on **01843 821439**;

**Please only use this number for essential shopping when it cannot be obtained through one of the many home delivery services from local grocery outlets.**

**Please ring at convenient hours as this service is not available for late night calls**

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERY ONE WHO CONTINUES TO VOLUNTEER IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES**

## **ACTIVITIES IN MONKTON VILLAGE HALL COME TO LIFE AGAIN**

Most weekly events in Monkton Village hall have started sessions again. Peter Mitchell , booking organiser,told us that the hall has all essential sanitising , cleaning and distancing regulations in place in line with guidance from authorities on the opening of halls. .

Theo Loyla , whose line dancing group meets weekly explained that his groups can only meet with half the regular number of participants, and it is necessary to phone and book a place to ensure individuals can attend and keep social distancing.

For details of Theo's group and other current events at the hall please use the contacts in village hall diary. Social events or parties , at the time of writing, continue to be restricted by government regulations .



## **WE'LL MEET AGAIN, BUT DON'T WHEN AT THE MOMENT**

*A message to Monkton's Wednesday Social Group for retired villagers.*

We just wanted to give you a quick update and let you all know that we're still thinking of you...

We've given it a lot of thought but unfortunately don't think it's the right time to re-open our lovely club just yet. However, as soon as the covid-19 situation improves and regulations begin to relax a bit more, we'll be ready and more than willing to serve you tea and cake again, with a smile as always!

If anyone needs anything at all, even if it's just a chat in a friendly ear, then please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Contact Gilly 821232 or Sara 821989.

We look forward to seeing you all again very soon.





## Minster Mobility Scheme

The mobility equipment loan scheme operated in Minster, is also open to residents in the surrounding villages.

We offer mobility scooters, wheelchairs, walkers, perching stools and many other items that you can borrow from us. See our website at <http://www.mmmobilityscheme.org.uk/> for a full list of what we can offer.

We make no set charge for this service but we are open to accepting donations towards the upkeep of the equipment and we're also quite happy to both deliver and collect items.

For further information, please either check our website, or ring Ray on 07914 623 287.

### MINSTER LIBRARY ADULT READING GROUP.

As you most probably know, Kent County Council started to re-open some libraries in July. Unfortunately, Minster Library was not one of them and it is still closed. No date has as yet not been given for it to re-open, so in the meantime the reading group is still dormant.

The nearest open library to us is Broadstairs. You need to contact the library service to find out current opening times and various services available, as these depend on Covid regulations.

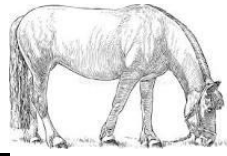
Peter Kinsey

### TREE PLANTING AT THE RECREATION GROUND

I am hoping that this can still go ahead in November. I have ordered 30 saplings from The Woodland Trust and will be donating one of these for Eileen Blackstone's group of young environmentalists to plant at the church. Many thanks to those who have donated 2l plastic bottles for tree guards. I now have enough of these, so please stop saving them for me.

However, I still need more people to help plant and possibly care for the trees for a couple of years. Anyone who can help, please contact me. Thank you. **Davina Ransom Tel: 821446**





## **HAZARDS TO GRAZING HORSES**

A Monkton horse owner has asked us to emphasise the hazards of small hard objects – in this case golf balls, being hit or thrown on to grazing paddocks.

Mrs. Kay Gregory of Golden Point Farm has recently found golf balls in the grass of her livestock paddocks. She points out that if a horse or any animal swallowed a golf ball it could have fatal results. Objects like golf balls could also cause a horse to stumble if a hoof slipped causing damage to its limbs, and injury to the rider.

Countryside agencies frequently point out that any kind of plastic waste or discarded rubbish can be severely damaging or life threatening to grazing animals and wild life.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. BOB HOOD.**

One of the village's most senior and longest residing people, Mr. Bob Hood, celebrated his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday last month. He enjoyed socially distanced congratulations from members of Monkton Parish Council, a birthday fanfare from the Horsburgh family musicians, and with friends from the village.

Bob later enjoyed a celebratory tea, socially distanced of course, hosted by Pete and Del Mitchell.

Bob was born and grew up in Monkton and has lived here all his life, apart from a few years in Minster, with his late sister Ruth. He worked in agriculture in the village until his retirement.

### **THANET FOOD BANK**

Owing to the continuing difficulties with collection points Monkton donations of food gifts has been deferred. Further information will be available in October.

Please continue to donate at the collection baskets at most local supermarkets. Thank you as always for past gifts and donations.





## VILLAGE COMMEMORATES THE FINAL END OF WW2 WITH TRIBUTE TO “THE FORGOTTEN ARMY”

Many of us watched the moving and sobering reflections from veterans and their relatives on television broadcasts on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day – 15<sup>th</sup> August. Here in Monkton, on an unusually rainy Saturday morning villagers gathered at Willetts Hill to mark two minutes silence, the reading of a commemorative poem for peace,, and at 11.10 am, the tolling of our parish church bell – 75 times for each year since the end of the war. .

Prayers were also read for peace and reconciliation between the world’s nations.

Mr. David Blackwell read the poem, . Prayers were read by churchwarden , Denyse Cole, and Rev. Canon Peter Gausden.

Homes in the village were decorated with flags as in VE Day in May, and in spite of the rainy occasion front garden picnics took place .



*THE PASTORAL LETTER... CANON PETER GAUSDEN POINTS  
OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF EVENTS TODAY WHEN WE CANNOT  
ALTER EVENTS OF THE PAST*

Dear Friends,

September, 2020

This has been a strange year thus far. It opened with very real concerns about Climate Change, rapidly overtaken by the more immediate threat from Covid 19.

Then came the brutal killing of George Floyd in the USA followed by the Black Lives Matter demonstrations in this country. Suddenly, the focus narrowed and it seems that we turned from the wider challenges of Covid and Climate in order to contemplate the evils of our British past. Poor Greta Thunberg was pushed right off the radar while we concentrated on pulling down statues of 18<sup>th</sup> Century profiteers from the slave trade and examined memorial inscriptions in churches in case they should need amendment or even deletion.

Rather than pursuing these sterile investigations into the past, would it not be more constructive to deal with what is going on at the present? If we really want to atone for the manifest evils of the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Century slave trade, should we not be campaigning more vigorously against the slave traders of the present day? The recent arrivals on our coast of desperate migrants in small boats has been yet another reminder that slavers are still very active almost on our doorstep and 'people trafficking,' as we now call it, remains a world-wide and highly profitable business.

Does anybody worry about what colour these migrants are? What counts is that they are our brothers and sisters in the human family of God, and to him, All Lives Matter.

Peter Gausden

**NOTE**

**Greta** Thunberg (born 3 January 2003) is a Swedish environmental activist who has gained international recognition for promoting the view that humanity is facing an existential crisis arising from climate change.



**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, MONKTON**

**In co-operation with instructions from church authorities people attending Church Services are asked to wear a mask.**

**St. Mary Magdalene Church will remain open between 2 pm & 4 pm every Sunday for quiet reflection and prayer. For a full list of services for SEPTEMBER please see WANTSUM BENEFICE service information**

**Please check Village notice boards and/or the Benefice web site below for any developments and changes.  
Our Ministry Team are maintaining a daily pattern of prayer for the community and beyond. See the website below for Sunday Services on line.**

**If you wish to talk to one of the clergy, need support or would welcome prayer please contact: Revd Richard Braddy**

**01843 821250**

**[info@wantsumchurches.org](mailto:info@wantsumchurches.org)**

**[www.wantsumchurches.org](http://www.wantsumchurches.org)**

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**Extended Contact Details**

Given the difficulties of maintaining contact in these present days, we thought it might be helpful, in addition to telephone numbers, to include some e mail addresses.

The Vicar, the Revd Richard Braddy [arichardbraddy@gmail.com](mailto:arichardbraddy@gmail.com)

Mr Matthew Hergest, Group Administrator [mjhergest@hotmail.com](mailto:mjhergest@hotmail.com)

Revd Karen Gooding, (St Nicholas) [karengooding@gmail.com](mailto:karengooding@gmail.com)

Revd. Vicky Coneys [vickysconeys@hotmail.com](mailto:vickysconeys@hotmail.com)

Revd. Michael Darkins [revd.michaeldarkins@gmail.com](mailto:revd.michaeldarkins@gmail.com)

Mrs Denyse Cole, Churchwarden. [denysecole@btinternet.com](mailto:denysecole@btinternet.com)

Mr David Mairs, Churchwarden [davidmairs25@btinternet.com](mailto:davidmairs25@btinternet.com)



## Bible Readings for Sundays & Holy Days

You can also receive the daily services and information from our benefice team through [wantsumchurches@gmail.co](mailto:wantsumchurches@gmail.co)

### SEPTEMBER

6 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 13	Rom. 13. 8-end Matt. 18. 15-20
13 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 14	Rom. 14. 1-12 Matt. 18. 21-35
20 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 15	Phil. 1. 21-end Matt. 20. 1-16
27 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 16	Phil. 2. 1-13 Matt. 21. 23-32

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**We are open for prayer and worship  
– join us online or in church!**

**Services of said Holy Communion in the Wantsum Benefice:**

***Sunday 6 September***

9.30 Monkton  
10.30 Minster

***Sunday 13 September***

9.30 Chislet  
10.30 St Nicholas

***Sunday 20 September***

9.30 Monkton  
10.30 Minster

***Sunday 27 September***

9.30 Chislet (non HC)  
10.30 St Nicholas

**Sunday 4 October**

9.30 Monkton  
10.30 Minster

**Sunday 11 October**

9.30 Chislet  
10.30 St Nicholas

**Sunday 18 October**

9.30 Monkton  
10.30 Minster

**Sunday 25 October**

9.30 Chislet (non HC)  
10.30 St Nicholas

**Midweek Service of said Holy Communion (BCP) held at Minster Wednesday 10.30am:**

9 September

23 September

7 October

21 October

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**Churches open for prayer and reflection**

**Minster:** Sunday 2-4pm; Tuesday & Thursday 10am-12pm

**St Nicholas:** Sunday, Tuesday 2-4pm & Thursday 10am-12pm

**Monkton:** Sunday 2-4pm

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**Church Online**

Church online - informal worship on our YouTube Channel (Wantsum Benefice) – *every Sunday*

Daily Newsletter – with reading & reflection and links to other events –

To receive this email: [info@wantsumchurches.org](mailto:info@wantsumchurches.org)

Monday-Friday Morning Prayer 9.00am & Evening Prayer 5.00pm on Facebook Live  
Facebook: St Mary's Church, Minster-in-Thanel or St Nicholas at Wade Church

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**[www.wantsumchurches.org](http://www.wantsumchurches.org)**

If you wish to talk to someone, need support or would welcome prayer please contact:

Revd Richard Braddy 01843 821250

[info@wantsumchurches.org](mailto:info@wantsumchurches.org)



**ORDINATION OF OUR CURATE , REV. MICHAEL**

**DARKINS** .....Michael Darkins is due to be ordained priest on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at Minster Church at 10.30 am. Ordinations usually take place for the Diocese of Canterbury at the cathedral, but due to Covid 19 are taking place in local churches. Please note that limited numbers will be able to attend this service.



# parish council news

Monkton

September 2020

clerk: Sara Archer: [clerk@monktonparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@monktonparish.co.uk)

## **STAYING SAFE**

We hope you are all staying safe and well. Monkton Parish Council are continuing to operate, for the moment the Parish Council will continue to hold its meetings online via Zoom. Anyone wishing to join the meeting should contact the Parish Clerk – [clerk@monktonparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@monktonparish.co.uk)

## **PARISH WEB SITE**

The much-improved new Parish Council website is up and running. There are many useful links and addresses and all agendas and minutes. <https://www.hugofox.com/community/monkton-parish-council18134/home/>.

**VJ Day.** A big thank you to Monkton Village for coming together to celebrate VJ day, our Village looked great with all of the decorations and flags. We would like to give special thanks to Rachael & 1the Horsburgh family, Heather & Malcom Gunton and Del & Pete Mitchell for their much-appreciated input in ensuring Monkton celebrated the day.

## **Bin Collection Issues**

There have been reports of missed bin collections over the last few weeks, these can be reported on the TDC website or alternatively you can report it to the Parish Council and we can raise the issue.

The Parish Council has already reported the issue with the communal bin at the top of seamark and the recreation ground.

## **Traveller Site**

There are currently two temporary Traveller sites under consideration, one being the car park at the end of Potten Street, St Nicholas. Villages ward councillor Reece Pugh has raised a petition asking Thanet council to remove these sites due to road safety fears.

We will provide any other updates as we get them on our Facebook page.

## **THE PLAY AREA AT THE RECREATION GROUND**

This is now open again. We ask all users to please follow the safety advice below:

- Use hand sanitiser before & after use of the equipment
- Only enter the area if you are able to maintain social distancing, otherwise wait until someone exits
- No dogs are allowed in the area

The above advice is under review as we have just received further advice from the government regarding the management of playgrounds and the Parish Council need to assess what measures are necessary to keep the area safe from Covid-19.

## **Foxhunter Park**

A few villagers have recently expressed concern about the noise levels from the Foxhunter Park. We posted a message on Facebook to obtain other opinions from the residents. We found that almost all comments were positive. The Foxhunters has had to move the entertainment outside to comply with Covid

regulations, they have also reduced the finish time to 7pm to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum. We will continue to monitor the situation, please feel free to provide comments to the Clerk if you do not have access to Facebook

## **Planning Updates**

### **UNITS 1-4 MONKTON ROAD FARM SEAMARK ROAD - CU/TH/20/0693**

Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development (Existing) to confirm use class B2 for units 1 and 4 and use class B8 for units 2 and 3.

Certificate Refused

## **Applications already in the pipeline:**

### **BROOKSEND SERVICE STATION - F/TH/20/0165**

Change of use of part of petrol filling station to hand car wash and valet centre with ancillary waiting room and coffee shop (sui generis), following removal of petrol pumps. Awaiting decision

16

**LAND WEST OF INVICTA  
WAY - F/TH/20/0616**

Erection of 22 No mixed use commercial units. Awaiting decision

**HEYHILL LAND REAR OF  
96-102 MONKTON  
STREET - OL/TH/19/0409**

No further details of the appeal

**COLES YARD -  
OL/TH/20/0335**

Erection of 20 houses and 20 retirement flats.

No further update as yet.

**SHIVERING SAND  
BREWERY LTD,  
MANSTON BUSINESS  
PARK**

Change of use of Micro Brewery to Micro Brewery and Drinking Establishment. Pending consideration.

*Details on all planning applications, including planning conditions and recommendations etc can be found on TDC's website using the following link:*

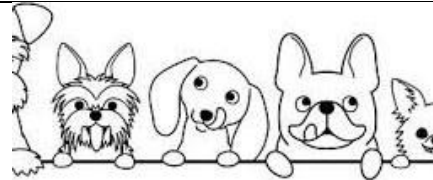
[www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/planning-application-search/](http://www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/planning-application-search/)



**MONKTON**

**FACEBOOK PAGE:**

Check out our Facebook page ... **Monkton, Kent**



PLEASE PICK UP AFTER  
US ON OUR WALKS AND  
USE THE DOG WASTE  
BINS AROUND THE  
VILLAGE.



THANK YOU



MONKTON METHOIST CHURCH. at the time of writing Wednesday services at the chapel continue to be suspended.



## VILLAGE NATURE NOTES from DR. CLIVE NUTTMAN

### Murderous plants and 'singing' caterpillars in Monkton!

**T**he wildflower field between the Monkton Street and the recreation fields is taking on a distinctly autumnal appearance. Hastened by dry conditions and plenty of sunshine, things are looking rather brown as the grass is well past its best and many flowering plants have gone to seed. The dried reddish-brown spikes of docks are very conspicuous, along with thousands of common knapweed; the brown thistle-like seed heads will ensure that next summer will see another colourful display of purple flowers that will attract insects in search of nectar and pollen. Thistles have taken over along the eastern margin and, together with some buddleia, the remaining flowers offer some attractive resources for bees, flies and butterflies.

A few splashes of yellow and pink colour are provided by various vetches and the large flowers of some late-flowering oxeye daisies catch the attention, together with several 'umbellifers'. This is the name given to the carrot family of plants; I always think of 'umbrellas', as many of the members of this group have large platforms made up of masses of tiny white-creamish flowers that look a bit like an umbrella! Among the hedge parsley and wild carrot is yarrow, a plant that looks as though it is closely related but is in the daisy family – it's easily distinguished by the very fine, almost feathery, dark green leaves. Umbellifers to avoid include giant hogweed, hemlock, and wild parsnip – all three are poisonous (hemlock was the plant that killed Socrates!) and will cause blistering of the skin.

Further colour is on offer from numerous butterflies; whilst brightly-hued peacocks and red admirals feast on the buddleia, most of the butterflies in the field are rather drab. Gatekeepers, meadow browns and small heaths are present in good numbers but are quite dowdy in comparison and easily overlooked; small and large whites are also abundant. A gaudy exception is the common blue butterfly. Although small, the beautiful lilac-blue males catch the eye – the females are duller and brownish. The males hold, and aggressively defend, small territories,

gaining mating opportunities with any female that wanders into the patch. Once the eggs hatch, the caterpillars – in common with other members of the ‘blue family’ – provide one of the most extraordinary stories in natural history. The caterpillars sing! Inaudible to the human ear, and probably made through the compression of air in the body, the sounds – together with chemicals produced from tiny pores – serve to attract ants. Whilst ants are carnivores and would usually eat such a defenceless ‘meal’, they end up ‘tending’ the tiny larvae; the ants touch the caterpillar’s body with their antennae, stimulating them to excrete a sugary solution that the ants gorge on. This strange relationship has benefits to both parties – the ants get a ‘free meal’ and the caterpillars are protected by their new friends. Sometimes, fact is stranger than fiction!



PEACOCK BUTTERFLY



RED ADMIRAL BUTTERFLY



COMMON BLUE BUTTERFLY



# **MINSTER SURGERY**

## **PATIENT LIAISON GROUP**

### **SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS 2020** **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS**

#### **FOR OVER 65' s AND AT RISK PATIENTS:**

Vaccination Clinic will be held on **Saturday 12th September from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm**

Appointments will be available to book on receipt of your letter which is being sent out to eligible patients.

#### **FOR ELIGIBLE AND AT RISK PATIENTS UNDER 65**

Vaccination Clinic will be held on **Saturday 10th October form 9.00 am to 3.00 pm**  
However, this date is yet to be confirmed as we are awaiting confirmation from NHS England of vaccine availability.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

1. Due to Covid 19 we will be adhering to strict infection control measures and all patients attending **MUST wear face coverings** and adhere to **Social Distancing Measures** by keeping 2m apart at all times and follow the direction signs indicated
2. To ensure Social Distancing measures can be accommodated there will be **NO PARKING AT THE SURGERY**
3. Eligible Patients will receive a letter inviting them to make an appointment and it is **ESSENTIAL** that you bring your letter with you to the clinic, as it includes your personal code, as without it, **WE WILL NOT** be able to give you your vaccination.

If you have any concerns about your eligibility, or mobility issues that could present difficulties, please contact Reception.

#### **REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS- DELIVERY**

Please note that following further recent lifting of Covid19 restrictions, prescriptions will no longer be delivered to patients..

#### **'SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS**

Please note that the surgery will close from the following days:

Staff Training - Wednesday 23rd September; Thursday 22nd October From 1pm

Bank Holiday - Monday 31st August - Closed all day

Please ensure that you have sufficient medication to last you during these times, and of course, please don't forget to include all the family who may require repeat prescriptions and check when their medication review appointment is due.

Should you need to see a Doctor when the surgery is closed, please call the "NHS 111 Service" direct on 111 to receive non urgent and confidential advice and information for you and your Family.

For Urgent/Life threatening cases please dial " 999 " as normal.

## PATIENT GROUP MEETINGS

Due to Covid 19 restrictions, we are currently holding our meetings using video conferencing, however, if you have any issues you would like to raise or require further information on any of the above, then please contact :

KEN SELF on Thanet 821200 or JEANNE LAWRENCE on Thanet 821049

or via email : [kenself@me.com](mailto:kenself@me.com)

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**O**ur **Messy Church** for the next couple of months is going to be sent out to you as it's still not possible to hold safe meetings either in the Village Hall or the Church. This is due to the amount of people attending and the vast age range. We have therefore decided to produce a monthly news sheet with a bible story and an activity for you do do at home.

### **David and Goliath**

This month I want to write to you about David and Goliath. Do you remember the story of how a young boy killed the giant with his slingshot (You might call it a catapult)? The Israelites whose King at the time was Saul were in a mighty battle with the Philistines.

One of the Philistines, a giant of a man called Goliath has been taunting (laughing at) King Saul and his men for 40 days saying "Choose someone to fight me, if he wins, we will serve you, if I win, you must serve me" . King Saul is desperate, none of his men want to stand up to Goliath on his own; they are too afraid.

One day David came to the camp to bring his brothers some food from their father.

David heard Goliath shouting and laughing at his King, he didn't understand why. Nobody would stand up to this man. David went to King Saul and told him he would go and fight him.

King Saul thought David was very brave but foolhardy and told him “You are just a boy you cannot stand up against this giant of a man” David replied that he has stood up to bears, and lions that tried to take his father’s flock, he can stand up against Goliath”

The King ordered his men to fit David with the best armour and shield which they did. When David put it on he could hardly stand let alone move with such heavy armour, he took it off saying I will fight Goliath as I am. As David approached Goliath, Goliath laughed and said “You Israelites send a boy to destroy me a mighty warrior” Then David took out his slingshot and five smooth stones hurling them at Goliath. They hit him in the head, Goliath fell to the ground with a thud.

David had great faith in God, he prayed whenever he needed God’s help and he trusted that he would be there for him.

### **How brave are you?**

- Find yourself a jar or a plastic bottle if you don’t want to use glass.
- Decorate your jar with the words ‘COURAGE JAR’
- Decorate with paint and stickers to personalise it.
- Every time you do something brave, put something in your jar i.e. small pebbles, buttons, beads or small Lego bricks.
- Older people might like to write down what they did and put that in the jar.

See how long it takes you to fill your jar with courage.

What is courage?

Different things for different people for example; Starting back at school after such a long break, starting a new year group, meeting a new teacher, making new friends Trying something that scares you That’s 5 accomplished on your first day back at school. Get the whole family involved and see if you can fill your jar before mum, dad, brother, sister or friend.

I would love to see all your efforts so can you take a picture of your jar to send to me or get an adult to send it for you to

[eileen.brackstone@googlemail.com](mailto:eileen.brackstone@googlemail.com)

### **Prayer**

Dear loving God, thank you so much that we can always trust you.

Thank you for helping us when we are in a tight spot.

Teach us to be brave when things happen that are a bit scary.

Give us courage like David to face our fears.

In Jesus name Amen

Looking forward to hearing from you God Bless

Messy Eileen 01843 825390



## THE KENTISH RECIPE ...

### **MARROW OR COURGETTE CHUTNEY – a solution for using up all those extra vegetables.**

#### Ingredients

- 1.5kg/3lb 5 oz marrow or courgettes, peeled and deseeded
- 225g shallot , sliced
- 225g apple , peeled, cored and sliced
- 225g sultana
- 2cm piece ginger , finely chopped
- 225g demerara sugar
- 850ml malt vinegar
- 12 black peppercorns

#### Method

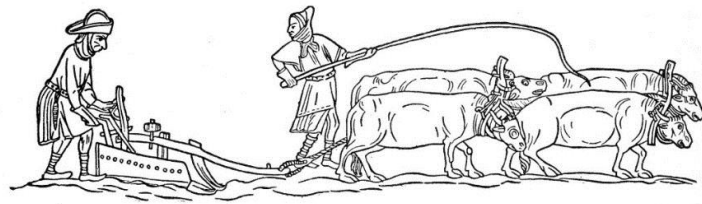
**STEP 1** Cut the marrow into small pieces, put in a bowl and sprinkle liberally with 2 tbsp salt. Cover and leave for 12 hrs.

**STEP 2** Rinse and drain the marrow or courgettes, then place in a preserving pan or large saucepan with the shallots, apples, sultanas, ginger, sugar and vinegar. Tie the peppercorns in muslin (or put into a small enclosed tea strainer) and place in the pan. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer, stirring from time to time, until the consistency is thick.

**STEP 3** Leave to settle for 10 mins, then spoon into sterilised jars (see tip below), put on the lids and label. *Will keep for a year in a cool, dark place.*

Just before you start cooking your chutney, wash your jars in hot, soapy water, then leave in a low oven to dry completely.

Recipe note. The reason for sprinkling the marrow or courgettes with salt is to draw out excess moisture.



## **HARVESTS AROUND MONKTON IN THE EARLIER MEDIEVAL TIMES**

it is unlikely Monkton will be able to celebrate Harvest in the usual way this year, but the continuum of being thankful for what our land provides has been going on for centuries, and although quantities and technology have changed dramatically, the real sense of harvest has not changed at all.

The picture above shows a glimpse of what might have been going on in the land of Monkton manor in the early 1300s. around this time of year. We are used to seeing miles of golden grain around us and the blonde fields after the crops have been harvested.

Thanet has been well known for grain growing as long as farming communities have existed.

It is fascinating to realise these early Monkton villagers, who were largely in thrall to the monks at Christ Church Priory, Canterbury, were during late August and September gazing upon similar golden fields.

Every year at Michaelmas, 29<sup>th</sup> September, the manor stewards or beadles were obliged to submit accounts to the Priory at Canterbury. In the later 1200s most of the arable fields were sown with barley and oats, but rising amounts of wheat were sown from 1300 to 1325 around Monkton and towards Brooksend.

The manorial records show that frumentum, an early form of barley, and inde, another early grain crop, were also cultivated in quite large acreages. Vetches, peas and beans were also grown for food.

This corn farming was very profitable for both the monks of Christ Church and their tenants.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century, around 1225 the land workers of Monkton were being innovative in practising marling, which means adding chalk or lime to clay soil to improve it. By the 14<sup>th</sup> century fertilising the fields was normal practice. As chalk was available so near the surface around our village it is not surprising there are traces of so many chalk holes in the district.

sources. Kent Archaeological Trust. The Islae of Thanet Farming Community Queded.

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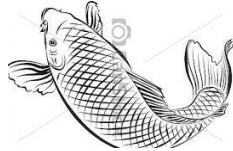
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THE END BIT

*is hunted and gathered .....*

*everything from our kitchen*

## **FORAGING IN SEPTEMBER**

In recent months many people have ventured in to our local countryside and may have noticed the wide variety of wild fruits and vegetables thriving there.

Collecting wild food or FORAGING is highly fashionable and often seen on TV chef programmes. But there is a catch. Pickers need to know that clearing the countryside of nuts, berries, other fruits and wild edible plants may seem very chic, but is also damaging to our flora and fauna if not carried out in a thoughtful way, and without damaging the countryside.

Some of the berries in large quantities locally include the following – blackberries, hawthorn berries, rose hips, elderberries and sloe berries,

Not immediately in Monkton, but in woods In our area you can pick up sweet chestnuts, hazel nuts, and beech nuts. Many people have walnut trees growing near them in Monkton. Walnuts grow in a hard green outer casing, a bit like conkers. You need to be quick to gather these as squirrels, gather them and hide them for the winter.

A quick search on line, or in traditional recipe books will give you all sorts of ideas for using these wild foods. Ensure that eating them raw or without cooking in a certain way will not have a toxic result.

There are plenty of websites, with well-illustrated articles on seasonal foraging – so don't be afraid to have a go perhaps making elderberry wine, or sloe gin.

If you are unsure about where it is OK to gather, you can always check with the landowner. And make sure you follow the country code.

DJC