

## **WELCOME TO THE AUGUST 2020 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 Editors and/or the editorial team.

Subscriptions: Copies of the Magazine or CD are now available on subscription to all non-residents, worldwide. Payments are in advance: To a UK postal address: Single Issue £2.40 : Annually: (11 issues) £24.00. Costs to an overseas address are available on request, and we will be pleased to quote for this service.

## **MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on:

Tuesday 1 September @ 7pm in the Neighbourhood Centre (There is no meeting in August)

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. There is also a 15-minute period allowed at the end of the formal business to take questions from the public. Copies of the Agenda are available from the Clerk or the Parish Council website and are posted both on the Parish Noticeboard in Monkton Road Car Park.

Clerk to the Council is Mrs Kyla Lamb and the Assistant Clerk is Clare Wilsdon.

The Council Office, above the library, is normally open from:

9am – 3pm weekdays; however due to commitments that require staff leaving the office it is better to ring first to ensure the office is manned.

Telephone: 821 339 : Email: [clerk@minsterparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@minsterparishcouncil.org.uk)

Parish Council Minutes are available on their website at [www.minsterparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.minsterparishcouncil.org.uk)

**MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL – SUMMARY OF MEETING ON Tuesday 7th JULY**

This was the third monthly meeting to be held remotely via Zoom. This does give us the opportunity to see each other and create a more formal atmosphere. Minster Parish Council does not meet in August so we are hoping that we can meet in person at our next meeting on 1st September.

PCSO Butterworth reported on incidents and crime over the last month. This included the attendance of the bomb squad in Norton Drive to deal with a suspected explosive item, criminal damage in St. Mary's Road and Rose Gardens and complaints of speeding in Tothill Street.

It was pleasing to hear that having identified two of the youths involved in leaving broken bottles in the recreation ground, PCSO Butterworth arranged for them to do litter picking in Laundry Road by way of an apology. Good work!

Community Warden Karl Aylett sent in a written report confirming that the community has continued to be supportive and in the main comply with the Covid regulations, including the users of the skate park. He explained that he has an additional role of Community Connector which he will be resuming this month so will be spending some of his time in Ramsgate.

Our County and District Councillors were unable to attend the meeting but sent updates. They advised us that TDC were re-opening 11 play areas that week, although no explanation was given as to why some were not re-opening; KCC were shortly going to allow additional visits to waste and recycling sites but the booking system would remain for the time being; TDC were voting on the Local Plan that week and they did in fact accept it.

The Chairman reported that she had contacted Mr Tony Freudman, a Director of RSP, after receiving a number of enquiries about the use of the north field of the airport for recreational exercise. Mr. Freudman had explained that they had arranged for the site to be secured as it had not been surveyed and there could well be health and safety risks on the site, for which they would not want to be held liable. On the subject of the airport there are continuing consultations about the use of airspace and Cllr. Crow-Brown is going to represent the parish council at a forthcoming on-line workshop.

The Chairman had received a complaint about the excessive use of train hooters in the Minster area. There has been work on the line recently and there are a large number of crossings on this section of the line which require the use of an audible warning for safety reasons. However, the matter has been raised with the train operator and a reply is awaited.

Further to last month's discussion about a proposal from the Thanet Community Land Trust the Chairman reported that she had obtained further information from English Rural. She sought the support of councillors to progress a project with that organisation to consider building accommodation for the elderly in Minster. Further details were to be circulated and councillors were to indicate their views via email.

The Parish Clerk reported that the Multi-Use Games area, the outdoor gym and the children's play area had now re-opened; cricket was due to resume shortly.

Little Explorer's pre-school group had resumed on a limited basis and had received a discretionary grant, thanks to advice from Cllr. Pugh.

Several documents had been circulated to councillors before the meeting and these all had to be agreed by the meeting. These were the Internal Audit report 2019/20, the Risk Management statement, the Statement of Internal Control, the Annual Return Governance Statements and Accounting Statements, the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and CCTV Policy. This took some time! For anyone interested they will be loaded onto the Minster Parish Council website.

It was proposed that, for the health and safety of the many children and young persons who use the parish council facilities, there should be some designated no smoking areas. The meeting agreed that the Skate Park, Multi-use Games Area, All Weather pitch and the Children's Play area would now be no smoking areas and signs would be erected as soon as possible.

Requests had been received for additional dog bins in Marsh Farm Road and the far end of Watchester Lane. A debate took place as we already have a great many dog bins and yet still have far too many dog owners failing to clear up after their pets; it is hoped that the additional posters displayed in the last month showing the exact location of litter and dog bins may help. In the end it was agreed to place an additional bin in Marsh Farm Road and relocate a bin in Watchester Lane to a more visible location.

Draft Plans had been received to demolish the garage next to the Pavilion and rebuild a two-storey building to accommodate a parish office on the first floor. It was agreed that pre-planning advice should be sought from TDC to consider amendments to add dormers and/or increase the footprint.

New Planning applications were considered.

There was no objection to the erection of a two storey house behind Jemima's tea room. The meeting supported the application to build 20 holiday homes at Stonelees Golf Course.

It was agreed to repeat our objections to the building of the Parkway Station at Cliffsend. Please note: There is a vacancy for a parish councillor at Minster. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the parish office or any councillor, who would be happy to answer your questions.

## **COMMUNITY WARDEN'S REPORT**

Hello Minster

It's really nice to be back in the printed version of Minster Matters.

Well, things are slowly returning to a new normal and it's good to see the local shops opening up, let's not forget to support them, they need us more than ever and we in turn need them.

And please continue to look out for neighbours as I know so many of you have been I wanted to highlight in this piece the dangers of building sites, we have a few in Minster and I've had reports of children playing on them and although I can understand the attraction, they really are dangerous places full of heavy equipment ,sharp objects and deep holes,

So, could I ask if you do have children, could you make them aware of the dangers because as a child you don't see the risks that we do as adults and I'd hate for any child to be injured or worse killed, as happened not so long ago on a site in Ramsgate. Thanks for your help with this.

I look forward to seeing you all in the village as I walk about, I'm always available if I can be of help, or you just want to stop and chat.

Karl Aylett Community Warden

My contact details are mobile: 07811 271 299

Email: [Karl.aylett@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Karl.aylett@kent.gov.uk)

## **PCSO's REPORT**

This month I want to talk about burglary again. During the hot weather when you are out the burglars are out as well.

Burglars are often opportunists who will target an open window, an unlocked door or valuables on display if they think they can get away with it.

Most burglaries happen on weekdays, in daylight, when you're more likely to be out. Simple things you can do to prevent becoming a victim are: keep keys, cash and expensive items out of view. Use timer switches on lights and radios to make your house look occupied.

Keep all doors and windows locked and secure boundary gates. Lock away bikes and tools and garden items that may be used to break into your home.

You should also photograph expensive items for reference when you need to report an incident and where possible security mark items they can be marked with your postcode and house number. Keep expensive jewellery locked away in a safe or strong box.

If you notice anyone acting suspiciously contact the police on 999 or 101.

For further advice and guidance ask to speak to your PCSO

**PATIENT LIAISON GROUP****THANK YOU AND PLEASE BEAR WITH US**

With the current restrictions likely to with us for at least the next few months, we would like to thank you all for your continued help and support through these difficult times. However, as you can appreciate, many of our GPs, Healthcare Professionals and Reception Team have been working continuously throughout this pandemic and, like many of us, will be looking to take time off during the school holiday period. So please bear with us, and try to avoid contacting the surgery during peak periods unless of course your call is urgent. Thank you for your understanding.

**MEDICATION REVIEWS**

Medication Reviews are now carried out by our Prescribing Pharmacists at the surgery and appointments, normally a telephone consultation, can be made in the usual way. Please ensure that you have sufficient medication to last you during the holiday period, 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. Please note that prescriptions are now only being delivered to the over 70s and can no longer be ordered over the phone.

**BANK HOLIDAY SURGERY CLOSURE**

Please note that the surgery will be closed all day on Monday 31st August. 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 confidential health advice and information for you and your family. For urgent or life threatening cases please dial 999 as normal.

**SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS**

Patients over 65 including eligible and at risk patients, will receive a letter via post inviting them to contact the surgery and make an appointment. Each letter will contain a personal code which you will need, to make and attend your appointment. Vaccination sessions will take place from late September and during October, dates of which are yet to be confirmed and will be by appointment only.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2020**

Unfortunately, due to the Covid19 pandemic and current Government and NHS England guidelines, we have had to cancel this year's Christmas Bazaar. But don't worry, all being well we will still be holding our Annual Spring Fayre in May 2021.

**PATIENT GROUP MEETINGS**

Due to the limited access to the surgery, 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 either Ken Self on 821200, Jeanne Lawrence on 821049 or email [kenself@me.com](mailto:kenself@me.com)

## TWINNING ASSOCIATION REPORT

All is still quiet with the Twinning Association with nothing planned for the foreseeable future.

Our French friends are holding a committee meeting this month to discuss their plans for the future, so maybe we will be able to start planning joint events when it's safe to do so. On previous years several from Armbouts-Cappel have come across for the "Minster Open Gardens", but of course not so this year. They come to see the "English Country Garden" which they find different to the French style of garden.

However, so they do not miss out on our beautiful gardens Katie Hogben and Poppy Braddy have kindly agreed to download photos onto a flash drive which will be sent out to France.

In our last report we mentioned how our committee member, Bernie Watler had sadly passed away and as a memory of Bernie his wife Gill has kindly given us a glass anchor which was made by Bernie during his career as a glass blower.

It will be displayed in the Minster Twinning display cabinet in the entrance to the village hall. We know that Bernie was well known in the village, so please do take a look when you are passing

## VILLAGE VOICES

Members of the choir continue to 'practice' every Wednesday evening via Zoom, which has given us some good laughs and helps keep our vocal chords working, it also enables us to keep up with each other and check how everyone is doing, we're always especially interested in what Terry is having for his tea!!!

Apart from our Zoom meetings, the committee are in constant contact and we are continually reviewing the situation in the hope we can get back to some form of normality albeit possibly 'open-air' rehearsals to begin with.

At present we are looking at the possibility of being able to meet up in Minster Rec to rehearse, even if that means social distancing and face masks.

To members who haven't seen our WhatsApp messages or received our emails, if you feel you would like to join us in the Rec when we are able, then please get in contact so as you can be added to our list of those who do.

Sadly, as you are probably all aware the remainder of our prearranged concerts for this year have now been cancelled, but we are ever hopeful that we will be able to perform again in 2021.

Let's keep a positive and open mind and trust that Boris and his 'crew' will soon give the green light to larger group meetings and the return of choirs for indoor events.

Keep safe and well everyone,

Ray (aka Mr. O)

On behalf of the Choir Committee

To contact us please ring/text 07914 623 287 or email [pr@villagevoiceschoir.org.uk](mailto:pr@villagevoiceschoir.org.uk)

## **A CLEAN SHAVE FOR CHARITY!**

After getting fed up with 'lockdown hair' Mark Edwards, from Idyllic Ponds & Landscaping Ltd, undertook a charity head shave

Including his eyebrows all completed to a smooth finish with a bic razor.

What started off as a bit of fun, spiralled when friends began upping the stakes with bets to take his eyebrows off. The whole event was 'live-streamed' on Facebook and raised an incredible £950.

50% of the money is going to the Salvation Army in Minster to help any local needs and the other 50% is going to a front line QEQM Physician who, in his spare time, has been doing an incredible job making visors for his colleagues, due to the PPE shortages in the NHS. The money will help fund the materials he needs to keep up this amazing work.

Mark would like to thank everyone who donated.

Mark Edwards, Idyllic Ponds & Landscaping Ltd, 07530 325 527

Minster Matters say 'Well done Mark'.

## **COVID 19 CAUSES MINSTER CAT CARE SHOP TO CLOSE**

In March Minster Cat Care in the High Street closed its door for the final time. Due to Covid 19 the shop had to close and without an income, the overheads couldn't be met and closure was inevitable. The shop sadly did not qualify for any council grants.

Over the years many animals (not just cats) have benefited from the money raised via the shop. Sandra and her team have worked hard to improve the lives of countless animals. The shop was also part of Minster life and will be sadly missed. A cash surplus of £500 was left over from the shop and was donated to TAG.

In my front garden at 56 Tothill Street I have had an Honesty Shop. Customers come and buy something (hand gel and carrier bags available), putting the money through the letter box. Further donations of bric a brac, clothes, jigsaws, plants and unwanted presents are always welcome. To date £1400 has been raised for various charities. The Honesty Shop is ongoing until the weather is unsuitable.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported Minster Cat Care and the Honesty Shop.  
Kate Mockeridge

## **GET READY FOR MINSTER SHOW 2021**

The Minster Show committee has noticed that we have all be confined to our homes and gardens. This has resulted in many more of us dusting off sewing machines, polishing baking trays and finding long lost green fingers. We are hoping that this means you will have renewed confidence for next year's show tent entries!

Now you can be out and about more - take your cameras. There are categories for natural history, landscape or seascape, human portrait, holiday memory, iconic landmark and off the beaten track. We are giving you plenty of time to take loads and choose the best, in all seasons. We acknowledge that Around the World may feel very different as a theme - but allow your imagination to expand, and remember the World can be very small and local. No need to travel miles if you don't feel safe to do so.

Enjoy the challenges, stay safe and we will see you next year on the Rec for 2021 Show.

Dominique Vaughan

## MINSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

Last season was a historic one in many ways.

We started with adding an adults reserve team that remained in the Canterbury League while the first team made their way to the Kent County League having won the Canterbury Premier title 2 years in a row.

We also started 2019 season with the previously successful Minster Old Boys team in the Thanet Veterans League top division and looking strong again with some very experienced players.

The most encouraging sight for the start of last season was the addition of two youth teams – the Boys U13 and the Girls U14 teams. We have been boosted by the arrival of these young players and their managers, coaches and parents to our club.

As you will now know, the seasons were cut short with the lockdown. The adults team had a 100% win record in the Kent County League and some promising progress by the Reserves team in the Canterbury League. The Old Boys were left in a positive position near to the top of their league. The young lads had a great season with some setbacks along the way but finishing strong. The girls had a tough start but improved week on week and were flying when lockdown arrived.

As we all know, the pandemic arrived and all of a sudden football became irrelevant. We have seen so many positive stories amongst the community during this time and we have also looked at improving the club and creating even more opportunities for players to enjoy playing football. While we are currently waiting for confirmation of how and when the new season will start, we have added two more teams to the club for 2020/2021. We have a 3rd adults team that will see Minster fielding two sides in the Kent County League and one in the Canterbury League.

The two youth teams obviously jump up an age group in their leagues. Perhaps more exciting (sorry lads) we have the arrival of a Ladies Team that will see senior women's football at the Rec for the first time since the days of the successful Thanet Bluebirds team many years ago.

Villagers living near to the Rec may have heard the activity on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings as we have started training with these various squads. Logistically this has been more difficult than normal as we have FA Grassroots Football Guidelines to work with – keeping players and coaches apart as much as possible and with no direct contact to minimise the risk of spreading the coronavirus. All of the players want to get stuck in with tackling, shooting and scoring but at the moment we have to keep to the guidelines for everyone's safety – not just for the players but the families they go home to and the communities they return to.

We have so much to look forward to for the new season – players young and old. We are growing our village club with an emphasis on enjoying football and creating friendships that last for years. Winning is good but it is not the most important thing at our club.

Finally, in this update, we want to pay our respect to our President, Ralph (Colin) Holden who passed away during this very tough period. We hope that continuing with the growth of the club with an emphasis of enjoying our football and creating friendships along the way will continue to be a tribute to Ralph as well as his footballing colleagues we have also lost over the years.

Please get in touch with us if you are players who wish to join the club or coaches/volunteers who want to get involved. We are always looking for more people and players to get involved. We know how important it is for the village to have active sports clubs that we can all follow and support.

Take care everyone,  
Colin Holden (Jnr), Minster FC



## OUR VIRTUAL MINSTER-IN-THANET OPEN GARDENS

Our Virtual Open Gardens was going to last 2 weeks, but because of the amazing response we continued for 4 weeks! What a wonderful range of gardens, all so different, offering their own unique appeal.

Running a Virtual Open Gardens on St Mary's Church Facebook page would have been impossible without the incredible skills and expertise of Katie Hogben and Lorna Braddy. Between them they solved countless problems and helped those of us who were out of our depth! THANK YOU!!

And then

THANK YOU to those of you who interacted with our Virtual Open Garden experiment. Thank you to all the wonderful creative gardeners who have shared their outdoor haven, to everyone who has enjoyed "visiting" them and especially those who have made a donation to help keep the beautiful St Mary's Church in Minster standing. We have raised £205.

We hope we can welcome you to a "real" Open Gardens next year!

Pat Hogben

## LETTERS

Dear Sir

My wife died just as the lockdown was starting so it was a problem with the paperwork and funeral arrangements being restricted.

As the churches are now opening for a few hours in the week I went along to possibly say some private prayers and perhaps light some candles for my family. Possibly also getting some solace and comfort.

Sadly, it was not a good experience although the front doors were open access was to the entrance area only, there was no real privacy as there was a lady shadowing my every movement and nowhere were there any candles that I could purchase and light.

It seems I was expecting too much from our village church and I underestimated the effects of restrictions caused by the pandemic.

*Best wishes, Rodney Rose*

I walk daily down to the shops with my dog Monty. I took part in the weekly Clap, clap clap for the NHS and Key workers but have heard no mention of our fantastic local shops. I would therefore like to thank ALL of our local shops, you have all done a fantastic job and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*Karen London*

To All Minster Shopkeepers

Many thanks for the wonderful service you have given us during these difficult times you have been second to none.

To All Minster Residents

Please continue to support these valuable shops, if we get another 'spike' to this virus we will need them again, but if you don't use them, we will lose them!!

Also, welcome back to Minster Matters, *Miriam Smith*

**ATTWELLS WOULD LIKE TO THANK ...**

everyone for all their kind words and help after their break in back in February. We have finally been able to confirm that we will be able to replace just the door by having one made to fit the existing surround and fittings rather than a whole new shop front which we didn't want. We haven't got a date for that yet but when we do, we will be using our side door as an entrance.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all their regular customers and COVID 19 lockdown customers for their understanding during the recent pandemic. We are still observing the 2 metre rule where possible and we are continuing to disinfect all money handed in to us so we can hand out disinfected change. We understand there are a lot of our customers who are still shielding or only just coming back out into the village, we would like you to feel safe in your shopping environment and if you need any help just let us know.

We would also like to thank those lovely people who have brought in treats for us to help brighten our days, it's been tough sometimes but we couldn't wish to be in a better place than Minster.

We are sorry we don't take card payments but you can withdraw money from Minster Post Office like a cash point just opposite us.

We are still only open mornings for the time being, join our Facebook page for updates.

Attwells Newsagents

Take care everyone, *Clive, Karen & Jenny*

**NEWS FROM THE ABBEY**

We hope that you are all well and keeping safe during these challenging times. The people of Minster Village have been very much in our thoughts and prayer. It was lovely to see so many out for the NHS "clapping" and to be able to wave to our neighbours in Durlock and Bedlam Court Lane. It was so good to hear of the beautiful acts of kindness in our village during the lockdown.

Just after the beginning of Covid 19, our lambing began. This season our little flock produced 10 healthy lambs. We were sorry not to be able to welcome the children from Minster School and other friends to see the newborn lambs.

The Sisters have decided that we will continue in a "lockdown mode". It was a hard decision for us to make, but we feel it was the right one and we thank all our friends who have been so supportive and understanding. This means that for this summer, the Abbey will not be open for Visitors and Tours, and the Guest House and grounds of the Abbey, will remain closed for the season. The chapel will also remain closed to the public. We miss our friends very much and try to keep in contact with many of you. If anyone would like to speak to one of the sisters by telephone we would be happy to hear from you.

We are happy to say that the beautifully refurbished Tea Rooms at Parkminster are now open in accordance with regulations regarding safety and social distancing. "Looking Ahead" are always happy to welcome friends from the village. They have a wonderful selection of home grown plants for sale!

## A MINSTER CHILDHOOD

The first memory I have of Minster is of leaving it. I was about 3 years old and when Mother was expecting the birth of my sister, I was taken to Birchington on the green Isle of Thanet bus to stay with my aunt – I cried all night.

In 1933 at the age of 5, I remember Mother teaching me how to tie a tie ready to attend the Old School near the church.

The school had 3 teachers, Miss Madge, Mrs Madge and Miss Carter. The Madge's lived in a house which has since been demolished to make way for the Salvation Army Hall. We lived at Swiss Cottage at the far end of Monkton Road from the village.

There was not much traffic on the road in those days so I used to cycle to school and leave my bike round the back of Jezard's the Bakers which was opposite. Tony Jezard was one of my pals and after school when I went to pick it up, we would sit eating currants and sultanas from the storeroom.

One Christmas we did a Nativity play and we were all dressed up in in the dress of different nationalities. I was an Eskimo which seems that I must have gone a long way from Greenland to Bethlehem!

There was a covered hole in the middle of the school floor where every so often a Maypole was erected and we were taught how to dance around it and not get the ribbons tangled up. Teacher used to get most annoyed when this happened.

In 1935 there were celebrations for King George V's Silver Jubilee in the Recreation Ground. We were dressed up in purple tunics and had to entertain the crowd with our dancing.

A year or so later we had celebrations on the Accession of George VI. Our class had to do a re-enactment of the Gunpowder Plot and I was dressed as Bill Catesby.

Some of us had to wear beards which were glued on by the teacher, the trouble was that mine was glued on just before I went home for lunch – dressed in my school clothes!

In 1938 Mr & Mrs Medgitt were neighbours of ours and they persuaded me to join the Boy Scout troop which Mr Medgitt was running. The following summer we went on what was to have been a week's camping holiday at Olantigh Park near Wye. On the Thursday Mr Medgitt received information that his 'call-up' papers had arrived and we all had to rush home.

At this time there was a small tiled-out dairy business on the corner of the building that is now the Co-op. This was run by a Mr Hudson and only sold dairy products. Mrs Medgitt eventually took this over and opened it as a grocers shop. This gradually took over the whole of the ground floor of the building and an additional part was built to the rear.

In September 1939 the war started and at the same time I began what was to be 7 years at Chatham House School in Ramsgate. We only went 3 days a week at first as there weren't enough air raid shelters to accommodate us all. We had to carry our gas masks all the time, unfortunately I forgot mine once and was sent home to Minster to get it.

Just after the evacuation of Dunkirk, in 1940, things were getting dangerous in this part of Kent, so the teachers and pupils together were evacuated en bloc to Staffordshire.

This ended my childhood in Minster. However, I spent all my working life as a Market Gardener in Monkton Road and I still live there – the proverbial 'stick in the mud'.

*Bob Friend*

**AMBER'S ADVICE**

The best portion of a good man's life is his little nameless, unencumbered acts of kindness. (Wordsworth)

**TIGER'S TIP**

Grate frozen butter straight into pastry dough for fast even distribution.

**OBITUARIES** (All except one of these has been published previously online)

Marion Patricia ROSE (1939 till 2020)

Marion and I met at Guy's Hospital Dental Department, and I soon fell for this long-legged girl with a lovely smile.

We were married in 1960, it was a small simple wedding her parents did not think that it would last!

In time our family unit included three girls and a Labrador, joined twelve years later by a boy.

In due course we moved to live in Birchington and Marion started studying to be a teacher at Sittingbourne College. We moved to Monkton living in a large old farmhouse with a spacious garden.

She went on to teach in Thanet, later she obtained a post at the Orchard School in Canterbury but before she could start there she was struck down with bacterial meningitis. At this time K & C Hospital did not have the facilities for treating her and she was transferred to The Brook where they just managed to save her.

The after affects from meningitis were problems with balance, some memory loss and her deafness became more profound.

Later she organized needlecraft classes at our house in Minster where she met Valerie Hughes who invited her to join Minster WI.

Marion went on to become President and was also elected to Chair the East Kent Federation. Later for medical reasons she stood down from this post and returned to get involved again with Minster WI becoming President once again.

On Saturday 21st March Marion fell over whilst digging in our vegetable patch, we called an ambulance and she was taken to QEQM where she had a scan which showed that she had a severe and untreatable brain hemorrhage.

The staff at the hospital took great pains to give us as much privacy as possible whilst Marion passed away.

Marion supported the charity "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People" the link below takes you there – <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/JennyPreece1>

You could also donate via myself at 52 Monkton Road or W S Cole.

*Rodney Rose*

**A Poem For Mum (Marion Rose)**

Each year for Mother's Day, I gave you a gift and a card,  
To thank you for the things you did – you worked so hard.  
Be it children or dogs, you'd lend a helping hand,  
and my difficult times you'd understand.

You've shown me how to knit and cake decorate too,  
I'm always amazed at the things you can do.  
You've given me many gifts over the years,  
So many laughs and now a few tears.

You have always been there by my side,  
giving me the strength not to run and hide,  
With words of advice or a kind hug,  
you've always found ways to show your love.

So, know this please, wherever you are,  
you've always been my guiding star.  
As a mum, you've done so much and been the best,  
I'll miss you loads now it's your time to rest.  
Lots of love, *Alison*

**BERNIE WATLER**

It was with great sadness that I heard of the passing of Bernie Watler. He was a cornerstone of the Minster Show committee. His tenure was the longest and he was never afraid to remind us of the tradition of the Show during discussions.

On the Friday of the Show he was one of the first ones to support preparations, originally cutting back undergrowth in Ed Spanton's yard; to putting up the bunting around the main arena. On the Show day itself he was early onto the grounds ensuring that we all had access to water for plants, putting up the gazebos and then manning the microphone.

He had a big heart and helped out where he could. We have lost a central member of the whole village community, and our condolences go to Gill and his family at this time. I feel I have lost a friend who helped me to settle into this village over 20 years ago, and will miss his unique sense of humour and support.

*Dominique*

**Robert, Bob Hogwood**

We would like to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who came out to say farewell to Dad. In particular the tributes at the Royal British Legion Club and Minster Surgery it was so much appreciated.

We would also like to thank everyone for all their messages and kindness shown to us at this very sad time which has been a source of comfort to our family.

*Marian, Tracy and Family.*

Although I moved away from Minster some 60 years ago, on my own behalf as well as other members of our family and close friends of my brother Robert, I would like to pass on an enormous thank you for the fantastic send-off that the people of Minster gave my brother Robert as he made his final journey away from his beloved village. Without doubt the people of Minster helped to make his passing a truly memorable occasion, and I thank you all sincerely.

*John Hogwood*

**Ralph (known as Colin) Holden**

Jan Holden and family would like to say Thank You to The Royal British Legion, Minster Football Club and all the people of the village for the final send off from our village of Ralph (known as Colin) Holden who passed away 11 April 2020. We felt very proud and honoured that so many of you took the time to pay your respects and we thank you for the generous donations to the Royal British Legion Tribute Funds.

Our thanks go to Jonathan Cole and his team for making something that would not normally happen so special to us. At the Crematorium to Tara Sneddon who conducted the Service it was so lovely. To Rosemary, the flowers were beautiful.

Thanks, must also go for the kindness shown to us in so many ways, the cards, letters, flowers, the homemade soup from a kind neighbour, the phone calls and texts from people in this our MINSTER where Colin came into the world and has now sadly departed.

**Millie (Gladys Mihlenstedt)**

Millie sadly passed away on 7th July having been cared for by her family for the last few weeks of her life.

A funeral service will be held at Thanet Crematorium at 11.30am on Tuesday, 28th July. Covid regulations restrict numbers attending the service to 15 but anyone who wishes to attend may stand outside the chapel.

In addition, as Millie knew so many people in Minster, Monkton, Acol and beyond, the funeral cortege will leave Cole's Undertakers approx. 10.45am (to be confirmed) and drive up the High Street, turn into Monkton Road and then right into Freemans Road, passing the Royal British Legion, and on up through to Greenhill Gardens, then out onto Tothill St., after which it will travel through Acol before heading for the crematorium. The family would appreciate it if anyone would like to see Millie off by standing at the roadside as she passes.

Family flowers only at the funeral but any donations to Dementia UK.

## **WANTSUM BENEFICE**

Summer 2020 – join us online or in church!

Services of said Holy Communion in the Wantsum Benefice:

Sunday 26 July 9.30 Monkton : 10.30 Minster  
Sunday 2 August 9.30 Chislet (non HC) : 10.30 St Nicholas  
Sunday 9 August 9.30 Monkton : 10.30 Minster  
Sunday 16 August 9.30 Chislet : 10.30 St Nicholas  
Sunday 23 August 9.30 Monkton : 10.30 Minster  
Sunday 30 August 9.30 Chislet (non HC) : 10.30 St Nicholas

Midweek Service of said Holy Communion (BCP) held at Minster Wednesday 10.30am:  
29 July; 12 August; 28 August

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

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-Thamet or St Nicholas at Wade Church

**HERE COMES THE BRIDE!**

The month of August sees the return of weddings to our churches – and what a joy this will be as we celebrate with various couples, their families and friends. However, even though a wedding can go ahead, as you can imagine there are some differences – we can't have the bells ringing, there will be no singing and a total of 30 people including myself and the photographer! This is, of course, a sign that some parts of our life together are beginning to return to something new.

We have been able to open our church doors too for Sunday worship and private prayer (see details for this elsewhere). However, over recent months there have been plenty of events and occasions that have had to be adapted or postponed. Instead of gathering in church for funerals it has been a comfort for grieving families to see friends from the villages standing outside to pay their respects as the cortege has driven by. Our local schools have been hugely creative to give their Yr6 pupils the celebration they deserve as they leave school. I wonder how you have felt at such times and when other celebrations such as birthdays have had to be different to usual. These occasions and other rites of passage are important for us all. I was reminded recently of such things in the bible – and in particular, Jesus' baptism. When John the Baptist raised Jesus out from the river Jordan a voice from heaven said this is my son, whom I love. It certainly helps me to know that no matter how I feel, I am always known and loved by God just for who I am. And in saying that, it's ok to feel how I feel whether I wake up with a spring in my step or not! And one thing that has been clear throughout recent months in our villages is how good we are at helping each other and pulling together. It's always good to remember that – and to say quite simply, thank you!

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

Revd Richard Braddy

01843 821250 [www.wantsumchurches.org](http://www.wantsumchurches.org) [info@wantsumchurches.org](mailto:info@wantsumchurches.org)

**CONTACTING YOUR DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

District Councillor Reece Pugh tel: 07740 288 713

District Councillor David Hart tel: 07976 830 171

District Councillor Trevor Roper tel: 07787 860 381

Kent County Councillor Emma Dawson tel: 07976 804 113

Kent County Councillor Liz Hurst tel: 07453 328 104

Contacting your MP - Sir Roger Gale MP tel: 01843 848 588

Email: [galerj@parliament.uk](mailto:galerj@parliament.uk) - write: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Thank you for listening - your readers this month were:-

*Michele, Penny and Sandra*

---

Musical interludes supplied courtesy of

Brenda Saker, Daryl Booth and Richard Spendlove MBE