

Welcome to the ..BUMPER ISSUE OF DECEMBER 2009 AND JANUARY 2010...

issue of Minster Matters

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

Please mention the magazine when replying to advertisers.

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

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

MM Subscriptions

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

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

To a UK postal address :-Single Issue £1.50

Annually (11 issues) £14.00

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

This month's meeting of Minster Parish Council

will be held on: Tuesday, 1st December. in the Neighbourhood Centre at 7 pm.

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

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

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

from:-

9.30 am - 12 noon weekdays;

tel: 821339 fax: 825269

Email: minsterpc@tiscali.co.uk

Next month's meeting will be held

on: Tuesday, .12th January 2010.

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EDITORIAL

Wow! What a time we've had this month deciding what to put in, what to leave out, who to upset, how many pages to have in the issue!! With lots to put in we've gone mad and given you a real bumper issue. We still left out a number of articles that we didn't consider quite so important, which would probably have filled another

CD!

When other local magazines appear to be struggling we seem to always have the problem of what to leave out, we're never left scratching around looking for items to fill our normal 28 pages, so a big thank you to everyone that sends us articles throughout the year and if we've left yours out at any time we can only apologise. As you will hear from one of the articles the St Nicholas Hoodeners are going to be performing at The Saddler on Monday 21st December, around 9.00pm, and everything they raise, in the week before Christmas, this year they are donating to us here at Minster Matters to go toward the purchase of a Braille Embosser and 6 CD players, so as we can extend our product range and allow more to read or listen to our magazine. The total cost of these items is likely to be around £2,200 so we will out be looking for donations, to make up the short fall, in the new year. But for now get yourself along to The Saddler, that evening, and give generously to the cause. The short play they re-enact is only about 20 minutes so no gruelling program to sit through.

We have a new Neighbourhood Bobby on the rural beat, one, PC Dave Symes, who is joining the other motley pair in policing the rural area. Dave seems quite approachable so if you see a strange PC about in the village chances are it will be him (I don't mean he looks strange - although, well!!) so don't forget to say hello. I'd like to take this opportunity to say A Very Happy and Healthy Christmas and a Wonderful New Year to ALL of our listeners, plus a very special thank you to the children who attend Journalist Club and who produce the School Page, and thanks also to Miss Jackson who keeps them in order for me.

To all my team on MM whether that's editing, recording, delivering or keeping a check of my expenditure, you all deserve my heart felt thanks for everything you do, as without you the magazine wouldn't be half of what it is today. I am but a small cog in a bigger machine, just playing my part in keeping things "turning over" so thank you to everyone, be that residents, visitors, team members or whoever, THANK YOU!! I think I've probably waffled on for quite long enough, and I wonder how many of you actually get as far as listening to the bitter end, if you're still here, then thank you and that's it for 2009. Speak to you in February 2010

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LOCAL NEWS

HOODENERS IN MINSTER

SUPPORTING MINSTER MATTERS

The St Nicholas-at-Wade & Sarre Hoodeners will be returning to Minster this month for the first time in around 80 years.

Hoodening is a tradition unique to East Kent, with a history going back several centuries. It used to be common in Minster until the early 20th century, but disappeared with the influx of tractors and televisions.

The custom was however revived in St Nicholas in 1966 and has since been performed in local pubs and private houses every Christmas.

This year the Hoodeners will be visiting The Saddler on Monday December 21 at around 9pm, to perform a humorous play of about 20 minutes followed by a few songs & carols. Each year they collect for a local charity, and this year the chosen cause is Minster Matter's own appeal to buy a Braille Embosser to aid

blind residents.

We hope plenty of readers will avail themselves of this unique opportunity to support us - and The Saddler - whilst enjoying 'something different'.

There are lots of details about Hoodening itself on www.hoodening.org.uk or you can call Ben Jones on 847701: they are also happy to attend private parties.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The Chairman, Dennis Neville, on behalf of the Parish Council, would like to express his sincere thanks to the Reverend Cannon, Bob Coles for a very moving Memorial Service at the Church on Sunday 8th Nov.

He would also like to express his thanks to the Chairman of the Royal British Legion Club for inviting the Parish Council to take part. Thanks also to District Councillor Mike Roberts, for attending the service and partaking in the "Laying of the Wreaths" ceremony at both the Church and the Cemetery on behalf of the District Council.

Finally many thanks to the British Legion for the wonderful pictorial display of those residents of the Village associated with the Armed Forces during those dark periods of conflict.

The Legion also provided a lovely spread of refreshments which were available to visitors and were greatly appreciated by those attending the British Legion after the ceremonies.

At this time of the year it is a time to reflect.

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PATIENT LIAISON GROUP (WORKING WITH MINSTER SURGERY)

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010

Swine Flu

Swine Flu vaccinations are currently taking place and those eligible are being notified accordingly. If you have any queries concerning the vaccination process please contact the surgery direct.

Missed Appointments

The number of missed appointments still cause concern, especially as more and more patients are experiencing difficulty in making an appointment. Wasted appointments cost time and money, and above all, inconvenience to both patients and the Practice alike.

SO PLEASE REMEMBER TO CANCEL ANY APPOINTMENT YOU NO

LONGER REQUIRE.

Raffle in aid of the Hospice

We are very pleased to report that a total of £185.60 was raised so thank you you to all those who gave their support. The draw was carried out on 30th October by Dr Stern. in the presence of members of the committee and "Minster Matters", and all prize winners have been notified. The cheque has also been presented to the Hospice who were very grateful and thanked everyone for their generosity.

Practice of the Year Award 2009

Once again Minster Surgery is entering this competition run by the PCT, and is hoping to improve on the last 2 years where they were nominated for 2nd place. This award is purely based on patient comments and feedback. Nomination forms are available at the surgery or via this group, and anyone can vote. It would be sincerely appreciated and a tremendous achievement if the Surgery could gain 1st place! All nomination forms have to be in by 31st December. Thank you for your support.

Dawn Langdon

Dawn would like to express her thanks to all those patients who attended for consultations with herself during her qualification period. We are please to confirm that she has now qualified as "Nurse Practitioner" as of September 2009.

Christmas holiday arrangements

The Surgery opening hours are as follows :

Christmas Eve (Thursday 24th) : am - Open as normal ; From 1 pm - emergencies only

Christmas Day (Friday 25th) : Closed

Monday 28th Bank Holiday) : Closed

Tuesday 29th - Thursday 31st : Open as usual

New Years Day Bank Holiday : Closed

To avoid the build up before Christmas and to ensure patients have sufficient medication to last throughout the holiday period, repeat prescriptions can be requested up to one week in advance.

And Finally!

As this is our last newsletter before the Christmas period may we wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

In the meantime if you need further information please do not hesitate to contact Ken Self on 821200 or Jean Taylor on 845072.

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LOCAL NEWS

Message from PC Mick Wright, Force Watch Liaison Officer

Kent Trading Standards wish to remind people that we always need to receive information about poor trading practices. This information is vital as it enables us to effectively target our campaign work. If you wish to make a report to us, please call Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06. They will take the details and forward the information to us. Examples of matters that you may wish to report are;

- Sales of Cigarettes or Alcohol to under 18's,
- Sales of Fireworks to under 18's or outside the permitted dates,
- Doorstep sellers, e.g. fish sellers, carpet / rug sellers

Cold Callers who offer to do work on your property e.g. driveways,

guttering, garden clearance, tree surgery

- Sales of Counterfeit goods, dangerous goods and wrongly described goods,
- Roadside car dealers
- Out of date food sales
- Traders who purport to be private sellers
- Any other trading practice that causes concern

Any business seeking advice about Trading Standards legislation are welcome to

call 01233 898825 if they are based in East Kent. If you wish to find out more

about your rights as a consumer please call 08454 04 05 06.

FAULT REPORTING TO KENT HIGHWAY SERVICES

Kent Highway Services have introduced Kent Highways Online an accessible, convenient and responsive service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week which enables Parish Councils to report highway faults and track logged enquiries which includes reports made by members of the public.

Following this new service being made available to the Parish Council they are keen

to encourage members of the public to report faults directly to Kent Highway

Services via the following methods :-**By phone on 08458 247 800 or 24 helpline 08458 247 247**

Online www.kent.gov.uk/eFault/Application/ReportCategory.aspx

The Parish Council are able to review the reports made by members of the public and

track their progress, please help us by reporting faults in your area by either of the

methods above. Have as much information as possible available when giving the

report i.e. the number off the streetlight post or the postcode and number of the

nearest property to a pothole.

Hopefully with more public reports and the Parish Councils new ability to follow up

those reports the faults will be dealt with much more efficiently and in a faster

timescale than at present.

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LOCAL NEWS

“YELLOW LINES”

Experimental Traffic Regulations Order for Minster

Following the overwhelming support from the residents of Minster and

surrounding villages and including the help and support from both TDC Cllr. Mike

Roberts and KCC Cllr Charles Hibberd, the proposal to impose double yellow lines

in some areas of Minster has now been placed “on hold” whilst it is forwarded to the

Joint Transport Committee for examination.

The Parish Councils area representative has been briefed and will be asking for

time to consider the local residents, together with the local Police, the School, local

Businesses, Highways and all other interested bodies. This should then give us all

time to examine the perceived problems.

The Parish Council now need the views of the local residents together with

proposals and ideas including anything else you may wish to add that you think

should be considered in deciding the way forward.

It is the input from the “silent majority” we need if we are going to stand any

chance of getting it right.

Just a few lines or phone call to the Parish Clerk or letters and emails to Minster

Matters identifying the problems, what you believe is causing it, and the best way to

remedy it.

I would just ask you to remember that this is a village where a lot of people rely on "on-street" parking. Most people these days need a car to go to work. Finally some of the problems we must accept as our country way of living.

What we need now is a similar level of response as you gave to the local traders petition, against the original proposal. So please don't delay in making your thoughts and feelings known as time is of the essence and we need any information and views within the next week or so.

Happy Christmas, *Dennis Neville MPC Chairman*

Kent Joint Transportation Board Meeting - 26th November

I am glad to report that a degree of common sense has prevailed, and the whole question of whether or not yellow lines are needed in Minster has now been referred to the next meeting of the Kent joint Transportation Board on 26th November. I shall be attending, as will the Chairman of the Parish Council. County Councillor Charles Hibberd and I are grateful to the Chairman of KCC, Cllr. John Davies for bringing this matter before a full County Council meeting.

Will keep you posted! *Mike Roberts*

(Conservative Councillor for Villages Ward)

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LOCAL NEWS

FERAL CATS

and DOG FOULING IN MINSTER

It has come to our attention that one or two inconsiderate local residents are believed to be breeding cats at home only for them to later become a feral population around the village.

We realise that once these have become feral that they are difficult to catch and contain, but we would ask you to "whistleblow" on anyone you know who is actively allowing their cats to breed "willy nilly" without the owners taking the right steps and getting them spayed

As much as many of us may love cats they become a real nuisance once they are abandoned to their own fate.

So please if you own a moggy then do the right thing and take it to the vets to get it spayed, there may even be help available for those who say they can't afford it, although if you can't then why take on the responsibility of an animal in the first place.. That to us seems like an extremely selfish act, as it is unfair on the animal and unpleasant for those who have to live with the consequences.

If you need help with rehoming cats or you know of cats that are in need of medical attention then please speak to either Sandie at Minster Cat Care (821412), Mary at Cats in Crisis (299295) East Kent Animal Centre (826180) or TAG Pet Rescue (822931) and someone will point you in the right direction.

Dog fouling is still a real problem around the village. Don't believe me, then take a walk along Marsh Farm Road, Watchester Lane towards the Scout camp, or around the Recreation Ground to name but three real problem areas. What we don't see in Minster are feral dogs running on their own without an owner somewhere nearby.

What we do see is owners who fail to "pick up" after their animal, which is very unacceptable behaviour. If you own a dog then it is your moral if not legal duty to clear up after it, there can be no excuse, you are its keeper and responsible for its

actions. As we have said before if we see dogs being allowed to foul areas in and around our lovely village we will, without hesitation, report the owner.

Finally whilst speaking of animals and considering the time of year, please remember

“An animal is for life, not just for Christmas”

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LOCAL NEWS

THE SALVATION ARMY COMMUNITY SHOP

Following many months of negotiations and planning, The Salvation Army is thrilled to announce that their new Community Shop will be ready for its Grand Opening on Friday 4th December 2009 at 11am. Former Corps Officers, Majors Teofilo & Philippa Chagas will be opening the shop and all are welcome! The shop will remain open for the rest of the day.

Many of its volunteers have already been busy with various training and also preparing some of the goods in advance, so that it is all systems go when the fitting out of the shop is complete.

Thanks go out to those individuals who have already done so much towards this project. It is great to know that even before its opening the shop is already creating a sense of „community. This shop is for YOU. We hope it will soon become an important part of our community.

Calor Village of the Year 2009/2010 – Minster-in-Thamet

The Regional round of judging for the Calor Village of the Year competition is now complete. The competition was particularly close this year, and the standard of entries was extremely high. However, despite your recent excellent presentation to the judges, unfortunately Minster-in-Thamet did not win a Regional or Category Award on this occasion.

The full list of Regional and Category winning villages is as below, and will be published on the competition website at www.calorvillageoftheyear.org in the coming days.

I would like to congratulate the **Minster-in-Thamet** community on your success in reaching this stage of the competition, and thank you for all the hard work that you and your community put into preparing for Calor Village of the Year 2009/2010. It was very much appreciated.

With kind regards, Brian Challis, Calor Village of the Year Co-ordinator

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LOCAL NEWS

Letter from

Flood Committee Vice Chairman

Many readers of Minster Matters will be aware that a lot of effort has been made over the last year or so by a Flood Committee (all volunteer local residents, working on your behalf), assisting Minster Parish Council and other bodies involved, to identify problems which need to be resolved in order to prevent areas of local flooding in the village.

Much has been achieved and will hopefully continue to be achieved in resolving these problems. However, in our surveys of the drains and dykes, the Flood Committee have become aware of repeated instances of fly tipping of tyres, household and garden rubbish etc. into the dykes. It has to be emphasised that these

dykes form an integral and essential part of the village surface water (rain water) drainage system which must be kept clear if the system is to function efficiently and prevent localised flooding.

It is tempting to think the dykes are convenient for tipping rubbish into, and that a little bit of rubbish won't make that much difference and won't be noticed, but in time it all builds up and blocks the waterway. Blocking the waterway in turn, causes the water to stagnate encouraging mosquitoes and can alter the localised habitat for many forms of wild life.

Fly tipping is an anti-social practice and is illegal and can carry big fines if you are caught! Please, please, don't even consider dumping your rubbish in the dykes, not only does it look unsightly but your actions may well affect residents in another area of the village, even if it doesn't appear to directly affect you.

If you see rubbish dumped in the dykes, please report it to Minster Parish Council who can pass on the information to the relevant authority, who in turn can deal with it.

Ray Groome

(Vice Chairman of Minster Flood Committee)

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LOCAL NEWS

FINE FOR RAMSGATE MAN

OVER DUMPED RUBBISH

A Ramsgate man has been fined a total of £350 and ordered to pay costs of £100, after he pleaded guilty to dumping rubbish and failing to have a waste carriers licence.

Thanet Council's Environmental Protection team were contacted in May by the local Kent County Council Warden, who alerted them that rubbish had been dumped behind Minster sewage works, just off Marsh Farm Road. A three piece sofa, two rugs, pieces of wood from broken furniture, grey plastic furniture and builder's waste were all dumped on the ground.

Following enquiries, Neil Jones from Highfield Close, Ramsgate was charged with transporting waste without being registered and dumping rubbish. He pleaded guilty to the charges at Margate magistrates court and was fined £100 for the first offence and £250 for the second. He was additionally ordered to pay £100 costs and a victim surcharge of £15.

Environmental Protection Manager, Penny Button, said "This case highlights the true cost of dumping rubbish, which came to nearly £500 for this person. It's a stiff penalty to pay and if you want to transport waste as part of a business, it's so much easier to register with the Environment Agency as a Waste Carrier and to ensure that the waste is properly disposed of.

Dumping rubbish should never be an option. It's something our residents want us to clamp down on, and, where we can find the evidence, we will take action".

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GREAT OAKS, from little acorns grow....

GREAT OAKS SMALL SCHOOL,

EBBSFLEET LANE

What a surprising place this is!

Dr Who's Tardis springs to mind.

I was invited by the Head of School, Liz Baker, to go along and see what the school had to offer. I arrived at what looks to all intents and purposes like a farmhouse, I rang the bell and was immediately greeted by a member of staff and two dogs!

On entering the building the first thing I noticed was that both staff and students are on first name terms with each other and I was immediately asked if I would like a coffee or tea, which was duly made for me, in the well used kitchen area, by one of the small number of students.

I was then taken, still clutching my mug of delicious tea, on a guided tour of the whole premises, firstly around the garden, where I met one of the resident chickens, and on into a long low barn that is at present being converted into further classrooms and toilets. We re-entered the main building where I was shown the "council" room which also doubles up as a class room and chill out area followed by a small but adequate staff room. Then it was upstairs to see what further facilities were on offer, however firstly I had leave my mug behind and remove my shoes, no outdoor footwear is allowed up the stairs so almost everyone is wandering about in their socks .

The upstairs area offers further classrooms, including a small but adequate IT suite, plus another chill out area which also doubles up as both an office and an exercise room. There is also a first aid room that is further used as a secure area to lock away external exam papers when they are delivered, plus there is a separate bathroom on this floor.

Retrieving my shoes and my mug of tea I was then shown into Liz's office at the bottom of the stairs, which is quite cosy and has an open door policy. This is also used by the school Secretary for her day to day work.

Finishing my tea, thanking the staff, and rounding off my visit I returned to my car, to collect a battery recycling bin and a poster, which Liz had shown a real interest in having for the school, however she did tell me that before it could be put into use it would have to be agreed by the school council.

The school caters for around 20 students, in the 10 to 18yr age bracket, of both average and above average ability who are, for whatever reason, not suited to mainstream education, but who wish to continue their education by some other means. Behaviour at the school is outstanding and there is a very positive relationship between the staff and students.

Liz and her friend Julie Kelly, started out by home educating their own offspring and this led to the germination of the idea to start a "small school" for other youngsters who found themselves in the same situation.

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(Great Oaks contld)

Their first class in 2001 was at Liz's home in Sandwich, from where they then progressed onto a cottage in Sandwich and finally to their present location in August 2006.

The school is very democratic and has a school council made up of both students and staff who meet regularly to make decisions about most aspects of the school and school life. According to their website, „ *the aims of the school are to provide a holistic education ensuring a well rounded intellectual, moral, social, aesthetic and physical development for each student, building on each individual's confidence in a democratic atmosphere of tolerance and respect. Students are prepared for external*

examinations appropriate to their needs and aspirations.

Potential students are referred to the school by, parents, guardians, health professionals, schools and the local education authority.

Typical student profiles include:

Neurological development immaturity in one or more areas of life

Possible Special Educational Needs (SEN) recognition

Poor social integration

Poor concentration levels

Poor co-ordination (fine or gross movements)

History of bullying by peers/adults in or out of school

Emotional or physical trauma

School or other phobia

Chronic illness

Fees: The school is a non-profit making concern and as such will look to charitable

trusts and various fund raising schemes to finance some of the capital costs and day-to-day expenditure of the school. There will be a charge to parents/guardians, schools

or Local Education Authorities. Current fees are available on request from the school.

The school is situated at Ebbsfleet Farm in Ebbsfleet Lane and is fairly adjacent to the route of the new road, a project that will ultimately see them have a new access route, which will be a "no through road" running from the new roundabout sited on the A256, close to the Pfizer's sports ground complex. This is something they are all very excited about.

For further information please visit the website at:

<http://www.greatoakssmallschool.co.uk>

Email: mail@greatoakssmallschool.co.uk

or telephone 01843 822022

Registered Charity No 110559

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank Liz, her staff, all of the students and the dogs, for making me feel so welcome. I only wish school had been like this in my days.

Ray,

Editor

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YOUR LETTERS..

A short poem by Yvonne Chapman titled „The Passing Years“

How amazing is life's span, imagine, if you can;

A baby, first born, perhaps in the morn.

Then one year, two, a decade later, can you?

As the years pass, in the blink of an eye.

One becomes, twenty, thirty and more.

Until, if fortunate, sixty can be the score.

Perhaps, seventy, even eighty, some more

fortunate than others, I have said before.

Look at the photos, compare the eyes.

You can see the child in the elderly lined face, which has become experienced and wise.

MY CHRISTMAS WISH By Marvyn Attwell

Santa Claus is coming round the corner yet again,

What do you expect him to bring?

Will it be something for you to wear?

Or will it be a diamond ring?

Will it be toys? Or something for Mum

Maybe something for Dad,

I remember what I was hoping that he'd bring

When I was just a lad,

I was hoping that he would bring snow

So the ground would be covered in white,

And we would have a lovely white Christmas.

So I wrote him a letter one night,

Dear Santa, I said, would it be likely

For you to bring me a present,

Which I am writing for each in the world,

For I'm sure everyone would find it pleasant.

And one Christmas I woke, and to the window I went

And looked out of that pane of glass,

And to my delight what did I see,

He'd put heaps of snow onto the grass.

The staff at Minster Library wish all their readers a Very Happy Christmas and New

Year

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YOUR LETTERS

REMEMBRANCE PARADE - What a wonderful Parade on Remembrance

Sunday! We marched from the R.B.L. Club to Minster Church accompanied by the

band playing, I felt so proud. There were more taking part this year, young and old

alike, all remembering those that have been lost to war. The Service at the Church

was excellent, all denominations together. Rob needs to be congratulated on his

address which came from the heart. Well done Rob!. Back at the "Legion" a display

of past war heroes from the village was wonderful. Well done! Steve for all your

research and hard work. Lastly our thanks go to the ladies that cooked and served the

soup and buffet, this was excellent and at no cost to the Public. Well done! And of

course thanks to those that took part.

Miriam Smith

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tribute to Al Doherty

Al Doherty was born in Ramsgate and brought up in Minster returning to live there in

1963 up until his death in 1981. He was not just a singer or band leader but a

Country Music Entertainer.

He was known for his vocal similarity to the late Jim Reeves who was a big favourite

of Al's. Al has appeared on the International Festival of Country Music at Wembley

Arena and also the Peterborough International Country Music Festival. He also

toured here and abroad either as a Solo artist or with his band Frontier Express or on

later shows backed by White Line Fever or Sounds Country.

Al appeared on Television and Radio across Europe. He had the distinction of being

the first home grown Country and Western, or as they called it then, Cowboy Singer

to appear on British Television in March 1958. His appearance on TWW (Television

Wales and West) was a couple of months after the station first went on air.

Al had a long association with Sheriff Danny Arnold and appeared with him at the Golden Horseshoe at the Granville House, Ramsgate in the 50s and later at the Golden Garter at the Lido in Cliftonville in the 60s. This was in the heyday of the Lido complex and Cliftonville.

Al later in the 70s started the popular Jamaica Inn Country Music Club and also promoted and organised the series of Country Music shows at the Lido Theatre.

As a resident of Minster he never forgot the village and would on occasion play at the Village Hall in Minster.

Al had a long association with guitarist and band leader George Brown of Alabama Hayriders fame. He appeared on shows with him including Summer Seasons at the Golden Garter at the Lido in Cliftonville and also recorded with him. George and his wife Doris were also close family friends. Don Cripps who passed away earlier this year, and his wife Ann. were close friends of Al In the 70s Don would organise the transport for Al and the band and drive them around the Country.

The connection with Alabama Express, who are the Village Hall this month is through George Brown who ran the Alabama Hayriders and Al Doherty who's band was Frontier Express, hence the combination to make Alabama Express.

Al's son Sean plays in the band along with George's Son Geoff and daughter Pauline, so 2 musical families brought together.

To celebrate Al Doherty's life and music there is a new website at

www.aldoherty.co.uk which is full of photos memories and music so check it out and also come along to the Village Hall at Minster on the 19th December.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Loving Memory

of Frances Staines

07.12.1952 – 01.11.2009

Born in Carshalton, Surrey, Frances Staines moved to Sevenscore, Minster in 1989 with her husband and childhood sweetheart, Ray and her four daughters, Esther, Amy, Katie and Jane.

Some of you may have known Frances from her time working in the Village Post Office with Rosemary, Don and Sue. She truly enjoyed being part of the village and meeting the „locals“ but later moved on to working at Stonelees Golf Centre.

In 2007, Frances was diagnosed with lung cancer but despite given the short prognosis she never let this get in the way of living. During and in between treatment Frances managed to fulfil her dreams – visiting Australia, family holiday in Portugal (which given the large extent of our family was quite a feat!) but most of all spending cherished time with friends and family.

Sadly she finally gave up the fight just over 2 years later from being diagnosed and passed away peacefully at home with her family. She always fought life with high-spirits, determination and laughter – of which we are all very proud.

Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts.

Ray, Esther, Amy, Katie and Jane.

Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended Frances's funeral. Most especially to W.S Cole & Son whose expertise and support with

arranging the funeral made such a difficult time bearable - as well as respecting
mum's wishes to come in colourful attire thanks to Jonathan's red shoes! Thanks
also to Bob Coles for his support and lovely service. I'm sure it was everything
mum had wished for.

Donations

Mum requested that instead of flowers at her funeral she would like donations for
the Roy Castle Lung Foundation to be given instead. If anyone would like to
contribute to this great cause in memory of Frances please send donations to W.S
Cole & Son, Minster.

NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Council now have their own website
where you can view Agendas and Minutes of Meetings and a multitude of other
useful information and links that are available.

To access the new site please follow this link

<http://www.minsterpc.kentparishes.gov.uk>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cycle Cuba

Kent Air Ambulance is looking for people who like a challenge!

To celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the life saving helicopter being operational
in Kent, the charity is organizing a sponsored bike ride in Cuba.

Cycle Cuba is set to take place in November 2010, when a group representing the Air
Ambulance will set off on a 5 day cycle ride covering some 348km. The route will
take in the captivating city of Havana, the Bay of Pigs, Trinidad (a UNESCO World
Heritage Site), the Sierra del Escambray Mountains and Santa Clara.

The Kent Air Ambulance is available to every person living, working and travelling
through the county each day.

We receive no Government assistance or other funding towards the annual cost of
running the service, £1.7 million pa, all of which is raised through donations and
fundraising by the people of Kent.

For more information visit **www.kentairambulance.co.uk** or
contact Emma **emma@lifecyclepromotions.co.uk** or 01303 862996 for a
registration pack.

FREE HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

For carers, those with ill health or disabilities

Want to know more? Call us on 01843 821442

Or visit the website at **www.kent.gov.uk/libs**

Click *Services for everyone* then *homebound*

WRINKLIES ON THE RUN!

Read the story of Jonathan Cole our local Funeral Director, Phillip Spain, Jeff
Chalk and Tegwyn Jones, average age 57, as they travelled from the UK to China,
across two Continents, ten Countries and eight time zones. Their transport being two
Transit vans 13 and 20 years old.

On sale at Attwells £8.00 (£6.50 printing costs and £1.50 to UNICEF)

A fantastic story, a fantastic stocking filler.

BATTERY RECYCLING

We are pleased to say the Battery Recycling Scheme has really taken off and we

now have bins at Attwells, the Attic, the Library, Bens, Somerfields, both Cliffsend
and St Nicholas Post Offices, Monkton School, Great Oaks Small School and St
Augustine's Golf Club.

We still have 2 more bins to allocate so if you have any suggestions as to where
we could place them please let us know.

We must give a big thank you to TDC for allocating us a wheelie bin to stockpile
them, prior to collection, it makes it so much easier to move them around. Ray,

Editor

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TRIBUTE TO A TREVOR LOWERY

25/11/1950 -14/11/2009

HERO

Life can be so cruel at times

It hurts so much you cry

But then Trevs life was shattered

When you lose someone you love so

He was dealt the cruellest blow

much

Trev found that he had Cancer

Why did they have to die

Christmas Eve, a year ago

Trevor was a quiet man

But Trevor took this on the chin

Who led a quiet life

He found a strength from deep inside

Who never really had that much

He became the most courageous man

„Til Kim became his wife

Up „til the moment that he died

From that day on

Trev might have now departed

His life would change

But I know one thing for sure

He was as happy as could be

The treasured memories we have

He had a home, a wife and children

of him

Trev had his family

Will last forever more

Trev also had four brothers

So now you are in Heaven Trev

He had four sisters too

You must always be aware

And the nine of them together

You haven't seen the last of us

Were quite the „Motley Crew

One day we'll meet you there

And in knowing that he had all this

I'm glad I had a brother Trev

He felt his life was sweet

A brother just like you

He had everything he'd wished for

I can say it all in just five words

His life became complete

A HERO THROUGH

AND THROUGH

Trev had found contentment

And happiness in every way

Forever

With so much love around him

Dave

He looked forward to each day

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREEGLE THANET (Formerly Thanet Freecycle)

Have you joined the ever growing membership on FreegleThanet

An Internet Group where you can give away those unwanted items that may still have some useful life, that perhaps you would only take to the tip or break up and put out for the bin men.

Or maybe there is something you are looking for that some-else may be glad to be rid of, you can ask for items as well.

It's free to join, free to use and it gives you a really good feeling knowing you've helped someone who may be less well off than yourself.

The local group is run by the Editor of this magazine so it's someone you know that's at the helm, not a faceless stranger, so take a look and join up just mention MM in the comments box and I'll know to approve you application without further ado.

Go to either (they both point to the same place)

www.freeglethanet.org.uk or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/freeglethanet>

Look forward to seeing you there

Ray Owen

TOY SERVICES

Both Minster (10am) & Monkton (10.15am) will be holding Toy services this year on 6th December.

Our Toy Services, as in previous years, will support the work of Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child is an initiative of Samaritan's Purse aimed at giving children living in poverty a chance to experience Christmas. Gifts are distributed according to need, regardless of creed, largely in Eastern Europe, to boys and girls aged between 2 and 14 years.

You are invited to provide a gift from the following list, noting, please, that the gifts need to be contained in a shoe box (please do not wrap individually):

- Cuddly toy • Toothbrush and toothpaste • Soap (bar of)
- Notepad or colouring book (no words) • Picture book
- Pencils, pens, crayons, felt tip pens • Tennis ball or small ball
- Hat, cap, gloves, scarf • Puzzles • Toy cars etc.
- Hair accessories • Jewellery (not earrings for pierced ears)
- Makeup • Sweets (at least March 2010 sell-by date)

Please don't wrap the gifts, just bring them in a bag for protection.

Father Christmas will ensure that his helpers sort and pack them into age and gender appropriate wrapped shoe boxes for passing on to Samaritan's Purse

Alternatively you might like to make a financial donation to Samaritan's Purse instead of a toy. There will be little monetary gift bags available at the service. These

are equally as welcome as toys and will be collected as part of our Toy Service.

Thank you in anticipation, for your loving and generous support.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINSTER MATTERS ASKS

“DO YOU HAVE SOME TIME TO SPARE EACH MONTH ?”

The Minster Matters team are looking for a new recruit to join them for one of the more important duties, that of receiving the magazine from the courier and redistributing same to our superb delivery volunteers.

This has been a task the Editor has always undertaken up until now, but due to continuing health problems it is becoming increasingly necessary to ask the question, “Do we have a more active and healthy resident willing to give this a go”

It would mean someone being at home to receive delivery once a month from the courier, normally a Thursday or Friday towards the end of each month (except December) at an undetermined time during the day. The courier will not leave any packages without a signature, so it is important that whoever takes on this role is either not in full time employment, or if they are, that they can ensure someone will be at home to accept delivery !!

There are normally 15 quite heavy boxes delivered, containing, between them, 1850 magazines (or there-about), which then need to be divided up into the various delivery rounds, repacked and shipped out again to the delivery team members, so whoever takes this on also needs access to a suitable vehicle for this purpose. (Note: The courier will normally bring them into your property for you, if you wish.)

Fourteen of the team have weather proof boxes, which must be collected from them beforehand, whilst the remainder are delivered either in the cardboard boxes they arrived in or are posted through the volunteers letterboxes loose.

At present the magazine is sent to our printers, electronically, on a Monday morning, and on the same day we go round and collect the boxes from the volunteers homes. On the Thursday or Friday of the same week the magazine returns via courier and then needs to be counted to ensure we have the correct number, split into individual batches for each deliverer, repacked into either plastic and/or cardboard boxes and distributed to the team for their onward delivery to individual households.

Think you could be interested then please contact the Editor. Ray, on 822322 or email editor@minstermatters.org.uk.

Asking for further information won't commit you to anything, so if after reading this you are still unsure of exactly what it is that we require then please get in touch and we'll try to explain ourselves better.

Ray, Editor

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MINSTER-IN-THANET WI.

At our AGM in November, the committee for 2009-10 was elected, with Joan Backler and Marion Rose remaining as President and Secretary respectively. After the President's Address, the Secretary's Annual Report, and the Treasurer's presentation of the year's accounts, Virginia Linihan gave a vote of thanks to the committee. Refreshments and two quizzes rounded off the evening.

The Dabble Day was a great success, with members making colourful necklaces, brushing up their first aid, enjoying a wine tasting session, furthering digital

photography skills, and line dancing for the more energetic - the latter activity taking place after an excellent ploughman's lunch organised by Marion!

In addition to our branch meetings, we are also able to attend Acol Group meetings, albeit in limited numbers: some of us were extremely lucky to be at the meeting hosted by Viking WI, when Ann Chance gave an hilarious account on learning to ride, and her subsequent trips to Montana as a cowgirl. Several Minster members also belong to the Thanet Area branch of the Craft and Home Economics Guild - our October meeting was a Halloween Party, and we all entered into the 'spirit' of the evening by dressing as witches, and enjoyed refreshments of soup and hot dogs, followed by a quiz and games.

The trip to see the recording of The Alan Titchmarsh Show earlier this year was so popular that we made a return visit in November - it did not disappoint!

Our branch meeting on 1st December at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall takes the form of a Christmas Party for current members and invited guests only.

New members and visitors will be made welcome at January's meeting - see separate notice.

Meanwhile, Season's Greetings to all members and Minster residents: wishing you " happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year". (And don't forget to visit our stall at the Village Christmas Fair, where the theme will be Home Cooking, plus a raffle for hampers!)

MINSTER FLOWER SHOW

Minster Show wish everyone a happy Christmas. When you get your 2010 diary from Santa (Attwells) remember to write in **24th July** -enter competitions and go to Rec to listen to music!

MOTHERS' UNION

We were delighted to welcome Marjorie Hulks and Edith James as newly enrolled members at our November Meeting. We also enjoyed listening to Jim Connell who shared some of his memories in the Navy - with a Remembrance theme. **Next**

Meeting will be December 9th at 2.00pm in the Church. New members will be most welcome. **The wave of Prayer is on Tuesday January 5th at 1.30pm in the Church.**

A very Happy and Blessed Christmas to all our members.

Janet (Branch leader)

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MINSTER TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Bonjour mes amis.

Well, the news is that there was only one member of the public who attended the AGM. This was very disappointing, as it had been hoped that those who had shown interest to Bob would have turned up, and more so that representatives from the school would have made the effort.

The committee officers resigned, as they had said they would, and there were no nominations or volunteers, so the Twinning Association is no more and the accounts have been frozen and handed to Minster Parish Council for safekeeping. If the Association is to arise then officers and members are needed.

There can be no financial, or other, support for the school trip to France if the Association is not resurrected. The one "newby" has offered to act as Minutes and administration secretary so please could some others volunteer to keep this valuable

village asset going.

An extra-ordinary AGM is needed to start up again so please contact Minster

Matters who will be more than willing to pass on any communications. (when they have been asked!).

Fund raising and fun events are on the calendar and it would be a great shame to have to cancel them through lack of support.

PLEASE HELP!

J'espere quil est au revoir et pas ou non finis

I am new to this too but willing to try my French!

Ed says: My French is awful but I think the second to last line translates into something like "I hope this is just farewell and not the end"

In response to the poor attendance at Minster Twinning's AGM, one of our readers writes:

Dear Minster Matters. I hope you have room to publish my letter, addressed to villagers. I am a pensioner; I am still new to the village having only lived here for 2 years, and I do not have the best of health. However, I read the plea in Minster Matters for help with the Twinning Association.

I approached Bob and he said quite a few folks had expressed an interest in helping and had wished to attend the AGM. There was only me as a member of the public – not even an apology from anyone else! This valuable village asset will crumble if more helpers do not put in an appearance. Any help, however small, is really appreciated. At the moment officers are needed as well as help in the ranks. I found them a really friendly bunch, who wanted to continue with their good works and fun events and welcomed me on board. Surely there must at least be parents of the school pupils who want to help. It must be fun because those who joined when their children were due to benefit from the exchange trip are still there – and the "children" are now at University. The loyal few need support – please offer it. The only way to continue is with an EXTRA ORDINARY AGM when new members can be admitted – please let me know (via Minster Matters) when is a suitable time and date for this urgently required meeting, and I will arrange it. Thank you, *Heather*

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MINSTER BOWLS CLUB

November has seen those who were successful in the various competitions being presented with their trophies, after an excellent buffet provided by Pam Wooldridge. Those taking part in the Quiz Night complimented Brian and Sylvie plus their helpers for a very enjoyable evening.

There have been two recent Sunday dinners, the next is planned for the new year.

The Christmas Dinner to be held on 12th December was very quickly fully subscribed. On December 18th we will be holding a Pre Christmas Social for all Associate and Full members plus guests.

November 27th will have seen the Financial and Management year coming to a close and this meant the position I have held as Club Captain now no longer exists, due to changes in the committee, so this is my last report for the bowls club, and I would just like to thank you all for taking the time to read my past efforts.

As this magazine went to print before the 27th I am unable to report the names of the new committee.

During December and up until 14th January there are a number of nights without

any League games being played at home, so Mums and Dads why not, during the school holidays, bring the family down to see if you could get some enjoyment learning the art of bowling, in a warm and friendly environment. All you need to do is provide smooth soled shoes and welll do the rest. The mats are down all the time for day use.

Come and visit our tables at the Christmas Bazaar in the Village Hall.

Congratulations to Malcolm Kennett and Laurie Walmsley in being honoured with Life Membership.

Finally Happy Christmas and New Year to you all,

Glyne Hibbert Club Captain (ret.£)

2010 MISS MINSTER SELECTION DANCE

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

For further details please contact Roy or Carol on 821705.

MISS MINSTER

Roy and Carol would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has been instrumental in helping the carnival court this past year.

Thanks go to Minster Parish Council, village residents and businesses, especially to the staff at Envy for ensuring the girls hair looked its best on Flower Show Day and Ben for printing their sashes.

A very special thanks goes to the girls for all the hard work theylve put into attending events and functions throughout the year, and for representing the village so well. Minster should be rightfully proud of you all.

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COMPUTER CORNER – HIJACKED!!

It seems like everyone these days is talking about "Internet that, email this, Google that" and so on and so forth. But if you haven't got a computer and are of a generation where, as a child, the most technical object in the house was a radio, it's probably a little tricky to understand this modern day computing language.

So llve written this today for those of you whold like to understand a bit more of what your friends with computers are talking about.

E-MAIL EXPLAINED

The word "E-mail" comes from the term „electronic mail. It is way of sending a letter to another person without the need for paper, a stamp or a postbox. If you send your letter by e-mail, your recipient will receive it in minutes, rather than days.

To send an e-mail, you need two things: a computer and an Internet service. To set up an Internet service at home is much like setting up a phone service. In fact, most telephone companies provide Internet connection services too. Your phone service and Internet connection will run side by side along your existing telephone cabling. You could expect to pay between £6.50 and £25.00 per month for your Internet service.

E-mails are typed into the computer. Then, at the touch of a button, sent through your Internet connection to your son in Australia, your friend in Canada, the TV repair man in Ramsgate or the secretary of the local gardening club. In the same way

that everyone in the world has a unique postal address or telephone number, people have unique e-mail addresses. An e-mail address tells your computer where the email needs to be sent.

Sending and receiving e-mail is free - you pay only for the price of the Internet connection service. You can also send and receive digital photographs using e-mail. E-mail is fast, convenient, open 24 hours a day and not affected by the postal strikes!

Jackie Raines
Home Computer Tuition
www.jackieraines.co.uk

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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Ref. Agenda Item 165 at the Parish Council Meeting on the 3rd November, 2009.

I have been asked by some members of the village to enlarge on the decision of the Council not to support the widening of the footpath in the High Street. I must stress that these are, then, my personal views covering this decision and I am not reflecting other Council Members views.

This possibility of widening this section of the High Street has been looked at on a number of occasions. Kent design guide states that the minimum width of a carriageway required for a local bus route is 6 metres. The High Street varies in width from around 5.4 metres to around 6.2 metres. Therefore the majority of this street is already below the required width for a bus route and gives no scope for any narrowing.

Therefore it would not be feasible to widen the footpath because it would make the street too narrow for two way traffic.

With this knowledge, to support a path widening proposal would be acknowledging the difficulties presented and the consequences of the adoption of a one way traffic control system.

A priority traffic control system would be difficult because there is very little space to accommodate the waiting traffic that leaves one system involving Foxborough Lane, Pinks Corner, Bedlam Court Lane, Rivers Court, and the difficult corner opposite the Abbey.

Council considered all the implications including:-1)

Material considerations and whether our decision was excessive;

2)

Highway considerations together with Health and Safety management;

3)

Equal Opportunity Guidelines;

4)

Human Rights

After considering all the effects it could have on the greater majority of the residents of Minster and this included the loss of street parking in the High Street for the people in the area, the increase in the traffic flow at Foxborough Lane and this also includes Bedlam Court Lane, without any path at all, increase in faster moving traffic into Rivers Court crossing area, and of course an increase in the carbon footprint for the overall village.

Public opinion was also an important consideration and we needed to take into account the recently introduced Bill of Human Rights and whether the introduction of a one way system would impinge on the rights of the residents living in the affected

areas, and on balance we thought it would. Was the proposal and the possible resultant effects in the Public Interest and would the benefits outweigh the rights of the individual. We didn't think they did.

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(Parish Council Meeting cont'd)

These are only a few of the considerations debated by Council when the Policy decision was made. I do regret that some residents may be persuaded to believe that the Council was inconsiderate in reaching this decision. It would be nice to house one without the other, but it is not possible. It would be easy to agree to widen the path and then for Highways at their convenience to implement a one way system, quoting our agreement in principle but that is how we had acquired the path at Monkton Road and the 100 extra houses thrust upon the village.

Finally Highways being the enabling Agency have estimated the costs at £100k to cover any limited widening scheme. The costs take into consideration surveying, traffic control, preparation of tenders, the work involved, and supervision costs, for a possible path widening in a limited number of places of a minimum of 8 inches. This Country that includes every person is in a financial recession. Is it reasonable to expect Highways to finance such a scheme at the expense of other equally important projects such as flood water control? I hope you find this letter helpful in clarifying the Council's decision.

Dennis Neville, Chairman

VICAR'S LETTER

Could I begin by thanking everyone who supported this year's Remembrance Sunday service, especially Rob Titchener who gave the address? It's always a special occasion but this year seemed even more so with over 50% more people there than usual, no doubt in part because of the current Campaign in Afghanistan.

Christmas is upon us, a time that for so many people is so precious – a time for special events surrounding the celebration of the birth of Jesus over 2000 years ago. This is done in many ways. Could I commend to you some of the ways we mark this in the village.

First is the „**Toy Service**“ on 6th December with the donated toys being distributed to children who might otherwise not have any (details of suitable gifts are given elsewhere on the audio). Then there's the **Civic Carol Service** at the Lych Gate 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th December, when there will be a collection for the work of Demelza House Children's Hospice. The Civic Carol Service is a very special occasion on the Minster calendar. Do come and join us if you possibly can.

Last year we introduced a **Christingle Service** to complement the School's Christingle Service. This proved a great success and we will be repeating it again this year at 6.30pm on 20th December. The collection will go towards the work of the Children's Society.

May this Christmas be a time of special blessing for you all, as we celebrate the wonder of our God who loves us so much that he sent us his Son to be our Saviour!

“And his name shall be called Immanuel, which means „God is with us“

Bob Coles

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JOURNALIST CLUB

Editors this month

WORLD FOOD DAY

On the 16th October the World Food Day took place in the Winter Gardens in Margate. We got lots of free samples and learnt about Fair Trade.

The Charles Dickens school band performed a concert in the main hall.

by Oliver

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day is when you remember all the soldiers who died in the wars. The symbol that represents Remembrance is the poppy.

At the 11th hour of the 11th Day of the 11th month, every year we have a two minute silence to remember those who fought and died in the wars.

In school we had an assembly about Remembrance Day and we said prayers and one of the teachers read out a poem called Flanders Fields.

By Emma Holland

RSPCA

The RSPCA help rescue abandoned and neglected animals that need help. They try their hardest to try and save them animals that have been treated very badly.

If you would like a pet then go to an RSPCA shelter and adopt one of those loving animals as they need you. You can help them earn their trust back towards humans, they don't deserve to be treated badly, but they do deserve to be treated respectfully and kindly.

SO PLEASE HELP RE-HOME THESE WONDERFUL ANIMALS FOR THEIR

SAKE!!!! THANKYOU!!!!

By Sophie Stevens

Up is a brand new movie about a young scout who wants his elderly friend badge and an old man who wants to be an explorer. The old man wants to go to the waterfall in South Africa when he has to go to a retirement place when he does a backup plan and flys to South Africa in his house and this is were the adventure begins.

by Jake

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JOURNALIST CLUB

RUMMY

My doggy Rum is such a loving creature. He has scruffy fur which is brown, white and black.

He is seven years old and his birthday is the 5th November. He is sensitive but he can be a bit of a lazy one. I take him for walks every weekend and in the summer I and my mum go up to the river, bring a picnic and go for a 5 hour walk with both of my dogs Rum and Meg. I love him as much as my mum and that is a lot! I love you Rummy!!

By Libby Thomson

PIXEL CHIX

Pixel Chix has a: house, 2 story house, mall, 6 story house, car, baby-sitter's house, a dog house and a website that you can go on any time!!! Pixel Chix are famous there are three of them a blonde head one, a brown head one and a black head one which is the main one They are usually sold in Fenwick's which is in Canterbury have fun playing with them if you have or want one!

By Rosie Malloy

CYBER BULLYING

Cyber Bullying is when someone does mean stuff to you, like keeps calling you names or keeps sending nasty stuff to you. This can cause a lot of trouble and sometimes you can get the police involved. At school this week we went on a website called Digizen.org and it tells you about Cyber Bullying. You can watch videos and play games it tells you a lot about how to get over it.

by Helen Birch & Emma Holland

FIREWORKS

Last Friday the PFA held a fireworks night on the Rec. Lots of people went and you could buy food and drinks. When they started everybody was looking up at the fireworks.

Here is a poem about fireworks.

Fireworks fireworks

In the sky flying free flying high.

If they hit you, you might cry.

Fireworks fireworks

Passing by.

by Helen Birch

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WHATIS ON

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR!

MINSTER VILLAGE HALL

9am to 2pm

with Free Admission

SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER 2009

LOTS OF STALLS WITH SEASONAL BARGAINS!

CHRISTMAS HANDICRAFTS # TOMBOLAS

GRAND RAFFLE # COFFEE & MINCE PIES

Look in and support your village Organisations!

THE FRIENDS OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

will be hosting a

Concert by the Canterbury Singers

Saturday 28th November

7.30pm

St. Nicholas-at-Wade Church.

The choir will sing works by J.S. Bach, along with Advent Carols, and a newly

commissioned Hymn by composer

T. Hewitt-Jones

There will also be two Hymns for Choir and Congregation

and Movements from Haydn's St. Nicholas Mass.

Tickets: £7.50 at the door.

Refreshments will be available during the interval

Do come along and join us for what promises to be an exciting evening of music and

entertainment

MINSTER CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

PFA Christmas Bazaar

The Annual Christmas Bazaar will take place on

Friday 4th December

from 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

Please come along and support us.

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WHAT'S ON

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

by the SNOWDOWN COLLIERY BAND

in the Village Hall on Sunday 13th December 2009 at 2.30pm

Entrance £2.50

Raffle, Teas

Father Christmas may make an appearance

PROCEEDS TO THE PILGRIMS HOSPICE

St. Lucy's Christmas Fair

At Minster Abbey, St. Benedict's Room

On Sunday December 13, 2009 from 11am until 1:00 p.m.

In Aid of Cafod, Children's Project

Coffee - Baked Goods and Christmas Gifts

Come and help to Support the children

Traumatized by the Violence in Gaza

THANET QUILTERS CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Tuesday Evening on 1st December

Church House, Kent Gardens, Birchington

Stalls Galore – Super Christmas Hamper Raffle

Doors Open 7.00pm with Free Entry & Free Refreshments

Traditional Christingle

Celebrating Jesus, the Light of the World.

Sunday 20th December at 6.30pm St Mary's, Minster

Crib Service

“Setting the scene for Christmas”

A short celebration arranged with younger children in mind.

Christmas Eve at 4.30pm St Mary's, Minster

RAMSGATE ROTARY CLUB - SANTA'S ANNUAL VISIT

Santa and his sleigh are coming to the village, helped by members of the Rotary

Club of Ramsgate, **on Sunday 6th December starting at 4 p.m.**

The monies collected will be donated to local charities and other good causes

including Rotary Club President Paul Parpworth's nominated charity Let's Face It,

which is a charity based in Thanet that helps people coping with facial disfigurement.

Brian Whitehead, Rotary Club of Ramsgate

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WHAT'S ON

MINSTER PLAYHOUSE ANNUAL PANTOMIME PRESENTS

ONCE UPON A TIME

Written by Paul Barren and Sarah Dyson

Directed by Dawn Ledingham

Wednesday 9th – Saturday 12th December, 7.30pm & 2.30pm

Matinee on Saturday

Tickets £6 & £5 concessions.

For all ticket enquiries phone Terry on 01843 220208

Mobile 079090687757

E.Mail – terry.wood15@btinternet.com

SALVATION ARMY

Friday 4th December

Grand Opening

of the Community Shop, 11am

Sunday 20th December

Carol Service, 6pm

Christmas Day

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

If you would like to attend or

are able to help with this year's meal

please contact Audrey on 821792 or

Major Denise Cooper on 825178

Sunday 27th December

11am meeting only (no 6pm meeting)

Sunday 24th January – 6pm

United Meeting for Week of Prayer

for Christian Unity, followed by refreshments

MINSTER GIFT & CRAFT FAIR


In the Village Hall



On Saturday 19th December

From 9.00am „til 12.00noon


Free Admission

Please phone: 822820 to book a stall






East Kent HealthWalks 2009








East Kent HealthWalks 2009

What is a HealthWalk?
HealthWalks are free, short, volunteer led, local walks aimed at those who wish to be more active. Walks are generally between 40-90 minutes and leave from accessible venues such as libraries and leisure centres. No need to book, just turn up for a free HealthWalk. Most of the HealthWalks finish with refreshments and a chat.

Walk Key:

 = gentle stroll, shorter distance
 = brisk walk, slightly further pace
 = faster pace, longer distance or rough ground


 = pram friendly

Chilton Tavern 167 Pegwell Road, PEGWELL, CT1 3JY	Sundays Ongoing	11.15 am (for 11.30 am start)	Max 1hr 30 mins 	0800 6464000
East Cliff Practice To Montebello Medical Centre, Dunmore Park Drive RAMSGATE CT11 8AD	Thursdays Ongoing	1.45 pm (for 2.00 pm start)	Approx 45 mins 	0800 6464000
Minster CE Primary School Pulinx Road Minster RAMSGATE CT12 7DE	Thursdays Ongoing Term Time Only	9.00am (for 9.15am start)	Approx 40 Mins 	07824691907
Sandwich Loppers Age Concern Foyer 19 The Cattle Market SANDWICH	Mondays Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Dec 7	10.15 (for 10.30 start)	Approx 45 mins 	01504 614661

Please note: The HealthWalks presented within this table are part of a rolling role and consequently require updates. If you are unsure about any of the details please contact the HealthWalk Coordinators on 0800 6464000

Would you like to be a volunteer?

In order to have as many HealthWalks in East Kent as possible for you to join, we need friendly, reliable volunteers from the community to help organise and lead the walks. The initial commitment is only 5-6 weeks for about an hour a week. Full support is provided including training delivered by the scheme coordinators. If you are interested in a free volunteer training day including lunch (with no commitment to lead straightaway) then get in touch with the coordinator Mary on 0800 6464000 or email healthwalks@nhs.net



NB: For a list of all the walks see our East Kent HealthWalks website www.ukccwaleskent.org.uk or call us on 0800 6464000 for more info on walking for your health.
 Contact Details: Volunteer Centre, 75 West a Road, East Kent, CT1 4 7SL

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WHAT'S ON

MUSIC BY ALABAMA EXPRESS

CREDIT CRUNCH CHRISTMAS CRACKER ONLY 99P

Held on Saturday 19th December 2009

at Minster Village Hall at 7.30pm

You can line dance or just sit and listen. Bring your own food and drink and sit back and enjoy. Once again we are rolling back the price of Admission to only 99p. This is a chance to forget the expense of Christmas and enjoy a value for money evening. Bringing you a variety of Country Music to dance to or just sit and listen.

Tickets on the night or in advance from 01843 821440.

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NOTES & EVENTS

Minster Mayhems

New dancers and musicians welcome.

Held at the Old Schools, on Fridays 5.15pm - 6.30pm, in term-time.

Phone 821795

MINSTER-IN-THANET WI

NEXT MEETING

. Tuesday, 1st December at 7.30 pm, Village Hall

Christmas Party for current members and invited guests only

Tuesday, 12 January 2010 at 7.30 pm, Village Hall

Prue Anderton - 'My Pilgrimage to Ariana'

New members and visitors welcome

COFFEE AND CHAT

Thursday, 21st January 2010 from 10.00 am - 12 noon

Village Hall Committee Room All welcome.

MINSTER & MONKTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

NEXT MEETING

Monday 14th December

7.30pm

Decorate a box for Christmas

Bingo Speaker or Quiz Raffle prizes needed for all meetings

For further information Miriam Smith 822589

MOTHERS UNION

Next Meeting

December 9th at 2.00pm in the Church.

New members will be most welcome.

The wave of Prayer is on Tuesday January 5th at 1.30pm in the Church.

SATURDAY MARKET

Christmas Special

December 12th from 10.00am - 12.00noon

In the Old Schools. Everyone welcome

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NOTES & EVENTS

MINSTER AND MONKTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

. Christmas Meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Thursday 17th December

This will be a social evening with music provided by Martin Rawbone

First 2010 Meeting on Wednesday 20th January in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Mrs. Vera Orsborne will be talking on "A Gardeners Seasons"

The points competition is a Photograph of a Season

All visitors are welcome 50p

MINSTER AND MONKTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

61 Augustine Road, Tel 821471

LIVE MUSIC - QUIZ NIGHTS - RACE NIGHTS

AVAILABLE TO BOOK FOR FUNCTIONS

WEDDING RECEPTIONS-BIRTHDAY PARTIES ETC

BAR, STAGE AND DANCE FLOOR IN THE MAIN AREA

2 FURTHER ROOMS AND A SNOOKER ROOM

FOOD AVAILABLE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY LUNCHTIMES

COME ALONG AND SEE FOR YOURSELF WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER

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

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NOTES & EVENTS

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

Cliftonville

Farmers Market

The Oval Lawns

10.00am - 1.00pm

29th Nov; 20th Dec

Contact: June Chadband

01843 226 033

k.chadband@btinternet.com

AMBERS ADVICE

To fill the hour - that is happiness; to fill the hour, and leave no crevice for a repentance or an approval.

TIGERS TIP

Cherry Cake

Stop glace cherries sinking to bottom in cooking.

Rinse them in cold water to remove syrup

Dip in flour before adding to mixture.

ZAC's MUSINGS

"They say a dog is for life, not just for Christmas,

well I certainly hope I don't end up on anyone's dinner plate."

KEEP THE KIDS INTERESTED IN CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR

Take a look at these websites!

<http://www.noradsanta.org/> track Santa site available from Dec 1st

<http://www.emailsanta.com/> email Santa and lots lots more

<http://tiny.cc/rmletterstosanta> details how to send a letter to Santa via the Royal

Mail

SOUP ON WEDNESDAYS

12noon to 1pm at the Old Schools

Please note we will be closed on

Dec. 23rd and Dec 30th

Back on Wednesday January 6th (Epiphany)

STEAM TRAINS

www.uksteam.info

Listed Journeys that may come via Minster

Mon 21st Dec : 60163 Tornado

White Cliffs Christmas Luncheon Special

Times and routes can be found on

the uk steam website

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THANK YOU'S

FOLLOWING the tragic and untimely death of our son, SCOTT, on Saturday

31st October 2009, the expressions of sympathy and support from many kind friends

helped us so much in coming to terms with our great loss. We do thank you all most

sincerely. *Ted and June Wilson*

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

As Chairman of Minster and Monkton Royal British Legion Women's Section I

would like to thank all concerned with the organising of the Remembrance Day

Service. It was even better than last year with the church full to overflowing. The

Display at the Legion afterwards was excellent, as was the food.

Well Done Everyone.

Yours sincerely, *D.P. Smith*

AUDREY AND SHIRLEY would like to say thank you for your support, also the

superb raffle prizes received for our Charity Dance on Saturday 31st October. We

are pleased to say we raised over £250 which we gave towards the Minster Brownies

and Guides. Our next dance is March 27th 2010., and we would like to wish all our

friends a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

MARY LORD - would like to say Thank You to everyone who has passed on

their used stamps to her for the Donkey Sanctuary during the year.

Don't forget please to save your Christmas Stamps for this worthy cause. Thank

you.

MINSTER CAT CARE - Sandra extends grateful thanks to Clive, Karen and

Jenny at Attwells, and also the kind residents of Minster, who have both donated to

and purchased from the charity shop throughout the year.

The shop staff wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Christmas Shoe Boxes for children

(Smile International)

Many thanks to the Minster people who have supported this project.

Kate Humphrys

For further information on the work of Smile International please visit their website at

<http://www.smileinternational.org>

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THANK YOUS

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS

I hope you are all enjoying the Christmas trees throughout the village.

A huge thank you must go to Roger Thompson who took every set of lights home (48!), checked, repaired and replaced bulbs so as we could get organised for this years display. Roger and Danny Day have also been round the whole area and done some much needed maintenance on the holders.

This year we have had to purchase bulbs at a cost of around £150, tree holders £108, Lights £200 and also find an extra £100 toward the cost of the tress. Last year we spent £500 on electrics, so the pot has now run dry ! Next year will bring more expense as we will eventually have to replace all 50 sets of lights.

To that end donation tins will be placed in the village businesses for your odd change, so please give generously if you wish to see the trees continue.

My thanks go to our small but dedicated group of helpers who dress the trees and put them up whatever the weather, and a special thanks to Ann Thomson for sticking with it for another year.

Karen Brazil

Church News and Service Times

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

Sunday Services In DECEMBER/JANUARY

6th December

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: **Toy Service**
6.30pm: **Advent Service of Light**

13th December

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

20th December

9am: no service this week
10am: Morning Worship for Advent
6.30pm: **Christingle**

24th December

4.30pm: **Crib Service**
11.30pm: **Midnight Mass**

Christmas Day

10am: **Family Communion (CW)**

27th December

9am: no service
10am: Holy Communion (BCP)

3rd January

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

10th January

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Family Communion NEW!

17th January

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

24th January

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

31st January

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Holy Communion (CW)
6.30pm: **Candlemas**

Mid week service at St Mary's
Wednesdays 10.30am

Baptisms at Minster Parish Church:

1st November: William Barras
15th November: Gabriel Mayone-
Radford

Funerals

16th November: Frances Staines (56)
at Thanet Crematorium

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

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

Minster Abbey

www.minsterabbeynuns.org

The Abbey Chapel is open for
prayer throughout the day

Lauds 7.30am

Mass 8.15am, Sunday 10am

Mid day prayer 12.10pm

Vespers 6pm

Compline 7.50pm

(followed by Silent Prayer)

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

St Mary Magdalene, Monkton Sunday Services In DECEMBER/JANUARY

6th December

10.15am: Toy Service

13th December

10.15am: Holy Communion (BCP)

20th December

6.30pm: Nativity Service

24th December

4.30pm: Lessons and Carols

Christmas Day

10am: Holy Communion (CW)

27th December

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

3rd January

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

10th January

10.15am: Holy Communion (BCP)

17th January

10.15am: Holy Communion with the
Methodists

24th January

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

31st January

10.15am: Family Service

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 until
after February half term holiday
2010, in order to implement changes
required. Starting date will be
notified in due course.
For further information, please
contact Major Denise Cooper

Saturday

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

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

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/minster

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CHURCH NEWS

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Councillor Bob Grove

Monthly Surgeries

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

All residents are welcome to attend.

Contacting your District Councillor

Councillor Mike Roberts

Conservative Ward Councillor for Thanet Villages

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

Tel: 01843 595065 email: marlec@onetel.com

Contacting your MP:

Dr. Stephen Ladyman:

South Thanet Constituency Office

28, Newington Road, Ramsgate, CT12 6EE

Tel: 01843 852696

e-mail: stephenladymanmp@souththanetlabour.org.uk

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

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

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

Thanks for listening

Your readers this month were

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Musical interludes supplied courtesy of

Brenda Saker, Daryl Booth and Richard Spendlove MBE