

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER 2019 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.

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MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on:

Tuesday 5 November @ 7pm in the Neighbourhood Centre

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 in the Library and on the Parish Noticeboard in Norton Drive.

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:

9.30am – 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

Parish Council Minutes are available on their website at www.minsterpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

TEMPORARY COMMUNITY WARDEN

I have recently been appointed on a temporary basis to cover Minster and Monkton as a Community Warden, having worked on the Margate Multi-Agency Task Force since joining KCC in July. After 37 years in Customs (Border Force) I took early retirement at the end of last year. I am no stranger to Thanet having started my career at the Pegwell Bay Hoverport! I then spent several years working at Ramsgate Port before moving to Dover and then to the Channel Tunnel when it opened in 1994.

I am currently reducing my work on the Task Force to increase my attendance at Minster and Monkton, and am looking forward to working in and with the community. If you see me out and about, please stop me and say hello... I always have time for a chat! If you wish to contact me please use the contact details below.

Peter Gill, KCC Community Warden, Minster and Monkton

Tel: 07703 454 190, Email: Peter.Gill@kent.gov.uk

MINSTER SURGERY WINS NATIONAL GOLD AWARD

Minster surgery has been recognised with a national award after implementing a new personalised and proactive way of caring for its patients nearing the end of their lives.

Claire Dennis, the Practice Frailty Nurse, and Sandra Houghton, the Assistant Practice Manager, were presented with the "Gold Standards Framework (GSF) Quality Hallmark Award" at a ceremony in London by the Secretary of the Royal College of General Practitioners, who stated that it was fabulous to find such a pioneering GP Practice.

Claire, who led the push to provide coordinated and compassionate care for all such patients, said the new procedures benefit patients and staff alike. Patients who are on the palliative list, "Gold Patients", are given a "Gold Card" and, on contacting the surgery, are immediately fast tracked to the most appropriate person.

The "Gold Card" was designed and produced by the Patient Liaison Group at the surgery. Claire added "The GSF has brought everyone together as a team and we're delighted to receive this award as it is an area that we are really passionate about".

To illustrate the scale of this achievement, Minster Surgery is currently the only GP Practice in Kent and Medway NHS and South East of England to have achieved this award.

OBITUARIES

Denis Alan Power

Denis Power passed away on the 30th September 2019 at the age of 94 years.

He was born, lived and worked in Minster all of his life, less his time serving his country during the closing stages of WW2.

Our thanks to Mother Nicola, Minster Abbey where his funeral took place on the 24th October.

If desired donations in his memory can be made to Minster Surgery

c/o W.S. Cole and Son, Funeral Directors, 17-19 High Street, Minster, CT12 4BU,
Telephone 01843 821253

Joyce Evelyn Seath

It is with great sadness to say that Joyce passed away on Wednesday 16th October 2019 at Grosvenor Court Care Home, Cliftonville. She had been very frail for quite a while and died peacefully. Joyce was 89.

Her funeral will be at St. Mary's Church followed by a cremation. Date to be arranged.

Anyone wanting further information please phone 07503 205 595.

Joyce has specified no black attire, just bright, happy colours.

MINSTER BOWLS CLUB

102 people were entertained once again with new material by an excellent Singer/Comedian LLOYD Hollet, who got a standing ovation at the end of his performance. There's a good chance he will be back again next year.

The indoor short-mat bowling is underway daily and we have a social evening most Fridays. On Friday 22nd November we have our A.G.M. a month into the new financial year. A good time to join the Club. *Glynne Hibbert, Hon Secretary*

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL - SUMMARY OF MEETING ON TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER

- PCSO Adrian Butterworth opened the meeting reporting on recent crimes in the area. There had been burglaries at Minster Kebab, the butchers and the golf club, as well as damage to The New Inn. It was good to hear that following a report of fraud a vehicle was identified on CCTV linking to offences in London and Kent.
- Unfortunately, there were no KCC or TDC Councillors present at the meeting. Cllr. Pugh emailed to confirm that he is monitoring the issues in relation to the Manston Raceway planned for Ebbsfleet.
- Kim Brookes and Wayne Healey from Stagecoach spoke about the problems encountered by their drivers in manoeuvring around Minster. Several questions were asked by members of the public, and suggestions were made as to how some difficulties might be overcome. It was generally agreed that most problems would be solved if people gave some thought about where they parked their cars! They were thanked for taking the time to attend the meeting.
- The Chairman reminded everyone of the Minster Firework display on Friday, 1st November and Cllr. McCarthy agreed to liaise with the RBL regarding refreshments and marshalling. Later in the meeting the Chairman explained how many had offered to donate money after the event last year and were advised that the event is paid for by the Parish Council. It was suggested that in the future if people wished to give money it could be used to support a local organisation. Councillors were asked for suggestions and since the meeting it has been agreed that any monies donated will be put towards the Christmas Lights for the village, which benefits everyone, and to the Scouts to support the young people in the village.
- Everyone was reminded that over 1900 copies of the Highways survey had been circulated and encouraged everyone to submit their views on this thorny subject!
- The meeting agreed to purchase Speedwatch equipment for Minster in an effort to address road safety in the village and surrounding areas.
- Councillors agreed that the Parish Council should make a contribution of 50% towards a new notice board outside St Mary's Church. It should bear the name of the church and be available for general use.
- In the period of public questions, it was pointed out that the interactive speed sign in Tothill Street was not working; this will be reported.
- A Mr. Jones from the Gypsy Council UK introduced himself and advised the meeting that they were in negotiations with the owner of the lorry park at the service area, currently occupied by a catering trailer, to lease the site for use as a traveller encampment. It could accommodate 15 caravans. He claimed to have liaised with TDC. To date we have been unable to identify anyone at TDC who has acknowledged any such liaison. The Parish Council are monitoring this situation closely.
- An appeal: In recent months the incidents of graffiti in the village has increased hugely. It is over road signs, local signs, doors, walls etc. and is mindless and very unsightly. We take some pride in this parish being one of the best kept areas in Thanet, yet it is being spoiled by these few idiots. Please, please help us to stop this! If you know who they are then let us or our PCSO know. We don't want to take them to court. We want them to stop doing it and clear up the mess. Thank you.

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP

SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS

There are still plenty of opportunities to have a "Flu Vaccination", appointments are available and can be made in the usual way via the surgery, in person or by phone. So, **DON'T DELAY - BOOK YOURS TODAY**, especially if you have chronic health problems such as asthma, heart disease, diabetes and of course if you're a mum to be!

Eligible and at-risk patients, including infants between 2-4 and those over 6 years have already received a letter inviting them to make an appointment, but if you have any concerns about your eligibility please contact reception as soon as possible.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

A Zero Tolerance Policy exists throughout the NHS and naturally Minster Surgery adheres to that policy. Your Surgery is working hard to meet the needs of all our patients within a very stretched NHS service and would ask that they are treated with the respect they rightly deserve. Sadly, we have recently experienced several instances of foul and abusive language used against surgery staff, both over the phone and face to face, which will NOT be tolerated. Therefore, a simple plea, please treat us in the way you would expect to be treated yourself. Thank you for your understanding.

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

This month was very frustrating for our nursing team as not only did 27 patients not attend their doctor's appointment and 39 their nurse's appointment but 14 did not attend their vaccination appointment, unbelievable. So that's nearly a further £12000 of NHS funds wasted, why? Remember, don't need it - cancel it. Forget? Get our text reminder service on your mobile phone, it's free and easy to do, just tell us your number and we do the rest.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY SURVEY

Thank you to all those patients who take part. We welcome all your comments, good and bad, because they all help us to continually improve our service to all our patients. Last month we received 314 responses to "would you recommend our Practice" and they are as follows: Extremely likely/Likely - 91%; Extremely unlikely/Unlikely - 6%; Unsure/Don't know - 3%.

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will be closed from midday onwards on Wednesday 27th November for staff training.

PATIENT GROUP MEETING

If you have any issues you would like to raise at our next meeting, or require further information on any of the above, then please contact Ken Self on 821 200, Jeanne Lawrence on 821 049 or email kenself@me.com.

PCSO's REPORT

October is the start of the cold and dark early evenings. I would like to take some time to remind everyone that as you are out and about to wrap up warm and wear something that will make you visible to vehicle traffic. A lot of people generally wear dark clothing and in particular school uniforms are predominantly dark in colour. This becomes a problem for most vehicle drivers as in the low light conditions you cannot be easily seen and this in turn makes you vulnerable to being involved in an accident. If you have to go out try and wear something that can reflect light and possibly carry a torch to increase your chance of being seen.

This time of year, is also the Halloween and firework season, if you are out at these times please remember that not everybody enjoys this time and some elderly residents can become frightened. All I ask is that you have a fun time and stay safe, organised events are usually the safest option. Trick or Treater's should respect persons who do not wish to engage in their activities.

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

For further advice and guidance ask to speak to your PCSO.

MINSTER W.I.

Unfortunately, our October Speaker was unable to give her talk, thankfully Margaret Palmer stepped in and gave us a very lively demonstration on how to make some delicious chocolate liqueurs and marzipan sweets. Then all the members were able to have a go and those of us who didn't, eat them there and also took them home!!

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 12th November - Annual Meeting

Tuesday 10th December-Christmas Party and Buffet Meal (Members only)

All are welcome to WI meetings - we meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Minster Village Hall. Please ring Liz on 07968 473 689 for any further details.

LLEWELLYN SCHOOL/LOUIE'S HELPING HANDS

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Charity Ball on 17th August at the Old Vicarage. We were very pleased to be able to give a cheque for £1465.00 to Debbie for Louie's Helping Hands on the open day of their beautiful new school.

THE KENT CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE EVENT

The Ride + Stride event took place on 14th September, a lovely day to go out riding in our local countryside and visit some unique buildings along the way. Although we didn't get a huge turnout of cyclist, those who took part had a great time. On behalf of all the churches in the area, a big thank you goes to Fran Kimmons, Helen, Primrose and Isabella Northrop, and a special thanks to Janet Walmsley who manned St Mary's all morning offering refreshments to weary travellers visiting the village.

We also cannot forget the sponsors for their valuable contributions. You made this event a great success and helped us reach the highest amount in many a year.

Look out for it next September when we do it all again. *Ian Andrews*

LOCALS TAKE PART IN THE REEBOK RAGNAR RELAY

On Saturday 21st September, a few lads from Minster, Nik Mitchell, Matt Spanton & Gavin Johnson got together with 6 other local friends to form a team of 9, 'The Impi's', to run the Reebok Ragnar Relay – White Cliffs Run. They set off from Sittingbourne in relay with the team running day and night to finish at Brighton 26 hours later. The 170 (ish) mile course snaked through picturesque towns, rolling fields, and the most beautiful collection of white cliffs.

Nik says: 'It was a very challenging non-stop race. Our team was captained by Llewellyn who lives in Cliffsend. I started the race for the team from Sittingbourne I was up against some tough runners. At the end of my very hot 1st section, I passed the baton to Matt Spanton (the local asparagus farmer who also sponsored the team). He set off to run all the way to Seasalter whilst the rest of our team all bundled into the minibus to meet him there. Then Gavin Johnson took over, and so on. It was a nonstop relay around the coast until we finished on Sunday in Brighton. At the end of the race we were all happy, tired and rather smelly. I believe I'm a good runner due to the fact I grew up in Minster and always enjoyed running around the Marshes and surrounding country side.'

PARISH FIREWORKS

Friday 1 November – Minster Recreation Ground, Gates open at 6pm fireworks at 7pm
Free entry, hot food and drink available – The Scouts will be present with collection buckets and proceeds this year will be split between Minster Christmas Lights and Minster Scouts

THANET LIONS CLUB

presents a Charity Choral Concert Saturday 2 November 3pm (Doors open at 2.15pm) at St Mary the Virgin Church, Minster featuring the Thanet Male Voice Choir and our own Village Voices Community Choir, resulting in a range of musical styles.

Ticket prices are £8 in advance and £10 on the door

All ticket money will be split between two good causes, The Monkton Nature Reserve, Nature Shed Project and the Minster Matters Mobility Scheme

Both are small organisations where any money donated will have a significant impact.

Tickets are on sale now from both Attwells Newsagents and Jemima's Tearooms, order them via Minster Matters on 07864 345 019 or ask any of the Village Voices Choristers to book them for you.

There are a very limited number of just 250 available, and they will be sold on a 'first come, first served' basis. Seats will be non-reservable, but allocated to people as they arrive,

due to the seating arrangements in the Church.

This is definitely one not too miss!

ANNUAL 'TREE OF LOVE' REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Saturday 7th December

Pilgrims Hospices' are hosting their Annual Trees of Love Remembrance Services with carols this December at a variety of location across East Kent. They offer people a lovely and personal way to remember those we aren't able to spend time with at Christmas. Beautiful dove dedications are placed on the Trees of Love at your chosen site, to be lit up during the service, and to remain shining in loving memory throughout the festive season. During the Service, guests find their dove dedicated to their loved one, sing carols, switch on the tree lights and listen to festive readings, with refreshments of hot chocolate, mulled wine and mince pies.

The Charity is hosting simultaneous services at the Ashford, Canterbury and Thanet Hospices on Saturday 7 December, at 5pm, but they also provide alternative indoor services across East Kent. To dedicate a dove in memory of your loved one, or for more information, please contact the Supporter Relations team on 01227 782062, or go to our pilgrimshospices.org/treesoflove webpage to donate and dedicate a dove on the Trees.

W.I. OKTOBERFEST

Saturday 2 November 7 for 7.30pm Minster Village Hall

Tickets £20pp includes a free drink, food and entertainment

Prizes for Best Fancy Dress plus a raffle – Tables of 8

For tickets contact Liz on 07968 473 689

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 9 November - St. Mary's Church, Cliffsend, 11.00am - 3.00pm

Various stalls and refreshments, soup, rolls, tea/coffee

MINSTER VILLAGE HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Minster Village Hall Management Committee to be held in the COMMITTEE ROOM on Thursday 14 November at 7.30pm
All Welcome

CANTERBURY SINGERS

And St. Mary the Virgin Church, Minster-in-Thanet present a Concert in aid of our Magnificent Organ. Come and hear this wonderful instrument on Saturday 16 November at 3.00pm.

Canterbury Singers with guest soloists and their Director of Music Adrian Bawtree will perform works by Joseph Haydn and Benjamin Britten. Tickets £10 (in advance) £12 (on the door) including after-concert tea and cakes - For tickets phone 01843 621 057

MINSTER & MONKTON GARDEN CLUB

Next meeting – Wednesday 20 November 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Speakers, Jeff & Sylvia Wagner with another Phantasmagoria

MINSTER FORCES FUNDRAISERS – CHRISTMAS FAYRE

RBL Club - Friday 22 November from 6.30pm

Raffle, Hamper Raffle, Sales tables, Tombola etc

All welcome – all proceeds will go to our 2 main charities – Blesma and the Spitfire Museum

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS SALE

Saturday 23 November 10am – 12.30pm

Books, Bric-a-Brac, Cakes, Crafts, Jams, Jewellery, Handmade Items, Soft Toys, Toiletries, Tinned and Packet items.

Refreshments. To book lunch please phone Audrey on 821 792

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 23 November 9am to 1pm at Old Schools

Hot refreshments, Handmade items, Cards, Produce, Bric-a-Brac

Grand Christmas Raffle - £100 1st prize

VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 30 November 9am to 1pm

Seasonal Bargains, Handicrafts, Tombolas, Grand Raffle, Coffee and Mince Pies

ST NICHOLAS with SARRE VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 30 November, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Santa Claus, Cakes, Tombola, Grand Raffle, Toys and Books, Cards and Gifts, Refreshments

PSYCHIC FAYRE

Sunday 24 November, Minster Village Hall, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Lots of Stalls, Mediums giving Tarot, Spirit, Angel Cards and Psychometry Readings

Tombola for Cats in Crisis, Tea bar open all day at reasonable prices

£1 entrance, children free

Come early & book your readings. All profits to be sent to Animal Sanctuaries

Enquiries to **Kay on 01843 297 665**

MENS SUPPER CLUB CHRISTMAS MEETING

Wednesday 4 December 7 for 7.30pm, Old Schools

Traditional Christmas Dinner and Yuletide Entertainment

Phone Peter on 447 692 or 07981 184 224 to book your place

MINSTER PLAYHOUSE PANTO – ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Village Hall 4th – 7th December – Evenings 7.30pm and Saturday 10.30am and 3pm

Tickets: Adults £10 and Children £5

Saturday 10.30am all seats £5 – Box Office 07501 894 381

SEQUENCE DANCE CLASSES & TEA DANCE

Every Friday at Minster Village Hall - Lessons from 1.30pm – 2.00pm

Tea Dance with tea & biscuits from 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Everyone welcome - Couples or Singles - Come along and meet new friends

MINSTER & MONKTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB - 61 Augustine Road

BINGO EVENINGS - Every Tuesday at 7.30pm - All members welcome

AFTERNOON CLUB - Every Wednesday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Come and join us for a game of bingo - All members and bona-fide guests welcome

VILLAGE VOICES

Every Wednesday evening - 6.00pm 'til 7.30pm

at the Salvation Army Hall, Tothill St., Minster

£1.50 per session - All welcome, if you enjoy singing, we'd love to see you there

There's no need to be able to read music and we do not audition

For further details ring 07864 345 019 or find us at villagevoiceschoir.org.uk

MINSTER ART & CRAFT GROUP

We meet at the Old Schools every Monday morning from 9.00am to 12.30pm.

We are a friendly and sociable non-teaching group ranging from artists to all types of crafters, all of whom are ready to give help and advice if requested. The charge per week is £2.00 to cover the hall and includes refreshments. You are welcome to come along for a free morning session to see what we are doing. Any queries - call Ann on 01843 821 152.

CLIFFSEND COFFEE MORNING

Every Thursday from 10.30am 'til 12noon - Village Hall, Cliffsend

Hot and cold drinks, homemade cakes and biscuits - Just make a donation, no set prices.

AMBER'S ADVICE

Retain a calm heart - sit like a turtle - walk swiftly like a pigeon - and sleep like a dog (Li Ching-Yuen)

TIGER'S TIP

Freshen up Smelly Trainers - sprinkle some baking soda inside your shoes to deodorise them. Just tap it out before you wear them again

CHURCH NEWS AND SERVICE TIMES

The Catholic Parish of Ramsgate and Minster

Father Christopher Basden - telephone 592 071

Mass daily at 9.00am and Sunday at 10.00am in Minster Abbey

Minster Abbey

The Abbey Chapel is open for prayer throughout the day

Lauds: 8.30am Mass 9.00am, Sunday 10.00am Midday Prayer 12.10pm

Vespers 6.00pm Compline 7.50pm (followed by silent prayer)

The Salvation Army Minster Corps Church & Community Centre

Captains Luke and Katy Johnson telephone: 821 543

Mondays 2.15pm Friendship Club Tuesdays 9.30am Sunny Tots (birth to 5yrs) (term time only) Wednesdays 2.00pm Home League Thursdays 9.15am Prayer Group

Sundays 10.30am Family Worship

St Mary Magdalene Monkton Services in November

3 10.15am Holy Communion

10 10.15am Remembrance Service

17 10.15am Holy Communion

24 4.00pm Seamark Service at Church

St Mary the Virgin, Minster Services in November

Reverend Richard Braddy tel: 821 250

3 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.30am All-age Worship

 6.30pm Sung Evensong

10 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.45am Parish Remembrance Service

17 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.30am All-age Worship

24 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.30am All-age Worship with Holy Communion

Wednesday mornings at St Mary's

10.30am - Holy Communion followed by refreshments.

Holy Communion at home is available for anyone who is unable to access Minster or Monkton Church telephone 821 250 or 822 428

A SEASON TO REMEMBER...

All Souls Service - Saturday 2 November - 7.30pm @ St Mary's

This is a special time to come and remember a loved one who is no longer with us. We remember all those who have passed away recently. You are very welcome to join us and if you would like to have someone remembered please contact Richard our Vicar (821250)

Parish Remembrance Service - Sunday 10 November - 10.45am @ St Mary's

Please come and join the Royal British Legion, the Minster community, St Mary's church family and the Salvation Army as we pay our respects at our annual Service of Remembrance

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(Li Ching-Yuen)

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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 - write: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Thanks for listening - your readers this month were:-

Musical interludes supplied courtesy of
Brenda Saker, Daryl Booth and Richard Spendlove MBE