

WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER 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.

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

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on:

Tuesday 3 September @ 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

MINSTER OPEN GARDENS 2020

Open Gardens 2020 will be Sat 13th & Sun 14th June.

Monkton Open Gardens is the week before so we're fine.

We're trying to avoid Father's Day to see if it makes a difference!

VILLAGE VOICES CHOIR

This choir, which has only been in existence since February has really taken off and become a regular weekly meeting place for many residents, young and old, male and female, from both Minster and the surrounding towns and villages, and we already have members from as far afield as Deal and Dover. We enjoy singing a whole gamut of songs with choices from right across the music spectrum. Everyone is involved in what we choose to sing, many songs that you may think would be popular not making the grade! We've been absolutely astonished at the number of requests we've received, to sing for others across the district. We made our public debut at Minster Show in July where we were blown away at the crowd who came to listen and even more amazed at being asked to come back in future years to fill a regular slot.

We already have a calendar of events to sing for other organisations/groups in the area, both this year and next, and we feel extremely privileged to have been asked to accompany the Thanet Male Voice Choir in a Thanet Lions Charity event to be held at St Mary's Church in Minster on Saturday 2 November, tickets for which will be on sale soon, seating will by necessity be very limited, so don't miss the opportunity when they become available.

We are always open to welcoming new members, so if you're feeling you'd like to give it a try please feel free to come along to the Salvation Army Hall in Tothill St on a Wednesday evening - we meet from 6pm to 7.30pm at a nominal cost of just £1.50pw. We'd love to see you there.

PR & Bookings: 07914 623 287 or email pr@villagevoiceschoir.org.uk

General enquiries: secretary@villagevoiceschoir.org.uk

MM MOBILITY SCOOTERS, WHEELCHAIRS AND AIDS

Mobility scooters, wheelchairs, rollators, commode chairs, a portable electric hoist and a few smaller disability aids are available for loan to villagers and members of their families. We will also consider requests from residents in our neighbouring villages. We make no set charge for any of these but we're open to receiving voluntary donations to help keep the equipment maintained.

Thank you to everyone who has helped in some way to make this venture a success, if you or someone you know needs to borrow any of these please do get in touch, if we have it in stock and you have secure storage space for it, then you can borrow it. Thank you in advance to anyone who offers us items or storage space, we really do appreciate it.

Please phone or text 07864 345 019, or email emamobilityloan@minstermatters.uk if you would like to borrow any of these, at any time, or if you have something you'd like to donate. Thank you.

WHITE KNIGHT

Last weekend my husband took his beloved classic car out for a drive sadly it broke down at the Lord of the Manor roundabout. Before he could contact me, a gentleman stopped and with jump leads got the car started ... my husband headed back to Broadstairs only to breakdown again but low and behold this gentleman turned up again and this time towed the car to our house. Together we all managed to push the car up the drive (no mean feat as it's on an incline). The mystery gentleman said he is a White Knight and there are 12 of them in the area who go to the aid of people who break down and take them to a place of safety. He refused any money for a drink on us or even for petrol. We didn't get the man's name but he said he lived in Tothill Street, Minster. So, we would love to say thank you through your publication if possible it just shows in this troubled world there are lovely kind people who help others and expect nothing in return.

Many thanks and kindest regards, Mrs S Brazier

(MM Editors ask: Does anyone know who this might be??)

SWIFT CONSERVATION AT ST. MARY'S

During the recent repairs to the exterior and interior of the church chancel area – funded by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury - an inspection was made by a swift conservation specialist to ensure that the existing swift nesting sites would not be affected by scaffolding etc. The inspection also identified four locations that could accommodate swift nesting boxes to enhance the nesting possibilities.

First, a faculty (church planning permission) had to be sought – a process managed by the church architects. Once approval was granted, the nesting boxes had to be made to the specification of the swift conservation specialist. The construction of the four boxes was achieved by the team at 'Looking Ahead' in their Parkminster woodworking shop. The four nesting boxes were installed with the assistance of a member of the team of main contractors, just a few days before the scaffold was taken down.

There were a good number of swifts who successfully nested and reared young this year using the natural openings that the church provides. With the demise of so many 'natural' nesting sites, as old buildings are demolished or modernised, hopefully these four boxes will be used by even more swifts next year and we can continue to enjoy the screaming antics of these amazing aerial acrobats in the village.

Special thanks to Edward Mayer – Swift Conservation Specialist; Barbara Singer – Thomas Ford and Partners, Architects; Colmans of Canterbury – Listed Building Restoration and Conservation Specialists; Mile High Scaffolding; 'Looking Ahead' at Parkminster; Nik Mitchell – for further advice and support on swift conservation.

Paul Willins. Churchwarden

MINSTER BOWLS CLUB

Once again, we have a team in the finals of the Bernard Annand Competition on Sunday 1 September. Well done, come home with the trophy. This Competition is for bowlers who haven't been lucky enough to gain a County Badge or for winners of similar competitions.

Our ladies have just under half a dozen league games to play before the season ends. The men's season is over, much better placed than the last few years. We have a few mixed games to play in the East Kent League.

Internal competitions are at the semi-final stage, some players have already qualified to play on finals weekend Saturday and Sunday 14th/15th September. On the following weekend it will be the Club's Open Mixed Pairs Competition. Two excellent weekends for visitors to sit around the Green and enjoy the hospitality of the Club. Teas, soft drinks and the bar will be available.

Bowls Diary Dates

27 September - Lloyd Hollet - The Comedy Wordsmith

- 7pm for 7.30pm £8pp bring your own nibbles

12 October – Quiz 7pm for 7.30pm £2.50pp Bring your own nibbles

6 December – Christmas Dance 7pm for 7.30pm £5pp Bring your own nibbles

Glynne Hibbert, Hon Secretary, secretary@minsterbowlsclub.org.uk – 821221

MINSTER & MONKTON GARDEN CLUB

Dear Friends and Fellow Gardeners

The Garden Club (formerly known as Minster & Monkton Horticultural Society) has been going for quite a long time. Unfortunately like many clubs now the membership is dwindling.

The younger members of society have a lot more interests and are not really interested in attending clubs such as ours. There is still a core of members who attend but these are getting fewer.

The club has to change so at the AGM on 16 October in the Village Hall there will be a vote on how the club can carry on. If you are a member or have been thinking of joining please come along and help shape the club for future years.

You may have seen our table in the marquee at Minster Show. So come along and give us your support. We meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on most of the third Wednesdays each month. You can check dates in Minster Matters.

Look forward to seeing you.

Joan Card, (Chairman)

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL - SUMMARY OF MEETING ON 2ND JULY

The Chairman welcomed everyone and reminded them that this was the last meeting until September.

PCSO Butterworth reported that there had been numerous complaints about the vans parked near the top of Tothill Street; these are used by the building contractors working in the Hill House development. He has spoken with the site manager who has dealt firmly with the offending contractors; unfortunately, new contractors are arriving on site all the time but he has undertaken to continue to address the problem.

There have been a couple of reports of criminal damage in the last month but thankfully no other crimes of note.

KCC Cllr. Dawson was not present but had forwarded a written report. She outlined some of the work recently undertaken by Community Payback. She is concerned about the lack of toilet facilities for visitors to the coast and is to speak with the KCC Director of Health to establish the impact on health.

TDC Cllr. Pugh was not present but again sent in a report. He is working with his fellow councillors for the villages to fight the application for a stock car racing track at Ebbsfleet. He also reported that following concerns about gas safety checks on EK Housing properties a new contractor has been appointed.

Cllr. Roper was present and introduced himself; he confirmed that he has met with concerned residents in relation to the stock car race track application.

The Clerk reported that the consultation period for yellow lines in various locations in the village, including Laundry Road and at the junction of Hill House Drive with Tothill Street, has ended and they should be in place in the next couple of months.

The Chairman confirmed that a letter had been sent to TDC Chief Executive Madeline Homer regarding the delay over the asset transfer of the car parks and toilets in Minster village, which had been agreed two years previously. No reply had been received at the time of the meeting and there had been a recent article in the local paper explaining how staff shortages at TDC were causing delays to all asset transfers. We have since received communication which sets out a need to have valuations made of the properties to set a cost for the transfer. We await the outcome.

The Parish Council have received notice of a rent increase for the office and archive room so consideration will be given as to whether we agree to this increase or seek alternatives.

Cllr. Taylor gave a summary of recent planning applications and confirmed that a letter of objection had been submitted regarding the stock car racing track.

In the public question session, it was suggested that the little used car park in Brockmans Close be used to locate a Shed Project. The cost would probably make this unviable. It was asked whether the houses planned for the car park in St. Mary's Road was still going ahead; it seems there have been some technical delays.

There was a recent article in the local paper about the Local Plan and clarification was requested about the number of houses planned for Minster and the impact of the development at the airport. The Chairman explained that the early draft plan specified a maximum of 150 houses on the land west of Tothill Street, the amended plan increased that figure to 250, however the current application (still pending) for that site is for 214 houses. Unfortunately, even if the airport was to be developed these houses would be a 'bonus' so would not reduce the planned build in Minster. Since that conversation we now know that Stonehill Park have sold the airport to RiverOak so the plans for a housing development have been withdrawn.

The final discussion was to consider what we would all like to see happening in the parish to commemorate VE Day in May 2020. Suggestions welcome!

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP

SEASONAL WINTER 'FLU VACCINATIONS

Vaccination Clinics will be held from 9am to 1pm on the following days:

Saturday 28th September - FOR OVER 65s ONLY

Saturday 26th October - For ALL eligible patients

Appointments are now available for both clinics and can be made in the usual way via the surgery or the 'MYGP' App. Eligible and "at risk" patients will receive a reminder via, text, email or post and be invited to make an appointment. If you have any concerns about your eligibility or the availability of the vaccination, please contact Reception.

SURGERY LAUNCHES NEW "GOLD CARD" FACILITY

This is a new initiative designed and produced by your Patient Liaison Group in conjunction with our Frailty Team. The "GOLD CARD" contains a comprehensive list of contacts and telephone numbers that patients, family and friends can immediately refer to in time of a crisis or emergency. It is designed to help those patients with long term, life limiting or life-threatening illnesses, including those suffering from cancer or receiving palliative care, who might need advice, help or support urgently.

The "GOLD CARD" will be handed to patients when visited by our Frailty or District Nursing teams, or you can request one at the surgery. It will be updated regularly, as we all know, things often change! It is also hoped that this will eventually be rolled out across Thanet.

'SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

Please note that the surgery will close from 1.00pm onwards on the following days for staff training: Thursday 26th September; Wednesday 24th October and Thursday 27th November. Bank Holiday Monday 27th August - Closed all day.

PATIENT LIAISON 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 821200, Jeanne Lawrence on 821049 or email: kenself@me.com

MINSTER PLAYHOUSE PROMPT CORNER

Autumn Play

Rehearsals are well underway for our September production of Clerical Errors and our production team have been busy creating an amazing interior of a disused Methodist chapel. This is the interesting and light-hearted tale of two teenagers and their Grandma forced to seek refuge in an abandoned church much to the indignation of the local parishioners. Their unorthodox lifestyle - Gran Briggs' dependence on gin, Julie's inability to maintain a job and Peter's simplistic manner all combine to show the vicar, James, a side of life he never knew existed. Uncharacteristically, James decides to try their way of life by moving in with them. A highly entertaining comedy, rich with comic pathos.

Wednesday 25th September - Saturday 28th September 7.30pm - Minster Village Hall.
All tickets £10 - The box office number is 07501 894 381.

This Autumn we will also be holding a 40th Anniversary Adult Revue

It will be on Saturday 19th October in the Village Hall, at 7.30 pm.

Tables of up to eight people @ £8 a head - bring your own food and drink, glasses and cutlery. Individual or table bookings can be made on 07501 894 381.

This Revue will be supporting our Charities of the year, the Marie Curie Cancer Support, and Macmillan Cancer Support

Look out for details of this year's Pantomime, Alice in Wonderland, in future Prompt Corners

PCSO's REPORT

Welcome to this month's input for the village. I am sorry to say that this month I am having to have a moan. It has come to Police attention that there has been a spate of graffiti incidents across the village. This is not art it is mindless scribbles on road signs and community assets. It has taken the council a lot of time and money to clean up numerous locations where this has occurred. I am asking anyone who has a budding artist in their family that is likely to have done some of this to try and educate them that this is not the way to express yourself. Crime reports have been created in response to these incidents and enquiries are ongoing. This is not just graffiti it is officially criminal damage that is resulted by a fine and a criminal marker on your record.

Any information please contact me.

MINSTER ARMBOUTS-CAPPEL TWINNING ASSOCIATION

August is always a quiet month for us with no activities taking place.

We're now into serious planning for our major event next year when we will be inviting our French friends to Join us in Minster for a day of fun, eating, drinking and dancing. After our great day out in France in June we are now under pressure to produce a day to equal it.

For those of you who joined us on our trip to Armbouts-Cappel in June, the photos are now on the Minster Twinning website, please do have a look.

Lastly, our next Quiz is taking place at the Royal British Legion on Saturday 7 September and if you are interested please ring Carol on 07745 683 466.

MINSTER & MONKTON GARDEN CLUB

Next Meeting Saturday 7 September 2pm Village Hall – Autumn Show

Anyone may enter this event. Schedules are available from any committee member

THE RURAL KENT COFFEE AND INFORMATION PROJECT

POP UP CAFÉ and INFORMATION HUB

New Inn Car Park - 10.30am – 12.30pm

Tuesdays: 10th September; 8th October

Come along and get together with old friends and new. Have a cuppa and a delicious slice of cake. We'll have all sorts of local information available, or you can just come in for a chat. Please help us spread the word. Everyone welcome, see you soon.

Can't get there under your own steam? Call us and we'll see if we can help.

Liza 07771 661 871 or Kathy 07341 737 041

MINSTER W.I.

Next Meeting Tuesday 10 September 7.30pm Village Hall

How to declutter your wardrobe and dress for your body shape

MEN'S SUPPER CLUB

Wednesday 18 September 7.00 for 7.30pm Old Schools, Minster

£8.50 for dinner, dessert and a drink

Please phone Peter to book your place on 01843 447 692 or 07981 184 224

An informal and social evening open to all men

Come along to make new friends and meet existing friends

49th ANNUAL MINSTER ART SHOW at the VILLAGE HALL

Friday 4 October 7pm - 9pm

Saturday 5 October 10am - 6pm

Sunday 6 October 11am - 5pm

Over 400 exhibits for sale! Oils, water colours, pastels, acrylics, wood, glass, pottery, etc

Admission £1.00 - catalogue £0.50p - Refreshments served in 'Old Schools'

Exhibition sponsored by Minster Garage

LIVE JAZZ NIGHT!

Saturday 5th October @ Monkton Village Hall

In support of the RAF Manston Spitfire & Hurricane Memorial Museum

£10 per person (includes ticket & hot supper)

Bring your own drink please

Admission by ticket only - Tickets available from Museum Shop

Snowdown Colliery Band and Afternoon Tea

At the Salvation Army Hall on Sunday 6th October 2.30pm

Tickets £5 contact Audrey Hards on 821 792

The Friends of St Nicholas-at-Wade Church Charity Day

Saturday 26 October from 10am to 3pm in the Church

THANET LIONS CLUB

Presents a Charity Choral Concert on Saturday 2nd November
at 3pm in St Mary the Virgin Church, Minster

We are pleased to announce that we are producing a Charity Choral Concert on Saturday 2 November at St Mary the Virgin Church, Minster. The concert will start at 3pm and will feature Thanet Male Voice Choir and our own Village Voices, resulting in a range of musical styles. Ticket prices will be: £8 in advance and £10 on the door.

All ticket money will be split between two good causes, the Monkton Nature Reserve Shed project and Minster Matters Mobility scheme. Both are small organisations where any money donated will have a significant impact. Tickets will be on sale locally from the end of September so watch out for the notification. There will be a very limited number available, just 250, and it will be 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 to miss!

Further details call Lion Steve on 01843 807 902

W.I. OKTOBERFEST

Saturday 2nd 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

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 WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Royal British Legion, 61 Augustine Road - Every Wednesday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Come and join us for a game of bingo - All members and bona-fide guests welcome
Phone Pat on 822 622

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.

CHURCH NEWS AND SERVICE TIMES

The Catholic Parish of Ramsgate and Minster - telephone 592 071
Holy day of obligation each 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

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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 September

1 10.15am Holy Communion

8 10.15am Family Worship

15 10.15am Holy Communion

22 10.15am Harvest Festival Service

29 10.00am Benefice Celebration Service at Minster – no Service at Monkton today

St Mary the Virgin, Minster Services in September

Reverend Richard Braddy tel: 821 250

1 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.30am All-age Worship

 6.30pm Sung Evensong

8 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.30am All-age Worship with Holy Communion

15 9.00am Holy Communion

 10.30am All-age Worship

22 9.00am Holy Communion for Harvest

 10.30am Harvest Family Communion

29 10.00am Benefice Celebration Service

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

Funerals at St Mary's

7th August – Jonathan (Jack) Geregalin Brown age 96 – Minster Church & Cemetery

13th August – Robert (Bob) Harold London age 94 – Thanet Crematorium

AMBER'S ADVICE

I learned that a long walk and calm conversation are an incredible combination if you want to build a bridge...

TIGER'S TIP

To clean stainless steel wipe gently with a cloth and baby oil..

CONTACTING YOUR DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Councillor Reece Pugh tel: 07740 288 713

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

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