

Welcome to the . MARCH 2011... 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

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

NEW Advertising Rates

From Feb 2011 Issue No 122

Page size aprx	1/16	1/8	1/4	1/2	Full
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B&W Single	£11	£22	£44	£88	£176
Colour (if avail)	N/A	£25	£50	£100	£200

Please Note:

Late payment for advertisements may mean they will be omitted from the next edition (3 months max!!)

Copies of our Terms and Conditions are available on request

MINSTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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: 821 339 fax: 825 269 Email: clerk@minsterparishcouncil.org.uk

Next month's meeting will be held on: Tuesday, 5th April 2011.

EDITORIAL

March, another new month, this one's a bit special because on Sunday 27th we put the clocks forward as Summer time officially begins (let's hope that means it soon gets warmer !)

Very sad to hear the news that Pfizers are to close their site at Sandwich, a major employer in our area, and something, I imagine, that will affect quite a number of local residents. I only hope you aren't out of work too long or that the company have offered you another position elsewhere.

I've saved a trucker or two getting clamped over the past month up at the Co-Op, and in the process noted that although the clampers are quick enough to strike if you park without paying on the lorry park, they quite happily sit, very unobtrusively on the Co-Op's part of the site, laying in wait, rather than out on the park where they would be more noticeable. Very sneaky !! (Note: they aren't always in a van !!)

I had a great evening at the Miss Minster selection dance, and would like to give my personal congratulations to Clara, as our new Queen, plus Feya and Kizzie who were selected as her Princesses. I must also send my commiserations to Paige, Anjelica and Frankie who were unsuccessful this year, but remember girls there's always next year so come back and try again. To me you were all worthy winners and I'd have hated to have been on the judging panel with so much talent to choose from.

I'm sure most of you have heard that McDonalds wish to build a drive-thru just behind the Co-Op, which the Parish Council have objected to, and it appears from the Parish Planning Committee Minutes that Mickey D's may just have a fight on their hands, see the excerpt from those Minutes elsewhere in this issue.

Elsewhere in the Audio you'll hear about the Forthcoming Parish Council Elections. It is a great chance to get fresh blood on the council along with new thoughts and ideas, so don't just sit there and moan about what the present incumbents do or don't do, get talking to the Parish Clerk and fill out the form for your chance to "do your bit" for this great little community.

That's it for this month.

LOCAL NEWS

FORTHCOMING PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Proposed Timetable

Notice of Election 21st March

Nominations Close 4th April

Notice of Poll 21st April

Polling Day 5th May

Do you have time to give and a passion to get involved in local decision making?

How about standing for election to the Parish Council this year?

For further details please contact The Clerk, Mrs Kyla Lamb

Parish Office, 4A Monkton Road, Minster, CT12 4EA

T: 821339 E: clerk@minsterparishcouncil.org.uk

SALVATION ARMY

In this, our 125th anniversary year, March sees us host the local Women's World Day of Prayer at 2pm on Friday the 4th. This is arranged by women but men, women, and young people may attend. The following day, Saturday 5th sees our popular Fizz and Quiz at 4pm.

During Lent we shall be joining the other places of worship in Minster for a series of meetings, so on Sunday 13th March we shall have no evening worship but we shall go to the Abbey for 6pm where the speaker is Roger Gale M.P. with the topic " Faith and Democracy".

Thanks, Major Richard Hope

A MESSAGE FROM CLLR. MIKE ROBERTS

In May, District and Parish Council elections will take place. If you are going to be away, or have difficulty in getting to the Polling Station, why not register now for a Postal Vote?

If you require any advice or assistance, you are welcome to contact me on 851726 or ring TDC on 01843 577194 or 577500, and ask for a POSTAL VOTING FORM.

Don't lose your vote!"

FRIENDS OF MARGATE CAVES

www.margatecaves.co.uk

A CAMPAIGN group has been formed to defend Margate's historic caves, which have been used as dungeons, a hideout by smugglers and as air raid shelters in both World Wars.

Housing development is planned on the site in Northdown Road and Thanet Council has blocked the access to the caves, which were a popular tourist attraction until 2004.

The first meeting of the Friends of Margate Caves group attracted more than 40 people. Spokesman Claire Blackwell said: "Since then, other members of public have been in contact by email and through our Facebook page. The strength of feeling towards the Caves is very strong and it is felt they would be a strong part of the town's tourism offer."

"They are very much a part of Margate's heritage. It is thought that they were at their earliest a Dene Hole and a refuge for locals against invaders raiding the coastal areas."

"The Caves have been used as a prison with dungeons, a hideout by smugglers and as air raid shelters in both World Wars."

A planning application to build seven, two and three-storey dwellings on the site has been deferred because of public objections and consultations are ongoing. If the development goes ahead, an alternative entrance (from Trinity Square) - Forster's entrance is proposed, but this has not been used since the 1940s, when it was sealed and back filled with rubble.

Claire said: "Without extensive surveying, we cannot know whether this would work. It would also mean any road-side presence is lost and space for a cafe/shop. Secondary spend is important to all tourist attractions."

The Friends group want the caves reopened and for the heritage site to be recognised as one of national interest and importance. It will fight any development on the site which will might affect the Caves' potential as a tourist attraction.

"We shall also ascertain a true account of the historic, heritage, educational, nostalgic and other values of the Margate Caves site, which is next to a conservation area," Claire added; "and get an accurate estimate of the works needed to bring the site back into practical and sustainable management."

"It is suggested it might cost around £100,000 to makes the caves safe for visitors to enter, but we are awaiting details from the council on how this figure was reached."

The Friends group has launched a website, www.margatecaves.co.uk, where supporters may keep up to date with progress.

Contact details: Claire Blackwell, email info@margatecaves.co.uk , 07903 763077

NIK MITCHELL – RTW TRIP PART 2 OF 3

Our next stop was New Zealand where we spent over 3 months of their spring time exploring this amazingly beautiful country. We visited Fox Glacier, Milford Sound (a fjord in the south west of New Zealand's South Island) and many rain forests, and every view is like a postcard.

We found ourselves a job on, a family run organic sheep and beef farm we made great friends with a Kiwi Family. Our jobs as stockmen proved to be hard work but lots fun; with the help of dogs we rotated mobs of sheep and cows around paddocks of the 500 hector farm for grazing. It was lambing season and we helped deliver lots of lambs and fostered several which, we had to hand rear. This was an amazing experience working outdoors surrounded by beautiful snow-capped mountains and hills, living and working alongside the locals miles away from anywhere, whilst dealing with life and death situations with the animals, gaining an understanding of how that famous NZ organic lamb is produced.

One morning we were awoken at 4:35am to find ourselves in a 7.2 earthquake lasting about 30 seconds, the cottage we lived in was creaking and swaying from side to side, this was a rare and absolutely crazy experience and hit the headlines here, catastrophe didn't end there when some weeks later strong winds brought down 300 trees damaging fences and water pipes on the farm. During our free time we visited a local ski field and went to the coast for some great fishing where we had dolphins playing alongside our boat; we also got up close with whales and baby seals. In November we reluctantly left N.Z to explore Australia, it was very touristy and expensive so we hired a campervan so we could explore the mountains and coast while avoiding the crowds.

We made our way from Sydney to Brisbane where we saw many beautiful sights including Kangaroos, Kookaburras, Koala Bear, waterfalls and lovely hot sunny sandy beaches lapping with giant waves for us to play in.

From Brisbane we flew to Singapore I had not expected it to be such a modern city, with one of the busiest ports in the world, it is the world's fourth leading financial centre with lots of amazing high rise buildings, clean streets, nice people and efficient public transport. It was hot and humid so we looked forward to rainstorms in the afternoon which would clear the air for a short time. Then off to Malaysia, where we spent time in the busy city of Kuala Lumpur, venturing into Taman Negara National Park, which has a reputation as the world's oldest tropical rainforest. We spent a day at a sanctuary with rescued elephants, feeding, riding, cuddling and swimming with them as we washed them in a river. Then to Phuket on Thailand's western coast which had a mass of lovely beaches however, it sadly suffered extensive damage when struck by the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami although it is largely restored now it is still a haunting thought to imagine such devastation and what people went through; the evacuation route signs are a chilling reminder that it will one day happen again. We stayed for some time, on a small island south of Phuket called Koh Phi Phi.

We hired our own long tail boat and driver for the day and visited Phi Phi Ley location of the film 'The Beach' it was absolute paradise, the water was remarkably clear.

YOUR LETTERS

Change of Generations

Whilst waiting for my son to return from an after school activity last night (24/1/11) I noticed two empty cans of lager thrown by the school gates, then I saw two young men and a young woman, with a push chair and child, drinking the same brand of lager (I must make it clear that the young woman and child in the push chair weren't drinking cans of lager) and obviously waiting for a child to return as well.

Not wanting to cause a scene and obviously wary of the consequences of speaking out, I picked up the empty cans and put them in the litter bin that was just a few metres away (while giving a look and mumbling something about – "it's not right is it").

I'm not bothered about the drinking lager bit – though it was a bit of a cheap brand! It's just the thoughtlessness and the example to young people that this sets, I shake my head and realise that I am turning into my dad!

What would you do??

(Name and address withheld)

Gavin Johnson Plumbing & Heating Announcement

Gavin Johnson has decided to take up a job offer, so will cease trading at the end of February.

He would like to thank all his customers for their continued support over the last 3 years.

Photos found amongst Christmas Cards

I received an enormous response to my request for Christmas cards to recycle for charity.

Thank you to all the people who passed them to me. However, in amongst them was a card from the Scottish Highlands - sent from Sheila and Harry but no indication of who to.

Enclosed with the card was a series of wedding photos with various names on the backs including Gracie - wedding September 5th. Can anyone help find the owner of the photos so I can return them?

Please call me - Hazel - on 01843 823486

Urgent Appeal

Cats in Crisis are urgently looking for stables/outside buildings/farm situations for feral cats.

CIC was let down before Christmas on a couple of offers, so are appealing again.

Please phone Mary on Thanet 299295 if you can help. Thank you.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Street Party Invite, 5th June

THE BIG LUNCH was started in 2009 by the Eden Project in Cornwall to promote community relations. It is one day in the year for everyone in the UK to have a street party for no reason other than to get to know your neighbours' better. (I know Minster has a great community already - but it's a good excuse for a party anyway!).

We had a fairly modest Big Lunch in July 2010 in our garden, inviting about 20 people who live on our road, Watchester Lane. That was so much fun that this year we'd like to do things properly - with a street party.

So, if you live on Watchester Lane, Pett's Crescent, Glebe Court or Cornelius Drive you are cordially invited to a huge street party on the 5th of June 2011. We're thinking of an outdoor bring a dish, pot luck lunch. We could use some informal help and ideas - we really don't want to form a committee etc. But some input from other people in the area would be good.

If you don't live in the areas mentioned, you'll be welcome to come along to see what happens, or, organise your own Big Lunch for your area. Please get in touch with us on 822550 or email graham@mightyoakbooks.com or check out the Big Lunch website - www.thebiglunch.com

Thanks, Graham & Eleanor Miller.

100 YEARS OF FOOTBALL 1911 – 2011

www.minsterfootballclub.co.uk

January's results

Sat 22nd Cup Fixture: Canterbury Post Office 2 Minster 4
(after extra time)

Sat 29th League: University of Kent 2 Minster 3

February results

Sat 5th League: Bettshanger 2 Minster 2

Sat 12th League: University of Kent 0 Minster 2

Sat 19th League: Minster v Charing CANCELLED

Minster now sit top of the Canterbury and District Premier Division

For all updates and full reports please visit

www.minsterfootballclub.co.uk

Minster Football Club would like to thank...

John Trickey of Jacetts in Deal for sponsoring us a new strip for the rest of this season and next.

Jacetts have sponsored Margate Football club, provided kits for the likes of Dover Athletic and Deal town and provide kits for many local Sunday League teams.

Their claim to fame is manufacturing a unique kit to be worn in the film Bend it like Beckham.

ANIMALS IN NEED OF A HOME... AT RSPCA ISLE OF THANET BRANCH
inc. Woodchurch Animal Centre Tel No (01843) 826180

Tibby is a 5 year old female who came to the Centre due to her owners ill health. She is shy with people she doesn't know but enjoys lots of fuss and attention once she knows you. She has lived with a dog and is used to children.

Pebbles is a black and white male, approx 2-3 years who came to the Centre after being picked up as a stray. He is very friendly and is looking for a loving home of his own.

Sadie is an 11 year old female who came to the Centre as her owner was moving and was unable to take her. She is quite timid so would make an ideal companion for an older person or a family where there are no young children in the house.

Tigger is a 2 1/2 year old old female who came to the Centre as ill health meant her owner was unable look after her anymore. She is shy but friendly, has lived with another cat and is used to children.

Pippa came to the Centre after being found as a stray, she is friendly but very wary of people she doesn't know. Pippa is looking for a quiet home where there are no young children.

Belinda was brought to the Centre by an RSPCA Officer, she has had a broken leg in the past which has not received proper veterinary care. Due to the severity of the injury she will always walk with a limp as one back leg is considerably shorter than the other.

Button is a 3 year old female who came to the Centre as her owners were unable to keep her. She is very affectionate and would love a new home of her own.

Frances and Fiona were brought to the Centre by the Inspector after they had been removed from a multi cat household. They were underweight and are still very scared as they had never been out of the room they were kept in until they came to us. They need to be rehomed either in pairs or to live with another cat as they would not cope with being an only cat.

Baby Rabbits. We currently have 5 baby rabbits approx 3 months of age, 3 females & 2 males who were found dumped in a box. They are now looking for loving homes where they will have lots of cuddles and space to hop about.

GOOD NEWS - REHOMED: cats; Bitzie & Jet, Timmy & Stan, Princess & Penelope, Humphrey, Noodle, Bill & Ben, Lulu & Honey, Sapphire, rabbits: Holly & Rosie, Heather and Thumper and rats: Lucy and baby rats!

Extract from February Parish Council Minutes

PLANNING APPLICATION – CO-OPERATIVE SITE TOTHILL STREET

Members considered the above planning application which relates to the erection of a road side restaurant (McDonalds) with drive through facility, car parking and landscaping. In considering the application Members had regard to the Thanet Local Plan and policy TR 7 and the provision of road side services.

The Chairman reported that letters had been received from residents objecting to the proposal because of the increased traffic movement that would be generated at the junction to the site from Tothill Street and also that increased litter would be deposited throughout the Village.

Finally the Clerk reported that she had been advised by T.D.C. Planning department that the original consent for the development of the site including a motorist restaurant, lodge and café had been approved under application OL/TH/92/0953 in 1992 and had been subsequently renewed in 1999 and 2005.

RESOLVED by MPC: That the application be not supported because of concerns at the increase of traffic at the junction of Tothill Street and the application site; that the proposals are not sympathetic to the rural setting of the proposed site and that Councillor Grove, as the local district councillor, be asked to “call in” this application.

Héronsbrook Development Site

The Clerk reported that she had met the site agent at Heronsbrook who was of the view that all the works required of Persimmons had been completed to the new verges at the bottom of Prospect Road. The site agent also indicated that the site would not be fully developed until the end of 2011. Members were advised that the Clerk was still concerned at Persimmon’s proposals to provide a play area and this was contrary to the terms of the section 106 agreement. Finally the Clerk advised that concerns were being raised at whether the boundaries had been correctly delineated and marked out and clarification would be sought from TDC Planning Department.

It was resolved that TDC be advised that the section 106 agreement should be honoured in full and that the children’s play area should be constructed and provided by Minster Parish Council the money from the 106 agreement.

That a meeting be arranged with Officers of the Planning department to agree the site boundaries and fencing; and that TDC be urged to make representations to KCC to secure the re-planting of the 2 trees felled at the entrance to the H2B site.

Extract from Planning Committee Meeting 10th February

TDC PLANNING DECISIONS

TH/10/0968 – 1 Tothill Street – Variation of condition 2 – Approved

TH/10/0799 – 9 Manston Court Road – Erection of a 2 storey side extension – Refused.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS/MATTERS

TH/11/0029 – Ebbsfleet Farm, Ebbsfleet Lane – Change of use of land to use as solar park – Support the principle but express concerns over possible pollution to the Minster stream from pollutants used to spray the vegetation on site; the location of the solar farm behind the power station and in view of the new access road is considered inappropriate and detrimental to road safety, the site is close to an S.S.I. site and flight paths for migrating birds, the site is also on the flight path for Manston airport and there are concerns that the materials used for the solar park may be reflective and create navigational hazards for aircraft plus the site is prime agricultural land.

It was also agreed that Cllr. Grove would “call in” the application for consideration by T.D.C.

TH/10/1091 (McDonalds) No late applications had been received but Cllr. Grove reported upon the latest position in respect the McDonald’s application. The application was included within the Local Plan as subject to policy RT7 but TDC Planning had now advised that this was not now the case and the Officers were mindful to recommend refusal. In any event the application was a departure and as such would be referred to the Planning Committee (TDC) for determination.

FREE INK JET CARTRIDGES

As most readers will be aware we are now collecting used cartridges for recycling, however in those we have received so far we have been given a number of unused ones as listed below:

Epson (C62/CX3200) TO40 Black x 2 - TO41 Colour x1

Epson (Stylus 42) PE037 Colour x2

Epson (Stylus 480/580/C20/C40) Black x 4 – Colour x1

Epson (Stylus Colour 480) Black x1 – Colour x2

Lexmark 12A1970 Black x1 Photo 31 (Photo Colour) x2

HP 41 Colour x2 40 Black x1

If anyone can make use of these for their own printer please contact Minster Matters and we’ll be glad to give them to you – foc.

If you have any unused cartridges that are no longer of use to you then we will gratefully receive them to re-offer via this magazine.

Remember if you have ink jet cartridges or laser toners to recycle please leave them at the library for us (Laser toners must however be in original packaging) and don’t forget we also collect old mobile phones for recycling as well.

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP (MINSTER)
NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2011

Surgery Training Day

Please note that the surgery will be closed from mid-day onwards on Thursday 17th March 2011.

Should you need to see a doctor during this time then please contact "Doctors on Call" via the normal surgery number - Thanet 821333. Thank you.

Grand Spring Fayre

We are holding the above fund raising event at the "Old Schools" hall on SATURDAY 2ND APRIL.

PLEASE SEE OUR ADVERT ON PAGE 22 OF THIS ISSUE FOR FULL DETAILS.

Tables for this event have sold very quickly, so if you are thinking of booking a table then please hurry, as we have only a few left.

Micro Lab Spirometer

We are currently raising funds to purchase of a "MICRO LAB SPIROMETER" which will help our health care professionals diagnose and manage all patients with "COPD" , such as Bronchitus, Asthma and general breathing difficulties.

So currently, all funds raised at our various events will go towards this project.

Win A "Meal for two" at "MORTON'S FORK"

Morton's Fork have kindly donated a MEAL FOR TWO at their famous SUNDAY CARVERY.

We will be holding a raffle for this prize and tickets will be on sale very shortly , at the surgery, and also at our GRAND SPRING FAYRE, at which event the draw will take place and winner announced.

Patient Liaison Group Meeting

If anyone requires further information on any of the above, or issues they would like to raise, then please contact :

KEN SELF on 821200 or JEAN TAYLOR on 845072

MINSTER-IN-THANET WI

Members appreciated a very entertaining talk covering his many years and varied roles in Show Business given by Barry Daniels. They thoroughly enjoyed listening to, and joining in with, the songs he included in his presentation.

The treasurer presented the Budget proposals for the coming year which were approved unanimously.

President Joan Backler gave a reminder about our WI birthday dinner on 15th February, and outlined plans for a Wine and Wisdom evening on Saturday 19th March, a group meeting on 22nd March, and for the future, a trip to Ladies Day at Folkestone Races on 6th June.

Sarah Eaton-Brown won the draw for our annual bursary, given to help with the costs of a short residential course at the WI Denman College.

The speaker for our meeting on March 8th is Prue Anderton, with a talk on 'A Pilgrimage to Ariana'. Visitors are always welcome.

MINSTER ARMOUITS CAPPEL TWINNING ASSOCIATION

We had to cancel our committee meeting but that does not stop your reporter!!!

The coach and ferry have been booked for 26th June and about half the tickets are gone already so please contact a committee member if you wish to join the celebrations in France for the Anniversary.

Indeed if you have any queries, suggestions, support, comments etc please contact a committee member, through Minster Matters if you like.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minster Parish Council

Have vacancies for the following position:-

- CLEANER/OPENER and CLOSER

(early morning/sunset) for the village public conveniences.

Approximately 1 hour per day 7 days per week.

- CLEANER/OPENER and CLOSER

(late afternoon/evenings) as and when required for Minster Pavilion.

All Enquiries to:- Kyla Lamb - maat

Parish Office, Minster Library & Neighbourhood Centre,
4a Monkton Road, Minster, Ramsgate, Kent. CT12 4EA.

Telephone: Thanet (01843) 821339

Fax: (01843) 825869

E-mail: minsterpc@ukonline.co.uk

MINSTER SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT

At the February Meeting, committee members were informed that a new supplier had been found for a traditional marquee, after the recent demise of the Dover Marquee Company who had supplied it for many years, so this has been booked, to ensure we have a tent for the day.

It was agreed we would ask the Scouts to be our Knights in Shining Armour again and keep the field free of litter throughout the day.

Launch Day has been confirmed as 7th May when “Grow for the Show” plants will be given out to the youngsters. What those will be has still to be discussed with “Secret Gardens” at Quex, but Coleus were suggested by the committee as a possibility.

There will be a Ceilidh again this year, the tent and grounds will be secured on both the Friday and Saturday night by our own team of security people, in the hope we can avoid any wilful damage by youngsters as has happened in the past. Damage costs us money and jeopardises our insurance cover, so if we can avoid a reoccurrence then we should be financially capable of staging the show again for years to come.

We expect to have the Drumming Band lead the Parade again this year and we are now actively looking for musicians and singers who would like to be part of the “showcase” that is staged all afternoon.

Our Facebook page is now “up and running” which you can find by searching for Minster Show. So if you use Facebook then drop in and say hello, or give us your thoughts and ideas on how we can perhaps make the show more interesting for all age groups.

We are also looking at what we might offer as a Main Event, as this is our 125th Anniversary, so if you’ve got any ideas then contact us via Minster Matters or pop into Attwells and speak to Karen.

Should you wish more information on the “Showcase” or would like to offer your talents then please contact Karen at Attwells or Bernie on 07814 214993.

Our next Meeting is on Friday 18th March so if there is anything you wish us to discuss please let a committee member know prior to that date.

THANK YOU'S AND MESSAGES...

MM would like to apologise for not placing the following in February's issue.

Christmas Thanks:

I would like to give a big "thank you" to everyone who helped make our celebrations of Christmas such wonderful occasions. First of all to those who supported the Gift Service. This year, instead of the usual toys in shoe boxes, we decided to send scholars packs containing basic school materials to children in Africa. This was done through TWAM (Tools with a Mission) a Christian Charity which began sending restored, unwanted tools to farmers in Africa. The scholars packs provided by TWAM were filled by parishioners with specific items from a list which included a small calculator.

The idea obviously caught people's imaginations as we collected over 125 packs and £400 from across the four Group churches – so thanks to all who supported this.

The packs have now been safely delivered to TWAM's collecting point in Ipswich for onward delivery to the children.

Then there was the marvelous turn out for the Lychgate Carols. Thanks to the Margate Salvation Army Band, Roy Bailey for the P.A. system, Simon Willins for the lights and those who provided drinks and mince pies afterwards. £210 was collected on behalf of the Air Ambulance.

Thanks too to all who came to our Christingle Service, Christmas Eve Special, Midnight Mass or Christmas Morning Communion. Finally, thanks to all those who decorated the church and to Chris Randall, our organist, and the choir for leading the worship.

It all added up to give a really wonderful Christmas Celebration.

Rev'd Bob Coles.

BEST WISHES

Friends of Jill Lowden would like to wish her all the best after her recent fall and short hospital stay, and look forward to seeing her out and about again soon.

ACTS OF KINDNESS STILL EXIST

I'd like to say thank you to the lovely couple in Cliffsend who found my purse outside the Cliffsend village hall and then spent the time and effort to trace me - eventually through the RAC! - and return it unharmed.

Its wonderful to know there are such kind people out there.

Katy Barnes

THANK YOU'S AND MESSAGES....

ANIMAL DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who puts the odd change and donations in our animal pot. We are pleased to be able to give, on your behalf, £140 to Minster Cat Care and £185 to the Thanet Animal Group, plus the food which has also been left at the shop.

Well done and thank you from Attwells

Please pop in and sign the petition we have on the counter in support of Margate Football Club

HIGH PRAISE FOR TRAVEL COUNSELLOR, SUSAN OSBORNE

We have recently returned from a trip to Australia and Tasmania, which was organised for us by Travel Counsellor Susan Osborne.

From the time we left our home to the day we returned (6wks later) everything went like clockwork.

Many thanks to Susan, you are to be highly recommended.

From 2 very Happy Travellers (name and address withheld on request)

(Editor's note: For any future Travellers who would like Susan's first class help and expertise please see ad on page 11 for contact details.)

REMEMBRANCE OF Maurice Bridges (75) who passed away on Friday 11th February.

The Funeral will be on 1st March 1pm at Thanet Crematorium.

Barbara and family would like to take this opportunity to thank all of their friends, neighbours and members of Minster Bowls Club for their kindness and support at this sad time.

THANKS TO KAREN

We been asked to include a special thank you to Karen, our wonderful lollipop lady, who went to aid a lady who had fallen whilst shopping in Ramsgate. Karen saw the lady (Peggy Trotman) onto the Broadstairs bus so as she could get home safely.

Karen, Peggy says to send you a very special thank you for all your kindness and help.

SCHOOLSCRIPT

Editors this month are:

Kathryn Goldfinch and Lizzie Beech-Garwood

CATHY CASSIDY

Cathy Cassidy is a really cool author. One of the books that she has written is called Gingersnaps and it is really good. I think that all of her books are amazing. She has written quite a few. Her website is really good as well. There are lots of funny things. You can find out where she is travelling. Like to festivals and stuff like that. It tells you about her new books and a little bit about them as well. I think you should read some of her books because they are really good.

PENGUINS

Penguins are birds. Penguins are birds highly adapted to the happy life. Penguins are very good swimmers.

Penguins feed in the Ocean

Penguins feed on squid, fish, krill and some other forms of sea life.

The Emperor Penguin is the largest penguin

MINSTER

At Minster we learn lots of things I.C.T is just one of them. Using our I.C.T skills we have created the piece of writing you have in front of you.

If it weren't for the amazing teachers at Minster School then this would not have been possible. So we thank every teacher at Minster.

By Maisie,M and Emily,G

MY AMAZING FAMILY

This article is about my amazing family. They are fabulous in every way as they support me in every choice I make even if I make the wrong one! I wish everybody could have an amazing family like mine as me caring parents love me even when we have fights and arguments. I've even got a brilliant amount of pocket money coming through, but I have to do chores!

By Kathryn Goldfinch

New Year tanka

It's a new season,

Also a new beginning,

Make resolutions,

Waiting now on New Years Eve,

The 1st of January.

Thomas Hulks

SCHOOLSCRIPT

PENNY CURRY

Penny Curry is a pretty amazing girl. She is very shy yet at the same time a good friend who will stand up for you. I wish there were more Penny's in the world. Penny is very smart and understands what you are trying to say, she will take into account your feelings and always makes you feel amazing about yourself. Penny is great to have around and share your thoughts with. I wish that I could spend more time with Penny at Minster as we will both be leaving in September.

By Kathryn Goldfinch

Minster School

Minster school is full of surprises, With wake up and shake up, 6 different play grounds, Lovely loving teachers that teach all different subjects such as English, Maths, Art, Re, Pe, History, Topic , Different languages, Music And many more!!!!!!!!!!

That's why we're so cool

by: Emily Giardina and Maisie Mac

MY SISTER

My sister can be the best sister in the world (she gets on my nerves a lot) my sister goes to Clarendon house grammar school where she gets a lot of homework. I would hope to go there to when I go to secondary school because I hear that it's a great school!

THANET ATHLETICS CLUB

Thanet Athletics Club is an athletics club for the age of 7 and over!

Thanet Athletics Club is for boys and girls and they have to be in year three or over. When you do this amazing club its 1 pound a week but when you a member it's free. Any adult wanting to do this can be a coach with no experience needed! At this athletics club you can: do javelin, long jump, triple jump, sprinting, endurance, hammer, shot put, high jump, pole vault, hurdles, vertical jump, over head ball throw, chest push, circuit training, speed bounce, and many more!

This wonderful club is held at the Marlow Academy from 6:00 to 7:30 there is more information on our web site at <http://www.thanetac.co.uk/> our manager is Phil Pittock

by Emily Giardina

MCDONALDS IN MINSTER!! YUCK

My friends and I at Minster school are trying to change the future of Minster! The Council have said that they are going to build a McDonalds behind co-operative! My friend and I have a problem with that. Instead we would like fantastic new park! Instead of getting fat and unhealthy, we want to get fit and healthy!!!!

WHAT'S ON

PATIENT LIAISON GROUP

presents a Grand Spring Craft Fair & Bazaar
 on Saturday 2nd April from 0900 – 1300 in the Old Schools
 £5 per Stall/Table
 Arts & Crafts, Bring & Buy, Bic a Brac, Local Antiques, Cakes & Cards, Face
 Painting, Tombola and Refreshments
 To book/information contact Ken Self on Thanet 821200
 All proceeds to local fundraising projects

MINSTER PLAYHOUSE presents Searching for Doctor Branovic

On 18th - 21st May at Minster Village Hall
 Tickets are £5.00 Wed / Thurs and £7.00 Fri / Sat
 Please phone the Box Office on 01843 220208 to purchase tickets
 Please support your local Playhouse
 KDA Adjudication is on Saturday 21st May

For those of you who enjoyed the musical "Sex, Drugs ,Rick and Noel", The
 comedy "Ghost Writer" and the one act "Last Tango in Minster" then be
 prepared for another of Tristram's hilarious offerings directed by Scott
 Steele.

Rehearsals are now underway for the production of "Searching for Dr
 Branovic" the new comedy by David Tristram
 With Steve Clement, Sarah Harvey, Nicki Kelly Neal Morcom and Terry
 Wood, the cast are beginning to realise this play is going to be a laugh a
 minute experience for them on Monday and Thursday evenings, leading up to
 the production in May.

Minster Playhouse has a dedicated backstage team on board ready to put all
 their theatrical skills into making this an enjoyable evening for all.

"One of David Tristram's funniest and most inventive scripts to date - a sure-
 fire hit with all those who love his witty, madcap comedies."
 Paul Taylor, Performing Rights Director, Samuel French

WHAT'S ON**CHALLENGE YOURSELF! WITH KENT WILDLIFE TRUST**

The choice is yours...

1st May Skydive

11th June Night Rider (Cycle round
London at night)

12th June Triathlon (Leybourne Lakes)

10th July British 10k Run

14th/18th September London 2 Paris
Cycle Ride

Various dates Hadrian Wall Trek

Challenge yourself and support Kent Wildlife Trust (your local charity protecting Kent's Wildlife and Environment)

For more information email: julie.clare@kentwildlife.org.uk
or call on 07799 750531

CHORAL CONCERT St Matthew Passion, J S Bach, 16th April at Holy Trinity Church, Broadstairs

Two of Thanet's finest choral groups, the Thanet Festival Choir and The Seventy Chamber Choir of Thanet, are coming together to sing Bach's magnificent St Matthew Passion on Saturday 16th April 2011, at 7pm, in Holy Trinity Church, Broadstairs, CT10 1HQ. The chance to hear Bach's greatest work in our local area last happened over 30 years ago. So why so long in between performances?

The forces used are huge: 3 choirs, 2 orchestras and 6 soloists. The work is difficult for the performers but a joy to hear.

Bach himself knew that this was his major legacy to the musical world but it meant more to him than that. In this one piece he shows his true belief in the Christian Gospel, but he does it in such an amazing way that audiences a mere 383 years later are still mesmerised by the sheer musical brilliance of his work. Don't miss this unique opportunity!

Tickets, priced at £10 in advance (£12 on the door) can be obtained from any choir member, by telephone 01843 602332 or Jo Roberts on 01843 851726 or via each choir's website:

Thanet Festival Choir www.thanetfestivalchoir.org.uk

The Seventy Choir www.seventychamberchoir.com

WHAT'S ON

MUSIC AND ARTISANS on Saturday 5th March at Minster Village Hall
 Doors open at 7pm for the exhibition. The concert begins at 8pm
 Further Information: Tickets are £7.00 and may be purchased in advance at:
www.worldtreemusic.com or at the door with Concessions £3.50
 Reservations by phone 01843 221 622
 "World Tree Music" A fusion of original music and song...

PSYCHIC FAYRE on Sunday 6th March, from 10am-4pm
 Plenty of stalls, mediums giving Tarot, Spirit, Angel Card, Psychometry
 & Palm readings. Aurasoma, Tombola for Cats in Crisis.
 Tea Bar open all day with food & drink at moderate prices.
 Book your reading in advance if wished but be there early if you want to get
 one!
 Admission £1, children FREE.
 Tea & biscuits included. Further details from Kay 01843 297665.

BARN DANCE on Friday 11th March, from 7.30pm at Monkton Village Hall
 in aid of the village hall funds.
 Featuring local musicians, **CONTRABAND**
 Tickets £5.50 Early booking advised as tickets are limited.
 Contact Terry March 822636 (mobile 07749 921843)

MINSTER PFA QUIZ NIGHT on Friday 11th March, from 7.30pm
 At MOD Fire School, Officers Mess, DFTDC Manston
 (Entrance opp. Spitfire Museum)
 £5 per ticket with Sandwiches and cheap Bar
 Smart/Casual dress (no rugby/football shirts)
 6 max per table.
 To book and for further details please contact Stevie on 07801 199290

JAZZ CONCERT on Sunday 13th March at 3pm
 at St Nicholas-at-Wade church
 The concert will feature up-and-coming local singer Alice Chater, together
 with Chatham House jazz band and other selected guests. One aim of the
 concert will be to raise money for the George Turnlund Memorial Fund: a new
 fund to encourage talented local youngsters to
 perform live music, while commemorating a long-time Minster resident and
 professional musician.
 Tickets £7 on the door; further info from Ben Jones on 847701.

WHAT'S ON

SANDWICH & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY on Tuesday 29th March 2011
at 7.30pm

“Stabat mater” by Antonin Dvorak

St. Mary the Virgin Minster

Tickets £8.00 (Students £2.00) available on door or in advance

Contact 01843 821486 or 01304 620811

WINE AND WISDOM on Saturday 9th April at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

£5 per person Bring Your Own Drink - Raffle

To book a table ring Julie on 825210 or Pauline on 592401

Proceeds to Brownies and Guides

OPEN GARDENS on 4th - 5th June at St. Nicholas-At-Wade

Approx 12 Gardens open. Art & Flower Exhibitions in Church

Ploughman's Lunches & Cream Teas Further details in next issue

OPEN GARDENS on 18th - 19th June at Minster

This year marks the 13th anniversary of Open Gardens.

We already have many gardens but are always looking for more!

If you are considering entering your garden then please contact

Rev'd Bob Coles: Thanet 821250

SALVATION ARMY FIZZ and QUIZ held on Saturday 5th March

@ 4.00pm

Tickets £4.00 each Includes Ploughmans, Tea and Cake

For further details and tickets ring AUDREY HARDS on 821792

NOTES & EVENTS

MINSTER-IN-THANET WI

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
8th March in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Speaker: Prue Anderton

“My Pilgrimage to Ariana”

Visitors and new members welcome

COFFEE AND CHAT WILL BE HELD ON

17th March in the Village Hall Committee Room

From 10.00am to 12.00noon. All welcome

WINE & WISDOM held on **19th March, 7pm in the Village Hall**

£6 including supper - Tables of 8. To book please ring Ann Wilkes 821152

MINSTER & MONKTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON

Monday 14th March at 7.30pm

Poem: “March Hare”

Bingo Speaker or Quiz

Raffle prizes needed for all meetings

For further information Miriam Smith 822589

MINSTER AND MONKTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING Wednesday 16th March in the Village Hall 7.30pm

Speaker: Mr Puddifoot “Fuchsias and Pelargoniums.

Points Comp. “Three cuttings of Fuchsias”

New members and guests welcome 50p

SPRING SOCIAL & QUIZ NIGHT

Held on Saturday 12th March in the Village Hall, 7.30pm

Quiz and full buffet. Max of 8 per table. Tickets - members £6.50

Non members £8.00

For tickets contact Janet Walmsley on 01843 821313

SOUP ON WEDNESDAY

12.00noon to 1.00pm, In the Old Schools. *All Welcome*

MINSTER & MONKTON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

Royal British Legion Club, Augustine Road

Come and join us for a “Cuppa” and Chat

Bingo - Raffles

2.00pm - 4.00pm

All Welcome. Joan Cordwell - phone 823782

NOTES & EVENTS**MOTHERS UNION****WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Friday 4th March at the Salvation Army Hall, 2pm

SHROVE TUESDAY on Tuesday 8th March at the Old Schools

Pancakes (Savoury & Sweet) will be served from 12noon 'til 1pm

Proceeds to Church Funds

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be held on Wednesday 9th March at St Mary's Church. We will be attending this service instead of a meeting this month.

MINSTER LIBRARY

TALK TIME on Thursday 3rd March 10.30 - 11.30

Set up meeting to discuss what activities the group would like at weekly sessions. Come and make friends with people from 16 - 100

There will not be a meeting Thursday 10th March as the venue had a prior booking on that date. Next meeting will be on Thursday 17th March from 10.30 - 11.30 and every Thursday from then on.

Drop in and out of activities that interest you or come every week the choice is yours.

RHYMES & STORIES will be held on Thursdays 9.30 am - 10.00am

Our Weekly rhymes and story sessions for babies and toddlers has moved to this time. Come and join the fun with your little one!

Minster library needs you! We are looking for a volunteer to help at our Homework Club.

For more details please contact Jacqui Brown at Broadstairs library
01843 862994

RURAL EAST KENT OVER 50'S DROP-IN ADVICE SERVICE

At Minster Library from 10am to 3pm held on 4th March and 18th March

SATURDAY MARKET

12TH March from 10am - 12noon in The Old School

SANDWICH FARMERS' MARKET

Last Saturday of each month at Guildhall, Cattle Market

Further information from Melanie Clarkson on 01304 617197

email: info@sandwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

CLIFTONVILLE FARMERS MKT

Last Sunday of each Month

Oval Lawns, Eastern Esplanade for further information please contact

June Chadband on **226033** or email: k.chadband@btinternet.com

AMBERS ADVICE

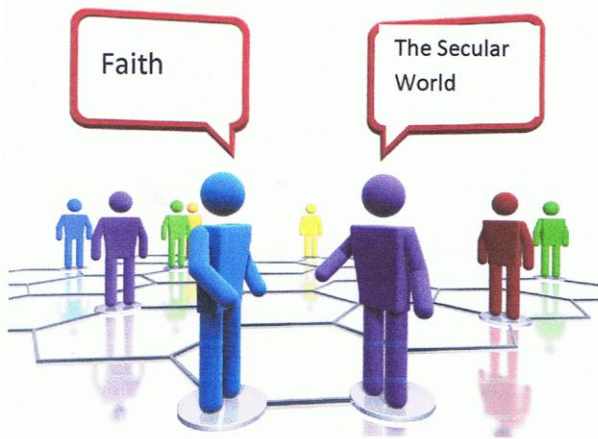
I am suffocated and lost when I have not the bright feeling of progression.
(Margaret Fuller)

TIGERS TIP

Scratches on tabletops and glass fronted cabinets can be improved if you rub a paste of olive oil and toothpaste into them.

ZAC'S MUSINGS

Had a friend to stay this weekend, now I'm short of a ball, my tuggy is busted, and to cap it all I'm really hoarse from having to continually keep her in her place.



Lent 2011

*“The Challenge of
Living out our Faith
In a Secular World”*

Sunday March 13 at 6:00 p.m. **The Abbey**

Guest speaker: Roger Gale M.P.

“Faith and Democracy”

Sunday March 27 at 6:00 p.m. **Salvation Army**

Sunday April 10 at 6:00 p.m. **St. Mary’s**

All Welcome

A Talk followed by discussion

CHURCH NEWS

Church News and Service Times

St. Mary's the Virgin, Minster
Rev. Bob Coles, 821250
Sunday Services In
MARCH 2011

6th March

9am: Holy Communion (BCP)
10am: Family Praise
6.30pm: Evensong

13th March

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

20th March

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

27th March

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

Mid week services at St Mary's
Wednesdays 10.30am

St Mary Magdalene, Monkton
Sunday Services In
MARCH 2011

6th March

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

13th March

10.15am: Holy Communion (BCP)

20th March

10.15am: Holy Communion with the
Methodists

27th March

10.15am: Holy Communion (CW)

Funerals:

25th January: Ted Tinker (68)
at Thanet Crematorium
16th February: Evelyn Shorter (86)
at Minster Church and
Thanet Crematorium
18th February: Ted Treadwell (91)
at Minster Church and
Thanet Crematorium

Ss. Ethelbert & Gertrude Catholic
Parish Ramsgate and Minster
Rev Marcus Holden 592071

ramsgateandminster@gmail.com
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 12.00noon in
the Church of St Mary the Virgin and
each Sunday at 10.00am in Minster
Abbey

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 8.30am

Mass 9.00am, Sunday 10.00am

Mid day prayer 12.10pm

Vespers 6.00pm

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.

LENT 2011: ST MARY'S MINSTER

"Do this in remembrance of me."
A celebration of Holy Communion

*We invite you to this celebration during
which we remember Jesus.*

*"Do this in remembrance of me," Jesus
said to his disciples at the Last Supper
when he took bread and wine,
and gave thanks to God.*

During Lent, there will be an opportunity
to join a weekly, evening celebration of
Holy Communion at Minster church.

It will be held every Wednesday at
7.15pm from Ash Wednesday, 9th March
until the 13th April inclusive.

We would be very pleased to be joined
by anyone - whether or not Confirmed.

Further details from Rev'd Bob Coles:
Thanet 821250

The Salvation Army 11 Tothill Street, Minster

Majors Richard Hope and
Val Hope
823830

(currently in charge until new officers
appointed, possibly end of July)

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
7 Up Club

- CURRENTLY SUSPENDED -

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

Due to circumstances, the Youth
Club for 11-16 year olds is unable
to commence at this time. Please
look out for notification when this
may happen.

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

Contacting your District Councillors

Councillor Bob Grove

Bob is now holding regular monthly surgeries every 1st Wednesday of each month in the Neighbourhood Centre at 1.15pm.

All residents are welcome to attend.

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:

Roger Gale MP

Roger holds regular advice surgeries.

For appointments and advice on urgent problems:

Ring: 01843 848588 (a.m. from 10.00)

Fax: 01843 844856 (24-hour)

Web: www.rogergale.co.uk

Email: galerj@parliament.uk

Write: HOUSE OF COMMONS, London, SW1A 0AA