



***The one big event for August***

is, as you can see below, the *Flower Festival* in Saint Leonard's Church. There have been some highly creative entries in past years, but my favourite was one in which nature played an unexpected hand (and I'm sorry I can't remember the human flower arranger it was whose work was so honoured). There were some tall gladioli in the display and an enterprising Orb Spider, who must have had a free ride into church amongst the plants, chose these for a scaffold from which to spin her most beautiful web of concentric circles, causing the tip of the tallest flower to bend very slightly inwards.



'*Childhood Memories*' is an interesting theme, which set our household pondering as to what we might choose for a central feature. Mine would be a simple bank of orange Marigolds (*Calendula*). When we moved house, one August, from what had been my birthplace five and-a-half years earlier, to rent the old school house in a nearby village, the entire front flowerbed facing the playground was a-glow with a dazzling monoculture of Marigolds. They have remained a favourite flower to grow from harvested seed each year, all through my adulthood. Along with Nasturtiums and Sunflowers they also have the advantage of being 'bomb-proof', (if not totally slug-proof) and will even self-sow very readily. This year, our Sunflowers came courtesy of self-sown seedlings – the spill-over from our bird feeders. The same source has given us a tall display of Oats, which I think as good as any ornamental grass you can buy. Anyhow, if you are feeling creative, please think about having a go at a display...

## **Flower Festival**

### **St. Leonard's Church**

We will be having our annual Flower Festival this year from the  
**24<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August.**

*The theme will be Childhood Memories.*

We will be having teas and cake throughout the week. If you haven't taken part before and would like to, please contact Heather ([heatherread579@btinternet.com](mailto:heatherread579@btinternet.com)). You will be most welcome. Also, we would be grateful for any cakes or help on the tea rota. We will be sending out more information nearer the date.

As part of the festival, on  
**Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> August**

at 6.00 pm

we will be having a

### ***Songs of Praise***

service in church.

### ***Rakes Road Closed by Church Lane, for TWO periods...***

A reminder that Rakes Road will be closed at its junction with Church Lane on July 30<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM to Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 5:00 PM. for a new water connection. It's *also* closed, I hear, from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Aug for a new electricity connection. It will be worth checking day by day, however, as it is unlikely that the work will take this long? I think this means that Church Lane will still be accessible from the direction of the village centre.

### **EVENTS this month of August:-**

- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as below, Tuesday, for Pilates...  
– *Quiz Night – The Bull's Head*. Starts around 9pm.
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – *No Tea and Tots*, as it's Summer Hols.  
– *Crafternoon*. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. To book a slot, email Dave: [djs.abbotside@gmail.com](mailto:djs.abbotside@gmail.com).  
– *Parish Council Meeting* 7pm. Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend the public meeting.  
There is 10 minutes for 'Public Speaking' at the start. See village website and noticeboard for agenda.

- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, A friendly group of ladies with a wide range of creative talent who love making beautiful quilts and anything crafty. Drop into one of our weekly meetings to see what we do and if we can tempt you to join.  
– *Pilates*, Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. £7. Caroline is a fully qualified yoga and Pilates instructor. If you would like to reserve a place or find out more about Pilates or Yoga, contact Caroline on **07831 720810** or email: **carolinewebster2@gmail.com**
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>** – *No Monyash WI* – This month. Other months it's 7.30 - 10.00 pm, in the Village Hall, the first Weds of each month (except August), with guest Speaker and competition. A small, friendly group and new members always welcome.
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as above for **Pilates**.  
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull's Head. As above.
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup>** – *No Tea and Tots, or Messy Church*, as it's Summer Hols.
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. As above.  
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as above for **Pilates**.  
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull's Head. As above.
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup>** – *No Tea and Tots*, as it's Summer Hols.  
– *Crafternoon*. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – *Mobile Library* – 11.15 to 11.45, The Square.
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as for **Pilates**.  
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull's Head. As above.
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – *No Tea and Tots*, as it's Summer Hols.
- Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>** – *Songs of Praise* service at Saint Leonard's Church. **6pm**. Any enquiries contact Heather: heatherread579@btinternet.com
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>** – *Bins emptied today*, instead of Wednesday, (after the Bank Holiday on Monday).  
– *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as for **Pilates**.  
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull's Head. As above.
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup>** – *No Tea and Tots*, as it's Summer Hols. First of the new term will be on Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, I predict...

### **Barn Close Farm Shop**

Just happens to be on the edge of the 1km square of our monthly butterfly survey, so it is getting at least a monthly visit from us. The other day, leaving me chasing one of the 'small brown jobs' down Cross Lanes, Judy and Rowan borrowed my debit card to sample some of the produce. The honey, from Ashford-in-the-Water, is top-notch, I have to say – I have yet to sample anything else personally, though Ro looked to be thoroughly enjoying her Solero. Especially now the weather is more barbeque-friendly, it ought to be your first-choice for local produce? There is a great selection of burgers and chops, as local as you could wish for!

### **Nature Notes – Flower Festival...**

The natural world is holding its very own Flower Festival right now. The walk up Milkings Lane and down the dale is awash with the purple of Meadow Cranesbill, mauve from two kinds of Scabious and the yellows of Lady's Bedstraw, Hawkbit and Meadow Vetchling. The colourful heads of Knapweed and Ragwort are attracting all kinds of insects. The Ringlet butterfly seems especially fond of Ragwort flowers, for some reason, while the caterpillar of the Cinnabar moth has adapted to eat the leaves, storing up the toxin they contain as its own defence against being eaten. Which is why they are so obviously marked with yellow and black stripes, to advertise the danger. If you get this newsletter before Sunday, I am leading a one-off special '*Birdsong Walk*' on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 9am from the green, by popular demand. There may not be many birds singing, but all of the above flowers and more will feature, along with butterflies, moths and bees.

Hares seem to be plentiful this year; the best time to see them is in the evening. Time your walk right and you may catch a Barn Owl or two setting out to hunt. Eight-thirty to nine o'clock is a good bet and Bagshaw Dale is one route to take, as a pair make their nest in a hollow tree there, most years (and this year is no exception). We had the privilege, one August evening a few years back, of watching a pair teach their young how to pounce into the long grass from a wall.

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