

# MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE AND  
GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



June 2008

Turn Page>>

# MERE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets every month. Whilst it is not a public meeting, members of the public are welcome to come and listen. The Council members are working on YOUR behalf to sustain and improve the quality of life and the environment that we enjoy in the parish - come and hear what they are doing for you! You will be permitted to raise questions in a public session before the meeting starts. The next meeting will be on **Monday, 2nd June** at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.

## The Chairman writes

I am pleased to report that, at the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 12th May, I was re-elected as Chairman for a further year. I would like to thank the Councillors for their support and pledge that I will do my best to serve the community. The Parish Council's new Vice-Chairman is Mr. Eric Mitchell. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mary White (the retiring Vice-Chairman) for her help and support during the past year.

We were very pleased to see so many parishioners at our Annual Parish Meeting where we discussed, amongst other things, Salisbury District Council's consultation documents that will be used to form the policies and strategies for development in and around the Mere area during the next 20 years. We agreed with those present that we would publish the Parish Council's consultation submission on the latest policy consultation document 'Core Strategy – Preferred Options'.

I can report that this submission has been on display on the Parish Council notice board (outside the Lecture Hall), in the Library, available to view in the Post Office and on the Mere website: **[www.merewilts.org](http://www.merewilts.org)**  
We would welcome your comments and views on this submission.

Mr. Peter Button, the Parish Council's footpath representative, recently reported on a meeting he had attended where he learnt that Wiltshire County Council has all the materials to build and repair stiles and would be happy to make these available to any community volunteer groups. Mere used to have an extremely active and award-winning footpath group who gave up their time in order to keep our footpaths open and repair stiles and bridges etc. Sadly, the group has now disbanded but

we have heard that there could be some interest for occasional volunteer help. We are able to provide liability and accident insurance for community volunteers and so, if there is anyone interested that would be prepared to give up some time to repair and refurbish our footpath stiles, please contact the Parish Clerk, Lindsey Wood ☎ 01747 860701.

I would like to advise groups and organisations of a new grant scheme that Salisbury District Council has made available for 2008/09 called the General Community Fund, which aims to support community projects that improve the quality of life and wellbeing of the residents of South Wiltshire. The total grant fund is £130,000 and the minimum grant award will be £5,000, but at least 10% of the project costs must be raised locally by the applicant. Full details and criteria can be found on SDC's website:

**[www.salisbury.gov.uk/community/community-fund.htm](http://www.salisbury.gov.uk/community/community-fund.htm)**

The swimming pool is now open for use and we hope that we have warmer weather this summer and everyone is eager to use it. For opening times please contact Sally Howell ☎ 01747 860644.

*Rodney Coward, Chairman, Mere Parish Council*

## **MERE WEATHER**

We had the showers in April, totalling 92 mms (3.62 ins). Last year we only had 18.5 mms (0.73 ins). We also had snow on the 5th and 6th, but on both days it soon melted. There was frost on the 10th and, hopefully, this is the last of winter weather. Most days we had warm sunshine with the rain at night.

Up to the 18th May, we had 18 mms (0.71 ins) of rain. From the 6th May we had a week of very warm weather - up to 72 °F (22°C) equalling parts of the Mediterranean at the same time. But, summer had not arrived! On the 14th we had clouds, a little rain, and a cold East wind which is still with us at the time of writing.

Will June be flaming June? Personally, I would not be surprised to see a wet June.

*Peter Durkee*



## MERE POLICE NEWS

We do not have space to include the entire May edition of “Neighbourhood Policing News” for Mere and surrounding parishes, produced by our Mere Neighbourhood Police Team but here are a few highlights:

**Incidents:** Although there were a number of incidents in the surrounding district, there were none actually in Mere, but your attention is drawn to the fact that between 7th-16th April, 300-400 litres of heating oil was taken from a tank in Bourton. Many of us have similar tanks, so please ensure, if possible, that locks are in place and tanks are secure when you are away from them.

**CCTV Coverage:** “We were wondering whether members of Mere and surrounding parishes would be able to assist us. We are only aware of a few shops and a couple of roads covered by CCTV in the area. If you have CCTV coverage anywhere, please could you contact PCSO Michael Tryhorn via email or telephone so that we can compile a list of areas covered.”

**Neighbourhood Watch (NHW):** “Firstly, thank you to everyone involved and those playing their part to help make our area safer! Statistically, over the last year, ours has been shown as the safest community in Wiltshire. Jointly, Tisbury and Mere receive less than one reported crime per day. If you would like to know whom your NHW Co-ordinator is, please contact one of us via email or telephone. Please bear in mind, however, that some areas still have a vacancy for a Co-ordinator – volunteers are always welcome! The role requires little work but is of great benefit to the community - and you aren’t obliged to attend any meetings if you don’t want to!”

**Community Contact Point:** “As you are aware, Police Enquiry Offices have been closing all across the county. We have been fortunate enough to be able to open a Community Contact Point in Mere Library, which is open during Library opening hours. These Community Contact Points work on the same principle as an Enquiry Office. However, instead of being staffed by members of the immediate Police family they are staffed by external, trained staff (in this case, our local Librarians, whom we thank for being trained to assist us). Please use this contact point as we will be working with the Library staff as another way of dealing with enquiries.”

*C2W (ex Wigglybus) advert –full page*

**Neighbourhood Police Team Mobile Telephone:** “Just a reminder that for non emergency calls the recently advised neighbourhood Police Team Mobile telephone Number (07890 701606) does not have 24 hour availability whereas 0845 408 7000 does. However, for **real** emergencies you should call: 999, which is available round the clock.

**Neighbourhood Policing News:** For full details of crime in our area, copies of this monthly publication are available from the newsagents: Waltons of Mere or by e-mail. To sign up for an e-mailed copy, contact PCSO Mike Tryhorn: e-mail: michael.tryhorn@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

*Richard Salter, Community Beat Manager, Police Constable 1312  
e-mail: richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk*

**☎: 0845 408 7000 ext 749817**

**☎ 01747 861737 (not 24 hours)**

**☎ 07989 701606 (mobile- not 24 hours)**

**Fax: 01747 860013**

## **MERE DENTAL PRACTICE**

The practice currently has **NHS appointments** available to anyone with a Wiltshire postcode or to anyone outside of Wiltshire registered at Mere Doctors Surgery.

The practice at present has two Dentists:

**Mr Stephen Sherrard**

**Ms Jacqueline Barnes**

**Contact Details: -**

Mere Dental Practice  
Duchy Manor, Springfield Road  
Mere, Wiltshire  
BA12 6EW  
Telephone: 01747 860365

The practice is sited in the school grounds, first building on your left when you go through the school gates.

**REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE  
MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

## **MERE SURGERY**

### **Breast Screening Unit**

**The Mobile Breast Screening Unit will be in  
Mere at Salisbury Street Car Park, from**

**Monday 16th June 2008**

**for approximately two weeks.**

**Female patients aged 50 – 70 years inclusive  
will be sent an invitation to attend for a  
mammogram.**

**Any patient aged over 70 who would like to be  
screened can call into the van when it is here  
and an appointment will be made for them.**

**If you have any queries concerning  
screening please contact the surgery.**

*Angela Pitman – Practice Manager*

## **LOCAL DENTIST RAISES FUNDS FOR CHARITY**

Mere Dentist, Stephen Sherrard, and Kitty, one of his receptionists, undertook a charity "Challenge your Partner" for Clic, the charity that cares for children with Cancer, and raised a magnificent £1,063.00.

The challenge was to drive heavy-duty vehicles, such as HGV lorries, steam traction engines etc., against each other. Stephen won by 2 points but Kitty is not a lady in the first bloom of youth and did extremely well. The event was held at Henstridge Airfield on Sunday 27th April.

Stephen and Kitty were the team that raised the most, and following their achievement they were rewarded with two flights in a light aircraft.

The practice gives its heartfelt thanks to all those patients who kindly sponsored Stephen and Kitty.

*Francine Sherrard, Dental Practice Manager*

## **A MERE “SON” DOES WELL**

A few readers may just have seen the recent announcements in The Times and Daily Telegraph of the forthcoming promotion of Captain William Walworth OBE of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary to the rank of Commodore Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and to his appointment as Assistant Chief of Staff Afloat Support with effect from 2nd September 2008.

The interest to us in Mere is that William Walworth OBE is the son of former Mere Estate Agent, the late “Bill” Walworth, and that he spent his formative years living in the village, attending the former St Leonards School at Motcombe Grange before going on to Shaftesbury Grammar School.

William first went to sea at sixteen and worked his way up the seniority ladder in various British mercantile marine companies before joining the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA), which is a civilian manned fleet, owned by the Ministry of Defence. Its main task is to supply warships of the Royal Navy at sea with fuel, food, stores and ammunition which they need to remain operational while away from base. It also provides aviation support for the Royal Navy, together with amphibious support and secure sea transport for Army units and their equipment.

The RFA is managed by the Commodore RFA who is directly responsible to the Commander in Chief Fleet, as a Fleet Type Commander, for the day to day administration and operation of the RFA Flotilla.

On your behalf, I have offered him congratulations from the people of Mere and wished him well for his forthcoming management of the Royal Navy's Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

*Editor*



*The Walnut Tree Inn advert – full page*

## MERE RESIDENT TO MAKE FIRST PARACHUTE JUMP TO HELP SAVE TIGERS

Many readers will know of Mere resident Derek Remington's involvement in saving the Indian tiger. Now, one of his neighbours, Shima Varsani, is going to make her first tandem parachute jump in mid July from around 14,000 ft with the Parachute Regiment Freefall Team (The Red Devils) to raise money for the Satpuda Foundation in Central India, the charity for tiger conservation and local family support. She would very much appreciate sponsors and the Satpuda region, which is probably the world's largest remaining tiger habitat, would be most grateful for your generous support. The recent 3 x 1 hour TV tiger family programmes were filmed in that area.

A special copy of the very recently published book, 'TIGERS' - with a host of pictures from the filming, will be given to a lucky donor whose name will be drawn out of a hat. The copy contains the autographs of the co-authors - Michael Richards and Hashim Tyabji and possibly another well known name. You can find more information on the charity on the Internet at: **[www.satpuda.org](http://www.satpuda.org)**

Please contact Shima Versani ☎ 01747 860995, or Derek Remington ☎ 01747 860401 for further information and if you would be willing to sponsor Shima's parachute jump. Cheques would be welcome made out to:- SATPUDA UK, or, of course, cash, which will all be paid into the same account. Your name will be kept confidential and not passed on to anyone else.

*Shima Versani and Derek Remington*

## REFRESHMENTS AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH FETE

Will anyone making cakes for the Fete Refreshments please bring them to the Grove Buildings on Saturday 7th June 2008 between 10.00am and 12.30pm, when there will be someone there to receive them.

Help is needed to serve and wash up between 2.00 and 5.00pm. Would anyone able to help please contact me. Your assistance would be much appreciated. Thank you *Judy Bickerstaff* ☎ 01747 860335

## **MERE CARNIVAL**

We held the first Carnival Bingo of 2008 on Friday, 25th April and raised £141.00. We would like to thank everyone who donated the excellent prizes, with the top prize of a large hamper, and many thanks to those who came and supported the event.

The next bingo will be held on Friday, 5th September in the Grove Buildings. The doors open at 7.00 pm and eyes down will be at 7.45pm. All are welcome, so please put the date in your diary now!

*Trevor Lucas, Carnival Secretary ☎ 01747 860859*

## **MERE & DISTRICT LINKSCHEME**

### **Requests for Transport ☎ 01747 860096**

We would like to thank all those who helped with the recent Coffee Morning in Zeals for their support and their generous donations. Last year we received 91 requests from Zeals residents and this will be a great help in continuing to provide our service.

### **Annual Meeting**

**Friday 20th June**

**7.00pm in the Grove Buildings**

A short business meeting will be followed by a chance to meet members of the Management Committee, Transport Co-ordinators and drivers, and find out more about the Linkscheme.

Do please come and join us.

*Molly Burden ☎ 01747 860007*

**Pippa Schofield – Fully Trained Experienced Cook**

Classic & Contemporary Menus for all occasions.

Telephone: 01747 840347

## MERE FILM SHOWS

The last film of this season is the romantic comedy 'Definitely Maybe' (12A) – and what could be better for a midsummer's evening beneath a full moon!!!! The film stars Ryan Reynolds as a father trying to answer his young daughter's questions about his impending divorce, how her parents met and why they married. It has been called 'one of the great romantic comedies' and a piece of 'smart sophisticated film making'. With Rachel Weisz, Kevin Kline and Abigail Breslin. For full details see page 17.

Our new season will start on Friday 12th September with a film for Carnival Week.  
*Mary White ☎ 01747 861257*

## MERE GARDENING CLUB

### Next Meeting

This will be on Wednesday, 11th June at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings when a **Castle Gardens speaker** will give a talk on **Patio Gardening**.

Speakers from Castle Garden, Sherborne, are always popular and tonight one of the team will be talking about what it is possible to grow on your patio. This won't be just about flowers in containers, but will also cover a bit about vegetables and even fruit that can be grown this way.

These speakers are always well-liked, especially as they bring with them a selection of good quality plants from their nursery. This is sure to include plants suitable for patio gardening. **Visitors are most welcome.**

*Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797*

## MOTHERS' UNION & OPEN MEMBER'S GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th June at 3.00pm and will be held at Mere Down Farm.

We shall be running the cake stall at the church Fete on Saturday 7th June. Donations of cakes would be appreciated in the morning between 10.00am and 12.00noon. Thank you.

Thelma Ings ☎ 01747 860262



## MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VISIT THREE: Wednesday 8th July 2008

### Somerset Churches

Somerset is famous for its churches, and we will be starting with the church of All Saints at Sutton Bingham. This delightful little church was built in 1111, but underwent major alterations before 1300 when some of the finest wall paintings in Somerset were probably added. The death of the Virgin Mary is the outstanding section. After we will make the short journey to East Coker, made famous by T. S. Elliot, where you will be free to wander round the church of St Michael where the poet's ashes are buried and there is a memorial to William Dampier, buccaneer and explorer. There will be time to have a picnic or a snack at the Helyar Arms (***service can be slow***).

We will then go on to Hinton St George where we will be guided around the church of St George and it's many fascinating monuments to the Poulett family, including the Poulett Chapel which is normally kept locked. Here there is a magnificent monument to the first Lord Poulett. After our church tour we will have a brief look at the village, followed by afternoon tea at Dorothy's Tea Room.

***Some uneven surfaces, steep slope to St Michael's church, staircase with rail then three steps down to Poulett Chapel***

We will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 11.00am and return to Mere by 5.00pm approx.

**Cost:** MHS Members £14.00, non MHS members £16.00 per person.  
Price includes tour and tea

**Please ring Caroline (01747 861797) for more details.**

**Non-members welcome**  
**Booking forms available from Mere Information Point**

## **MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

In recent weeks, members have visited the Craft Show at Shepton Mallet and joined members from other local Women's Institutes at the Spring Group Meeting in Sutton Veny, where Bill Moore gave an interesting and enthusiastic account of his involvement with work on the "Mary Rose" over many years.

On 1st May, a Craft and Cookery Show was held in the Lecture Hall. Although the number of entries was lower than in recent years, the usual high standard was maintained. Kathy Herbert won the cup for the member gaining most points.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Thursday, 5th June in the Grove Buildings when the Rev'd Mary Tweed from Warminster will give what promises to be a most entertaining talk entitled: "Here We Go a-Vicaring".

Visitors will be most welcome.

*Molly Burden ☎ 01747 860007*

## **MERE AND DISTRICT DAY CENTRE**

### **OPEN DAY, SATURDAY 12 JULY**

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Rosemary Goddard Day Centre for older people in Mere and surrounding areas. We plan to celebrate the event by a garden party on Saturday 12 July, from 2 to 5 pm, held at the Day Centre at Lynch Close Community Centre, Lynch Close, Mere. Dr Andrew Murrison, the local MP, will open the event, and there will be a small exhibition of the history of the Day Centre, which will be unveiled by Lady Benson, the President of Age Concern Salisbury (who opened the Day Centre in 1988!).

Invitations to a wide range of local people and the press will be sent out in the next couple of weeks. However, we would like to welcome anyone who may be interested, to pop in on the day to see the work we do, and chat to the guests, the Trustees, the Organiser or the volunteers.

*Lenka Stokes ☎ 01747 860741*

## FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

Warm thanks to everyone who supported the Fives Court Coffee Morning in April. We raised over £300, and the Residents had a lovely time talking to all the visitors! The money will go towards summer plants and garden furniture.

**Advance notice:** This years' Autumn Fair will take place on **Saturday, 30th August**. Make a note in your diaries – it's a not-to-be missed event!  
*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

## MERE MUSEUM

Due to events totally beyond our control, the present Trades exhibition will be further extended into June. Please accept our apologies for these unexpected extensions, and keep an eye out for posters which will eventually give the date of the opening of the next exhibition.

This will be about Mere's Schools from the seventeenth century to the present day. Preparations are going well with lots of interesting material coming in. We promise it will be worth the wait!

*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

## FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

We call it our Really Big Fundraiser, but The Friends of Mere Museum were astonished and delighted to discover that the proceeds of the **Plant Sale** on 3rd May topped £800! This is a record-breaking amount which, of course, all helps to support the Museum. Thank you to all who came, brought, bought, sold, served and cleared up. It's going to make a target for next year's sale quite a challenge!

Friends will be informed about the date of the preview of the next exhibition via the Newsletter; our apologies for the delay.

*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

**WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA**  
in association with  
**MERE PARISH COUNCIL**  
proudly presents

# **Definitely Maybe**

**(12A)**

**Three relationships. Three disasters. One last chance.**

When his 10-year-old daughter Maya starts asking questions about his life before marriage and how her parents met and fell in love, Will - a 30-something father in the midst of a divorce - recounts the story of the three great loves of his life, but all with changed names, so that Maya must guess who he finally married. But one thing she discovers is that love is never simple.....

**'a great romantic comedy'**

**In the Lecture Hall**  
**Friday 20th June at 7.30pm**  
*(Doors open 7.00pm)*

**TICKETS £5.00**

**Available from the Tourist Information Office**  
**(in the Library)**

*For more information call Mary White on 01747 861257*

Visit our website at [www.moviola.org](http://www.moviola.org)



## MERE BOWLS CLUB

The Season has got off to a very good start with the Club winning all their friendly matches, playing Away to Cranborne, Sherborne & Frome Selwood, and at Home to Frome Park.

In the Westbrook League, they won at Home to Downton and Away to Amesbury. Playing in the Salisbury & District Men's League, they lost at Home to Wilton and Away to Alderbury, but won Away to Downton.

Unfortunately, the Open Day was spoilt by bad weather, but if anyone would like to try out this Sport, please just come along on one of our Roll Ups - all that is needed is a flat pair of shoes.

Our Roll Ups are on Tuesday & Thursday Evenings at 6.00pm and Saturday afternoon at 3.00pm.

If you would like to find out more about the Club, please ring me for more information.

*Teresa Read* ☎ 01747 860289

*Manor Farm Vets advert - ½ page*

## MERE CROQUET & BOULE CLUB

The club opened its doors for the first time on Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May. There was a very good attendance on what turned out to be a fine day. Instruction was on hand and almost everyone took advantage of it, total novices being predominant.

It was all great fun, all age groups were represented, from babes in arms to octogenarians. If you were not there, what about it? The membership list is still open, just a few more people can be accepted.

The gates open at 2.00pm on Saturday afternoons at the Club site on the corner of Steep Street and North Road. You are assured of a warm welcome if you feel like looking in to see what it is all about.

*Rex Roberts ☎ 01747 860873*



This is my first article since taking up the post of Footprints Centre Manager on 28th April, and I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for the wonderfully warm welcome received from everyone. At Footprints we recognise and hold dear our accountability to the community, and so I will begin by giving you an overview of the following:

- The Footprints “Vision”
- What we have been doing since 28th April.
- Our plans to increase the services provided through the Learning Zone and Kidzone.

### **So what is our vision?**

Footprints provides a centre that is accessible to everyone within our community, where you will experience a warm welcome, find information about any and every aspect of living in Mere (and living in general!), where your views and opinions are respected, and where you

can make new friends and share your concerns or experience. We will remember at all times that we are here to support you in whatever is the right way for you and your families.

### **What's been happening since 28th April?**

My first and sad task is to say goodbye and thank you to Eileen Brocklehurst. Eileen leaves us a fantastic legacy and will be missed by colleagues, and the large number of people whom she has helped to access adult education courses in the year that she has been with us. Good luck for the future, and thank you, Eileen.

The plan for the future includes securing the finances to make us a Children's Centre - when that happens, you can look forward to an invitation to join us for the celebrations.

*DI Woodworx advert - ¼ page*

*Lifestyle landscapes advert - ¼ page*

## What's going on in The Learning Zone and Kidzone?

### The Learning Zone-

Picking up the baton for Adult Education is Shelley Rendall who will be actively seeking your ideas and interests so that she can put together a wide range of courses over the summer and into the autumn.

Please continue to support the courses and classes – in case you don't know, we are currently running courses and workshops in the areas of Computers and IT, Skills for Life, Helping in Schools, Art and Painting, Dressmaking and Digital Photography. If you or someone you know has a burning desire to learn something that is not on this list please come forward and let Shelley know - it's never too late to learn something new or refresh a new skill.

We would like to run events in the following areas but only if you will attend! Please give us some feedback on 01747 861108!:

Counselling	Modern Languages	Music Appreciation
Baby Sitting	Baby Massage	Self Defence Tai Kwan Do
CV writing	Book Keeping	Music with Mummy or Daddy
First Aid (for Children and Adults)		
Keep Fit (including armchair lessons)		
How to get what you want - the easy way (Assertiveness, Influencing, Decision Making)		

### Kidzone

Karen and her team would like to welcome Jane Smith who will be on duty from the end of May, look out for her and please say hello. As we move toward the holiday season we need your bookings for the holiday club **now!**

The Kidzone breakfast, after school and holiday club programme of events is now available and we hope to see many more children at the sessions. If you don't know how we work, come and have a **free** taster session after school on a Wednesday or Thursday. (Bookings in advance please to 861108 – places available on a first come basis)

### Breakfast and After School Club – Did you know?

- We currently have vacancies for up to 14 children at each session.
- Children receive a substantial breakfast or snack (included in the fee).

Coming to Mere- the ultimate *FREE*  
'Sunday Funday'  
with  
**Roly the Clown**

When? - Sunday June 8th

Where? - Mere School Playing Fields  
(If wet in Mere School Hall & Footprints)

What Time? - 1.30pm to 4.30pm

Refreshments available.

Everybody Welcome!!!!

Roly, the award-winning clown, has clowned all over the UK, across the USA, in Canada, Australia, Sweden, France, Belgium and Holland....in churches, chapels and cathedrals, prisons, hospitals and schools, camps, conferences and clubs, halls, big tops and theatres! So don't miss him!



Sponsored by Churches Together in Mere and District  
with Footprints

- We are able to offer funded spaces (please contact us for details).
- The programmes support the school curriculum but are based on play and alternate learning.

•

### **Holiday Club – Did you know?**

- We take bookings for these sessions at all times of the year.
- The programme is planned to provide a wide variety of stimulating activities in which **all** children can participate in at their own level.
- That a healthy snack is provided (included in the fee).
- We accept children between the age of 4 and 11. ***(We can help if you need care for younger or older children)***
- Children can come for a whole day (2 sessions) or just an hour or so to allow you some time to join a class in the centre, or just catch up with friends.
- We accept children from other catchments areas.
- **Sadly, unless more of you use this facility we will be unable to open for the full week at half term and throughout the whole summer – Use it or lose it!**

!!! The theme for the next 4 weeks is 'SPACE' !!! We will be building and experimenting with rockets, Exploring new planets and having tea with the aliens...**If your little astronaut is ready to blast off, come and meet us at the Footprints space station NOW!**

**Coming Soon.....**

- Benefit Surgeries (for those of you that have questions of the experts).  
Georgina Shaw ☎ 01747 861108

## **MERE FIRST SCHOOL**

**May 2008**

This is our first time doing Mere Matters as our year 6 class are doing their KS2 SATs at the moment and are very busy! We wish them good luck! They do get an extra breakfast though before they start so that their brains are switched on properly!

*Maclachlan Solicitors advert - ¼ page*

*Madelaine Morris advert - ¼ page*

Earlier this term we had a KS2 bingo. There were lots of mums who came to help and we played games that were great fun.

We are very lucky at Mere School that so many teachers give up their spare time to run clubs after school for us. There are lots of clubs for us to enjoy - tennis, kwik cricket, country dancing, recorders, science, creative writing, gardening, choir, pottery, art, cookery, table tennis, yoga, football and running.

Our year 3/4 football team represented our school and North Dorset in the Dorset football tournament. The team went to Bournemouth and played very well but sadly they did not win.

The children and parents in Blue class are lucky to have had the opportunity to take part in a Family Literacy event. This is a programme where children and their parents learn about literacy with Mrs Brocklehurst and Mrs Tealey. We all had the chance to watch a play from a theatre company with this group. The parents and children were given certificates in an assembly earlier this term.

We have a lot of student teachers working in school at the moment. They are Miss Price, Miss Chapman, Mrs Blackmore and Mr Wellman.

Dr Tom Robson came into school to teach us all about science and how the brain stores memories. We also played a really fun game with him about what we were learning in science.

*Claudia Emby and Hannah James*

## **MERE PRE-SCHOOL FUNDRAISING FASHION SHOW**

Mere Pre-school ran a fashion show in April to raise funds for upgrading the pre-school garden and are pleased to report a successful evening.

The company that hosted the show were both professional and organised. It also ensured that the audience had a thoroughly enjoyable time. A large variety of summer season clothes, from designer items to well known High street brands were on sale at fabulously discounted prices. Judging by the interest shown during the show, the clothes proved very popular and many purchases were made. We would like to extend a huge thank you to our five local volunteer models, who really 'made' the evening with their natural flair and confidence on the catwalk.

The majority of the fantastic raffle prizes were kindly donated by businesses in Mere and Gillingham. This really helped boost the fundraising and we thank them very much for their support.

We would also like to thank the many local shops and public amenities for their support in advertising the show and to Lou's It Hairdressers in Mere for selling tickets; the event was a sell- out.

Our final total after some small expenses was £670.02. This has gone a good way toward the purchase of a superb wooden summer playhouse, which has recently been erected in the pre-school garden and will be enjoyed year round. For this, we would like to say many thanks to all those who purchased tickets or gave donations. Your support is greatly appreciated by the Pre-school committee.

*Louise Harlow, Chair, Mere Pre-School Committee*



## LEAPING FROGS

We have now planted all the plants and the children are loving watering, digging etc. We have runner beans, lettuces, herbs, sunflowers, marigolds and many more plants, all being looked after by the pre-school gardeners. We'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge "thank you" to Plant World for giving us a 10% discount on plants and a water butt.

Our Nearly New sale was a huge success, and many thanks goes to the team of parents who helped organise and all those who attended on the day. The total raised from this sale was £321.00, which will go towards a play house and some play equipment.

We are hoping to hold another cake stall at the Clock Tower, on Friday 27th June, between 9:30 and 11:30am. Many thanks to all those who have supported our fund raising efforts over the last few months.

*Treena Bird* ☎ 01747 828789

*Robert Longbourne advert - ¼ page*

*Two Counties golf advert - ¼ page*

# ***BAMBI and the TRAILBLAZERS***

***Country Dance  
For the Barn Buddies Youth Club***

***BBQ***

***RAFFLE***

***Bar at Club Prices***

***At Barrow Street Farm, Mere. BA12 6AB***

***On 12th July From 8.00pm until 11.00pm***

***Prizes for best dressed cowboy/girl***

***Tickets from***

***Bambi 01747 871443***

***Rich 01747 830582***

***Tim 01747 860195***

***£5.00 per Ticket***

***Under 16 £2.50***

## **GROVE BUILDINGS RESTORATION FUND**

The Results of the '100' Club Draw, drawn after Morning Praise in St Michael's Church on 4th May 2008 by Charlie Ford was:

1st Prize (£20) - No. 182 Generously Returned

2nd Prize (£15) - No. 148 Mr A Dawson

3rd Prize (£10) - No. 80 Miss P collinge

4th Prize (£5) - No. 14 Generously Returned

*Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964*

## METHODIST CHURCH AFTERNOON GET TOGETHER

There will be no “Get Togethers” now until Wednesday 24th September when we hope Mrs Shirley Northcott will speak on Aspects of Judaism. We look forward to seeing you then.  
*M Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370*

## CARLO RETURNS!!

The international concert organist Carlo Curley makes a welcome return to Mere on Saturday 12th July at 7.30pm, when he will be putting the Makin organ at St Michael’s Parish Church through its paces. Make a note in your diaries! Tickets will be on sale in early June from the Mere Information Point.

*Peter Mason ☎ 01747 861296*

## THE REV'D CHRIS MOORSOM WRITES:

### Summer time – not enough time?

There’s a lot going on this June: in my diary, there are three weddings, the Sunday Funday with Roly the Clown in Mere, a Children’s Workshop, a village fete (or two), St. Peter’s Patronal Festival, and plenty else too. At the same time, the bread and butter necessities continue, there are other people’s deadlines and expectations to meet, and, it seems, not enough hours in the day.

In Prayers of Life, Michel Quoist wrote, ‘I am not asking you tonight, Lord, for *[more]* time to do this and then that, but your grace to do conscientiously, in the time that you give me, what you want me to do.’ The trick is not to worry too much about the things we can’t do, but to focus on doing the things we can and to do them as well as possible.

Added to our little problems, are the bigger demands of the world. If we have any conscience at all, this moves us to be concerned. “When comes the promised time that war shall be no more, and lust,

oppression, crime shall flee thy face before?" asks the hymn-writer, and many of us echo these sentiments.

When Peter said "Yes" to Christ's call to be the leader of the apostles, he must have been daunted by the sheer enormity of the task he was given. "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt.28). But then the Gospel adds, "and remember, I am with you, to the end of the age." On that scale, perhaps our worries can appear less significant, and we can put our own anxieties behind us as we reflect on the eternal timescale of God's kingdom.

Busy or not, "Time is only for love, and life only that we may find God" (*St. Bernard*) – i.e. to seek and (we pray) find the quality of life that Christ came to reveal, calling us to put his Way of living first, and so become ourselves lights in the world. So let's pray for a productive June, but not allow busyness to take away our eternal perspective.

## **ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL EAST WINDOW RENOVATION PROJECT**

**The Ad Hoc Harmony  
sang for  
The East Window Appeal in St. Michael's Church  
on Saturday, 12th April 2008.**

Thank-you ladies, for a most enjoyable evening's entertainment. A happy mix of music, ranging through madrigals and folk song and including nonsense songs, were performed with great sensitivity by the choir and its soloists. A glass of wine in the interval added to our pleasure.

The retiring collection raised £230.86.

Again, thank-you to Jane and Alex Hurd and all involved in the arrangements.

*Karyn Sheppard, Co-ordinator ☎ 01747 860680  
& Judy Bickerstaff, Treasurer ☎ 01747 860335*

## **THE FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH**

The Committee would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the Spring Bazaar, held on Saturday, 10th May, and we are delighted to report that the sum raised was £586.28.

Our thanks to all who supported us.

*Patricia Stephenson ☎ 01747 860278*

# **WEST KNOYLE'S**

## **Bison Browse & Fete**

**Sunday 29th June**  
**At Bush Farm Bison Centre**  
**11.00am - 3.00pm**

**Adults £3.00**  
**Children £1.50**

**Tractor & trailer rides to see bison & elk**  
**Stalls, BBQ, Games & much more.**

**Information: Pepe Seaford 01747 830263**  
**or Jill Randal 01747 830534**  
**[www.bisonfarm.co.uk](http://www.bisonfarm.co.uk)**

# CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

**JUNE 2008**

## **The Parish Church, St Michael The Archangel (☎ 01747 863313)**

Each Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday	8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer

## ***Sunday Club is held in The Grove Buildings at 10.30am Services***

Sunday	1st	10.30am	Morning Praise
		(NB: No Sunday Club)	
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday	4th	7.30pm	"Start the month" Holy Communion (CW1)
Sunday	8th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	15th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
Sunday	22nd	10.30am	Matins (BCP) followed by a shortened Holy Communion
	29th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Songs of Praise

## **The United Reformed Church**

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, (☎ 01747 860685)

Sunday	1st	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	8th	11.00am	Christian Praxis Group
	15th	11.00am	Rev'd Alan Bruce
			Holy Communion
	22nd	11.00am	Margaret Whitford
	29th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie

## **The Methodist Church (☎ 01747 823777)**

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: (☎ 01747 861370)

Sunday	1st	6.00pm	Rev'd David Bridge
			Holy Communion
	8th	6.00pm	Miss Janet Cole

Sunday	15th	6.00pm	Rev'd Helen Caines
	22nd	6.00pm	Dr Geoffrey Tapper
	29th	6.00pm	Mr C James

**The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's. (☎ 01985 212329 – Fr. Bede Rowe)**

Mere Contacts: Mrs T Read, ☎ 01747 860289 or  
Mrs W Richardson, ☎ 01747 861004

Every Friday	10.00am	Mass
Every Sunday	11.30am	Mass

Children's Liturgy Service on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month.

On the 1st Sunday of the month - there will be Coffee after Mass together with the sale of Fairtrade produce.

**West Knoyle Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin (☎ 01747 830534)**

Sunday	1st	9.25am	Matins
	8th	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad.)
	15th	9.25am	DIY Matins
	22nd	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad.)
	29th		No Service – BISON BROWSE CHURCH FETE 11.00am – 3.00pm Bison Farm, West Knoyle

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer

CW1 indicates Common Worship Order 1 (trad. Indicates traditional language)

## DIARY DATES FOR JUNE 2008

2	Mon	6.00pm	Beavers (every Monday)	YC
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	YC
		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council	AYP
4	Wed	6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L

5	Thur	2.00pm	Line Dancing (every Thursday)	GB
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		7.00pm	Guides	L
		7.15pm	Church Meeting	CC
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (every Thursday)	MH
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
6	Fri	6.30pm	Barn Buddies (every Friday)	BSF
7	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC
		<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Church Fete</b>	<b>St Michaels</b>
8	Sun	10.30am	Sunday Club (and 15th, 22nd, and 29th)	GB
9	Mon	8.00pm	MADS (Drama Room)	L
10	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		9.15am	MHS Visit to Berkeley Castle	CP
		3.00pm	Mothers Union	Mere Down Farm
11	Wed	2.00pm	Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
12	Thurs	5.00pm	Rainbows (also 19th and 26th)	GB
12	Thurs	6.15pm	Brownies (also 19th and 26th)	GB
		7.30pm	Guides (also 19th and 26th)	GB
13	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (and 27th)	GB
14	Sat	10.00am	Cancer Research Jumble Sale	L
14	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning, with Traidcraft stall	CC
16	Mon	9.00am	Breast Screening Unit for approx two weeks	CP
		7.00pm	Mere & District Linkscheme AGM	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Film Shows (Definitely Maybe)	L
21	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning + RGC Bric a Brac	CC
22	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group	CP
24	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
25	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
27	Fri	9.30am - 11.30am	Leaping Frogs' Cake Stall	The Square
28	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC

**AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; BSF-Barrow Street Farm; CC-United Reformed Church Centre; CP-Main Car Park; DMS-Duchy Manor School; GB-Grove Buildings; L-Lecture Hall; Lib-Library; Lynch-Lynch Community Centre; MH-Methodist Church Hall; MSC Mere Social Club; YC-Youth Centre**



## ***MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY***

*THE FOLLOWING CLINICS/ADVICE CENTRES ARE HELD ON A REGULAR BASIS*

*CITIZENS' ADVICE:           Tuesdays: 10.30am to 4.00pm  
Private Appointments telephone 01722 327222*

*REGISTRAR                   By appointment only  
OF BIRTHS                   Thursdays: 9.30am to 11.30am  
& DEATHS:                  For appointments telephone 01985 213435*

## **COPY DATE FOR THE COMBINED JULY/AUGUST ISSUE**

Material for the combined July/August 2008 issue should be sent to Graham Avory, Little Tawny, Pettridge Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6DG (tel. 01747 860439) or alternatively handed in at The Information Office, The Library, Mere (in an envelope marked 'MERE MATTERS') before 4.00 pm on **MONDAY, 16th JUNE 2008**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome, but please telephone the Editor for details. Would contributors please add their name and a contact telephone number.

### ***ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:***

***Mrs Jane Kennedy, Ash Tree Cottage,  
Kilmington Common, Kilmington (tel. 01985 844740)***

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