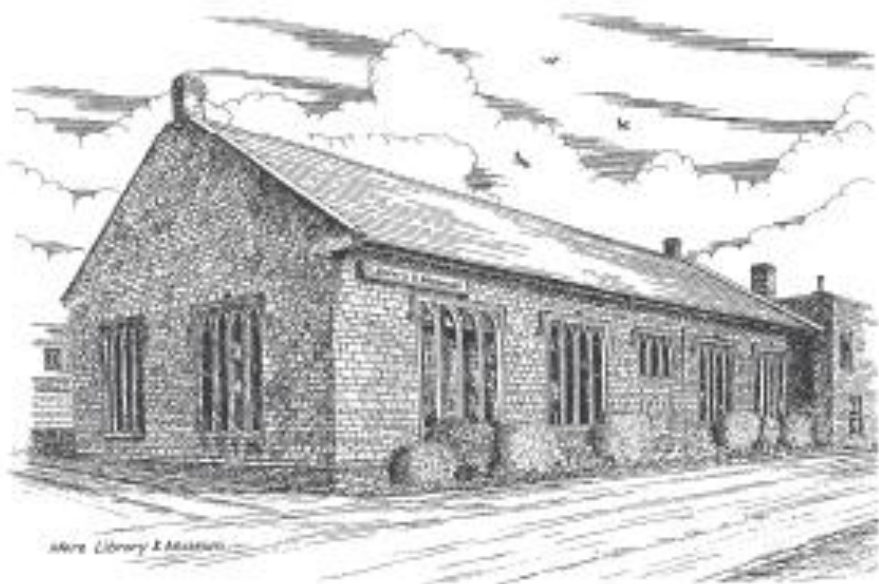


# MERE MATTERS

## AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



**May 2015**

# 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 held in the Andy Young Pavilion **at 7.30pm on Monday, 11th May 2015.**

## **The Chairman writes:**

Discussed at the April meeting was the amount of litter in the grass verges and the dirty street signs. Wiltshire Council will supply visibility jackets and tools to undertake clearing and cleaning these and I know of other parishes who have formed similar clean-up parties. However, Wiltshire Council would insist on the group having insurance and it would be necessary to specify the date of this project, and, whatever the weather, that is the date the job would have to be done. Any individual or group could, however, carry out this job of their own volition informally, but would not receive the jackets and tools etc.

Friday, 8th May 2015 is the 75th anniversary of VE day. With very short notice we have agreed to light a beacon on Castle Hill followed by a firework display. We have, very generously, been given donations towards the cost of the fireworks. Would anyone wishing to donate please contact the Clerk? As ever, health and safety issues come into play with fireworks and we thank Bill Deeker, who is well qualified in these matters, for agreeing to set off the fireworks and helping us.

I am pleased to report that work should start in the next month or so on The Clock Tower. The Public Access Defibrillator at Duchy Manor is now registered with the ambulance service and commissioned for use. We would like to thank the following for their kind and generous donations towards this facility: Mere Parish Council, Mere School, Mere Dental Practice, Youth Football Club, Mere Town (Adult) Football Club, Mere Tennis Club, Mere Bowling Club, Mere Cricket Club, and Mere Community Safety Partnership.

I would like to thank Councillor Eric Mitchell for his volunteer help in dealing with the potholes at the Andy Young Pavilion Car Park. I have received many favourable comments on the well maintained footpaths, so thank you to our excellent Footpath

## **Bourton Gardening Club**

Table Top Sale on Saturday, 13th June 2015 at Bourton Village Hall  
10 am to 12 noon. Refreshments, Cake Stall and Plant Stall. Tables £10  
each. To book please phone Judy on 01747 861121

Group, and also the flower tubs with the lovely tulips this Spring. Thank you to Councillor Clive Hazzard for those.

For information on Parish Council activities, minutes, agendas, contact numbers etc. please refer to the Mere website: [www.merewilts.org](http://www.merewilts.org), e-mail the parish clerk at: [lindseywood@merewilts.org](mailto:lindseywood@merewilts.org) or ☎ 01747 860701

*Lesley Traves, Chairman, Mere Parish Council*

### **From the Parish Clerk**

Allotments – the Parish Council has a number of vacant allotments at Wellhead (North Road) and Southbrook allotment sites. If anyone is interested in having an allotment please contact me.

Mrs. Lindsey Wood, Parish Clerk, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere.  
☎ 01747 860701

## **GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION WRITES:**

The South West Area Board on Wednesday, 3rd June will not now be in the Lecture Hall, Mere, at 2-30pm. It is going to be more central to the board area at Dinton. The meeting is in the afternoon on just this one occasion and Adult Social Care will be the main agenda item. I shall stand down as Chairman of the South West Area Board at the June meeting, as I agreed I would last year, enabling all the board councillors to rotate for a year each.

Wiltshire Council elections are not for two years. As the general election on 7th May draws closer, NFU Mutual, the rural insurer, says home owners have a "duty of care" to ensure political canvassers are safe on their property. Over the past two years, NFU Mutual has paid out over £1 million in claims for dogs biting visitors to rural properties, and it is reminding property owners that whatever their political persuasion, they must ensure that political canvassers are safe on their property. The warning follows the amended Dangerous Dogs Act, which came into effect in England and Wales on 13th May 2014. Perhaps unsurprisingly, postal workers topped the insurer's list of people bitten while visiting homes in the countryside, with delivery drivers, guests and trades people following close behind.

What may surprise people, however, is that politicians face similar risks of being attacked by a dog to postal workers when out canvassing or delivering leaflets.

NFU rural affairs specialist, Nicki Whittaker, said: "Many homes in the countryside have large gardens or areas of land within the curtilage of the property. Unlike in urban areas, where dogs may be confined to the house between walks, rural dogs often have the run of the grounds around the property. This means that postal workers, delivery drivers or enthusiastic political canvassers could find themselves confronted by a dog long before they reach the front door."

Ms Whittaker continued: "While dogs account for the majority of incidents involving visitors to rural properties, intrepid canvassers should also be prepared for grumpy geese, angry pheasants and ferocious felines in their pursuit of the countryside vote."

40 tonnes of industrial waste was dumped in a Suffolk country lane, in Walsham-le-Willows, Suffolk, on Thursday, 9 April. The waste, which is described as building material and household waste, was left at the side of the road after being unloaded by a tractor and trailer. The Police and the Environment Agency were at the scene the following day to clear the mess. I mention this offence to highlight to you, (the Police are mentioned above), that fly-tipping is a criminal not just a civil offence. Note the incident occurred as a change in the law will make it easier for authorities to seize and destroy vehicles belonging to fly-tippers. The Control of Waste (Dealing with Seized Property) Regulations 2015 for England and Wales broadens the range of offences for which a vehicle can be seized. It also removes the need for a warrant to be obtained before seizure, and sets out the circumstances under which the enforcement authority may sell or destroy seized property. I understand waste fly-tipped rubbish in our area is now being weighed and monitored at Churchfields, Salisbury.

Although keeping the country side clear is to be commended, it must be mentioned the numerous laws created such as the one above, need using with common sense. We often hear of the unintended consequences of a regulation or law. Several residents in the area have received a demand from Wiltshire Council for £50 and a threat of a criminal prosecution: for example, cleaning out a car, putting a few cartons etc. into a public waste bin. If you have been affected, I am sorry that this has happened to you. I have fought some of these genuine cases of injustice regarding fly-tipping and won.

Where public local waste is stored and also the vehicle this public waste has been transported in, have been called into question locally. I have spoken to Wiltshire Council Officers about it. I have always known councillors at any level should not give instructions to council workers and contractors, however when required to explain situations such as the former, without giving instruction I have always considered this to be reasonable. I tried to contact the contractors BBLP without success. The Landscape Group contracted by BBLP from the 1st April are now collecting fly-tipped waste. BBLP have contracted The Landscape Group, who will also operate the Wiltshire Street Scene function encompassing most grass cutting and other community services.

Mere Parish Council will probably need to pay, at a minimum, for 17 out of 37 bins in the town to be emptied now, which will further increase the precept and hence local householder's community charge. Dog excrement can be put in these bins and hence one reason why they need to be emptied regularly. I still support the retention of our local public waste bins. Dog excrement for one reason, if not picked up can cause a child to lose its sight. Our bins, I am sure, encourage some to pick up litter that might

not otherwise be removed. Remember you must not use public litter bins as household waste bins.

20mph speed limits are only affordable in general if the average speed is below 24 mph. Should the average speed be higher and a 20mph zone is required, these cost often over £100,000 to create. The South West Area Board had proposed to pay for two limits across the area per year, but this is now in doubt this year. For one reason our area board now has to pay from one to several thousands of pounds for each study. 20mph limits have to be self enforcing as a general rule. 20mph limits outside schools are paid for centrally at present, therefore Zeals may qualify for one outside of Whitesheet School.

I mentioned last month that Universal Credit began in Wiltshire on 16th March 2015, following an announcement by the Wessex branch of the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP). Initially this is for single claimants. Universal Credit (UC) is the latest national welfare benefit which will eventually replace six other benefits provided by the DWP and HMRC. UC will eventually replace Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance; Income based Employment Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit and Housing Benefit. New claimants and existing claimants have questioned the difference in the prose describing the two types of benefit. Those wishing to apply for council tax reduction, need apply to Wiltshire Council. Those applying for housing benefit now, will apply to Job Centre Plus (DWP) who will also deal with a single payment, which includes housing benefit, excluding council tax reduction if required. Those already on Job Seekers allowance, will still receive their housing benefit from Wiltshire Council. Simple!

Our South West Wiltshire Area Board budget allocation for 2015/2016 has now been announced as mentioned last month. Further detail I can now give and understand to be correct, £56,976 for Discretionary Capital for Community Grants for those who would like to apply and local priorities derived from a Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA). The JSA is formed as a result of, but not exclusively, a Special South West Wiltshire Area Board meeting. £1,500 towards Capital Digital Literacy, £17,079 for CATG (limited local highway projects), £4,065, for, 11 to 19 annual youth funding. Youth review revenue, introduced since traditional youth club funding was withdrawn, £13,899 making a grand total of £93,519.

Superfast Broadband is now live in Mere and on or ahead of time . I have ordered mine and so have others I know. Openreach have done well. I hope now people will avail themselves of it and upgrade, when possible. There are many areas still in Wiltshire, and indeed the whole country that cannot obtain a fast broadband connection.

Wiltshire, being responsible for public health, had a display at County Hall which caught my attention. Button batteries are the small, round batteries you find in toys and

everyday appliances like calculators and remote controls. They can be extremely dangerous for children, and if swallowed, can kill within a matter of hours.

Button batteries aren't just a choking risk. If a button battery gets stuck in the throat or gullet this can trigger the electrical charge they carry and create caustic soda (the chemical used to unblock drains!). This can burn a hole through the throat and lead to serious internal bleeding and death. I have now displayed a poster in the town highlighting the seriousness of such an accident..

Remember , Tuesday, 16th June. Magna Carta celebrations in Salisbury Cathedral Grounds. Our South West Area Board will have a Baron in place amongst those from around Wiltshire.

**Merrell's Mobile Foot Health Clinic.**

**For the professional treatment of:** Corns ● Callus/Hard Skin ● Nail Trimming ● Fungal & Thickened Nails ● Athletes Foot ● In growing toenails ● Qualified to treat diabetics and those taking Warfarin and steroids ● Massage given to make your feet feel fitter in the comfort of your own home. **Contact Mary on 07809 738237**

# PARTIAL ROAD CLOSURE IN MAY

## B3092 Mere to Frome

Wiltshire Council give notice that the B3092 will be closed for at least six weeks from 5th May for bridge works at the county border with Somerset.

The bridge is on the B3092 north of Maiden Bradley, 50 metres south of where Forest Road joins the B3092 from the Horningsham direction.

The prescribed diversionary route is Via B3092 (unaffected length) - A361 - A362 - A36 - A350 - B3089 - A303 - B3092 (unaffected length) and vice versa.

For further information please contact me at Wiltshire Council

*Julian Haines* ☎ 01225 713225



## MERE NEEDS NEW FIREFIGHTERS

If you live or work in Mere and are interested in becoming an on-call firefighter, then Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service would like to hear from you!

More people are needed to provide fire cover for the parish and surrounding villages. On-call firefighters respond to a pager when Fire Control requires their attendance at an incident – contracted hours can vary, but personnel usually make themselves available for between 48 and 120 hours every week. Between them, each fire station team will provide cover for weekdays, evenings, nights and weekends.

Anyone interested in finding out more about becoming a firefighter in Mere can visit the fire station in White Road for a special 'have a go' recruitment evening on Wednesday, 27th May between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Watch Manager Richard Pester said: "The easiest way to see if being a firefighter is for you is to visit the fire station, have a chat with the crew and try your hand at different things, so we're inviting potential recruits to come along and take a look around".

He added: "On-call firefighters receive the same training and development as wholetime colleagues, and we can be called to all manner of emergencies, including fires, road traffic collisions, animal rescues and flooding. The pay does vary, depending on how much cover you give, but it is fantastically rewarding to be a part of your community and to be in a position to help people".

In order to be on-call, you will need to be able to respond to the fire station in around five minutes once your pager goes off. This can be from home or work, and employers can benefit from a firefighter's training – such as first aid, manual handling, a greater understanding of health and safety in the workplace, and enhanced team spirit.

## Contact Details

If you are interested in being a firefighter in Mere, but can't call in on 27th May, visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/workingforus](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/workingforus) - alternatively, contact me:

WM Pester ☎ 07970 059301

## BECOME A CARING AMBASSADOR

Carer Support Wiltshire are looking for volunteers to become local carer ambassadors to help Carer Support Wiltshire support more people providing unpaid care and support to a family member or friend.

If you could help us reach more of the carers living in your area, please give me a ring at Carer Support Wiltshire on the number below, or ✉ [info@carersinwiltshire.co.uk](mailto:info@carersinwiltshire.co.uk). Alan Docherty ☎ 01380 871690

## S T O P

### **DON'T MOVE ON!! thinking this is nothing of interest to you!!**

Please take a moment to do just that.....think! – are you having difficulty with hearing as you once did? – or do you know someone who is?

People might be having to be asked to repeat what they've said.....or there's a lot more 'volume' to someone's voice.....or feeling frustrated, irritable, frightened, annoyed on a regular basis ..... or times and dates are being missed because of being 'mis-heard'.....or it's easier just not to go out or be with others.....or be involved in things previously involved in and enjoyed.....??

Coming along to the LIP READING AND MANAGING HEARING LOSS Group can help! You'll meet others who have been in the same position and have found that knowing how to lip read and some things to do to manage hearing loss can really, really help.

Pop in to meet us on Tuesday mornings at 10.15am – 12.15pm – session dates are: 5th, 12th and 19th May; 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th June and 7th July in the Grove Building – you'll be made very welcome.

There's also a leaflet that can be sent to you by e-mailing Sheila Thomson: [SheilaT@Bishopstrow.org.uk](mailto:SheilaT@Bishopstrow.org.uk) or call/text ☎ 07760-731406. If you can't make Tuesday mornings, enquire about a session at Gillingham, from 2.00-4.00pm.



## **Mere Dental Practice**

*The practice has three Dentists: Stephen Sherrard,  
Christopher Davies and Mishari Al-Dhafeeri.*

*It also has Dental Therapists Wendy Hester & Jay Lonsdale.*

*Contact Details: - Mere Dental Practice, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road,  
Wiltshire, BA12 6EW, ☎ 01747 860365,*

*E-mail: [meredental@btconnect.com](mailto:meredental@btconnect.com), Website: [meredentistry.co.uk](http://meredentistry.co.uk),*

*Opening hours: - Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 5.30pm,*

*Tuesday 8.45am - 7pm & Friday 8.45am -5pm*



*The practice is sited in the grounds of Mere Primary School, first building  
on your left when you go through the school*

## **ARE YOU A CARER?**

### **Come to our Carers' Cafe**

Do you help or support a partner, child, relative, friend, or neighbour who could not manage without your help? Caring is not easy and you may have unanswered questions regarding care. Why not come along and meet other carers and discuss your problems over a cup of tea or coffee. Our new Carers' Support Café meets every second Monday of the month at the Angel Tea Rooms in Mere's main square.

**Our next meeting will be on Monday, 11th May from 10.30am - 12.00noon.**

If you would like more information on The Carers' Support Café and carers support contact your Local Wiltshire Good Neighbour, Ann-Marie Dean ☎ 07557 922023



## AN INVITATION FROM PENNYBANK WRITERS

Want to enter this year's Mere Poetry Competition?  
Searching for ideas and/or inspiration?  
Not sure how to get started? To rhyme or not to rhyme?  
Need friendly advice and encouragement?

Then come to the May meeting of PennyBank Writers when writing poetry will be the topic for the evening.

WEDNESDAY, 27th MAY 7.00pm in the METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Free Open Evening Refreshments available.

*PennyBank Writers – Mere & District Writing Group* 📞 01747 860475

## MERE CANCER RESEARCH

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Stars Appeal fete and came to our stall under the clock tower and purchased Magic Sunny Flowers - we raised an amazing £145.00!

Our next big event is the biggie - yes its May Fayre time on Saturday, 16th May. Please see our ad for more details. This event is our major fundraiser of the year and all the funds raised go to help research into beating cancer. Cancer Research UK target by 2025 is to help 3 in 4 people survive cancer, and last year we spent £362m on research towards this aim - and it all comes from your generosity - so a big thank you from all at Cancer Research.

See you all on the 16th - sunshine has been booked!

As a committee we are always looking for more helpers, donations of good quality Bric a Brac, tombola and raffle prizes, man shed contents, garden items & baked goodies to sell, and also any new fund-raising ideas. If you can help with any of these please contact us in one of the following ways: ✉: [mercancerresearch@mail.com](mailto:mercancerresearch@mail.com) or ring me at the number below. We also have a Facebook page – Mere Cancer Research - where you will find all our up to date news and forthcoming events.

*Penny Fennon* 📞 07833 131712

## MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS

Interest in the club continues to grow as a result of the successful Wessex Association of Model Railway Clubs Easter show at Sherborne. This time of year tends to be the one when our Garden Railway members check their layouts and invite the club to running afternoons. Our summer programme will also include visits to West Somerset Railway, Swanage Railway, and Seaton Tramway, as well as many other related activities.

On Saturday, 30th May, we will hold our official Opening Day so that those guests who have supported us can see the final outcome of our labours. This will include our modest new workshop facility.

The club is looking forward to the forthcoming Exhibition on the weekend of 20th/21st June in the Lecture Halls. It should be noted that the Indoor Flea Market only happens in the Lecture Halls when there are no other functions, and that the advertisement on page 30 of April Mere Matters is misleading. *Tom Snook ☎ 01747 861977*

## **MERE CARNIVAL Fundraising Events**

### **QUIZ**

**Tuesday, 19th May in the Grove Building**

**7.45pm start      £2.00 per person**

**Teams of 4 - or come along and we can put you in a team**

**Raffle and Refreshments**

### **BEETLE DRIVE**

**Friday, 5th June in the Grove Building**

**7.00pm start - Fun for all the family**

**Adults £2.00      Accompanied children £1.00**

**Cash Prizes/Raffle/Refreshments available**

*Carol Payne, Mere Carnival Committee, ☎ 01747 861639*



## **CHANGES AT SOUTH WILTSHIRE CREDIT UNION**

At its recent AGM, South Wiltshire Credit Union announced a number of changes which will affect those saving or borrowing through the Credit Union in Mere.

- The operating name of the Credit Union has changed and is now Wiltshire Savings and Loans, a name which more accurately tells everyone what the Credit Union is all about.
- The dividend for the last year was confirmed as 1.5% per annum.
- Wiltshire Savings and Loans, like all Credit Unions, was set up as a local organisation to provide an alternative to high interest loans, and loans are now offered at the following rates:

- £0 - £1,499                      2.0% per month (26.8 apr)
- £1,500 - £5,000                1.5% per month (19.6% apr)
- £5,001 - £15,000               1.0% per month (12.7% apr)

Alternatively, borrowers may like to consider a cashback loan, which for a slightly higher but still very competitive rate of interest, allows borrowing of up to £500, and which, as long as repayments are met on schedule, gives 10% of its value invested into a savings account. Great to get over that unexpected expense, while starting to put something away for the next rainy day!

People wishing to use the services of Wiltshire Savings and Loans can speak to local friendly staff in strictest confidence **every Saturday morning at Mere Library** between 10 and 11 am. All staff are CRB checked and have signed up to the Credit Union's Confidentiality Policy, ensuring that your business remains your business.

### For further information

Please contact Brett Norris ☎ 01747 860817 or visit our dedicated website: **[www.wiltshiresavingsandloans.org.uk](http://www.wiltshiresavingsandloans.org.uk)** or do come and see us in the Library for help and queries regarding your investments or borrowing.



**T@3**

### Community Tea Party



The next opportunity to join us for tea will be Wednesday, 20th May. The venue as usual will be the Angel Tea Rooms, and the timing of course 3.00pm.

Seating is limited at the Tea rooms, so if you would like to attend the May tea party please contact Wiltshire Good Neighbour Ann-Marie Dean on ☎ 07557922023 no later than the morning of Monday, 18th May.

*Wiltshire Good Neighbours helping you to access the services you need to live a safe, comfortable and independent life*

### MAY SHORT WALK

Our next short walk is on Wednesday, 6th May . It is bluebell time again, and this month's walk will take us through the Bluebell Woods. Last year they were spectacular so hopefully they will be again.

Meet at 2.00pm in the Salisbury Street Car Park and join us for tea in the Angel Tea rooms afterwards.

*Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884*

## **MERE R S P C A**

### **Ashley Heath, near Ringwood**

The open day held last September made a profit of almost £6,000. Pete and I ran a Tombola at the open day making £350.

We will be running one again this year and if anybody has any suitable prizes, they will be gratefully received.  
*Pete and Sue Howell ☎ 01747 860623*

## **MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)**

After a very busy four weeks of rehearsal for the Woolstore One Act Play Festival, we are delighted to report that MADS' entry of the play 'Gold Braid and Cap Badge', written and directed by our own Adrienne Howell won two awards; Best Actress for Juliet Booth in the part of Daisy, and Best Original Script for Adrienne Howell. The play was performed again in the Lecture Hall on 25th April to enable supporters in Mere to see what they had heard so much about. Many congratulations to both Juliet and Adrienne.

But MADS does not rest on its laurels! Play readings are now being arranged to decide on a play for their Autumn Production in November, and the first two of these will take place on Tuesday, 26th and Thursday, 28th May at 7.30pm in the Lecture Hall Green Room. All are welcome, so if you would like to take part in the play itself, or just the readings, come along to them.

### **MADS A.G.M.**

MADS Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday, 11th May in the Small Hall of the Lecture Hall at 7.30pm. New members are very welcome to come along to hear more of MADS activities, and our Treasurer will be happy to take subscriptions from members! Coffee will be available from 7.15pm. Come and join us!

*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

## **SHREEN HARMONY**

We are now well into our rehearsals for the summer concerts. Choir nights are always an enjoyable evening and you feel so good when you raise the roof in song! We are learning some beautiful songs, some well known, some new and even one in Norwegian, and that takes some doing!!

We have several concerts arranged for the summer, and it would be good to have your support. We would also welcome new members in all parts. Just come along one Thursday evening, 7.30 p.m. in the United Reform Church and see how you feel – no obligation. Just give me a call on the number below and I will give you any more details you might need.

## **Concert dates are as follows:-**

Thursday, 21st May 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church in Gillingham in aid of Alzheimer's. We also have a concert at West Knoyle on Thursday, 16th July and in Marnhull on Saturday, 18th July - details to follow.

*Sandra Fisher* ☎ 01747 861980

## **WINCANTON CHORAL SOCIETY 25th Anniversary Concert**

Celebrating its 25th Anniversary, the Wincanton Choral Society is singing a Commemoration of WW1 on Sunday, 17th May 2015 in the Wincanton Leisure Centre.

The performance will start with the Orchestra playing something many Radio 4 listeners will remember, the Radio 4 UK Theme Tune, a brilliant mish-mash of British popular songs.

The performance will include the 'Spirit of England', Elgar's last choral work, which he was inspired by Laurence Binyon's famous post-war poetry. An inspiring and thought-provoking choral piece, 'Spirit of England' is a very powerful piece of music, and deserves to be much better known.

'Songs of the Fleet' by Stanford was written to celebrate the accession in 1910 of a new King (George V), who was a Navy man. It is a light-hearted piece written by and for people with a love of the sea and with pride in the Royal Navy.

Our musical director, S.K. Twistelton, was commissioned to write a choral piece for the anniversary performance. The choir will sing his very moving piece 'Argument of His Book, based on a beautiful Finnish poem, written for Tenor (Paul Bradley) and Baritone (Philip Smith) soloists, SATB c01749 813899 choir and orchestra.

Tickets for the performance are available from ☎ 01749 813899 or from the Box Office: **www.netaticket.co.uk**. Prices are £14.00 in advance, if bought by 11th May, £15.00 on the door with under 18s at £7.00 at any time.

There is a licensed bar. *Philip Schofield, Secretary, WCS* ☎ 01749 813899

## **MERE FILM SHOWS**

'**The Theory of Everything**' (12A) is our film on Thursday, 14th May and probably needs no introduction as so much has been said and reported about it. It is the extraordinary story of Jane and Stephen Hawking for which Felicity Jones was Oscar

nominated, and Eddie Redmayne won the Oscar for Best Actor. Full details are on page 24.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

Thursday, 11th June – ‘**Still Life**’: a British comedy with British actors!

### **Distribution of Funds**

This year Mere Film Shows is once again able to invite applications for the distribution of its accumulated funds from organisations in Mere that are currently fundraising or are in need of funds for a particular purpose.

To this end, and with the agreement of Mere parish Council, such organisations are invited to apply in writing for a share of these funds, giving brief details of their activities and requirements. Letters should be addressed to Mrs. Mary White, c/o Mere Parish Council, The Parish Office, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere, BA12 6EW to arrive by Friday, 12th June please.

*Mary White ☎ 01747 861257*

## **MERE GARDENING CLUB**

**Shreen River**

**Ian Sheppard, Mere Rivers Group**

**Wednesday, 13th May 7.30pm Grove Building**

Many of you will know Ian who lives in Mere. He will be talking about Mere's chalk streams, and the work of the Rivers group. **£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome.**

*Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884*

### **WHAT DID WE FIND AT WILLOUGHBY HEDGE?**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES ON THE  
WESSEX WATER PIPELINE**

**A Talk by Peter Cox (Director, A/C Archaeology)**

7.00 pm, 9th May 2015

All Saints Church, Chicklade

Tickets £6.00, including glass of wine and nibbles, in advance from Fiona Stanton (☎ 01747 820 303), or on the door

Organised by the Friends of Chicklade Church



## **MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Peter Platt-Higgins was our speaker last month talking about his involvement in the London Eye. He described how the project

came from the brainchild of two architects who created the concept, but without any planning permission, funding or possible builder. Fortunately an international Civil Engineering company embraced the idea and put together a small development team who managed to overcome the many planning objections of all the London Boroughs plus several individual objectors. A chance encounter with the Chief Executive of British Airways resulted in financial backing from the airline.

Madame Tussaud's became the first operator, and the major engineering component, the wheel's central hub was manufactured and guaranteed by Skoda. Peter explained how the "Millennium Wheel" became the "London Eye" and how the iconic London attraction originally planned for a five year operation, is still thrilling the visitors fifteen years later and hopes to be still around in 2025.

We also enjoyed our monthly morning get together at the Angel Tea Room and a games afternoon along with a lunch at the Orchard Park Garden Centre.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 7th May at 7.30pm in the Grove Building. We will be having a discussion on the Nation Federation of Womens Institute Resolution for their AGM taking place in London on the 4th June, on "Failing to Care - Assessment of need in long-term care." This calls on HM government to remove the distinction between nursing care and personal care in the assessment of the needs of individuals, in order to advance health and wellbeing. It would be good if all members could read page 24 of your April WI Life magazine prior to the meeting as this outlines many of the points to be considered. After a short discussion you will be asked to either vote for or against the resolution. Please feel free to join us, especially if you have any views on this subject. You would be very welcome and we would value your input. The vote will be followed by an in-house activity and refreshments. A chance to meet other members and have a chat.

Also in May there is a Group Meeting in Sutton Veny, which will feature a talk on Cambodia, and we are having a tour around the Shakespeare Glass Blowing Factory in Langport followed by lunch.

*Janet Fisher* 📞 01747 861323





## **MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP**

Very many thanks to everyone who came, and everyone who helped with our Easter Holidays Fun Afternoon on 1st April, which was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The subject of this month's meeting, John and Charles Wesley – Then and Now, pays tribute to the fact that 'Wesley Day' takes place in May, and that we now have two Methodist MU Members, one of whom, Mary Siderfin, is our speaker. Charles Wesley's hymns include many that are still favourites today, and the influence of the two brothers on Christian life and commitment remains strong in this country and further afield. Every one is welcome to join us at 2.30pm on Tuesday, 12th May in the Grove Building  
*Judith Thompson, MU Branch Leader, ☎ 01747-860553*

## **ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (RGC) for the over 60s**

**Mere and District Day Centre, Lynch Close, Mere  
Mondays and Fridays 10.30am to 3.00pm**

After announcing a full rota of volunteers in the March issue of Mere Matters, it seems that I obviously spoke too soon! Sue Syrette has decided to leave as session volunteer, and we are all going to miss her very much. Thank you Sue for everything you have done. I am on the lookout for a new volunteer to do either one or two Mondays each month, please give me a call if you are interested.

We will be taking our guests to Weymouth again this Year and have started organising the trip for **Monday, 15th June**. As usual, we hire a coach and will have spare seats. If you fancy a day trip to the seaside please ring me to secure your place. Same price as the last couple of Years - only £10!

Don't forget the RGC is having a 'Call my Bluff' fundraiser on Saturday, 9th May at 7:30pm in the Grove building. Tickets are still available at Mere Information point or by calling Chris Dillon ☎ 01747 823088 or Pat Gear ☎ 01747 860320 and cost £6 to include a buffet supper and glass of wine. Please come along for what promises to be a fun evening and support your local Day Centre. ([www.MereDayCentre.org.uk](http://www.MereDayCentre.org.uk))

*Sandie Hawkins, RGC Organiser ☎ 07835 272406*

## MERE MUSEUM

The first 'Wiltshire at War' travelling exhibition, '**The Call to Arms**' is now open for viewing. It is the first of five such exhibitions which will visit Mere during the next four years. Mere photos and anecdotes form a part of the present show - do make sure you see it. It is here for just 3 weeks.

The next major exhibition is about **Frederick Holmes**, the Mere Photographer. We last investigated him and his work nine years ago, but a huge amount of new material has recently been uncovered about his life, and we have acquired more, previously unknown photographs by him, so the new exhibition will show him in a new light. The exhibition will be called '**What the Butler Saw**', and to find out how this title relates to Holmes, make sure you come to the exhibition! It will open to the public on **Tuesday, 19th May** and will continue until early October. Do you have a photograph of Frederick Holmes? If so we would love to hear from you! *Jenny Wilding* ☎ 01747 860908

## THE FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

There are two Friends events this month. First, there is our annual **Plant Sale** which will take place in the Grove Buildings on **Saturday, 9th May** at 10.00am in the Grove Building.

We shall warmly welcome donations of **plants** and **cakes**. Please bring these to the Grove Building on the Saturday morning at 9.00am. If you would prefer us to collect, please phone Jenny (number below) or ✉ [meremuseum@btinternet.com](mailto:meremuseum@btinternet.com) . As always, it is the early bird that gets the worm, so make sure you're there on the dot of 10.00am!

Then there is also the **Preview Evening** for the New Exhibition called '**What the Butler Saw**', about Frederick Holmes (see above) on **Monday, 18th May at 6.30pm**. In response to several requests, we are introducing an **Afternoon Event** on **Wednesday, 20th May at 2.30pm** especially for Friends who are unable to attend the Preview. Tea and cake will be served and the Curator will give a tour of the exhibition.

*Jenny Wilding* ☎ 01747 860908

## GROVE BUILDINGS "100 CLUB"

The Result of the '100' Club Draw for April 2015, drawn on Monday, 6th April by Mrs Firmin, was:

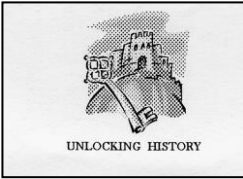
1st Prize (£20) -	No. 208	Mrs Lawson Smith
2nd Prize (£15) -	No. 196	Mrs Fisher
3rd Prize (£10) -	No. 41	Mrs Moore
4th Prize (£5) -	No. 149	Mrs Gristwood

*Valerie Ransley* ☎ 01747 860964

### **Ad Hoc Chorale Concert 6.30pm 16th May St Martins Church Zeals. £8**

"A programme of music, for the Ad Hoc Chorale, to match the restored 1866 William Sweetland Organ". Concert starts at 6.30. The proceeds to Christian Aid and Friends of St Martins. Tickets from:

✉ [dajcorbin@gmail.com](mailto:dajcorbin@gmail.com) or at the door.



# MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

with Mere Theatre Club

## Theatre Royal, Bath and American Museum

Thursday, 14th May 2015

This visit is now fully booked.

**Leaves Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.30am  
and return by 6.00pm**

Cost: MHS & MTC Members £22, non-members £25 per person -  
***Includes coach and tip, guided tour and museum entrance fee.***

\*\*\*\*\*

## Beaulieu Palace House, Abbey and National Motor Museum

Tuesday, 16th June 2015

Includes a guided tour of Palace House, home of the Montagu family, "a rejoinder to all who find stately homes bloodless and impersonal", comments Simon Jenkins. The ruins of Beaulieu Abbey, founded in 1204 by Cistercian monks. The carefully restored cloisters and dormitories have been converted as part of an exhibition about monastic life. The world famous National Motor Museum, home to a stunning collection of automobiles, tells the history of motoring through to modern rally and F1 Grand Prix cars.

There is a restaurant, a coffee shop and picnic tables with an undercover area

**Leaves Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.15am and return by  
around 6.30pm**

Cost: MHS Members £27, non-members £30 per person  
**Includes coach and tip, tour and entrance to all attractions.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Booking forms are available at Mere Library**

\*\*\*\*\*

**[www.merehistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.merehistoricalsociety.org.uk)**

\*\*\*\*\*

***For more details on these visits, please ring me***

***Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797***

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA  
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MERE PARISH COUNCIL  
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# 'The Theory of Everything'

(12A)

Eddie Redmayne    Felicity Jones

His mind changed our world.  
Her love changed his.  
The extraordinary story of Jane and Stephen Hawking.

In The Lecture Hall  
Thursday, 14th May, at 7.30pm  
(Doors open 7.00pm)

TICKETS £6.00  
Available from The Library

*For more information call Mary White ☎ 01747 861257  
Visit our website at [www.moviola.org](http://www.moviola.org)*



# Mere School Reports

## Art Week

### Blue Class

The children spent the week making Easter cards and painting **spring flowers**.

### Yellow Class

The children based all their work during the week on the book 'Fish that could Wish'. They created fish art using finger painting.

### Silver Class

The children looked at comic strips and created their own super hero version of one.

### Gold Class

The children studied the abstract artist Kandinsky and created their own version of his famous 'circles' painting.

### Green Class

The children created their own cartoon faces using the skills taught by the visiting cartoonist. They also painted stunning cityscapes.

### Red Class

The children spent the week studying the South American artist Romero Britto. They created several pieces of art around this theme.

### Purple Class

The children linked their art to their work on Space and illustrated poems about the sun and moon.

### Cartoonist

Each class had a session with local cartoonist Wayne Savage. They really enjoyed developing their drawing skills and created some fantastic cartoon characters.

### Easter Eggs

During the week the children all worked with members of the local church to design an Easter egg which they then hung in the church at our Easter service. We would like to thank all the church volunteers that helped.

### STOP PRESS!

Don't forget to look at our website for more details and pictures of what we have been up to: [www.mereschool.co.uk](http://www.mereschool.co.uk)

## NEWS FROM HINDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

This term at Hindon Primary School, of which West Knoyle is in the catchment area has been very busy and exciting, with many wonderful topic activities and curriculum enrichment trips taking place.

We began the term by celebrating Chinese New Year and learning about the traditions and festivities surrounding this cultural tradition. The children enjoyed baking their own Fortune cookies, making paper lanterns and tasting Chinese food.

World Book day provided the children and staff with an opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters, and activities throughout the day provided opportunities to develop a deeper understanding of writing for an audience.

Our football team represented the school at the Going for Goals tournament at Tisbury Sports Centre. The team were very proud to win the 'Fair Players' cup and demonstrated superb team playing skills!

School trips have enhanced our creative curriculum this term. The older pupils, who are studying the Romans in Britain, visited the Roman Baths and experienced life in Roman times. The younger pupils went to Trowbridge Museum to investigate Houses and Homes in the past and spent the day exploring domestic artefacts.

Our youngest children joined South Hills Nursery for a trip to Pythouse to see new spring lambs. They had a wonderful time. In contrast, our oldest Year 6 pupils enjoyed a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) day at Trowbridge College where they were fascinated to learn about the 1000 MPH Bloodhound car, and to take part in 3D printing!

Outside learning in our Forest School area is an important part of school life at Hindon, and pupils were fortunate to enjoy good weather for their Forest School morning. They made paintbrushes from natural materials and created some artistic pictures from plant paints!

*Amanda Bristow, Hindon Primary School ☎ 01747 820260*

## FRIENDS OF ST. MICHAEL'S

### King James II Coat of Arms, *Part 3*

All the history books will tell you that James II acceded to the throne in **1685**. But his Coat of Arms in the church is clearly dated **1684**. So which is right? The answer is that in a way, they both are.

Until the mid-18th century in this country, the Julian calendar (introduced by Julius Caesar), was in general use. However this particular way of computing days and months in the year generated a number of discrepancies and difficulties, and in the 16th century, during the papacy of Pope Gregory XIII, modifications were devised, and the resulting calendar, known as the Gregorian calendar, was gradually adopted

throughout the world. It was adopted in this country in **1752**. The relevant point for our particular discrepancy is that whereas the Julian year began on **25th March**, the Gregorian year begins on **1st January**. James II came to the throne in February, i.e. before the end of the Julian year, 1684. When converted, retrospectively, to the Gregorian way of counting, February 1684 falls in 1685. *More next month!*

*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MERE AND DISTRICT**

### **Hustings Report**

I suspect that you have all had your fill of electioneering in the media. There was a terrific turn-out for the Hustings, by the way. Thank you for supporting it. But don't give up quite yet. We are counting down the days to the General Election. Stay focussed, even if you are as uncertain, as I and which party to vote for. Please vote. The right of every adult person to vote was a hard won right and should not be squandered on indifference or indecision. If you feel that you can't make a good choice then it is better to spoil your ballot paper by writing on it "None of the above" than not bothering to turn up all to vote.

Church organisations of every denomination have sent out useful information but have been careful not to be directive about our personal choices of party. This is a democracy and we are free to vote as our consciences direct. That is why we have a secret ballot. One of the most useful and helpful comments I found was this, "A good society is a place where we don't just care about the present but learn from the past and prepare a better place for future generations". This could apply to housing, welfare, health the environment and the economy.

May God guide you with your decision.

Best wishes, *Chris Gilbert, Chair, CTM&D ☎ 01747 860179*

### **Lent Lunches**

These were a great success this year with an average of 35 people especially enjoying the home-made soup and friendly company. We raised the fantastic amount of £589.25 over the 5 weeks, which will be shared between the work of CAFOD and Christian Aid.

I would like to thank everyone from all our Churches who helped to make them such a success - the soup makers and servers, the washer-uppers, the table servers, those who set the tables up and everyone who supported them.

*Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884*

**REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE JUNE2015 ISSUE**

**MONDAY, 11th MAY 2015**



## THE REV'D PAUL ARNOLD, METHODIST CHURCH MINISTER, WRITES:



### Christian Aid Week 2015 10th - 16th May

It may not get the big budget TV coverage like 'Red Nose Day' or 'Children in Need', but every year '**Christian Aid Week**' continues to be one of the biggest fund raising events in our country. Millions of pounds are raised by ordinary folk – some people hold special events and take part in mad sponsored activities (!), but many are happy to simply go house-to-house with the familiar little red envelopes asking for a contribution. It is estimated that approximately 100,000 volunteers will take part in one way or another this year which is a fantastic achievement.

Once again this year from 10th - 16th May, churches the length and breadth of Britain and Ireland will come together to pray, campaign and raise money to improve the lives of some of the poorest and most disadvantaged people in our world community – and that includes us in Mere too! The desire is to demonstrate God's love for the disadvantaged and marginalised by offering practical assistance in response to hunger, poverty or emergency and also to do all that is possible to tackle some of the underlying factors that work against the weakest in the world, such as trade justice, climate change and debt.

Last year just over £12 million was raised during Christian Aid Week, which is a considerable amount of money; however, this represents only 13% of Christian Aid's total income – so the resources are great, but so is the need. Christian Aid uses the money we give well - for every pound that is raised, 86p goes directly into fighting poverty; another 13p goes back into information and fundraising, so the next pound can be raised. Just 1p goes on administration costs.

Another major factor that gives me confidence is that Christian Aid does not rush into situations telling others what to do and assuming 'we' know what is best for 'you'. Instead Christian Aid takes great care in choosing partner organisations who know local situations and communities whether it's tackling HIV in Zambia, rebuilding homes in Gaza, or providing food in West Africa for communities struggling because of the Ebola outbreak.

Christian Aid Week reminds me that God loves the world so much, and I am asked to demonstrate that love in practical ways. I hope you will feel able to support Christian Aid and if you want to find out more about the amazing work being done, why not go to: [www.caweek.org](http://www.caweek.org)

Please come along to the special Churches Together service to start Christian Aid Week at **600pm on Sunday, 10th May at the URC Church.** Peace.

PS. If you're willing to help with the door-to-door collection in Mere, or for more information, please get in touch with Judith Thompson ☎ 01747 860553 or Sandra Fisher ☎ 01747 861980 as soon as possible.

## **ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, MERE**

# **Songs of Praise**

**Sunday, 17th May @ 6.00 pm**

Do come along to join us at this informal service of praise and worship and sing favourite hymns chosen and introduced by local people.

## **METHODIST CHURCH NOTES**

### **Mission Sunday**

Mere Methodist Church invites you to join us in fellowship at our Mission Sunday service on 10th May at 6.00pm when the Rev'd Gordon Elford will lead the service at which Russ and Lyn Noble from Africa Inland Mission International will give us news of Southern Sudan. Learn of their literacy work and their plans for the future. The offering will go to help them fund their translation work.

### **Cafe Worship**

Cafe Worship will be on Wednesday, 27th May in the Methodist School room at 11.00am preceded by Coffee. Come and share an hour of relaxation and spiritual uplift.

*Mary Siderfin* ☎ 01747 861370



Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at Holly Cottage, North Road (Alison Beall's house) on Tuesday, 5th May 1030am-12.00noon. Everyone Welcome! An update on Suchana's progress and how the money raised will be used will be available at the coffee morning – or please get in touch: *Judith Thompson* ☎ 01747-860553

# SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

## MAY 2015

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ 01747 861859,

✉ vicar@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Churchwardens: Mrs Elizabeth Howden ☎ 01747 863424

Mr Michael Marsh ☎ 01747 861212

Church Administrator: Ian Treece ☎ 07754 524802

✉ administrator@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

<b>Each Sunday</b>		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
<b>Each Wednesday</b>		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
<b>Each Friday</b>		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
			The Rev'd Carol Wilson Barker has a rest day
Sunday	3rd	10.30am	Family Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong
Tuesday	5th	6.00pm	"Start the Month"
			Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	10th	10.30am	Benefice Rogationtide service at the Bison Farm, West Knoyle
			NO service at St Michaels
	*17th	10.30am	Parish Communion
		6.00pm	Songs of Praise
	24th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	31st	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)

*\*Traidcraft stall after 10.30am service*

### The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	3rd	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
	10th	10.45am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp
		6.00pm	Holy Communion
			Churches Together United Service
			Christian Aid Week
	17th	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Sivyour
	24th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	31st	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie

The Methodist Church (☎ 01747 823777)

**Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: ☎ 01747 861370**

Sunday	3rd	6.00pm	Unitedt Service at Preston Road Methodist Church, Yeovil NO service in Mere
	10th	6.00pm	Mission Sunday Mr & Mrs R Noble - News of Southern Sudan and Literacy work
	17th	6.00pm	Songs of Praise at the Parish Church. no service here
	24th	6.00pm	Rev'd Linda Barriball
	31st	6.00pm	Rev'd Paul Arnold

**The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's**

**Mere Contacts: Margaret Thompson ☎ 01747 860291 or Teresa Read  
☎ 01747 860289**

Every Saturday 5.30pm Mass  
Tea and Cakes will be served after the last Mass of the month.

**WEST KNOYLE**

**The Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin:**

**Priest in Charge: Revd. Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ ☎01747 861859  
✉: vicar@stmichaelsmere.org.uk**

**Churchwardens: Mrs. Jill Randall ☎ 01747 830534  
Mr. Colin Seaford ☎ 01747 830263**

Sunday	3rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
	10th	10.30am	Benefice Rogationtide service at the Bison Farm, West Knoyle NO service at St Maryss
	17th	9.30am	Matins
	24th	9.30am	DIY
	31st	9.30am	Holy Communion

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662  
CW1 indicates Common Worship Order 1 (trad. Indicates traditional language)

# DIARY DATES

## May 2015

**AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; CC-United Reformed Church Centre; CP-Main Car Park; DMS-Duchy Manor School; GB-Grove Building; L-Lecture Hall; Lib-Library; Lynch-Lynch Community Centre; MH-Methodist Church Hall; MSC-Mere Social Club. RMC-Railway Modellers Clubhous1 Fri**

		10.00am	"Open the Book"	GB	
		2.00pm	Mere Duplicate Bridge Club (also 17th & 24th)		GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Gold (every Friday)		L
		6.30pm	Lions Quizz evening		GB
2	Sat	10.00am -	11.00am Mere Credit Union (every Saturday)		Lib
		10.00am	Flea Market (also 9th)		L
		10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning (also 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th)		CC
3	Sun	7.00pm	UKIP Public Meeting		L
4	Mon	10.00am	Chair Based Zumba (every Monday)		L
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (every Monday)		L
		2.00pm	Pilates (every Monday)		GB
		7.30pm	Slimming World (every Monday)		L
5	Tue	10.00am	Card Making		L
		10.15am	Lip Reading (also 12th & 19th)		GB
		12.30pm -	3.30pm Water Colours (every Tuesday)		L
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)		GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (every Tuesday)		L
6	Wed	9.30am	Tai-Chi (every Wednesday)		GB
		10.30am	Tai-Chi - small hall (every Wednesday)		GB
	Wed	2.00pm	May Short Walk		CP
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)		L
		7.00pm	Railway Modellers meeting (every Wednesday)	RMC	
7	Thur	<b>7.00am -</b>	<b>10.00pm General Election Polling Station</b>		<b>L</b>
		10.00am -	11.30am Hearing Aid Clinic	Mere Surgery	
		10.00am -	12.00noon Mere Art Group (every Thursday)		GB
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)		GB
		7.30pm	Womens Institute Meeting		GB
8	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 22nd)		GB
9	Sat	10.00am	Plant Sale - Friends of Mere Museum		GB
		7.30pm	RGC "Call My Bluff"		GB
		7.00pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo		L
10	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk		CP
11	Mon	9.00am	Tiddlers and Toddlers (also 18th)		L

		10.30am	12.00noon Carers Support cafe	Angel Tea Rooms
		6.00pm	Beaver Scouts (also 18th)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (also 18th)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (also 18th)	GB
		7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	AYP
		7.30pm	MADS AGM (small hall)	L
12	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic (also 26th)	MH
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
13	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together Whist	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
14	Thur	2.00pm	Bridge Club (also 21st & 28th)	L
		5.00pm	Girlguiding (also 21st)	GB
		7.30pm	Moviola/Mere Filmshows "Theory of Everything"	L
16	Sat	10.00am	Cancer Research May Fayre	L
		10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
		1.45pm	Friends Together Whist	GB
19	Tue	7.45pm	Mere Carnival Quizz	GB
20	Wed	3.00pm	Community Tea Party	Angel Tea Rooms
23	Sat		Wylde Valley Art Trail (Small Hall until 30th)	L
26	Tue	7.30pm	MADS Play Readings (Green Room)	L
27	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		7.00pm	Pennybank Writers -poetry writing	MH
28	Thur	7.30pm	MADS Play Readings (Green Room)	L
30	Sat	10.00am	Mere Railway Modellers Open Day	RMC

## **BOOKING MEETING HALLS**

Grove Building:

Ian Treece

☎ 07754 524802

Lecture Hall:

Sally Johnson

☎ 01747 861063

Methodist Church Schoolroom

Mary Siderfin

☎ 01747 861370

## **MERE INFORMATION**

For full information on the businesses, organisations, societies, attractions and activities in Mere, together with current and back numbers of "Mere Matters", please visit Mere's own website; [www.merewilts.org](http://www.merewilts.org)

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

The following Clinics/Advice Centres are held on a regular basis

HEALTH MATTERS

ADVICE

Fridays: 2.00 to 4.00pm

MEMORY LOSS

READING GROUP

Wednesdays: 2.30 to 4.00pm

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT

1st Friday: 2.00 to 4.00pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS

**By appointment only** (☎ 0300 0034569)

& DEATHS:

Thursdays: 9.30 to 11.30am

CREDIT UNION

Every Saturday 10.00 – 11.00am

## **COPY DATE FOR JUNE 2015 ISSUE**

Editorial contributions for the June 2015 issue should be sent to Graham Avory, Little Tawny, Pettridge Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6DG (☎: 01747 860439) or alternatively handed in at The Information Office, The Library, Mere (in an envelope marked 'MERE MATTERS') by **4.00 pm on MONDAY, 11th May 2015**.

E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send from Monday, 4th May 2015 onwards to: [editor@merematters.co.uk](mailto:editor@merematters.co.uk)

Would ALL contributors, however they provide copy, please **add their name and a contact telephone number to ensure inclusion.**

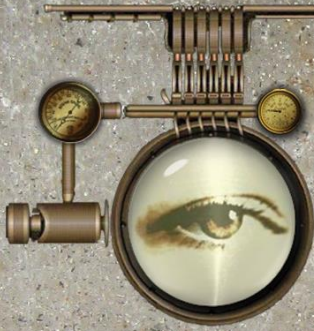
## **ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:**

**Mrs Jane Kennedy**

✉: [jane.kennedy83@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.kennedy83@btinternet.com)

☎: 01985 844740

The picture on the front cover is by kind permission of Dr Colin Anderson



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