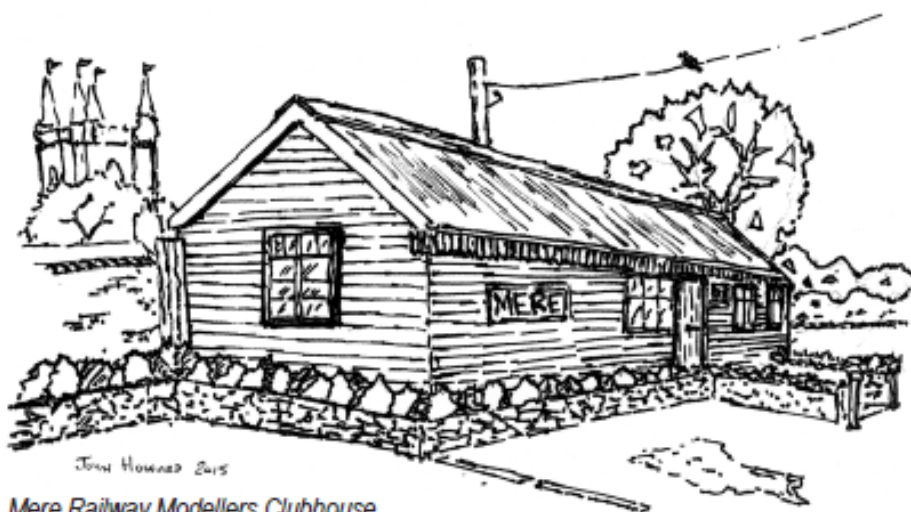


MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

**YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS**



JUNE 2016



St Michael's Church, Mere



Annual Church Fete

Saturday 11 June 2016, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

We will be celebrating the Queen's official 90th birthday so why not come in fancy dress; you could be a king, a queen, a knight and his lady, a handsome prince or a beautiful princess.

Come and enjoy a demonstration by the Dogwise Team, music by the Gillingham Junior Silver Band, Teddy Parachuting, results for the children's colouring competition and a visit from our local firemen!

There will be lots of children's activities including Splat the Rat, a Coconut Shy, Soft Toy Tombola and Hook the Duck.

The Butt of Sherry stall will be selling hot dogs and burgers, and there will be ice cream, candy floss and cakes & teas.

Not forgetting the stalls: bottle tombola, bric a brac, cakes, preserves, plants, books, DVDs, handicrafts and jewellery.

Super raffle prizes will be drawn including tickets for the Swanage Railway, Wincanton Races, Stourhead, Fleet Air Arm Museum, Tank Museum and Abbotsbury Swannery and lots of other prizes kindly donated by local businesses. Tickets are on sale in the Town Square on Saturday 28th May and 4th June and, of course, at the fete.

For donation of cakes for the tea room, please phone
01747 861065 or 01747 863324.

MERE TOWN COUNCIL

The Town 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, 6th June 2016**.

The Chairman writes:

On the evening of the 21st April about thirty people met to light the Beacon on Castle Hill to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. I would like to thank the volunteers, councillors and staff for making this event possible. The Queen's official birthday will be celebrated on Saturday, 11th June. The Town Council will mark the event with a firework display on Castle Hill. We have gratefully received donations from parishioners and businesses to help. However we are still short of the sum needed, remember the more money we can get, the better the fireworks!

At the annual parish meeting held on the 27th April we received some inspiring reports from representatives of the various organisations that make our community so vibrant and lively. The expansion proposals for the Doctors Surgery were discussed and concerns were raised about the potential loss of parking spaces in the car park. The matter of the traffic management and modifications to the yellow lines was raised. A member of the community expressed his frustration and asked why the modifications have not yet been implemented. He stated that this was discussed at the last annual parish meeting and nothing has happened. I replied that this is a very slow process but can assure you that the Town Council are not the ones dragging their heels.

At the Annual Town Council meeting held on 11th May, I reported that, as a result of the recent formal public consultation on the Mere Traffic Management Proposals carried out by Wiltshire Council, three objections from members of the public were received. The objections were supported by a fourth objector - Cllr George Jeans. In summary the objections concerned the double yellow lines outside of Scone Cottage, Water Street and the extension of the time restriction on the parking bays in The Square and the

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01747 860998

implication that this has for residents without 'off street' parking. To move the scheme forward the Town Council needed to reach an agreement with Wiltshire Councillor Jeans before the modifications could be implemented.

The Town Council also discussed in depth the planning application for the Doctor's Surgery in Mere. Unfortunately, the proposed surgery extension is somewhat larger than the Town Council had originally envisaged, which will result in the loss of more car parking spaces within the Salisbury Street Car Park than had anticipated. Town Council members felt that the design, size and orientation of the proposed surgery expansion has given little thought to the need for retaining as many car parking spaces as possible and that it could be possible to minimise the impact on the car park by extending the surgery from a different elevation and with a different orientation. By a majority, the Town Councillors voted not to support this planning application.

I am pleased to report that I was re-elected as Chairman for another year. I would like to thank the Councillors for their support and pledge that I will do my best to serve them and the community. I am also pleased to report that The Town Council's Vice-Chairman John Jordan was also re-elected.

For information on Town Council activities, minutes, agendas, contact numbers etc., please refer to the Mere website : www.merewilts.org, e-mail the Town Clerk at : lindseywood@merewilts.org or : 01747 860701

Brett Norris, Chairman, Mere Town Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES:

The Queen's Birthday firework display on Saturday, 11th June will consist of £2,000.00 worth of fireworks; much of the money has come from local businesses and individual members of the community. The area board gave £500, and the Mere Town Council has agreed to contribute. It is proposed the display will not start before 9:00pm because it will still be light. The exact time will be displayed and publicised locally well before the event.

I have had complaints regarding the height at which Public notices displaying information of Proposed planning, consultation etc are displayed making it difficult for shorter people to read, I have passed this observation to officers in the hope that these will be better positioned.

I walked a proposed Circular Walk proposed by Mere Footpaths Group, which has been developed with the help of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) to further enhance our area, providing a walk to attract families and the use of local facilities. The walk is around 2.5 miles long through the streets and footpaths of Mere. During the walk I met many people and was informed of, or noticed, many problems for me to take up

and try to resolve. I would like to thank Mere Footpaths Group for all the excellent work they have done.

A study from Independent Age (a charity for the elderly) shows that the gap between the incomes of over-75s and younger pensioners is widening for the first time in a decade. The average income of over-75s is now £59 a week less than that of younger pensioners - a gap that is £8 larger than 10 years ago.

Figures obtained under the Freedom of Information Act show that nationally, police and security guards are called out to deal with vulnerable dementia patients four times a day. The data reveals that police and security guards were summoned by hospitals and care homes to deal with dementia sufferers on 1,378 occasions in 2015. Dementia Awareness is something Wiltshire Council promotes. I have had personal experience locally with a sufferer who, when confused, became violent.

A levy of 2% allowed by The Government on the council tax bill that we pay will still leave a shortfall of that required for Adult Social Care, not helped by the fact we all continue to live longer.

Phase one of Wiltshire Councils intervention to improve broadband is now drawing to a close. Ultrafast broadband for business benefit in Wiltshire will now need to be considered.

SEEDS4SUCCESS

Activities of local youth charity

Seeds4Success is a small youth work charity based in South West Wiltshire. Our mission is "To support the personal development of young people through the delivery of training and practical volunteering opportunities".

We are based at Mere Youth Centre but we also run a junior youth club for young people in years 6, 7, & 8, and a project night for young people aged 13 – 19 at Wilton Youth Centre. Young people with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) from across the area meet at Mere on a Tuesday evening, supported by a number of peer leaders who are engaged in our young leader programme.

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**

In April 2015 Seeds4Success took on the lease of the Mere Youth Club building. This was only made possible with some generous funding from Mere Town Council to help us with the running costs for the building.

This past year has been one of continued development and we have come a long way in 12 months. With that said, this is still only the start of a long journey to rebuild and restructure services to young people in Mere and South West Wiltshire.

Our recent bid to the South West Wiltshire Area Board resulted in the award of two years of funding towards our running costs. This enables the charity to develop its work further delivering open access youth work across South West Wiltshire. It has allowed my role of Service Manager to become full time from January 2016. I can now focus on the charity's development and infrastructure, apply to other funding sources, and deliver additional sessions of youth work.

My thanks are due to the local community members, trustees, staff volunteers and of course the local young people without whose dedication this wouldn't have been possible. If you have a specific skill or area of expertise that you feel you could offer, or just want to help by supporting the committee, or even becoming a trustee, we would love to hear from you.

Jaki Farrell, Service Manager, Seeds4Success 📞: 07585 723824
or ✉: jaki@seeds4success.org.uk

MERE LIBRARY NEWS

Celebrating HM The Queen's Official Birthday

Come along to Mere Library on Saturday, 11th June and help us celebrate HM The Queen's Official Birthday:

10.30 – 11.30am – Stories and themed Activities.

All ages welcome – Free Event

All children under 8 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For further Information please contact:

Sally-Ann Hooper, Mere Library Supervisor, ☎: 01747 860546



The Big Friendly Read Summer Reading Challenge 2016


Aimed at 4-11 year-olds, the annual Summer Reading Challenge is simple and fun. Children are encouraged to read six or more library books of their choice during the summer holidays and receive collectable rewards as they progress. Children can sign


up at their local Wiltshire library from Saturday, 16th July – it's absolutely free and lasts until Saturday, 10th September.

This year the challenge will be delivered in collaboration with The Roald Dahl Literary Estate as part of Roald Dahl 100 celebrations. Children will receive a Dahl themed collector's folder, Quentin Blake illustrated postcards for each book read, special rainbow glasses when they read 4 books, and a medal and certificate on completion.


Last year over 6,000 children completed the challenge in Wiltshire and 42,145 books were read in total. Children and their parents and carers love the challenge, which can make a real difference in avoiding the 'summer reading dip':

'I find the reading challenge is a fantastic way of keeping my children connected with reading throughout the summer hols!' said a mum from Trowbridge

There is also a special website : **summerreadingchallenge.org.uk**, where children can keep a record of their progress, recommend books, take part in competitions and be inspired.


Children will need a library card to borrow books. If they don't already have one, we would be happy to arrange this with you. For more information contact your local library or visit our website: : **wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries**

Sabina Edwards Community Librarian : 01985 216022

: **sabina.edwards@wiltshire.gov.uk**

BELLS FOR THE QUEEN

Buckingham Palace has asked that as many towers as possible ring for a period of time between 12:00noon and 2:00pm on **Sunday, 12th June** to celebrate the Queen's official birthday weekend.

Mere bell ringers will be ringing in St Michael's Church tower from 12:00noon to 12.30pm after the morning service. Listen out for other towers in the area ringing out their bells during that two hour period. *Maggie Durkee* : 01747 860163

MERE AND DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

: 01747 860096

The Linkscheme has had a very busy year and would love to tell you all about it personally at our AGM. This is an opportunity to meet and talk with our volunteers and find out more about this valuable scheme that is working for the benefit of the entire local community. We will offer you a glass of wine and hopefully get the business side of the evening completed quickly.

As always we will be looking for people to come forward as volunteers, but even if you feel that you do not have the time to do that, your support on the night is very welcome.

The AGM is at 7.00pm on Friday, 17th June in the Grove Building. Please try and come along.
Barbara Thomas, Secretary

CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIPS UP FOR GRABS

What we do

Each year more than 100 Fellowships are awarded for a wide range of projects by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. These Fellowships provide a unique opportunity for British citizens to travel overseas to bring back fresh ideas and new solutions to today's issues, for the benefit of others in the UK. This allows them to maximise what they can achieve in their lifetime, both as leaders and role models to inspire others, but also in personal development terms. These opportunities are offered to people of any age, gender, ethnicity or religion, with or without educational qualifications, and in any occupation, or none.

Our Fellows

Churchill Fellows have strong projects and a passion to make a difference to others. In particular we support those who would not normally be able to take time away from work to research their ideas, or who would find it difficult to access funding through other channels. Many applicants work in the public services such as nursing, teaching, social work and probation, or in the community and voluntary sectors, where this kind of opportunity is rare. We also fund individuals to preserve particular crafts and skills.

Those Fellows who are selected are highly motivated individuals, who return with a focus and vision to improve their profession and community.

We also fund up to 10 undergraduate bursaries at Churchill College Cambridge, as well as an Archive By-Fellowship at the Churchill Archives Centre, each year.

What can a Churchill Travelling Fellowship achieve?

The award of a Fellowship has a profound impact on individuals who return with a greater belief in their own abilities, as well as benefiting others through the new ideas brought back to the UK. Often a Fellowship serves as a catalyst that unlocks an individual's potential. It can accelerate their career, developing them as a leader in their field of expertise or as a role model, and continues to be a motivating influence long after they have returned from their travels.

How to become a Fellow

Visit the Trust's website  www.wcmt.org.uk to learn more, select a category of interest and apply on line. For first-hand experience talk to me, as I have been a Churchill Fellow since being granted a fellowship in 1978. I travelled round the North Western Coast of Europe from Bremen in Germany to Le Havre in France studying Ports and Inland Waterways. The research and experience certainly helped my career.

Applications for Fellowship must be received by the Trust before 5.00pm on Tuesday, 20th September 2016, so you will have quite some time to prepare an application.

Graham Avory, Editor, ☎: 01747 860439



Mere Literary Festival

?? QUIZ NIGHT ??

FRIDAY, 22ND JULY

THE GROVE BUILDING 7.00 FOR 7.30 P.M.

£6 pp. including Ploughman's Supper

Teams of 4 or come & make up a team on the night

Tel: 01747 861969 to book in advance

Raising Funds for the Mere & District Linkscheme

Registered Charity No:1062328



Mere Dental Practice

The practice has two Dentists:

Stephen Sherrard, and Christopher Davies.

It also has Dental Therapists Wendy Hester & Jay Lonsdale.

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

✉: meredental@btconnect.com, 🌐: 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

MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS (M&DRM)

June is the month of our annual exhibition. This year due to popular demand, we have reverted to allow **children up to the age of twelve to enter the exhibition FREE**, if accompanied by an adult.

Mere Model Railway Exhibition

The Lecture Halls in Salisbury Street

Saturday, 18th & Sunday, 19th June

from 10.00am to 4.00pm

The Layouts to be displayed will be as follows:-

<u>Title</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Gauge</u>
Selsey Town Station	Model of the actual location in 1930's	O
Blackmore Vale	Fictional, between Shaftesbury & Sherborne	O
Cotehele Quay	Actual location in the 1880's	7mm NG
The Bath & District Amalgamated Fullers		
Earth Company	Actual location	7mmNG
The Works Yard	Fictional Industrial scene	EM
Stonebridge & Wyndham Canal	Actual location in 1950's	OO
Beckenvick	Swiss Rhaetian Railway 1980's	HO
Beddgelert 1910	Welsh planned electric railway	OO9
Wisteria Collop	Fictitious South West County of Somerset.	OO9
Welton Down	South East England in the 1990's	2mmFS
Longmoor	Based on Longmoor Military Railway	N

These layouts will be supported by demonstrations in DCC train automation and by Gauge 1 live steam.

The model railway traders on site will be RAY HEARD MODELS and TURLIEGH MODELS. Our usual 'in house' catering will be provided and everything is planned to be an improvement on last year, so please come along and support us.

Due to the increasing demand for space in our club house, our management has reluctantly decided to sell the good quality metal work lathe, which was purchased to help teenagers with their design projects. As none have come forward to use this facility, the solution is self evident.

Club nights are on Wednesdays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm and we meet in our Clubhouse at the back of the Castle Street Car Park.

Tom Snook ☎:01747 861977 or ✉: Tom@Freewinds.co.uk



MERE CARNIVAL

Mere Carnival Day

Saturday, 17th September

Children's Parade 3:00pm – Evening Parade 7:30pm

Once again we are looking for our 2016 Royals. If you live in the BA12 6 postcode and would like to represent Mere in the two parades, please write to Penny Allen giving brief details of yourself, your interests and why you would like to be part of this special day.

There is a small dress allowance for the chosen Royals.

Carnival Prince and Princess aged 5 – 13,
Teen Queen aged 13 – 19,
Super Gran – Any Age!

Please send your letter/email by closing date of Friday, 1st July to Penny Allen, 3 Ashgrove, Mere, WARMINSTER, BA12 6BX

Mere Carnival Bingo

Friday, 3rd June 2016 in the Grove Building

Doors open - 6.45pm - Eyes Down - 7.30pm

Excellent prizes - Specials - Raffle - Refreshments

Fun for all the family

Organised by Mere Carnival Committee with proceeds to Carnival Funds

Our next Bingo will be on Friday, 9th September - for Carnival week!

Penny Allen ☎: 01747860721 ✉: pennyallen@hotmail.co.uk

CANCER RESEARCH

At the time of going to press we are full steam ahead for the May Fayre - so I hope you all had a great time! All the news in the next edition, including the grand total raised.

We are delighted to announce that the Merely famous 'Parachuting Teddy Bears' are making their annual appearance at the Church Fete on Saturday, 11th June. So if your bear is feeling brave and wants to help raise funds for our amazing cause bring them along on the day, with parachute, and he/she will be launched from the Church tower by

our highly trained launch crew for £1. However if your bear is a bit elderly or nervous we have the stunt bears available for hire on the day! All bears are for hire at £1.

As a committee we are always looking for more helpers, donations of good quality tombola and raffle prizes, man shed contents, garden items and 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 ✉: merecancerresearch@mail.com or ring Penny Fennon on the number below after 6:00pm. We also have a Facebook page – Mere Cancer Research - where can read all our up- to-date news and forthcoming events.

Penny Fennon 📞: 07833 131712

FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

The fundraising Bluegrass concert and preloved designer clothes sales held last month at Convish Farm, West Knoyle (advert in March edition of Mere Matters) raised a staggering £20,000.

A presentation cheque of £5,000 went to St Mary's church, West Knoyle last week, with the remaining £15,000 being presented to Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Emily Tulloch, Convish Farm 📞: 01747 830280

JUNE SHORT WALK

Thursday, 2nd June. Meet at 2:00pm in the car park by the Surgery for a Short walk of 2-3 miles around the local paths in Mere.

Janet Way 📞: 01747 860884



Mere & District
CHAMBER OF TRADE

MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Mere Chamber is able to organise training courses for local businesses here in Mere. These include Health and Safety, Emergency First Aid at Work and Food Safety in Catering. The courses are run by professional training providers and are competitively priced.

Both the Emergency First Aid at Work and Food Safety in Catering include a nationally recognised certificate valid for three years. The company providing Health and Safety training are able to be flexible with the training and content so that it is tailored to the audience and type of business.

If you would be interested in attending or sending your employees on a training course, please contact us by ✉: merechamber@outlook.com, or contact Chamber Secretary, Julie Cousins, on the number below.

Date of next Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 15th June 2016, 7.30pm at Mere Social Club.

Julie Cousins, Secretary, ☎: 07856 700576



TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY

Tea@3 will be held in the Angel Corner Tearooms on Wednesday, 15th June at 3.00pm.

All those wishing to attend should contact Paul or Marilyn on ☎: 01747 860524 and leave a message or pop in and leave your name by Monday, 13th June.

Come in and have a chat with tea and cake. All are welcome.

The next Tea@3 will be held in September. See the September edition of Mere Matters for details.
Paul Farrow ☎: 01747 860524

MERE GRACENOTES CONCERT FOR SHELTERBOX

Very many thanks to everyone who supported us at our concert on 15th April and to those who were unable to be there and still contributed. We raised the wonderful amount of £560 which with the Gift Aid, should amount to around £700.

ShelterBox sent us their congratulations and thanks. The money raised will be used to send aid to disaster hit regions around the world, providing essential equipment that families need to survive and start rebuilding their lives. Thank you for your generosity to those in need.
Jane Hurd ☎: 01747 860218

MERE FILM SHOWS

Our film on Thursday, 16th June is the last of our season but we end very much on a high note with 'Bridge of Spies' (12A) starring Tom Hanks and Mark Rylance. This film won a BAFTA and OSCAR for Mark Rylance as Best Supporting Actor and was also nominated for BAFTA and OSCAR awards for best Director, Screenplay and Cinematography.

The film is a gloriously glossy, impeccably produced espionage drama that spins a complex story of political intrigue and patriotism into timeless Hollywood entertainment and reunites iconic director Steven Spielberg with one of cinema's favourites, Tom Hanks. Most enticingly though, it represents the big-screen breakthrough of acclaimed stage actor and star of TV's Wolf Hall, Mark Rylance, and his deeply affecting performance is the film's chief asset.

Inspired by real events and beginning in 1957, during the height of the Cold War, the movie focuses on James B. Donovan (Hanks), an esteemed insurance lawyer who was part of the prosecution team during the Nuremberg trials.

To the dismay of his family, this man of formidable principle and idealistic American values agrees to represent one Rudolf Abel (Rylance) – an unassuming painter and Soviet spy living in Brooklyn, who is arrested at the film's outset in a tense but one-sided game of cat and mouse. It is terrific entertainment. Full details on page 22.

Our new season will begin on Thursday, 15th September with a film for Carnival Week. Look out for posters and tickets from mid-August. In the meantime have an excellent summer!
Mary White ☎: 01747 861257

SPECTRA MUSICA CONCERT

Chamber Choir 'Spectra Musica', the Wincanton based Chamber Choir, which includes choir members from Mere, will hold a Concert of Celebration on Saturday, 2nd July in St. Luke and St. Teresa's Church in Wincanton to mark the Tenth Anniversary year for the group.

Musical Director Peter Leech has been with Spectra Musica for eighteen months and in that time has brought even greater diversity to the music performed by the group, which results in very lively concerts reflecting his vast experience and enthusiastic character. His choice of music for the July concert is a truly triumphant mix, including Purcell, Finzi, German, Joplin and Bernstein. The very talented Anita D'Attellis will once again be playing the piano. A String Quintet will also be performing.

For tickets on the door, or visit our website:  spectramusica.com
Sally Greenhalgh, Chairman Spectra Musica, ☎: 01747 841263

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (RGC) for the over 60s

The Day Centre for Mere and district, Lynch Close
Mondays and Fridays 10.30am – 3.00pm

Unfortunately our trip to The Hawk Conservancy had to be cancelled due to bad weather, but we are looking to rearrange for some time in July or August. We had a great session with Alex Grant from Circular Arts who came in to help us make Batik flags, which will be displayed in the grounds of Salisbury Cathedral as a combined art project later in the year. The guests had a go first and then the volunteers stayed on to have a go after the guests had left. We all had a wonderful time!

I now only have a couple of seats left on the coach for our Annual seaside outing on Monday 20th June, which at £10 each are priced the same as last year. This year the guests voted for Swanage as our destination.

We now have a Facebook page! Forthcoming events, pictures, details of volunteering opportunities and updates will all be posted there, just put Rosemary Goddard Centre into the facebook search bar and you will find it, log on and take a look.

All are welcome to our AGM on Monday 4th July at 2:00pm, to be held in the Community Room, Lynch Close, Mere.

Sandie Hawkins 📞: 07835 272406 🌐: MereDayCentre.org.uk



WOMENS INSTITUTE (WI)

At our meeting last month we debated the National Federation of Women's Institutes two resolutions: "avoid food waste, address food poverty" and "appropriate care in hospitals for people with dementia", but after much discussion we decided that the wording of both resolutions were a little "too woolly." Consequently we delegated our representative Carol, to go to the A.G.M. In Brighton and exercise her discretion to vote for or against depending upon the final wording of the resolution.

After a short break for refreshments, members were able to sign up to go on a visit to Bath; lunch at Compton Abbas Airfield; the Quizzical Pursuits in Salisbury and choose the winners of our monthly competition entries.

Members were curious about milk bottle top recycling that occurs locally and although we were unable to persuade Glendale Martin (the recycling Queen) to come and talk to us, she sent a letter that showed her to be well ahead of her time in the 1980's. She was refusing to accept plastic bags from stores such as Marks and Spencer and C & A and now she recycles milk bottle tops, postage stamps, spectacles and many more items to raise funds for many charities. As an added interest Caroline brought along her collection of milk bottles to complete the topic of "bottles and bottle tops." A really enjoyable and friendly meeting.

Our next meeting on Thursday, 2nd June at 7.30pm in the Grove Building has a presentation by the Labrador Rescue Trust. The Trust is a registered voluntary charity, dedicated to the re-homing and rehabilitation of unwanted Labradors, abandoned or given up by their owners who can no longer care for them. The lucky ones end up in one of their many excellent Rescue Homes, but that is not the end of their story. Some have been starved, some abused, some just generally neglected and many need time to adjust to their new situation and the loss of their families. These Labradors need help

and support to make a new start in life. Come and hear how the Labrador Trust do this, you would be very welcome. Our social time is "a crafty activity" and our competitions are a photograph of a pet (past or present) and an item from my garden.

Janet Fisher ☎: 01747 861323



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Our meeting, on Tuesday, 14th June at 2.30pm will be our very special annual event in the lovely garden at Mere Down Farmhouse, and, of course, the sun will shine! The Revd Vickie Goodman will be with us, sharing her Sixties' experience of travelling 'In Faith on the road to India'. It will be a lovely afternoon and anyone is welcome to join us. If you would like a lift, or directions, please phone the number below.

Judith Thompson ☎: 01747 860553

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE JULY/AUGUST ISSUE

FRIDAY, 10th JUNE 2016

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

We look forward to our next course of Dressmaking alongside the popular TV Programme "The Sewing Bee" which many love to watch. Thankfully we don't have to complete a garment under the pressure of time! We can enjoy making our clothes with the finishing touches taught by Susanne our own Dress Designer with her experience of working in Italy for many years.

If you would like to have two and a half hours of sewing (and chatting) and can come along on a Monday morning between 10:30am and 1:00pm or Wednesday 7:00 to 9:30pm we would love to meet you.

We specialise in teaching those with little or no experience or helping those who need help with a more ambitious garment. At present Jackets and Ball Gowns are being created along with many cool summer dresses and skirts.

The next six week courses commence on Monday, 6th and Wednesday, 8th June, at The Grove Building. Look at our Facebook Page "Dressmaking in Mere" to see more. We look forward to hearing from you.

Carol Lord ☎: 01747 861923 Susanne (The Sewing Lady) 📠: 07788 595 434

MERE GARDENING CLUB

**The restoration and rebuilding of
the gardens at Kingston Lacy.**

by David Smith

Wednesday, 8th June at 7.30pm in the Grove Building.

David Smith was the restoration project manager. The garden restoration was intended to reflect the Japanese experience more closely than the Bankes original. However, the trust deliberately chose not to create a totally authentic Japanese garden, but one that is faithful in many ways to the Bankes family's vision of a Japanese garden. £2 entry for visitors, who will be very welcome.

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

GROVE BUILDINGS "100" CLUB

The Result of the '100' Club Draw for May, drawn on Wednesday, 4th May by Sarah Collins (Sprout & Flower), was:

1st Prize	(£20)	-	No. 176	Kathy Herbert
2nd Prize	(£15)	-	No. 103	Mrs Eggleton
3rd Prize	(£10)	-	No. 175	Judith Thompson
4th Prize	(£5)	-	No. 133	Mrs M Coward

Lindy Elliott ☎ 01747 861646

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

CALLING ALL BUDDING THESPIANS!

If your ambitions were stirred by last month's appeal for new members but you didn't quite make it to the AGM, here is another opportunity which we are handing to you on a silver platter! As part of our search for a play for our Autumn Production we are holding PLAY READINGS on Wednesday, 15th June and Wednesday, 22nd June at 7:30pm in the Green Room (Lecture Hall), to which anyone who is thinking about joining this small but dynamic society is warmly invited.

You will simply take turns with others present at reading from the scripts of several of the plays we are considering. This is absolutely the best way to get a feel for MADS and for your possible amateur acting career! You have nothing to lose and everything to gain! Don't hesitate; come along to one or both readings and surprise yourself!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

MERE MUSEUM

Our new exhibition, 'The Silk Road to Mere' has been exceptionally well received by Mere residents and visitors alike and seems to be counted as one of our best in recent months. Do make sure that you go to see it - you will probably learn a lot! Take your summer visitors too; it's a pleasant and instructive way to spend an afternoon.

It is very pleasing to be able to report that the headstone to mark the grave of Frederick Holmes, the Mere photographer and his wife, has now been erected. You can find it in the top north-east quarter of the old cemetery; take the left hand path at the corner gate, continue to the end of this path, and look for the headstone a bit further on and about five rows to your right. Many thanks to all who contributed towards this important memorial.

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

The Friends would like to thank everyone who supported our Bingo evening and also our Annual Plant Sale. All the profit you so generously help us to make goes to support the work of the Museum. We very much appreciate your continuing support.

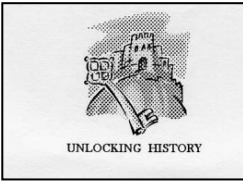
Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

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The relaxing foot massage that can relieve all tension, re-balance the whole body whilst helping with many problems thus stimulating wellbeing.

Gillingham 01747 590714

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Mere Historical Society

Visit Two

Thursday, 9 June 2016

Dunster Castle and Village

Dramatically sited on top of a wooded hill, a castle has been at Dunster since at least Norman times and has many stories to tell from its 1000 year history. Entrance to the Castle is by timed ticket for around noon. After your visit you are free to find lunch and explore the lovely medieval village, and the working water-mill.

Leaves Salisbury Street Car Park at 9:00am and returns by 6:30pm

Cost: MHS Members £16, non-members £19 per person (Includes coach and tip).

Entry to Dunster for non-National Trust members is £8.80 (group rate).

*Please add this to your payment if applicable. **DEADLINE 3 JUNE***

Visit Three

Wednesday, 6 July 2016

Seaton Tramway and Jurassic Visitor Centre

Starting from Colyton after time for coffee, a scenic half hour ride on the historic electric Tramway (driven by Graham Avory, MHS member and Mere Matters editor) will finish in Seaton where there will be time for lunch. In the afternoon we will visit the newly opened Jurassic Visitor Centre. Here we will be taken back 4.6 billion years for a journey through the history of the Jurassic coast and meet the geologists who discovered the secrets hidden in the rocks. We will return on the Tramway to meet our coach in Colyton before returning to Mere.

We will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9am and return by 6.30 to 7.00pm.

Cost: MHS Members £29, non-members £32 per person. Includes coach and tip, tramway and Jurassic Visitor Centre entrance.

DEADLINE for booking 27 JUNE

Booking forms available from Mere Library and our website.

🌐: **merehistoricalsociety.org.uk**

Caroline Cook ☎: 01747 861797

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

'Bridge of Spies'

(12A)

Tom Hanks Mark Rylance

During the Cold War, an American lawyer (**Hanks**) is recruited to defend an arrested Soviet spy (**Rylance**) in court, and then help the CIA facilitate an exchange of the spy for the Soviet captured American U2 spy plane pilot, Francis Gary Powers.

In The Lecture Hall
Thursday 16th June, 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 : www.moviola.org



Mere School Reports

Blue Class

The children in Blue Class have begun their 'Up and Under' topic. Exciting news.....their dinosaur egg has hatched in to a T-Rex!

Yellow Class

The children in Yellow Class have been busy learning about Food and Farming this term. They are very excited about their up and coming trip to the farm.

Silver Class

In Silver class the children have been finding out all about life Under the Sea. They are also busy growing different plants.

Gold Class

Gold class have become Adventurers and Explorers this term. They have just finished finding out all about life in Antarctica.

Green Class

The children are busy investigating different habitats both locally and around the world. They are planning several walks in and around Mere to develop their fieldwork skills.

Red Class

Year Five are getting very excited as their residential week creeps closer! They are spending a week in Pencelli studying the local area including its river.

Purple Class

The Year 6 SAT's are over! Mrs Loxton would like to thank all the children for their hard work during this challenging week. They are now busy rehearsing for their end of year production of 'Sleeping Beauty – The Ugly Truth.

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

BOWLS CLUB

A bittersweet start to this month for the Club. On Sunday, 8th May we held our Open Day to great success with seven new hopefuls and two confirmed new social members; of the seven hopefuls, two have bitten the bullet and already joined, long before the cut-off date. Just because you missed the Open Day you can still come along any time we are open and give the game a try, or just give any of the members listed below a ring and they will be happy to meet you at any time to show you the ropes and get you started.

On the sad side, on Tuesday, 10th May, a total of twenty three members and their partners gathered at Salisbury Crematorium to say goodbye for the last time to Arthur Holberry on what would have been his 78th birthday. Arthur was our longest serving member and immediate past Captain, a post he held with distinction for almost eleven years. Farewell old friend.

For any other details about the Club please contact either Alan Inwood ☎: 01985 844215, Alan Spencer ☎: 01747 860803 or Don Butchers by phone below or by ✉: Don.butchers@btinternet.com.

Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ☎: 01747 860775

MERE CROQUET AND BOULE CLUB

Sunday, 5th June has been declared as National Croquet Day. To mark the occasion we will be holding an Open House BBQ commencing at 12 noon and entry will be £5 per person. We will warmly welcome visitors, there will food aplenty, a chance to try a game of croquet (and/or Boule), some very pleasant company, plus a lot of fun. We are a light-hearted club.

It is good to see some more seasonal weather at last, and what a difference it makes. Attendances are getting larger and the grass is growing, as is our membership. The Boule players are well into their busy programme of fixtures, so the best of luck to them for 2016 successes.

Rex Roberts ☎: 01747 860873

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CHURCH

Come and enjoy an evening of summer music on Saturday 4th June at 6.00pm in St Michaels church. The excellent South London Singers are coming to Mere to entertain us with old song favourites, popular classics and the Little Jazz Mass by Chilcott.

So why not join us for the evening - no tickets needed but donations towards the fund of the Friends of St Michaels. Everybody welcome - refreshments available.



St Michael the Archangel, Mere

Invites you to a Civic Service of Praise and Thanksgiving
to mark the ninetieth birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II

on

Sunday, 12th June 2016 at 10.30am

Celebratory refreshments afterwards



SUPPORT THE SALISBURY-SUDAN MEDICAL LINK!

Come, if you can, to the South Canonry, 71 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2ER, on Sunday, 19th June from 1.00-5.00pm for:

The Bishop of Salisbury's Garden Fete

We are all invited to this lively event in the beautiful setting of the Bishop's garden by the river near Salisbury Cathedral. (If wet it will be held in the Cathedral instead.)

Salisbury Diocese has been committed to supporting the Church in Sudan for over 40 years and now when the Church is struggling to help bring peace and vital assistance to this troubled and war-torn country, our support is more important than ever.

The event will include strawberries, teas, cakes and stalls of all kinds – and even camels! If you would like a lift, or directions for getting there, please ring the number below.
Judith Thompson ☎: 01747 860553

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

Dear Friends

Certainty and Uncertainty...

As the old saying goes, 'You can only be certain of two things in this life... death and taxes!' Well, that may be a bit pessimistic, but it makes us smile because it contains more than a grain of truth. There really are very few things in life that we can be completely sure of. Every day we deal with a mass of claims and counter-claims when it comes to making decisions. This month we will be casting our votes in the national referendum about our nation's continuing place in the European Union. Some are certain we would be better remaining 'in' – whilst others are certain we should vote for 'Brexit'. Most people I speak with find little certainty in the arguments 'for' and 'against' and plan to vote according to conscience and factors that are persuasive, but not absolute.

For those of us who hold Christian faith, the relationship between certainty and uncertainty is a complex one (and one that I personally find very exciting). There are things we can say about the person of Jesus, the historicity of Bible stories and our spiritual experiences about which we are sure; but there are other beliefs, affirmations and convictions that we hold by faith. Faith is not (as some critics say) the suspension of disbelief, but is instead, the positive decision to live according to a truth that claims my life. Can I have any absolute certainty of this? No, but I am content to take a step of faith and live my life according to the truth I perceive.

In case you think this is becoming all a bit academic and removed from everyday living – let me assure you, we at the Methodist Church are working with these issues right now. In recent months we have had a sad run of deaths within the congregation which have claimed the lives of a number of folk at the heart of our congregation. Our future now looks very uncertain. This is difficult, and the likelihood of church closure leaves us with heavy hearts. I won't bore you with the complexities, but there is a process that has to be set in motion to judge whether the church is viable and what might be done in future.

The present Methodist Church building in North Street was built in 1846 and the congregation that has met in that building from its opening to the present day has sought to worship God and serve the local community in Mere. If the church does close, the worship and service in God's name will not have been offered in vain, but in Faith. We may be uncertain about the future, but we can place our future in God's hands with certainty...

Peace.



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER**

IN MERE AND DISTRICT

Songs of Praise at Stourhead

Sunday 26th June at 3.00pm

We meet near the Bristol Cross

Bring a chair or rug, and a picnic tea to share

**CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE
JUNE 2016**

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

Mrs Lindy Elliott ☎:01747 861646

Church Administrator: Mr Ian Treece 📱: 07754 524802

✉: administrator@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday		12.00noon	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
	The Rev'd Carol Wilson Barker normally has a rest day		
Sunday	5th	10.30am	Family Communion
		6.30pm	Evening Praise
Tuesday	7th	6.00pm	'Start the Month'
			Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	12th	10.30am	Service of Thanksgiving and Praise for HM The Queen's 90th Birthday
	*19th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	26th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)

3.00pm Churches Together Service
at Stourhead.

*Traidcraft stall after 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

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

Sunday	5th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
	12th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
			Holy Communion
	19th	11.00am	Martin Heal
	26th	3.00pm	Churches Together Service at Stourhead.

The Methodist Church (☎: Shaftesbury 01747 854631)

Sunday	5th	6.00pm	Service arranged locally
	12th	6.00pm	Circuit Service, Bell St, Shaftesbury
	19th	6.00pm	Service arranged locally
	26th	3.00pm	Churches Together Service at Stourhead.

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's

**Mere Contacts: Margaret Thompson ☎: 01747 860291
or John FitzGerald ☎: 01747 860867**

Every Saturday		5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	26th	3.00pm	Churches Together Service at Stourhead.

Tea and Cakes will be served after the last Mass of the month.

West Knoyle Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin

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

✉: vicar@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Churchwardens: Mrs Jill Randall ☎: 01747 830534

Mr Colin Seaford ☎: 01747 830263

Sundays	5th	9.30am	Holy Communion
	12th	9.30am	Holy Communion
	19th	9.30am	Matins
	26th	9.30am	DIY
		3.00pm	Churches Together Service at Stourhead.

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

JUNE 2016

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 Clubhouse

1	Wed	9.30am	Tai-Chi (every Wednesday)	GB
		10.30am	Tai-Chi - small hall (every Wednesday)	GB
		11.15am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.00pm	M&D Railway Modellers (every wednesday)	RMC
2	Thur	10.00am	- 11.30am Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am	- 12.00pm Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)	GB
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	April Short Walk	CP
		7.30pm	Womens Institute meeting	GB
3	Fri	10.00am	Open the Book	GB
		2.00pm	Mere Duplicate Bridge Club (every Friday)	GB
3	Fri	6.00pm	Zumba (every Friday)	L
		7.30pm	Mere Carnival Bingo - Eyes Down	GB
4	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning (also 11th, 18th, & 25th)	CC
		6.00pm	Friends Summer Concert	St Michaels Church
6	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers and Toddlers (every Monday)	L
		10.00am	Zumba 1st level (every Monday)	L
		10.30am	- 1.00pm Dressmaking Small Hall (also 20th&27th)	GB
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Laura Joliffe Water Colour (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Beaver Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		7.30pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
7	Tue	2.00pm	4.00pm "Get On-line" Drop-in session	Lib
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba Fitness (every Tuesday)	L
8	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together Whist Drive	GB
		7.00pm	- 9.30pm Dressmaking Small Hall (also 22nd&29th)	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
9	Thur	5.00pm	Girl Guiding (also 16th, 23rd & 30th)	GB
10	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 24th)	GB
11	Sat	10.30am	- 11.30am Celebratory Library event	Lib
		2.00pm	4.00pm Annual Church Fete	St Michaels
		after 9.00pm	Celebratory Firework display	Castle Hill

12	Sun	10.30am	Celebratory Civic Church Service	St Michaels
		2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
13	Mon	7.30pm	Mere Am. Dram. Socy (MADS) Meeting (Green R.)	L
14	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic (also 28th)	MH
		2.30pm	Mothers Union meeting	Mere Down Farmhouse
15	Wed	3.00pm	- 4.00pm T@3	Angel Tea Rooms
		3.00pm	- 4.30pm "Get On-line" Drop-in	Angel Tea Rooms
		7.30pm	Chamber of Trade Committee Meeting	MSC
		7.30pm	MADS Play Readings in Green Room	L
16	Thur	7.30pm	Mere Filmshows/Moviola "Bridge of Spies"	L
		7.00pm	Mere and District Linkscheme AGM	GB
18	Sat	10.00am	- 4.00pm Model Railway Exhibition	L
		10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
19	Sun	10.00am	- 4.00pm Model Railway Exhibition	L
20	Mon	7.30pm	Mere Footpath Group Moonlight Walk	CP
22	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		7.30pm	MADS Play Readings in Green Room	L
23	Thur	7.30pm	- 10.30pm National Referendum Voting	L
28	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic (also 28th)	MH

Please join us in celebrating the launch of
The Friends of Maiden Bradley Church

Rodmead Farm Open Garden

Sunday, 5th June 2pm - 5pm
£4 - including tea and cake



BA12 7HP

TISBURY LEISURE CENTRE

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Summer Half Term

Tuesday 31 May – Saturday 4 June 2016

It's holiday time again and we have a number of activities for your children to take part in: Wii and soft play, art and craft, fun games, bouncy castle sessions, roller discos, football, teeny tots gym, Saturday morning madness, and everything is just £1 per child per session. Bring your children along for a fun-filled morning of activities and sports. Please note that the roller discos take place at a different time during the holidays.

For details about all of our current facilities and activities, please contact us:

- Reception, ☎: 01747 871141,
- ✉: tisbury-sc@wiltshire.gov.uk,
- 🌐: www.wiltshire.gov.uk
- Follow us on **Twitter@TisburyLC** or **Facebook**.

BOOKING MEETING HALLS

Grove Building:

Ian Treece



07754 524802

Lecture Hall:

Sally Johnson



01747 861063

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

MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY

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

MEMORY LOSS

READING GROUP

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS
& DEATHS:

'GET ONLINE'

DROP-IN SESSION

Wednesdays: 2.30 to 4.00pm

1st Friday: 2.00 to 4.00pm

By appointment only (☎: 0300 003 4569)

Thursdays: 9.30 to 11.30am

1st Tuesday 2.00 - 4.00pm

COPY DATE FOR JULY/AUGUST 2016 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the July/August 2016 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 FRIDAY, 10th June 2016.**

E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send from Friday, 3rd June 2016 onwards ✉: **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**

☎: **01985 844740**

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