

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

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



*Grove Buildings - Mere
Colin Anderson 1992*

NOVEMBER 2016

You may not have noticed, but I did not edit the October issue. I would like to thank Richard Jefferies for editing the production on my behalf. Richard has been 'on board' the Mere Matters 'team' for some months now and helping me in the background. I have been almost a 'one-man-band' for the past ten years, but like everyone else with advancing age could for health or other reason, suddenly find that I am not able to produce a few issues, or indeed may have to pass the editorial pen on to someone else rather hurriedly.


Mere Matters is a long standing feature of Mere life and needs continuity. Hence the reason for bringing Richard 'on board' and he will, I hope, produce issues from time to time, to enable him to keep his hand in and for me to be less rigid with our family diary. Once again, Thank you Richard.

Graham Avory, Editor

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, 7th November 2016.**

The Chairman writes:

At the October meeting, the Town Clerk confirmed that the audit of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2016 had been concluded successfully and with no issues of concern. A copy of the Annual Return is available for inspection on the Mere website : **www.merewilts.org**.

On a lovely Sunday morning on the 2nd October, a small group of volunteers met at the Town clock to start a two hour litter pick around the Town. The group split up into pairs and selected the areas in the Town to litter pick. At the end of the session the volunteers managed to collect two large black sacks of rubbish. I would like to thank all

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the volunteers for participating and also thank two additional volunteers for litter picking along the Mere to Zeal's road. I will organise another litter picking event in April 2017.

On Sunday, 16th October, I attended the twentieth Mere Literary Festival award ceremony. I would like to congratulate the organisers of the Mere Literary Festival past and present for their hard work, producing such a varied programme of events for so many people to enjoy. Twenty years is a testament to the popularity of the festival, drawing on the talents of participants far and wide. Funds raised through the literary festival go towards our local Mere and District Linkscheme charity, providing a truly valued service to the people in the Mere area.

Remembrance Sunday falls on Sunday, 13th November. We will be congregating at the Clock Tower from 10.45am. There will be a hymn before the two minute silence at 11.00am with the sounding of Last Post and wreath laying around the war memorial. A service will be held at St Michael's church after the ceremony at the clock Tower. There will be a 10 minute road closure in The Square from 10.57 until 11.07am.

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

Brett Norris, Chairman, Mere Town Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES:

The popular road to Salisbury through Teffont has been closed while the road through the village has been resurfaced. I have been attending meetings held in Salisbury by travelling the A303 then the A36. The turning to the A36 at Wylde has been very much enhanced by the autumnal colours of the many trees at this point. This year is passing swiftly for me!

While at one Southern Area Planning meeting at Salisbury, one of the applications was for the Police stationed in Salisbury to be permanently located at Bourne Hill Council Offices. Voting was tight on this application, the Salisbury City Council had objected for the reason that sirens and lights could disturb the high number of residents living nearby. I voted for the Police Station to be at Bourne Hill as I felt this was an issue that impacted on many people and the location would be central to Salisbury, and I had to appreciate the larger picture. I think the final vote was 6 for 5 against, therefore a councillor's vote does count sometimes. The area for policing, which includes the Mere area has 45 PCs, 12 PCSOs (not all posts are filled) and deployment is around 70%.

On the 14th November Age UK have an event between 10.00am and 3.00pm split between Mere Salisbury Street Car Park and The Rosemary Goddard Centre.

As I have stated many times, I sit on the Wiltshire Broadband Project Board, even so I do not always know what is happening as an apparent broadband green cabinet has appeared in the centre of Kilminster. The village has spent much time looking for ways

of privately funding enhanced broadband for themselves, as being told they were not in the intervention area for improvement, they would not receive enhanced broadband. Now it appears they could, I have asked for a report on the issue. Wiltshire have obtained two million pounds from Broadband Delivery UK, plus one million from Wiltshire's Local Enterprise Partnership to help some businesses to obtain something called ultra fast broadband. A map is being prepared at present of those areas of Wiltshire where businesses find themselves in a 'no service' area for speeds above 24 or 30 Mbps. This is known as a white area.

I was pleased to hear from a local resident of West Swainsford, Mere that 9 brown trout and 9 eels were found in a hundred metre long Wessex Water test area, in the river through West Swainsford. This is one indication to me that our water is unpolluted, and is reassuring.

I attended The Mere Literary Festival presentation, when the book "Merely A Festival" was launched, which is the history of the 20 year old festival and was compiled by Sue Evans and Adrienne Howell. It is well worth reading being a publication connected to the Mere area. The Wiltshire South West Area Board gave a grant towards the publication. At the same event we learnt Amazon wanted to charge 53% for selling another book called Deepest Dorset, for which the proceeds were going to charity.

The operator of The Old Ship Hotel, Mere has enhanced the building, which to me is better than the condition it had deteriorated into a few months ago. I am sure many would like to see it brought up to a very high standard, but unfortunately no one seems to want to invest in such a project. The operator has been approached to allow a community event to use some of The Old Ship facilities, to which it has agreed.

I have several highway roads in my area requiring attention, but it has come to my attention that the public in Devon have been voluntarily recruited to repair potholes. Devon County Council is recruiting volunteers to fill in potholes that it cannot afford to repair itself, offering members of the public two days of training and the necessary equipment and materials. The move comes after a £21m shortfall in funding left councils unable to commit to the repairs. Cllr Stuart Hughes said: "The Road Warden scheme came from requests from councils asking to be allowed to do more." The pilot scheme began in April and has so far seen almost 200 minor potholes repaired.

I found with interest that Salisbury Hospital houses laser treatments for acne, hair control, tattoo removal etc. It is not funded by the NHS, therefore it has to be delivered privately. It is advertised as Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust, which gives me reassurance to its reputation.

I raised at Area Board level my concern last month, that the Mere Fire Brigade and other brigades, when called to a medical emergency (Co-responders as they are known) have been re-categorised with a view to reducing unnecessary call outs. I am

not happy about this. I would guess their call outs have been reduced by some 70%. The displeasure of The Area Board and The Mere Town Council has now been referred to The Fire Authority and others.

The new Nadder Centre at Tisbury has rooms for start up businesses from £50 a week, besides many other function rooms and sports facilities.

A local person has volunteered to fix several small circular signs to posts in The Recreation Ground to display: 'For good practice dogs should be on a lead in the Recreation Ground', in an effort to try and reduce the numbers of those dog owners choosing to commit the offence of not cleaning up after their dogs.

The next area board meeting will be on Wednesday, 7th December at the new Nadder Centre in Tisbury at 6.30pm. Also on the 16th November, at 6.30pm in the Nadder Centre there is a Joint Strategy Assessment meeting open to all by registration, when if you attend you can help prioritise those issues most pressing to this area.

TRUSSELL TRUST

The Christmas shoe boxes will soon be leaving Salisbury on the long journey to the Balkans, where they will be giving people of all ages, such joy and the knowledge that somebody cares in this uncertain world.

Some will also be going, hopefully, to Syria, where we have seen that quite desperate ongoing situation. One of your boxes could be the only happy event this year for a boy or girl or adult living in such turmoil.

Please bring your boxes to St Michaels church for the 10.30am service on Sunday, 20th November, or deliver them to me at: The Cottage, Waterside or leave them at K & M Beauty in Salisbury Street. I am also very happy to just accept gifts to go into boxes if you are unable to fill a box yourself. Lots of lovely things have already come across my bridge! With huge thanks.
Wendy Horne ☎: 01747 86172

Mere Dental Practice



Dentists: Waheed Syed, Jyothsna Mekala, and Christopher Davies.

Therapists: Wendy Hester and Jay Lonsdale.

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

: meredental16@btconnect.com : meredentistry.co.uk,

Opening hours: - Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 5.30pm,
Friday 8.45am - 5.00pm



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

Merrell's Mobile Foot Health Clinic.

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MERE AND DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

Registered Charity no. 1062328

☎: 01747 860096

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Mere Literary Festival in October, by doing so you were supporting the fund raising efforts of the Linkscheme.

If you came to any evening events you would have heard our Chairman make a plea for more drivers. We are in constant need of drivers and would welcome anyone who can offer to help. It does not matter how much you can do. Everything helps. You can absolutely do as much or as little as you want. I can assure you that you will meet some amazing people and get a welcome from everyone you meet.

Please contact the Linkscheme on ☎: 01747 860096 if you feel you are able to help.

Barbara Thomas, Secretary

20th MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL

The Mere Matters deadline was looming as Mere Literary Festival cut its anniversary cake, so this report will, of necessity, be short. The audience at the Award Ceremony on Sunday, 16th October was able to talk to authors about their books and enjoy the delicious cake which was decorated with books and logos to mark the twenty years of Mere Lit. Fest. The finale also saw the launch of *Merely a Festival*, an illustrated history of the festival, and the announcement of the winners of the Write-in-the-Week flash fiction competition. These were:-

1st. 'The Venn Diagram' by Nicky Forrest, Lamberhurst.

2nd. 'In the Frame' by Laura Tapper, Cromer, Norfolk.

3rd. 'Hitting Home' by Clive Harris, Mere.

Also shortlisted were:-

Linda Jones, Leigh Common, Somerset; Margaret Mead, Mere, and Gail Warrick-Cox, Bournemouth.

The weather proved kind and the week's events were well attended and audiences were entertained by talks from well-known authors who all say they enjoy coming to speak in Mere. It was good to see the children's event so well supported again and the youngsters going home with their Viking shields. The Anniversary Afternoon also proved a great success and a big 'thank you' to the local organisations who gave readings from Shakespeare, Charlotte Bronte and Beatrix Potter.

The Linkscheme is very grateful to organisations who 'made way' or rearranged their meetings for festival events and all who supported it in any way. It is the Mere and District community who have made twenty years of the Literary Festival and the Link possible and thanks go to all, past and present.

Adrienne Howell & Lit. Fest. Group ☎: 01747 860475

SHOW YOU CARE THIS CHRISTMAS

Why not come along and buy beautiful Fairly Traded Gifts and Christmas Cards as an alternative to 'Black Friday' and Show you Care this Christmas:

When: Friday, 25th November.

Where: The Angel Tea Rooms during opening hours

Every purchase from Traidcraft really counts and helps to raise a family out of poverty and ensures their traditional skills are passed on to future generations.

If you are unable to pop in on 25th, I will be holding my last Christmas Sale on 6/7th December at Wits End, North Road - more details in the December magazine

**Show you care
at Christmas**

Why not come and buy beautiful Fairly Traded Gifts and cards as an alternative to Black Friday and Show You Care this Christmas!

When: Friday November 25th
Where: Angel Tea Rooms

TRAIDCRAFT

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

CARNIVAL

The Carnival Committee would like to thank the residents of Mere for their continued support during Carnival Week, and we hope you enjoyed Carnival Day itself with the wonderful children's parade and the evening procession - despite the added emergency 'extras'!! The live entertainment, hog roast, candy floss and bar in The Square was enjoyed by many with the perfect weather for socialising with family, friends and neighbours.

Finally I would like to praise the hard work of our small committee who work all year long to fundraise and organise carnival day. If anyone would like to join us and help with next year's preparations for another super day, please contact our Secretary, Penny Allen - ✉: pennyallen@hotmail.co.uk or - ☎: 01747 860721.

Don't forget to come and meet Father Christmas at the Christmas Fayre in the Clock Tower on Friday, 2nd December.

Date for your 2017 diary: Carnival Day - Saturday, 16th September.

Clive Hazzard, Chairman, Carnival Committee ☎: 01747 860721

MERE AND DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS

Now that the Autumn has arrived members have resumed their activity of creating layouts.

Those presently under construction in the club house comprise: a fifteen foot (4.6 metre) 'O' gauge layout with standard and narrow gauge workings, which is in the planning stage; an '00' gauge seaside layout measuring twelve feet (3.7 metres), which is progressing well under the supervision of the Layouts Manager and who assures me that it will be running for our open day (sales and cakes with a cuppa) on Saturday, 10th December from 10.00am to 3.00pm. Finally, we have an 'N' gauge industrial layout, under the guidance of John Howard, who is enjoying the experience!

80% of our membership attended the recent AGM, and we continue to enjoy the same average attendance at our weekly club nights on Wednesday evenings from 7.00 until 9.00pm. Our distinctive Club House is situated at the rear of the Castle Street Car Park.

The club thanks the local community for its continuing support, and in some cases most generous gifts.

For further information please contact me.

Tom Snook ☎: 01747 861977



MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Annual General Meeting 2016

The Chamber will be holding an Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 30th November 2016 at 7.30pm in The George Inn.

For further information please contact Chamber Secretary, Julie Cousins, on the telephone number shown below.

Pensions Auto Enrolment

Following the Chamber's meeting held on 28th September 2016, **Workplace Advice Group** can be contacted through the Chamber if anyone requires further information on Pensions Auto Enrolment.

Date of next Chamber Committee Meeting

Wednesday 16th November 7.30 pm at Mere Social Club

Julie Cousins, Chamber Secretary, ☎: 07856 700576



SAFE PLACES

I expect we all know someone who easily becomes confused and worried, especially in new or unfamiliar situations. We know how to deal with them and reassure them.



Suppose now **you** are that person and you are out and about. Something disturbs you; how would you cope, where would you turn for assistance? You would like to know that there was somewhere you could pause a while, calm down, or seek assistance in contacting a relative or friend.

SAFE PLACES is a National Scheme encouraging businesses and services to provide initial support to anyone who becomes upset, confused, or vulnerable when out and about in the community. A **SAFE PLACE** is indicated by the Safe Place sticker, displayed prominently in the window of each business or service that has agreed to take on the role.

Mere is one of the last places in Wiltshire to adopt this scheme, which was started with funding from the Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner. Mere and District Chamber of Trade is cooperating with Barbara Hewitt, the local Dementia Champion, to introduce this scheme to Mere.

The Chamber will be contacting businesses in the area to seek their participation. An appointment will then be made for Barbara to visit and explain the scheme. As well as an introduction to the scheme, Barbara will provide some brief guidance on how to handle situations that might arise. Local care homes are also involved and they or carers, who feel they know someone who may need to use the service at some time, may issue an ICE card (In Case of Emergency) with contact details and the way in which the disability affects the vulnerable person.

So if you see the 'Safe Place' logo shown on the preceding page appearing in shops and offices in the town and surrounding area, you will know that this is a Safe Place and that the employees of the establishment are competent to help you.

Hamish Bell, President, Mere & District Chamber of Trade ☎: 01747 861717

MERE CANCER RESEARCH

Firstly a really big 'Thank you' to everyone who put their 'Green buttons', in our box at Asda, Gillingham during the recent community token scheme. I am delighted to announce that we have been presented with a cheque for £500. The box had to be emptied 3 times! A big 'thank you', also, to Emma Sleeth and her colleagues who voted for us to be a recipient of this event.

The Man Shed sale at the Clock Tower went ahead despite the best efforts of the 'inclement' weather! We raised £89.00. Thank you to everyone who came out and braved the rain to support us.

Our Autumn Bazaar was a great success and we raised the magnificent sum of £693.74. Thank you to everyone who came, bought, helped, donated, made, ate and drank - without your unstinting support we would not be able to raise funds to 'Help us Beat Cancer sooner'.

Dont forget Friday, 2nd December - The Christmas Market - more news in the December/January issue of Mere Matters.

Together we will beat Cancer Sooner.

Penny Fennon ☎: 07833 131712

**REMEMBER! COPYDATE FOR THE
DECEMBER 2016/JANUARY 2017 ISSUE**

MONDAY, 14th NOVEMBER 2016

NOVEMBER SHORT WALK

Meet at 2.00pm in the Surgery Car Park on Wednesday, 9th November for a short walk around the lanes and paths of Mere with tea at the Angel cafe afterwards for those who wish to indulge!

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884



TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY

Tea@3 will be held in the Angel Corner Tearooms on Wednesday, 16th November 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, 14th November.

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

Paul Farrow ☎: 01747 860524

COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunch will be held at The Walnut Tree Inn, Shaftesbury Road, Mere on Tuesday, 1st November 2016 at 12.30pm. The delicious two course set meal cost £9.95, drinks not included. Everyone is welcome particularly if you are new in the area, as it is a good place to catch up with all the local gossip about what is on and happening in Mere. I would also like to offer a welcome to members of the charity Blind Veteran UK and other people in the area who are suffering from sight loss - do come and join us, we are a friendly crowd. Please book at the pub in advance, ☎: 01747 861220.

For further details, please contact me.

Lindy Elliott ☎: 01747 861646

FLOWER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

June 2017

Arrangements (excuse the pun!) are moving on apace regarding this fantastic event which is happening from Friday, 9th to Sunday, 11th June 2017.

There are already some outline ideas for floral arrangements big and small to showcase the varied activities and events as well as different clubs, organisations and businesses within the town so that we can truly “Celebrate our Community” using flowers. We would be very interested to hear from you if you would like to be involved in the event – in whatever way.

Would you like to help with the flowers? You don’t have to be an expert by any means – we would love to hear from you even if you just want to “plonk some flowers in a jam jar”. Or perhaps you might have a passion for floral art and be interested in organising or assisting with a larger display.

You may have ideas of your own (or with a friend or two) and an organisation that you would like to see represented – if so, please make contact with one of the committee or telephone the number below.

If you are not too interested in flowers, you could still help! You may have a garden that you don’t mind being picked from for the event – this would be gratefully (and carefully!) done. Or, you might like to assist with staging at the time, or lend props etc. which can be included in displays.



All we need you to do at the moment is contact us (by the end of November) and just express your interest in helping in any way. The list of possible roles is endless so please get involved!

Elisabeth, Elizabeth, Maggie and Yvonne

☎: 01747 863324

or ✉: elisabeth@hillcrest.me.uk



MERE FILM SHOWS

Our film this month, ‘The Man Who Knew Infinity’ on Friday, 4th November, is a true story but a quite extraordinary one.

In the 1910s, Srinivasa Ramanujan is a man of boundless intelligence that even the abject poverty of his home in Madras, India, cannot crush. Eventually, his stellar intelligence in mathematics and his boundless confidence in both attract the attention of

the noted British mathematics professor, G.H. Hardy, who invites him to further develop his computations at Trinity College at Cambridge.

Forced to leave his young wife, Janaki, behind, Ramanujan finds himself in a land where both his largely intuitive mathematical theories and his cultural values run headlong into both the stringent academic requirements of his school and mentor and the prejudiced realities of a Britain heading into World War One.

Facing this and with his own declining health, Ramanujan joins with Hardy in a mutual struggle that would define Ramanujan as one of India's greatest modern scholars.

Before Albert Einstein there was Srinivasa Ramanujan - A little known fact outside the academic community, and precisely why this story had to be told. This film serves as a biopic behind the life and times of Ramanujan, who some say could decipher the very fabric of existence.

It is a poignant film in as much as an emotional roller coaster, but an extraordinary story told almost a century after Ramanujan's early and tragic death in 1920. Full details on page 25.

Dates for the Diary

There is no film in December. The film for January has yet to be confirmed.

Mary White ☎: 01747 861257

GILLINGHAM, MERE & SHAFTESBURY LIONS

‘We Serve’

The Lions recently held a coffee morning supporting the Macmillan Largest Coffee Morning in the Grove Buildings, Mere. This raised £116.00, made up to £120.00 by the Lions, so thank you to all those that supported the event. Any surplus cakes were donated to Fives Court, Angel Lane.

The Lions have recently contributed £400.00 to the Mere Playschool which has been used to purchase and lay a new carpet. We are also arranging to buy a new extra-large blood pressure cuff and machine for Mere Surgery, once the specific details have been finalised.

Christmas will soon be here and of course for the Lions this means organising our largest fund raising event which is the Christmas Float. It is too early to say on which days it will visit Mere but is likely to be around 10th December. Evening collections are usually from 6.30pm to 8.30pm and afternoons 2.30pm to 5pm. Unfortunately because we are a small club and attend Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Motcombe, Zeals and Bourton as well as Mere throughout December (1st to 23rd), we rely heavily on volunteers to help as collectors or indeed as Father Christmas. So if you would like to volunteer for the Christmas Float or indeed any of our other fund raising events, such as the

MacMillan coffee morning, please contact us ☎: 0845 833 7521 (this will go to one of our local members) or email Deborah Clarke ✉: clarkeacres@aol.com

Your local Lion's Club regularly raises £4-5000 annually of which the majority is distributed to needy causes throughout our area. The remainder is used to support national and international projects and disaster relief (most recently to supply clean water equipment to Haiti following Hurricane Mathew).

If you would like to learn a bit more about us and what we do then visit 🌐: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/gillinghammereshafesbury/. Alternatively, if you belong a group or club locally we can come along and give a short presentation about Lions and GMS Lions in particular. Our motto 'We Serve' most aptly describes our raison d'être, however we always expect to have fun doing so.

Lion David Rose, GMS Lion President, ☎: 0845 833 7521

Mere Lecture Hall:

Watercolour Club continues Mondays 7.00-9.00pm

Watercolour Practice continues Fridays 10.30am-12.30pm

Watercolour Techniques starts Friday, 6th January 2017 10.30am-12.30pm

Vicarage School Room, Gillingham

Creative Cards: Saturday, 19th November 10.30am-4.30pm £40.00

Watercolour from Life: Saturdays, 3rd December & 7th January 10.30am-4.30pm £40.00 each

Make contact to join in | details and enrolments: www.laura-jolliffe.co.uk

MERE THEATRE CLUB

The autumn programme is under way including drama, comedy and music. Soon we will be planning the winter programme, which should be mailed out before Christmas. So if you fancy some visits to the theatre in good company and without the need to drive yourself, do join us.

Madelaine Morris ☎: 01747 861833 Wendy Horne ☎: 01747 861712

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Simpson Seeds (Horningsham)

Matt Simpson

Wednesday, 9th November, 7.30pm Grove Building

Simpson Seeds is a small company specialising in seeds and plants for the kitchen garden. Their nursery is on part of the Longleat estate. The gardens date back to 1756 when Capability Brown redesigned the estate and the site was manned by teams of gardeners producing vegetables, flowers, grapes and peaches for the house.

£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome.

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



On Thursday, 3rd November at 7.30pm in the Grove Building, our talk will be on the Conservation of the Langford Lakes, a local conservation bird sanctuary. To keep with this theme, our social time will be spent recounting members' memories of lakes visited, and our competition will be a photograph of a lake. Visitors are most welcome to come and join us for the evening.

We will be celebrating Christmas early on Thursday, 1st December at 7.30 pm, in the Grove Building. We will be inviting WI members from within our neighbouring WI Group from Sutton Veny, Boreham and Deverill to join us for an evening of music, carols and entertainment plus raffle. Members will provide a plate supper and 'fizz' to toast the evening.
Hilary Gladding (President) ☎: 01747 861733

REFLEXOLOGY with GEORGIE PEART. MAR

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

07710 008744 georgiereflexology.com



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

For our meeting on Tuesday, 8th November at 2.30pm we are being treated to A *Virtual Visit to Salisbury Cathedral* with John Collier: a chance to experience the delights of this wonderful building – which some say is the most glorious Cathedral in the UK – from the comfort of the Grove Building! All are welcome to join us.

And a date for your diary: our MU Carol Service this year will be held on Tuesday, 13th December in St Michael's Church at 12.00 noon – followed by sandwiches and mince pies in the Grove Building. Everyone is very welcome. Please phone for more details. *Judith Thompson*, ☎: 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**

By the time this is printed, we will have had our Annual skittles knockout charity fundraiser. Thank you to all those who bought a ticket for the event and also to all the local businesses and individuals who donated raffle prizes. I will let you know how well we did, and who the trophy taker was, in the next edition.

If you are wondering what to buy loved ones this Christmas, then look no further! Steve Hawkins, who has become quite the local photographer, has put together a 2017 calendar full of local photos. We are printing the calendars at the beginning of November and they will be sold for £10 each at various locations. All proceeds will go to the RGC, so keep this in mind for those present ideas. There are a limited number being printed and already demand is high so please let us know if you would like to reserve one. Thank you all for your continuing support!

Sandie Hawkins, RGC Organiser 📠: 07835 272406
🌐: [**www.MereDayCentre.org.uk**](http://www.MereDayCentre.org.uk)

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

The Friends are very happy to pass on some very good news from Fives Court! First, Fives Court won first prize in the annual 'Trust in Bloom' competition (open to all St. John's Care Trust Homes). The theme this year was 'Celebration', and Fives Court interpreted the Queen's birthday with a Tyre Tea Party - chairs, cups and the tea pot cleverly made out of patriotically painted tyres! They received a certificate, a silver plate and £25 in garden tokens.

Among the Wiltshire Staff Awards, Sam Dean was voted Activity Co-ordinator of the Year, and Lou Rees was the runner-up Young Carer of the Year. And as if this were not enough, Fives Court was also the winner in Wiltshire in the John Monkton Memorial Prize, with a display of tiles decorated by Residents illustrating their own lives. Well done everyone!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

The Dressmakers commence their Pre-Christmas course on Monday, 31st October and Wednesday, 2nd November. This time of the year they are busy making that last minute dress for Christmas or presents, so quite a buzz in the sewing room.

We have decided to celebrate the end of another year of sewing and the oncoming Christmas by having Dinner in a local Inn before having a break and commencing again in the New Year.

We expect to have a few places available, if you are interested do get in touch so we can put your name on the waiting list. We meet at The Grove Building in Mere and run six week courses for those who are very new to sewing or maybe have not been sewing for a long time. Either way we enjoy our time together.

Contact Carol Lord ☎: 01747 861923 or Susanne 📠: 07788 595434

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

Well, now we know. Lord Arthur Savile's Crime turns out to be that once upon a time he... - but we shouldn't spoil it for you! Just come to MADS' Autumn Production and find out for yourselves. Performances are on Thursday - Saturday, 24th - 26th November at 7.30pm in the Lecture Hall and tickets are on sale NOW at the Library at £7 per person.

Don't miss it and then find out that you are the only people who don't know what Lord Arthur Savile did!
Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

MERE MUSEUM

No sooner is one new exhibition launched than we start to think about the next one! 'The King's Arms' will run well into the new year, but ideas about what comes next are already beginning to emerge. We would very much like to mount an exhibition of objects and photographs from the Museum's collection chosen by Mere Residents, and we warmly invite everyone to let us know what would interest them. We have already received one suggestion: objects from the kitchens of days gone past. Another might be items associated with music in Mere over the years. If you have an idea, please let us know. Drop a note in to the Museum, or email David Longbourne 📧: davidlongbourne@btinternet.com or me, 📧: jennyflaxmill@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!
Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

It's not long now until our Bingo Night! This will take place in The Grove Buildings on Friday, 11th November. Doors open at 6.45pm with 'eyes down' at 7.30pm. We shall aim to live up to our reputation for excellent prizes including a cash prize, and we look forward to welcoming lots of supporters who are keen to win some of them! If anyone is still able to donate new, good quality, but unwanted items suitable for prizes, we would be delighted to receive them in the box which is at the Museum end of the Museum/Library. Thank you - and good luck on the night!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

GROVE BUILDINGS “100 CLUB”

The result of the ‘100’ Club Draw for October 2016, drawn on Sunday, 2nd by Clive Minton – a visiting Ornithologist from Melbourne

1st Prize (£20)	-	No. 125	S. Walker
2nd Prize (£15)	-	No. 66	G. Bianconi
3rd Prize (£10)	-	No. 78	R. Coward

Lindy and Sue would like to thank all members who renewed their subscriptions for 2016/17 as well as our new members.

Lindy Elliott ☎: 01747 861646



Mere Historical Society

Mysterious life of Walter Henry:

From workhouse to transatlantic troopships in WWI

Howard Nichols

Tuesday, 1st November, 7.30pm in the Grove Building

£3 entry for non members who are very welcome

Morning Talk

Our morning talk for Tuesday, 15th November 2016, to be held in the Grove Building at 10.15am for 10.30am, is: "Who was Francis Faugoin?" by Julia Mottershaw. Faugoin was steward to Henry Hoare II (Henry the Magnificent) at Stourhead.

He worked for Henry for forty eight years and yet very little is known about him. His parents were French Huguenot refugees and his father worked for a Duke.

He would have seen the garden at Stourhead taking shape and been responsible for helping to make that happen.

Non-members are very welcome.



www.merehistoricalsociety.org.uk

Caroline Cook ☎: 01747 861797

MERE BOWLS CLUB

We have now entered the closed season for outdoor bowls; however a number of our players keep their hand in by bowling indoors during this period. If you are interested in trying the sport at this time then contact one of the people at the bottom of this article and they will find someone within the club who will help.

If you are already a member of the club and feel the need to increase your bowling wardrobe or invest in some different bowls, now is your chance! Check out eBay, as many players from other clubs put their used items up for sale at this time, also a lot of bowls retailers have sales of summer items during this quiet time.

Should anyone wish to learn more about bowls then please contact any of the following; Alan Inwood ☎: 01985-844215, Alan Spencer ☎: 01747-860803 or me, preferably by ✉: don.butchers@btinternet.com

Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ☎: 01747-860775

MERE CRICKET CLUB NEWS

As the autumnal days shorten and the winter draws ever nearer, it is that time of year when the keenest of village cricketers take stock and look back on the highs and lows of another cricket season. Mere CC's 2016 season had many reasons to be cheerful...

Fixture Secretary Bryan Yeo had organised 40 fixtures with a selection of weekend games and mid week T20s. This in itself is worthy of note. His fixture selection criteria for choosing opposition is as follows:- 1. Are they nice chaps? (matches must be played in the right spirit) 2. Do they have a nice ground? (never underestimate a tidy wicket in a good setting) 3. Is their tea spread of a sufficient quality? (it has been known for Bryan to discard clubs from the calendar for an overdose of crisps and poor sandwich and cake selection) 4. Are they of a standard that Mere has the chance of winning? (The latter being the least important but always tucked into the mindset of such a competitive individual as Bryan).

Bryan has become an expert at wielding these fixture conundrums into an exciting season unavailing every spring time. The fact that he takes immense pleasure and enjoyment in spending many hours as a winter recluse on his own, in dark rooms with phones and laptops, putting it altogether, is no reason not to thank him for his exceptional efforts of which we will all benefit.

This year saw us travel south to St. Leonard's Hospital to play a team of predominantly Sri Lankan doctors with a hot spicy curry for tea - yes we lost; east to one of our favourite fixtures against Chalke Valley CC at the foot of the chalk downs - a great victory; west to the hills of Batcombe - another good victory and north to Horningsham, a team we enjoy a good friendly rivalry with, but yet to win on their home patch! And who puts every single team together?... Bryan Yeo. Another round of applause. If you

haven't met this great man you should. He can be found hanging around Walnut Road doing his very best Vic Reeves impression.

What happened on the pitch, I hear you say. Well, Charlie White was the pick of the bowlers taking the bowling cup with him for the second year running. He does enjoy a social Saturday night which can be performance-debilitating for some on a Sunday afternoon, but not for Charlie. It would appear that the more dishevelled his appearance the more wickets he has the potential to take.

The best individual performance was from Rebecca Yeo (5-23 v Dinton). Young 13 year old leg spinner Charlie Cassidy emerged the latest hot prospect from Mere's youth cricketing conveyor-belt. One to watch for the future.

With the bat, we had no less than three centurions - Charlie White 120 not out v Coombe Bissett, George Cassidy 100 not out v Dorchester Casuals and Matt Pitts 103 v Marnhull. Special mention must go to 17 year old George Cassidy who has prized the batting cup away from skipper Duncan Weir this season. Many congratulations to George who for the very last time entered the cricket season a cricketing boy and finished a cricketing man. It won't be long before he can enjoy one of his Dad's fine ales to celebrate his debut century ...legally.

For the first time in Mere's short but illustrious history, the club finished with more wins than losses. This may need to be verified by club historian Kevin Whitmore. What doesn't need verifying is the unquestionable dedication of 17 year old Will Batty-Smith who played every single game this season.

Thank you to Matt Pitts and his volunteer team of groundsmen, Tony Morgan Nash, rabbit slayer Lewis Wood, Kevin Whitmore, Tom White, Mark Cassidy, Bryan Yeo (that name again, is there anything he doesn't do). There were also rumours of Mark Williams and Charlie White having an occasional stint on the roller. The square this year has produced the best wickets to date.

The players would also like to thank two of our season ticket holders (actually our only season ticket holders) President Tony Traves and Vice President John White for their loyal support and who very rarely miss a game.

As we look forward to the 2017 season, we welcome all newcomers old and young to join us for what promises to be another entertaining season climaxing with an 10th anniversary celebration tour to that cricketing hotspot, Croatia.

Please note this year's Annual Awards Dinner on Friday 18th November at the Walnut Tree Inn.

Duncan Weir 📞: 07868 372831

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

'The Man Who Knew Infinity' (12A)

Jeremy Irons Dev Patel
Toby Jones Stephen Fry

The story of the extraordinary life and academic career of the pioneer Indian mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan and his friendship with his mentor, Professor G.H. Hardy.

In The Lecture Hall
Friday 4th November,
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**



Mere School Reports

Busy! Busy!

We are now well into our first half term at Mere and all the children have settled into their new classes and are working really hard in all areas of the curriculum.

Walk Safe

The children in Year 1 and Year 2 have been learning all about road safety this half term.

The Year 1's have been working in the hall with the Walk Safe team to practice crossing roads safely.

The Year 3's were taken out into Mere to learn the rules in a real life situation.

Bikeability

The Year 6 children have been busy learning how to look after and ride their bikes safely in and around Mere.

They have clearly enjoyed the activities and are now ready to cycle the roads safely.

Visitors

The children in Year 4 have had several visits from family members to discuss what life was like in World War Two.

Janet Way has visited the school to talk about One World Week and ran a workshop for Year 3 to create peace doves.

Year 5 had a visit from a Roman soldier, which allowed them to discover what life was like in Roman times.

Ancient Technology Centre

Year 6 went on a visit to the Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne. They learnt all about Saxon life through real life experiences.

STOP PRESS!

Do look at our website for more details and pictures of what we are up to in school

🌐: www.mereschool.co.uk

HINDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Visit to Portland Bill Lighthouse

Have you ever climbed to the top of a lighthouse? The children in Owl Class at Hindon Primary school, which includes pupils from West Knoyle, have!

As part of their topic on Coasts, the children have been studying how Lighthouses help to keep ships safe at sea. The children were escorted up the 155 steps to the top of the lighthouse by the Lighthouse staff and were fascinated by the size of the enormous light bulb that shines 25 miles out to sea. One child asked what happened if the bulb went out and was reassured that there was a spare!!

Some children had to block their ears when the fog horn was sounded – it was very loud! The children looked around the room where the lighthouse keeper once lived and were pleased to see characters from their class story, The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch!

Curriculum enrichment visits, support learning in the classroom and are a focus for cross curricular learning at Hindon Primary School.

Amanda Bristow, Finance & Admin Officer ☎: 01747 820260

REV'D CAROL WILSON-BARKER, PRIEST IN CHARGE: ST MICHAELS, MERE; WEST KNOYLE AND MAIDEN BRADLEY, WRITES:

Moving Forward In Hope

By the time you read this letter we will have attended the last service in Mere Methodist church. Like many of you, I feel a sense of sadness that we will be saying goodbye to their Christian witness. Through Churches Together we are trying to plan a lasting legacy in Mere, particularly through our links with local schools; we'll let you know how this develops. Together with our Methodist friends, I would like to say a special thank you to the Rev'd Paul Arnold for his compassionate and hopeful ministry here among us. We shall miss him. (He will, however, be staying on as Chair of Churches Together until the end of this year).

This year, for different reasons, Mere has lost both its non-conformist church leaders. Paul, because of the church closure, and Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp who has moved to pastures new. The URC church is still a presence among us and

is indeed working to improve its building at the moment. But I am very pleased to say that we welcome a new Deacon to ministry in Mere for the Roman Catholics, the Rev'd Michael Hughes and look forward to getting to know him better. He will be one of the contributors to these regular letters in Mere Matters along with senior lay people and ministers from the other churches. With all these changes and comings and goings, it is important to keep up our life of prayer, and to seek guidance and strength from God in uncertain times. In fact the greatest challenge to our Christian values is when Christians STOP BEING CHRISTIANS.

Living as a Christian is demanding on us personally, as a community and as a nation. It isn't just about being a "nice" person or giving our children and grandchildren a set of rules so that they behave nicely. Nor is it something for other people to do too. Christianity is a religion which encourages forgiveness, living with a loving heart and a sincere hope in others and in all situations.

These are good things to teach children, but first and foremost they are things to believe in ourselves or ask God to help us to believe in. Christianity is open to all – I can assure you there is no one too "bad" to receive God's loving peace, even if for various reasons you personally feel otherwise!

There are many challenges: economic uncertainty at home and the heart searing images of injured people in Syria. We can feel overwhelmed, but as Christians we must remain, and practice remaining, hopeful and determined. We need to look for green-shoots to fortify us when things look too black: who would have thought at the height of the troubles in Northern Ireland there could ever be peace and yet it now sends peace emissaries around the world to help build peace elsewhere.

May we see the face of Christ in everyone we meet, and may everyone we meet see the face of Christ in us.



Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2016 10.45am at the War Memorial Laying of wreaths followed by Family Service at St Michaels

Sherry Dixon, PCC secretary ☎: 01747 861319

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOTES

Deacon Michael Hughes is now part of the Church's mission at St Mary, Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Mere. Prayer for our town and area is offered every morning at 9.00am, except for Thursdays and Saturdays. Every Thursday at 11.00am the Rosary is prayed for peace in our increasingly troubled world. Holy Mass is celebrated at 5.30pm on Saturdays. I can be contacted on the telephone number below.

Rev'd Deacon Michael Hughes ☎: 01747 830766.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING....

For the fourth year, Churches Together in Mere and District are providing a **Christmas Day lunch** in the Grove Building, Mere, for anyone on their own, or families who will find it hard to celebrate this Christmas. It will be a traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, in a good festive atmosphere, finishing with tea and Christmas cake.

There will be no charge, but donations* will be welcome, and, so that we know how many to cater for, it is essential to apply



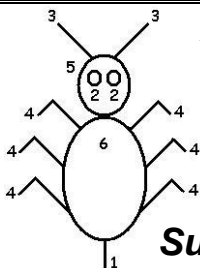
for a ticket in advance. Numbers are limited to a maximum of 60, and the closing date is 30th November. If you would like a ticket, or know of anyone who would like to come, or if you would like to help, please telephone ☎: 01747 860335 (Judy Bickerstaff), or ☎: 01747 860553 (Judith Thompson)

**Any surplus monies to be given to the Trussell Trust Food Bank*



You are invited to come to a reflective Taizé-style evening service for Advent on Sunday, 4th December at St Michael's Church, Mere at 6.00pm.

Churches Together in Mere & District
Judith Thompson ☎: 01747 860553 & Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884



ALL WELCOME TO A BEETLE DRIVE
On Friday, 18th November at 7.30pm
in the Grove Building
in aid of Suchana

Tickets £5.00 (Children £3.00)

Supper included – licensed Bar available
A fun evening for all ages

to book phone:

☎: 01747 863324 (Elisabeth Barrett)

☎: 01747 860553 (Judith Thompson)

or sign list at back of St Michael's Church

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

NOVEMBER 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 Lynette Elliott ☎ 01747 861646

PCC Secretary: Mrs Sherry Dixon ☎ 01747 861319

✉ office@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday		12.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
The Rev'd Carol Wilson Barker normally has a rest day on a Friday			
Tuesday	1st	3.00pm	Start the Month (Winter start time)
			Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	6th	10.30am	Family Communion
		5.00pm	Evensong (Winter start time)
Sunday	13th	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday
Begins at the War memorial followed by Family Service			
Sunday	*20th	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW1)
	27th	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW1)
		5.00pm	Advent Praise

*Traidcraft Stall after 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎: 01747 860685

Sunday	6th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie, Holy Communion
	13th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	20th	11.00am	Anniversary + Lunch, Martin Heal
	27th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's

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

Every Saturday 5.30pm Mass

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

West Knoyle 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	6th	9.30am	Holy Communion
	13th	9.30am	Remembrance Service
	20th	9.30am	Holy Communion
	27th	6.00pm	Evensong

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

DIARY DATES

November 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; MSC-Mere Social Club. RMC-Railway Modellers Clubhouse

1	Tue	12.30pm	Community Lunch	The Walnut Tree Inn
		2.00pm	- 4.00pm "Online Drop In Session"	Lib
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (also 8th, 15th & 29th)	L
		7.30pm	Mere Historical Society	GB
2	Wed	9.30am	Tai Chi (every Tuesday)	GB
		10.30am	Tai Chi small hall (every Tuesday)	GB
		11.00am	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers (every Wednesday)	RMC
		7.00pm	Dressmaking (every Wednesday)	GB
3	Thur	10.00am	- 11.30am Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am	- 12.00pm Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		1.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)	GB
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
4	Fri	10.30am	Open the Book	GB
		10.30pm	- 12.30pm Watercolour Practice (every Friday)	L
		1.45pm	Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - every Friday)	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba (also 11th & 18th)	L
		7.30pm	Mere Filmshows/Moviola "Man who Knew Infinity"	L
5	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning (every Saturday)	CC
7	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (every Monday)	L
		10.00am	Chair based Zumba (every Monday)	L
		10.00am	- 11.30am Lent Study Course (also 14th & 21st)	URC
		10.30am	Dressmaking (every Monday)	GB
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Beaver Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		6.15pm	Church Meeting	URC
		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		7.30pm	Town Council Meeting	AYP
8	Tue	9.00am	Jenny Franks Footcare Clinic (also 22nd)	CC
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
9	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together Whist Drive	GB

		2.00pm	Short Walk	CP
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
10	Thur	5.00pm	Girl Guiding (every Thursday)	GB
11	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 25th)	GB
		6.45pm	Friends of Mere Museum "Bingo Night"	GB
		7.00pm	Watercolour Club (also 21st & 28th)	L
		7.30pm	MADS Meeting (Green Room)	L
13	Sun	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday Service	War Memorial
15	Tue	10.15am	Mere Historical Society, Morning Talk	GB
16	Wed	3.00pm	- 4.30pm T@3 with 'Online Drop In'	Angel Tea Rooms
		7.30pm	M&D chamber of Trade Committee Meeting	MSC
18	Fri	7.30pm	Suchana "Beetle Drive"	GB
19	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
		1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
24	Thu	7.30pm	MADS production "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime"	L
25	Fri	9.00am	Traidcraft Pre-Christmas Sale	Angel Tea Rooms
25	Fri	7.30pm	MADS production "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime"	L
26	Sat	7.30pm	MADS production "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime"	L
30	Wed	7.30pm	M&D Chamber of Trade AGM	The George Inn

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

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT

1st Friday: 2:00 - 4:00pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS
& DEATHS:

By appointment only (☎: 0300 003 4569)

Thursdays: 9:30 - 11:30am

'GET ONLINE'

DROP-IN SESSION

1st Tuesday 2:00 - 4:00pm

HEALTH TRAINER

Every Friday 2:00 - 4:00pm

COPYDATE FOR DECEMBER 2016/JANUARY 2017 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the combined December 2016/January 2017 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 **4:00pm on MONDAY, 14th November 2016**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome.

Send from Monday, 7th November to: ✉: editor@merematters.co.uk

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

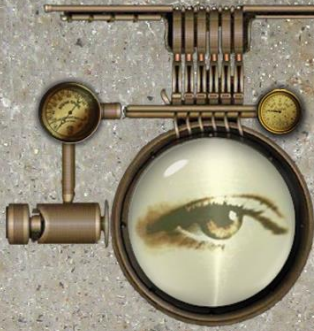
ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:

Mrs Jane Kennedy

✉: jane.kennedy83@btinternet.com

☎: 01985 844740

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Teeandee Productions

Tel: 01747 841458
Mob: 07799 325214

Email: tim@teeandeeproductions.com

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