

# MERE MATTERS

## AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



**APRIL 2018**

The Town Council meets every month. Whilst it is not a public meeting, members of the public are welcome to come and listen. Council members are working on YOUR behalf to sustain and improve the quality of life and the environment that we enjoy in the town - 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, 9th April 2018.

### **The Chairman writes:**

The March Meeting of the Town Council had a historical emphasis. Following on from the news that the Mere War Memorial is now a Grade II listed building we have secured a grant to help with much the cost of cleaning and restoring it. We discussed further the planning for the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI and our frustration with the regulations that require us to apply for permission to put lightweight poppies on lampposts through the town. Several councillors are working on suggestions to make the day something memorable. Michael Streeter, of the Gillingham and Shaftesbury news was there as usual, and had done a lot of research on our behalf to find articles about the building of the clock tower, and we will soon have an agreed date and a plan for celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Mere Museum is also helping with information and with the event, but I would ask if you have some historical information or very old photographs or paintings of the clock tower then please let me know. Mere School will be having an art competition for all of its students, and their work will be judged by a team led by local artist Laura Rich and then put up for display.

Following on from discussions last month on responding to the effects of the size and speed of vehicles along The Lynch, this month we heard from residents in Barrow Street and the speed of vehicles on the road there. We will also be putting the case forward to Wiltshire Council CATG for SLOW road markings with the hope that this has an effect.

I had hoped that we would be certain about the future of the Car Parks and Public Toilets and whether they would be transferred to Mere Town to become our assets to

### **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**

manage or whether a new lease would be offered, but we are still no further forward.

I have had my ear bent on several occasions about how long Council matters take so I would like to make it clear that despite the continued efforts of our Town Clerk we are too often kept waiting for replies to our requests.

Similarly, we had been expecting a visit from the Wiltshire dog warden, but this has not happened as we continue to have concerns about dog fouling. We have considered a code of practice for dog walkers, but did not adopt it. We have labelled all bins to show that they can be used for 'doggy bags' as well as ordinary litter and we have provided 'doggy bag' dispensers with free dog poo bags in two popular locations. We have considered additional bins, but felt the costs outweighed the benefits and that there is a good distribution of bins.

We have sought the assistance of the Wiltshire Dog Warden but she has not been able to schedule a visit for some time. It is our ambition that the dog warden can advise on strategies to improve matters and also can provide enforcement of the law - which would include fines for owners. While we wait for her visits, it has been suggested that we ask people to adopt an "Everyone can be a Dog Warden" stance and remind others to 'pick up'. Our understanding of the rules is that the only place a dog owner can leave their dog's excrement is on their own property.

I would mention the snow days, which had such an effect on us all, and I would thank all of those who took time to help others, particularly those in distress. It has been brought to our attention that one of the doctors stayed overnight in the surgery so that there was a doctor present in Mere during the severe weather conditions, and there were countless other acts of altruism and willingness to help others.

I am glad that our groundsmen were able to get into town and work on gritting and snow clearance, and their efforts were added to by many volunteers clearing snow.

When I next meet with the officers who manage planning of the care of Wiltshire Highways, I will try again to have the status of the road through Mere raised. This should mean that it would receive a higher level of maintenance and, certainly, more gritting and clearing. You could easily see the difference in status of road management when you got to Gillingham junction.

April will also see the Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, 25th at 7.00pm for 7.30pm in the Grove Building. This is an opportunity to hear from the many organisations that contribute to life in Mere as they make their annual reports.

*John Jordan, Chairman, Mere Town Council*

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

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

I have awoken this morning to hear Ken Dodd has died, he was one of my earliest memories of entertainers on BBC 405 lines black and white television (tele or TV as many then called it), a mobile phone with a colour screen, was just a dream, Concorde and travelling to the Moon were just possible projects.

A little later in my life came the snow of 1963, which lasted longer and had larger drifts than that we have just had. The snow shovels, salt, tractor blades and vehicle towed gritters I have in recent years promoted and help get put in place, have been used to good effect, on the roads of West Knoyle to Kilmington, local car parks and pavements. I would like to thank Rob Fricker for use of his tractor and Ryan Melville for driving it while the snow was at its worst. Ryan, I am told, worked in West Knoyle for 48 hours more or less non-stop. Ian Meeker at Kilmington also set off with his tractor in the hazardous weather to keep Kilmington clear.

The National Trust used the equipment and salt provided by Wiltshire Council to help Stourton. Charles Spencer's tractor etc was used to clear Main Road, Zeals, David Gatehouse used Zeals spinner and salt from Wiltshire Council. Mere Town Council worked hard to clear pavements and car parks. Lynch Close at Mere have a dedicated salt supply that was also put to good use to free a steel lorry that had stuck on Hazzards Hill, Mere. Richard Coward cleared the north of Manor Road. These are the people I know who helped. I am sure many others all pulled together and helped, for which I thank them.

Research from National Energy Action and climate-change charity E3G has found that more than 3,000 people are dying in the UK each year due to not being able to afford to heat their homes. After the recent cold spell I am aware of those living locally who have financial problems, not having the money and sometimes no help to keep warm and fed well.

I am trying to get Wiltshire Council to sort out the many street lights that continue to fail or have failed in Mere. I watched people walking in the road when the snow was on the pavement, with vehicles coming towards them and no street light working. There are 4,000 streetlights in Wiltshire at present, 7% are LED and more are being changed to LED. Although inevitable, the current type of LED street light tends to light unevenly in my opinion.

Dr. Halsey, as I understand, slept in the surgery for two nights while the snow was with us. I am sure many will extend our gratitude to him. It could have been life or death for someone had he not been present in Mere, again many many thanks to him and all the other staff who came into the surgery to work during that difficult time.

The South West Planning meeting, which I attended, continued in City Hall near to the site of the reported attempted murder of Sergei Skripal and his daughter. The affects of this incident appear to be widening. I and Wiltshire Council staff have had their e-mail facility cut off from portable devices as a result of the investigation, which obviously makes communication “on the go” more difficult for me.

Not so far away from us is East Hampshire DC, which charges one of the lowest rates of council tax in the country, and where the council leader is hoping to scrap council tax charges altogether by 2022. I do not mean to be sarcastic, however you may be reading this on 1st April and apparently it is not a joke!

The Mere Town Council chairman has suggested, "Everyone can be a Dog Warden" reminding others to 'pick up'. I support this when safe to do so. I am not one for prosecutions unless absolutely necessary, however some dog owners or walkers deserve to be prosecuted in my opinion, when deliberately refusing or trying to evade picking up.

I said last month a very interesting presentation was made to the South West Area Board by James Body on bringing Super Fast Broadband and 4G mobile coverage to the Chalke Valley. The Government has now signed an agreement with the Church of England that will see church spires made accessible to mobile providers looking to improve rural broadband connectivity. It follows a successful trial, which saw the structures used to increase access to high-speed broadband in two dioceses - Norwich and Chelmsford. Officials said that "clear guidance" by the Church and Historic England "ensures that any telecoms infrastructure deployed does not impact on the character and architectural or historic significance of churches".

Crime Exceptions were mentioned in the Community Policing South West Wiltshire newsletter. You will be pleased to hear the Mere area had none this month, although Tisbury did. What are crime exceptions? I was informed it is when more crimes of a category are committed in a month than average.

I sit on the third party advertising policy task group. We, as a group, consider what might be acceptable when it comes to raising money from adverts displayed on public assets. With a diminishing government grant to Wiltshire Council, new or other ways of raising revenue have to be found. Although the following does not necessarily represent Wiltshire, it is worth noting nationally: - The National Audit Office (NAO) has warned that many councils are on the verge of insolvency, due in large part to cuts in central government funding of almost 50% in eight years.

Figures released by the NAO show that councils' financial positions have “worsened markedly” since the last audit in 2014, with 10% of councils likely to exhaust their reserves by 2020. The report notes a 33% fall in the number of households with weekly bin collections, a 40.9% drop in food hygiene checks of cafes and restaurants, 48% cuts to

bus route subsidies, the closures of 10% of libraries, and the issuing of 67% fewer health and safety enforcement notices.

The NAO found that despite all these cuts, councils have been unable to balance their books due to funding cuts, the increased demand for social care, and costs such as the new national minimum wage. Social care costs now account for 54.4% of council spending, up from 45.3% in 2010/11. Amyas Morse, head of the NAO, said that currently “funding for local authorities is characterised by one-off and short-term fixes”, many coming with conditions, which “restricts the capacity of local authorities”, while the NAO report warned that trends in funding and demand for services were “not financially sustainable over the medium term.”

A woman is facing court after being unable to pay a fine for putting two extra bin bags next to her wheelie bin for collection. Joanna Beck, from Accrington, Lancashire, says she was not aware of Hyndburn BC's rules on recycling, has offered to pay the fine in instalments, but the council has threatened her with court unless she pays in full. Thank goodness I know of no such draconian measures in this area.

A reminder again a date in your diary. “Mere Makes Music” is organised for Saturday 28th April 2018 (see below). Wiltshire Rural Music School based in Trowbridge, but also a county-wide charity, is trying to work out more in communities. Wiltshire Rural Music School is also offering funding of 6 workshops afterwards.

A reminder again, I have a facebook page Cllr George Jeans, for use to display some events I attend and maybe other material. It is not a platform for conversation at present; I do not view it regularly, whereas : [george.jeans@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:george.jeans@wiltshire.gov.uk) or : 07710 441599 I can usually answer quickly.

# MUSIC ON YOUR DOORSTEP IN MERE

FREE music-making for all!

Join us for a day of free music workshops, activities and performances, as we celebrate community music-making in Mere.

**Date:** Saturday, 28th April 2018

**Time:** 10:00am

**Organiser:** Wiltshire Rural Music

**Location:** Mere Primary School and Children's Centre

Come and try out our Jam Pod, iPad Station, Instruments and more!



## Whats on!

- 10.00 – 10:45am – Mini Musicians – exploratory music session for under 5's and their families.
- 10.00 – 11.00am – Singing Taster with Matt Finch – Love singing this is for you. Suitable for all ages and abilities.
- 11:30am – 12:30pm – Creative Music Tech Workshop – Explore some of the cutting edge music technology and create music with others. Suitable for all ages and abilities.
- 1.00 – 2.00pm – West African Drumming with Drum West – Enjoy a lively, loud and complete African experience. Suitable for all ages and abilities.
- 2:30 – 3:30pm – Ukulele Workshop with Tom Hiscocks – Suitable for all ages and abilities.
- 3:30 – 4.00pm – Big Jam! The day will include performances from local groups.

To book your free workshop places please visit:



**<http://wiltshireruralmusic.co.uk/all-events>**

*Steve Harris, Community Engagement Manager, Wiltshire Council*

## **THE MERE LECTURE HALL TRUST**

### **Grants Available for 2018**

This independent Christian Trust was established in 1924 to promote the spiritual, moral, educational and social welfare of the inhabitants of the town of Mere and the surrounding area. The Trust supports a number of small schemes, charities and voluntary groups with grants for practical action.

The Trust is benevolent in a broad sense and seeks to help people of all ages to enjoy facilities they would not otherwise be able to access. It operates within a Christian ethos for the benefit of the whole community and welcomes a wide range of creative initiatives. Applications for grant support are now invited for activities or projects based within 8 miles of Mere. The closing date is Saturday, 30th June and successful applicants will normally be paid within three months of this date.

For further details and an application form please write, enclosing an A5 stamped and addressed envelope, to : The Grants Committee, The Mere Lecture Hall Trust, c/o Monkswell Cottage, Mill Lane, Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6DA.

## **RHYME TIME AT MERE LIBRARY**

Come along to our Rhyme Time in the Library, a FREE Activity for Babies and Toddlers. Run every Friday 10.00-10.30am.

This is a lovely way to introduce your Baby or Toddler to the world of Rhyme and Songs. For further details, contact the Library on the number shown below.

*Sally-Ann, Mere Senior Library Assistant, ☎: 01747 860546*

## **Singing for All**

**Next session April 6<sup>th</sup> 6pm in Mere Lecture Hall**

Learn some basic technique and sing a variety of pieces

Contact: KATIE SMITH B Mus - 07427 684269 or

[www.reallysing.co.uk](http://www.reallysing.co.uk)



## **MERE DENTAL PRACTICE**

Dentists: Waheed Syed, Jyothsna Mekala, Christopher Davies

Dental Hygienists: Laura Moss, Emma Wise

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

email: [meredental16@btconnect.com](mailto:meredental16@btconnect.com),

[www.merementistry.co.uk](http://www.merementistry.co.uk),

Opening hours: - Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 5.30pm, Friday 8.45am -5:00pm

**Practice is now offering Dental Implants and Six months smile (minor teeth correction for adults)**



## MERE CARNIVAL 2018

The work for our carnival this year has already started and we know that many carnival entrants are also getting ready for the big day – this year carnival is on Saturday, 15th September, so put it in your diary now!

At our Annual General Meeting on 5th March we elected our officers: John Gammie - Chairman; Nick Beale - Vice Chair; Penny Allen – Secretary; John Jordan – Treasurer; Mary Harbert – Procession Secretary. Some of you will notice that a name is missing. Clive Hazzard our Chairman for the past 20 years has retired from that position. We, on the committee, know how much care, time and effort he has put in over the years and we wish him a happy carnival retirement and a huge thank you.

There is a lot of work to be done, before, during and after the Carnival and we are always looking for new members for the committee. This year we could do with someone to take on the management of our Programme. This involves getting sponsors to advertise (usually repeat customers), co-ordinating with the printers, getting payments for advertisements and finally, distributing the programme. If you feel you can help us with this or in other ways then do get in touch with our new chairman : [john@gammie.info](mailto:john@gammie.info).

*John Jordan, Treasurer, Mere Annual Carnival, : 07840 722835*

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT THROUGH MERE

Passengers using local bus services will have noticed different vehicles on routes through Mere.

Route 57 runs from Market Street Warminster and travels through the Deverills and Mere to a new stop in Bramley Hill, Mere before returning to Warminster. These Monday to Friday services connect with other routes in Warminster for local bus and rail services, including Morrisons supermarket, the rail station and National Coaches. Details are shown on new timetables available at the Public Library in Mere and The Hub at Warminster. This service is operated by Beeline.

A new Route X4 and X2 operated by South West Coaches (Dorset Buses) runs Mondays to Fridays from Mere town centre (opp Waltons in the Square) stopping at Gillingham Rail Station and travelling to Shaftesbury and Mere. This service travels also to Sturminster Newton.

Details are available in the Mere Library or the Public Transport Unit at County Hall 01225 718080 (Mon to Friday), or on line at Traveline South West (TravelineSW). The services are provided and subsidised by Wiltshire Council.

*John Howard* ☎: 01747 860312

## **MERE CARNIVAL BINGO**

Friday, 20th April 2018

Grove Building

Doors open: 6.45pm

Eyes Down: 7.30pm

Excellent variety of quality prizes

Specials Raffle Refreshments

Fun for all the family

Organised by Mere Carnival Committee with proceeds to Carnival Funds.

Further bingos will be held on Fridays, 6th July and 7th September 2018. Same time, same place.

For your diary: Carnival Day: Saturday, 15th September 2018.

*Sue Jeans* ☎: 01747 860215

## **MERE RIVER GROUP**

### **Wildlife Sightings for February.**

Thanks, as always, to those of you who ventured out in February and kept your eyes open for wildlife around our waterways.

As you will see there were further sightings of Water Rail. We are also particularly lucky to have the Water Voles here, as these lovely creatures are in serious decline nationally and many areas are working to reintroduce them. We have our own little colony here and we hope they continue to thrive.

Sightings in February were: Little Egret – 12 times; Moorhen – 6 times; Kingfisher – 4 times; Water Rail and Water Vole – 3 times each and Grey Wagtail – Twice. Once each: Heron, Tree Creeper, Yellowhammer, Signal Crayfish. Also seen were a flock of 6 long tailed tits.

### **Nature Notes**

April is now here, with the promise of spring weather, so we should see more activity around our waterways with birds and mammals mating and producing young. So please keep your sightings coming and e-mail anything of interest to  [mereriverwildlife@btinternet.com](mailto:mereriverwildlife@btinternet.com). *Lynne Bann* : 01747 860174

## **WARMINSTER FOOD BANK**

Don't forget we are collecting on behalf of Warminster Food Bank outside the Co-Op, Mere on Saturday, 21st April from 9.00am to 2.00pm. Please could you consider buying an extra tin, packet or box for our collection in your next food shop. We are also in need of toiletries, baby food (no formula milk) and ladies sanitary products. We have 2 collection points running from Tuesday, 10th April at both the Co-Op and KM Beauty if you are unable to make the 21st.

We are in need of volunteers to help with the collection on the day, so if you can spare a few minutes or an hour, we would be very grateful. Please ring me on the number below (if no reply, please leave a message). Please - if you have eaten today, remember those who have not. *Katie* : 01747 860081

## **LOCAL GIRL MAKES IT TO THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES**

Faye Pittman, who was born in Mere, has qualified for the second time to compete at the Commonwealth Games. The games are being held on the Gold Coast, Australia, this year from 4th to 15th April. Faye and her twin sister, Vic, were well known in this area for being very good gymnasts when younger, and often in the local papers.

Going to university meant moving to Cardiff for Faye where she completed her degree going on to do her masters in sport and exercise science. She still lives in Cardiff having her own flat, with her own business in the Sports Industry.

Faye was in the British Bobsleigh Team for 2 years competing in Europe, before taking up Weight Lifting. She is the current Welsh & British women's weightlifting champion in the 69kg class, training 2-3hrs a day, 5/6 days a week with added sessions, for mobility/massage etc.

When the games were held in Glasgow 4 years ago, Faye was injured in the run up to the games while competing in Italy, so could not compete. However, this time around, fingers crossed, with no injuries in the last week before flying out, Faye will compete on the 8th of April in the 69kg class. Her twin will be out there to cheer her on. Vic now resides in Edinburgh where she is a Doctor of Chiropractic, having taken two degrees.

We as a family are very proud of Faye. *Sylvia Pittman* : 07887 533656

### **Heather Stone: DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE.**

A useful treatment for problems relating to: muscles ~joints~ movement  
~ posture~ injuries (old and new) ~ circulation~ hormone balance~  
digestion~ nervous system~ Or simply for **relaxation and wellbeing.**

Practising at Mere Osteopathy Clinic. **Heather: 07874 079 913**

## **CALL FOR BELL RINGERS**

### **Your Country Needs You**

On Sunday, 11th November as many towers as possible have been invited to ring to mark the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War 1. Ringing will be half muffled for morning services at various times, but it is planned that all towers across the country will ring at 7.05pm to mark the end of the war.

1,400 bell ringers lost their lives in the Great War and the aim is to recruit 1,400 new members nationally.

The Mere band of ringers ring at four towers and assist at a further two. Mere has eight bells and Zeals, Stourton and Bourton have six bells. Silton and Maiden Bradley also ring six bells. We do not have enough ringers to ring at all of these towers at the same time.

If you have ever rung in the past and would like to ring just on this very special occasion we will be offering refresher lessons if desired.

On the other hand, if you have never rung and feel that this is the year that you would like to try please contact us.

Mike Durkee, Tower Captain for Mere, ☎: 01747 860163 or David Gatehouse, Tower Captain for Zeals, ☎: 01747 840957.

*Maggie Durkee, Tower Correspondent, ☎: 01747 860163*

✉: [margaret.durkee@btopenworld.com](mailto:margaret.durkee@btopenworld.com)

## **MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE**

The next Chamber Committee Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 25th April 2018 for 7.30pm at Mere Social Club.

The Chamber Website and Facebook page are now operational again and we shall be posting topical articles on them in the next few weeks. We will update you further in the next edition of Mere Matters.



If you would like to know more about the Chamber, its work and activities or would be interested in training courses for yourself, or for your organisation, please get in contact with us. Please watch this space for further details of our meetings and we look forward to seeing you at a Chamber event or meeting in 2018.

For information about Mere Chamber please contact me on the telephone number below or e-mail  [merechamber@outlook.com](mailto:merechamber@outlook.com).

*Julie Cousins, Chamber Secretary,  07856 700576*

## **MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS**

Now that our clubhouse has withstood its winter snows and offers a very pleasant warm refuge for spring modelling, a dozen or so of us are continuing to congregate in three distinctive groups that represent the gauges we will be working on, in the foreseeable future, those being O, OO, & OO9. Having recently sold our 8 metre 'Blackmore Vale' layout that was difficult to transport, the club is now embarking on new layouts which are much more friendly towards the modern hatchback, SUV and estate car.

A typical club night (Wednesday 7.00-9.00pm) consists of activities in the construction and skills required to create new layouts for the majority, whilst a few prefer the much warmer club room. Halfway through the evening a break for tea or coffee with biscuits is utilised and at this point a discussion, followed by a railway DVD (a facility that was funded by local generosity and the South Wiltshire Area Board) is preferred by some members.

By the time this edition of Mere Matters reaches you, ten members and supporters of the club will have made their annual visit to the Festival of Railway Modelling at The Alexandra Palace. This event is organised by the West Camel Club and supported by Shepton Mallet and District and ourselves. Its excellent value at £25 per head that includes entry and the coach to London and back.

The final details have now been passed to the national magazines and associations with regard to our forth coming **Mere Model Railway Exhibition on the weekend of 16th & 17th June in the Lecture Hall**, so please place the dates in your diary. The emphasis this year is on larger gauges. For example we have 'Tor Halt' from Salisbury, which is 16mm live steam (similar to the Great Glen Challenge with Dick Strawbridge) and its other supporting locomotives. The 3 gauge 'Chalfont ' from the same name town in Buckinghamshire will also be present along with a selection of award winning more usual gauge layouts that have not been seen in Mere before!

For further information please contact me

*Tom Snook  01747 861977*

## TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY



Tea@3 will be held in the Angel Corner Tearooms on Wednesday, 18th April 2018 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, 16th April, please. 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, 10th April 2018 at 12.30pm. This will be the last Community Lunch of this session, so come and meet up with all the people whose company you have enjoyed during these lunches, before you head for your gardens. The two course set meal costs £10.95, drinks not included. Please book in advance on ☎: 01747 861220 and advise the pub if you need a specific diet. There will also be a talk, 'Policing in the 60s' by Bill Coltham.

The Community Lunch will start again as part of the Literary Festival in October. It is a chance to meet and get involved with the wonderful community of Mere and all are welcome.

I would like to thank the Walnut Tree and The George for providing a jolly good lunch over the past few months, well done.

For more details please ring me: *Lindy Elliott ☎: 01747 861646*

## MERE GARDENING CLUB Organic Seeds

**Pippa Rosen**

**Wednesday, 11th April, 7.30pm Grove Building**

Pippa, from "Beans and Herbs" has grown organic seeds for many years, including heritage varieties of the beans and herbs in which she specialises.

**£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome.**

## Mere Garden Festival

The Festival will be held on Saturday, 1st September 2018.

Don't forget to pick up your schedule for the Festival this month, from either the Library or Sprout and Flower. We hope you will be inspired to enter the simplified categories and have the date already in your diary!

We have a great line-up for the panel for our Gardener's Question Time, which will be held in the Grove Building at 2.00pm.

Mere Garden Club have their potatoes 'chitting' (laying the seed potatoes out to begin to 'sprout') before planting ready for the Grand Potato Weighing Competition - always great fun, and are being joined by Mere School Garden Club.

They will also be soon busily designing the cover of our programme. Look out for more details next month, and keep an eye on our web-site  [meregardenclub.org.uk](http://meregardenclub.org.uk)

*Janet Way*  : 01747 860884

## MERE CANCER RESEARCH UK

We had a very busy and productive time last year. We managed to raise a whopping £13,000 towards fighting cancer, and wish to thank you for supporting us so generously.

Now we are planning another year of events, and we'd like to invite you to join us at The Hill Brush Factory on Saturday, 28th April between 9.00 and 11.00am for a 'Cars and Cake' morning. There will be magnificent classic cars to ogle and delicious cakes to consume.

This year the May Fair is to be held around the Clock Tower on Saturday, 19th May, from 9.00 - 11.00am. In view of the Royal Wedding and the Cup Final, we have decided

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Fast friendly and reliable. Ironing collected and delivered  
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that the May Fair will take on a different format. It will be a 'Pop-up' fair, with fewer stalls, but you can expect our usual plant table, cakes and a raffle alongside others. We do hope you will be able to come along and support us, despite all the excitements you may already have planned for that weekend.

Our committee is dedicated to thinking up new, innovative ways to raise funds and enjoy ourselves along the way. We are always looking for new members, as well as extra help - especially with planned events - and your support is highly valued and very gladly welcomed.

If you feel you would like to join us, we'd love you to get in touch.

For more information, please contact me: *Harvard Dallibar*, : 07788 138003  
: [las518@icloud.com](mailto:las518@icloud.com)

## MERE FILM SHOWS

First of all our apologies for having to cancel **'My Cousin Rachel' (12A)** due to the extreme weather conditions. This film has now been re-scheduled for Sunday, 29th April in the Lecture Hall at 3.00pm. More details to follow from the Library and posters around town about the showing!

The next film scheduled is **'Murder on the Orient Express' (12A)** on Thursday, 12th April 2018. Many of you may already know who murdered whom and why, so come along and see what you make of Kenneth Branagh as Hercule Poirot! Also an opportunity to spot the performers who include Judi Dench, Derek Jacobi, Johnny Depp, Willem Dafoe, Daisy Ridley and Michelle Pfeiffer.

Tickets for both films are available from the library and full details of 'Murder on the Orient Express' on page 25.

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Rosie* ☎: 01747 861567

## **APRIL SHORT WALK**

Come and enjoy the Spring in the hedgerows and gardens of Mere on a Short Walk of 2-3 miles on Thursday, 19th April. Meet at 2.00pm in the Surgery Car Park.

*Janet Way* ☎: 01747 860884

## **WALKING IN MERE**

As spring is here, hopefully. Now is the time to get out and explore parts of Mere that you may not know. Have you seen the fabulous bluebell wood at Chaddenwick?

For £3 pick up a pack of the 'Walking in Mere' cards at the Library, the Angel Cafe, Jeans Newsagents, Sprout & Flower, The Butt of Sherry or Stourhead, and enjoy some of the 77 footpaths that Mere has to offer.

*Madelaine Morris* ☎: 01747 861833

## **PANTA REI DANCE COMPANY**

We are privileged to be able to host an evening of modern dance in Mere on Saturday, 5th May at 7.30pm.

Supported by Rural Arts Wiltshire and hosted by Mere Drama Society, Panta Rei will be performing for one night in Mere Lecture Hall.

Panta Rei Dance Theatre is based in Oslo, Norway. The company is known for fast-paced colourful dance theatre performances that are accessible to a wide range of audiences in a variety of theatrical spaces.

Seating will be limited, so if you want to be sure of a seat please ring or e-mail to reserve tickets. These can then be paid for on the door. £8 each.

*Maggie Durkee* ☎: 01747 860163

## MERE MUDDLERS ART GROUP

Mere Muddlers Art Group is happy to welcome new members. We are a small, mixed amateur group which meets on Monday evenings at the Whitesheet Primary Academy Infant Centre, Butts Lane, Kilmington BA12 6RB. Our sessions are unsupervised. Members come along simply to do their own thing and enjoy a friendly chat with others who enjoy muddling along with oil, acrylic, watercolour or whatever takes their fancy.

Call me for more details.

Simon Moon, ☎: 01747 861412



## MERE MUSEUM

Compliments continue to pour in to the Museum on our current exhibition called '**Mere's Amazing Neighbours**'! We are of course delighted to have such positive comments and hope that many more visitors will come to see the show. There is also an accompanying display in the clock tower,

if you have a spare five minutes or so to have a look. The exhibition will remain on show until mid-May. Entry to the Museum is always free.

We would like everyone to know that our promised **Big Event** (with tea and cake!) will take place on **Saturday, 16th June** from **2.00- 5.00pm**. We are in the midst of planning an exciting programme for the afternoon. This is very early notice, but we wanted to make sure that everyone has this important date safely marked in their diaries!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

## FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

The Friends' first fund-raiser this year is a **Quiz Night**, and it will take place on Friday, 27th April in the Grove Building. Doors will open at 7.00pm. Come with a ready-made team of four or just turn up and join in. Refreshments will be available and we shall also have a raffle.

Meanwhile we hope you are nurturing lots of seedling, cuttings and plant divisions in preparation for our **Plant Sale** on Saturday, 12th May! We shall sell cakes too, so if you should happen to be making a cake between now and then, perhaps you would be kind enough to make two and pop one into the freezer for us!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

## MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

Once again, it's all over! We hope you enjoyed our Spring Variety Show as much as we did. Thank you to everyone who came and supported our efforts. Now it's back to the drawing board and planning for the next production. This won't be until the Autumn, of course, so there's lots of time now to enjoy the rest of Spring and the Summer. But never fear: we'll be back!  
*Jenny Wilding* ☎ 01747 860908

## **DRESSMAKING IN MERE**

We were delighted to have five new people join our Dressmaking Courses for this new session. Four are quite new to Dressmaking on a Wednesday evening, many of them young Mums, so we have a few more little dresses being made for lucky daughters, and even a lovely Rag Doll with even tinier clothes! Also people who join are those who really struggle to find clothes that fit well. Susanne and I are being kept very busy and the atmosphere is lovely.

We commence the next course in May and are also planning another **“Sewing All Day” on Saturday 19th May from 10.00am to 3.30pm in the Grove Building**. This was so popular last time we have been asked to arrange another one. They could not believe how much they achieved in a day without being disturbed and with help on hand when needed.

Our Wednesday evening course is full, with a waiting list, but there is a little space on a Tuesday morning, so if you are interested in either of these courses or possibly “Sewing All Day” as a taster, we meet at the Grove Building in Mere from 10.30am - 1.00pm on a Tuesday and from 7.00 - 9.30pm on a Wednesday. We invite people to come and visit us if they are interested, so they can see what we do and meet us to have a chat.

Contact us by phone or look at our Facebook Page “Dressmaking in Mere”:

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

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

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

We are looking for a new volunteer, once a month, to pick up the lunches from Fives Court and deliver them to us here in Lynch Close. If you feel you could help, please contact me on the number below.

Our Guests have been enjoying a wide range of activities, and we have recently arranged to have a Greek dancing session, which we are all looking forward to! We would very

much like to hear from anyone who would be willing to bring their pets in to meet us all, again please contact me if this is something you feel you could help with.

The heavy snow we had meant that we had to close on Friday, 2nd March and although our guests were pre-warned that this was a possibility, it really highlighted the need for us as a community to be aware of older, more vulnerable people, in difficult times. I was very pleased to see that our lovely community pulled together and helped one another where possible, and I would like to thank all of you who checked in with older neighbours and offered support.

We have recently received a grant award for a new laptop from the Ernest and Marjorie Fudge Trust for Warminster. This Trust serves the people of Warminster and the surrounding area and awards grants both to individuals and to organisations. The trustees of the fund welcome applications for a range of needs, and you can find out more on : [www.fudgetrust.co.uk/](http://www.fudgetrust.co.uk/) or : 01985 213 440.

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



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

Our regular meeting on **Tuesday, 10th April at 2.30pm** in the Grove Building will include our AGM and also a 'Bring & Buy' sale in aid of MU's work overseas. After that Sheila Crone will be helping us think about our theme for the year, focussing on MU's founder, 'In Mary Sumner's Footsteps'.

All members are also welcome to come to the MU Heytesbury Deanery meeting to be held in the Grove Building, Mere on Thursday, 12th April at 10.30am

And a date for your diary: we're planning a HALF-TERM FUN AFTERNOON from 2.30-4.30pm on Tuesday, 29th May with games and craft activities as well as tea and cake for all. Details in the May edition of Mere Matters

*Judith Thompson, MU Branch Leader, :01747 860553*

## **THE ARTS SOCIETY NADDER VALLEY**

Many of you may know of, and may well be one of, the 90,000 members of the Arts Society formally known as NADFAS. With inspiring monthly lectures given by top experts in their fields, together with study day events, educational visits and cultural holidays, the Arts Society is a great way to learn, have fun and make new and lasting friendships, as well as supporting arts within the local community.

The belief that the arts have the potential to enrich peoples' lives is at the heart of

everything we do.

We have now opened a local branch of the Society in the Nadder Valley and are welcoming membership from all communities in the area. We will be holding our lectures at the Nadder Centre in Tisbury. Over 180 people had registered an interest in joining, and within 3 days of opening for membership over 70 people had joined, so we are off to a very promising start.

The annual membership is £40 per person. We will hold 9 lectures in our first year so that represents amazing value at just over £4 per lecture.

Our inaugural lecture will be at **6.30pm on Friday, 20th April 2018** at the Nadder Centre in Tisbury. The title of the lecture is **Red White and Blue - A story of three colours in Art**, exploring the symbolism, significance and spirituality of colour throughout the history of art.

You can find details about the new society, the dates and details of all our lectures for the next 12 months, and download a membership form on our webpage : [www.theartssociety.org/naddervalley](http://www.theartssociety.org/naddervalley). Why not sign up now and avoid the waiting list! You can contact us at : [naddervalley@theartssociety.org](mailto:naddervalley@theartssociety.org) or call the Chair, Sean Moran, : 07929 606604. *Kate Prior* : 01747 871559

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Call Marilyn Morris BSc(Hons), PGCE 01747 228416



# Mere Historical Society

## Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday, 3rd April, 7.00pm in the Grove Building**  
***Subscriptions for 2018/19 due (£10)***

If you are unable to attend please send your subscription to

**The membership secretary:**  
**Gerry Cook, 20 Lovage Way, Mere, BA12 6RU, phone 861797**

Subscriptions will be taken and wine and nibbles provided before the AGM which will start promptly at 7.30pm followed by:

### **Out of my Attic – 20th Century Boy's Toys**

**Michael Weale**

A light hearted look at Michael's collection.

**£3 entry for non members who are very welcome**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Note : There are NO Morning talks in April**

### **VISIT ONE - Thursday, 17th May**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Oxford and the Ashmolean Museum**

The Ashmolean is Britain's oldest museum, and our day in Oxford will begin with a highlights tour of its fabulous collection taking about one hour, after which you will be free to spend more time in the museum or explore Oxford. The museum has both a café and restaurant.

**Leaves Salisbury Street Car Park at 8.30am and return by around 6.30pm.**

**Cost: MHS Members £26, non-members £29 per person.**

*Includes coach and tip, entrance and guided tour.*

**DEADLINE FOR BOOKING: TUESDAY, 1st MAY**

More details and booking forms available from Mere Information Point and our website:



**merehistoricalsociety.org.uk**

*Caroline Cook* ☎: 01747 861797

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA  
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starring Kenneth Branagh

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in The Lecture Hall  
Thursday, 12th April at 7.30pm  
(Doors open 7.00pm)

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For more information call Rosie ☎ 01747 861567

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# Mere School

## Yellow Class

Yellow class have been working hard all term on their topic of Journeys.

## Bear Hunt

In English the children have been learning the story 'Going on a Bear Hunt'. They have learnt the story off by heart and have added in actions of their own.

They then enjoyed inventing their own Bear Hunt story.

## Trip to the Moon

In History they have been looking at the story of the famous astronaut Neil Armstrong.

They have found out all about his journey to the moon. The children have learnt all the facts about this famous journey and have retold it in their own words.

Yellow class think that it would be very exciting to be an astronaut!

## Art

In Art they have been learning about the famous artist Kandinsky.

They have looked at lots of his paintings and have discussed what they like and dislike about his art work. They then created their own version of the painting 'Circles' using their excellent colour mixing skills.

## World Book Day

Despite the 'Beast from the East' arriving many of the children made it into school for World Book day. They particularly enjoyed making their own books with the help of Mrs Rich.

The children would like to thank Mr Rich, Mrs Rich and all the volunteers for a fantastic World Book Day.

## STOP PRESS!

Don't forget to look at our website for more details and pictures of what we have been up to:



[www.mereschool.co.uk](http://www.mereschool.co.uk)

## *Thomas Bowes - solo violin*



*JS Bach Pilgrimage UK Tour returns to*

*St. Peter's Stourton on Sat. 5th May*

*Doors/bar open 7.00pm - Concert 7.30pm*

**Tickets £10 Jane Joyce 01747 840149/j-joyce@dircon.co.uk**

## **BOWLS CLUB**

Next month we open! All through these cold winter months we have all been dreaming of having the sun on our backs while we enjoy the sport we have come to love, let us all hope for a good warm summer and a successful season.

If any of our readers, or even their friends if they do not read Mere Matters, are thinking of having a go at bowls, then why not come along on opening day? You will be assured of a warm welcome and we will guarantee that you will be bowling in no time, all you need is a flat pair of shoes and lots of enthusiasm, we will do the rest. So a date for your diary Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April at the Green on Springfield Road (in the school grounds opposite the dental surgery) at 3pm – see you there!

For any other details about the Club please contact either David Anley on 01747-822216, Alan Spencer on 01747-860803 or me, Don Butchers on the number below or by e-mail : [don.butchers@btinternet.com](mailto:don.butchers@btinternet.com).



**CHURCHES**

**TOGETHER IN MERE AND DISTRICT**

April begins on Easter Day. Please come and join our Easter Celebrations at one or other of our Churches if you can. (Details on pages 31 and 32)

Looking a bit further ahead:

**Come for some peace and refreshment in a beautiful setting**

**Everyone is invited to a**

**Quiet Day**

on Wednesday, 16th or Wednesday, 23rd May from 10.00am – 4.00pm  
(Choose the day that suits you best) at Sedgehill Manor near Motcombe  
Post Code SP7 9HQ – Lifts available

**Led by Pepi Hughes**

No fee, but please bring a packed lunch, and a donation. Places limited so book early! Phone 860884 or 860553 or just sign the list at the back of either St Mary's (RC) or St Michael's Churches, Mere.

### **Two other important Churches Together events:**

**11.00am Good Friday** (30th March). Meet by the clock tower for the traditional 'Walk of Witness' carrying the cross up Castle Hill. Everyone – church member or not – is very welcome to join us. Followed by **Lent Lunch in the Grove Building**.

(If the walk up the Hill is too much, you're welcome to Stations of the Cross at 11.30 at St Mary's RC Church.)

**7.30pm Wednesday 18th April** in the Grove Building, Mere: **Churches Together in Mere and District Annual General Meeting**, with a speaker from CAFOD : Geoff Lowe. We regularly support CAFOD, as well as Christian Aid, at Churches Together events, and this is an opportunity to update our knowledge of their work around the world.

As well as that, our AGM provides a chance for **all members of all the Churches** to reflect on how we have worked together in the previous year, and how we might work to serve our community better in future. Please come!

**Women's World Day of Prayer Contributions.** Sadly, the service was cancelled because of snow. A number of people have asked if they can still make a contribution towards the many worthwhile charities supported by WWDP. You can do this, by Saturday, 7th April at latest, by giving it to Eileen Burfitt at the URC Coffee Morning any Saturday, or by taking it to her at 32 Lynch Close.

*Judith Thompson (860553) & Janet Way (860884) joint secretaries CTM&D*

## **LETTER FROM THE CHURCHES**

### **Rev'd Deacon Michael Hughes, of the Roman Catholic Church of St Mary's, writes:**

A Miracle Day in Mere early last month. Did you notice it?

So many families in our busy world rarely get to spend a day together – always mother, father or a child is away from home at work or play. But when the snow came, the schools closed and the parents could not get into work. There was nothing for everyone to do but play all day – and what a playground God provides when he sends the snow. Tobogganing, snowballing, skating, skiing. In the schools I was surprised at the number of children who said they had built an igloo: it must have been a special sort of snow. So many families had fun together to a rare degree. Then, before, we could get bored with the snow, it went as suddenly as it had come. And a few days later, the blackbirds were singing, the sun was warming us, and the spring came rushing in.

Those in the North of our planet have snow for months and get sick of it: those in the tropics at the centre of our world will never see snow. But we are blessed to have it just rarely as a delight.

(My special thanks to the Landrover driver who steered out of the way on Motcombe hill, when, out of control, I careered down the road on a sledge.)

Of course, it was not fun for everyone: we think of those who turned the A303 into a dormitory for one night, and we salute the heroes in our care homes who, not being relieved by the next shift, went on caring for the fragile without a break for a day and a half.

But for most of us, including the schoolteachers who got an unexpected break with their own children, what a surprise, what a JOY it was. God turned our normal lives upside down, and then turned them back to normal, as the fields turned from green to white and then back to green.

If we are stuck in a rut, despondent about our future, or sad about the way life has turned out, let us turn to God, meet him in the Mass – or the protestant services and be aware

that the One who made us and loves us can change everything in our lives in the blink of an eye, as he changed our world so suddenly on Snow Friday.

If we meet Him in prayer, He will hear us and help us change what needs changing. Never believe that the world cannot be changed for the better if we cooperate with the One who made it - and us.

## **ST MICHAELS CHURCH FETE 2018**

After a break in 2017 to make way for the very successful Flower and Music Festival, we will again be holding a Church Fete this year on Saturday, 9th June.

There will be plenty of attractions, some new and some old favourites, including a coconut shy, children's corner, bottle stall, bric-a-brac and plants, together with the Teddies parachuting off the tower!! The proceedings will be opened by 'Royalty'!

The fun starts at 12.00 noon and a variety of hot and cold lunches will be available.

A number of people will be giving their time to provide a great time for all. Let us hope the weather is favourable.

We could still do with more help, so if you feel you would like to get involved in any way please do contact us on the number below.

*Derek and Sandra Fisher ☎: 01747 861980*

**REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE MAY 2018 ISSUE**

**MONDAY, 16th APRIL 2018**

## **CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE**

**APRIL 2018**

**The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:**

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

**Rest Day - Saturday**

✉ **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)**

<b>Each 1st Tuesday</b>		6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)
<b>Each 3rd Wednesday</b>		12.00pm	Holy Communion
<b>Each Friday</b>		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
Sunday	1st	10.30am	<b>Easter Day</b> Communion with Childrens activities
	8th	10.30am	Matins
	*15th	10.30am	Parish Communion with Sunday Club for Children
Wednesday	18th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	22nd	10.30am	Holy Communion
		6.00pm	Songs of Praise Celebrating Lay Ministry
	29th	10.30am	Parish Communion

\*Traidcraft stall after 10.30am service

### The United Reformed Church

**Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, ☎: 01747 860685**

<b>EASTER Sunday</b>	1st	11.00am	Rev'd M Laurie Holy Communion
Sunday	8th	11.00am	Mr Ken Elcock
	15th	11.00am	To be arranged
	22nd	11.00am	Mrs Christine Marsh
	29th	11.00am	Rev'd John Heyton

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

**Deacon Michael Hughes ☎: 01747 830766 ✉: michael@faithandjoy.co.uk**

**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	1st	9.30am	Holy Communion
	8th	9.30am	DIY
	15th	9.30pm	Holy Communion
	22nd	9.30am	Matins
Sunday	29th	9.30am	No service at St Marys. Please come to Holy Communion in Mere

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

## DIARY DATES

APRIL 2018

**AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; CC-United Reformed Church Centre; CP-Main Car Park; GB-Grove Building; HBF-Hill Brush Factory; L-Lecture Hall; Lib-Library; Lynch-Lynch Community Centre; MPS-Mere Primary School; MSC-Mere Social Club; RMC-Railway Modellers Clubhouse**

2	Mon	10.00am	Zumba First level (also 9th, 23rd & 30th)	L
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (also 9th, 23rd & 30th)	L
		6.00pm	Beavers (every Monday)	GB
5	Mon	6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
3	Tue	2.00pm	- 4.00pm 'Get On-line' Drop-in session	Lib
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (every Tuesday)	L
		7.30pm	Mere Historical Society AGM and talk	GB
4	Wed	11.15am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
5	Thur	10.00am	- 12.00pm Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		10.00am	- 11.30am Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)	GB
		6.20pm	- 7.20pm Greek Dancing (every Thursday)	L
		7.00pm	Womens Institute (Small Hall)	GB
6	Fri	10.00am	- 10.30am Rhyme Time (every Friday)	Lib
		10.00am	Alzheimers Group (also 20th)	GB
		1.45pm	Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - every Friday)	GB
		5.30pm	Really Sing (Small Hall)	L
		10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning (every Saturday)	CC
9	Mon	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
		7.30pm	MADS Meeting (Green Room)	L
10	Tue	10.00am	- 12.00pm Health Trainer Session (also 24th)	Lib
		12.30pm	Community Lunch	Walnut Tree Inn
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
		7.00pm	Yoga (also 24th)	GB
11	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
12	Thur	10.30am	MU Heytesbury Deanery Group	GB
		5.00pm	Girl Guiding (every Thursday)	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Film Shows 'Murder on the Orient Express'	L
13	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 27th)	GB

		1.00pm	- 9.00pm Highways England A303 Stonehenge Plans	L
14	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + Traidcraft	CC
		7.00pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L
15	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Walking Group April walk	CP
16	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers and Toddlers (also 23rd & 30th)	L
		10.00am	Textiles Group	GB
		6.00pm	Watercolour Club (also 23rd & 30th)	L
17	Tue	10.00am	Moo Music (also 24th)	L
		6.00pm	- 8.00pm Life Drawing	L
18	Wed	9.30am	Tai-Chi (also 24th)	GB
		10.30am	Tai-Chi Small Hall(also 24th)	GB
		3.00pm	- 4.30pm Community Tea Party	Angel Tea Rooms
		3.00pm	- 4.30pm Get On-line Drop-in session	Angel Tea Rooms
		7.30pm	Churches Together AGM	GB
19	Thu	2.00pm	April Short walk	CP
20	Fri	7.30pm	Mere Carnival Bingo	GB
21	Sat	9.00am	- 2.00pm Warminster Food bank collection	Co-Op
24	Tue	10.30am	- 1.00pm Dressmaking Group	GB
25	Wed	1.45pm	Friends together	GB
		6.00pm	- 8.00pm PennyBank Writers	L
		7.00pm	Mere Town Council's Annual meeting	GB
		7.00pm	- 9.30pm Dressmaking Group	GB
		7.30pm	M&D Chamber of Trade Committee Meeting	MSC
27	Fri	7.00pm	Friends of Mere Museum 'Quiz Night'	GB
28	Sat	9.00am	- 11.00am Cancer Research 'Cars & Cakes'	HBF
		10.00am	Music on your doorstep (see page 8)	MPS
29	Sun	3.00pm	Mere Film Shows 'My Cousin Rachel'	L

## **BOOKING MEETING HALLS**

Grove Building:	Ian Treece	☎: 07754 524802
Lecture Hall:	Sally Johnson	☎: 01747 861063
URC Church Hall	Eileen Burfitt	☎: 01747 860685

## **MERE INFORMATION**

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

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

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

### **WILTSHIRE DEMENTIA**

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

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS                      **By appointment only** (☎: 0300 003 4569)  
& DEATHS:                      Thursdays:                      9:30 - 11:30am

### **'GET ONLINE'**

DROP-IN SESSION                      1st Tuesday                      2:00 – 4:00pm

HEALTH TRAINER                      Alternate Tuesdays                      10:00am – 12:00pm

## **COPYDATE FOR MAY 2018 ISSUE**

Editorial contributions for the May 2018 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 Copydate: MONDAY, 16th April 2018.** E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send from Monday, 9th April 2018 to : [editor@merematters.co.uk](mailto:editor@merematters.co.uk)

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

## **ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:**

**Mrs Jane Kennedy**

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

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