

MERE MATTERS



AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE AND
GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010

MERE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets every month. Whilst it is not a public meeting, members of the public are welcome to come and listen. The Council members are working on YOUR behalf to sustain and improve the quality of life and the environment that we enjoy in the parish - come and hear what they are doing for you! You will be permitted to raise questions in a public session before the meeting starts. The next meetings will be held in the **Andy Young Pavilion at 7.30pm on Monday, 7th December 2009 and on Monday 18th January 2010.**

The Chairman writes:

At the present time, the Parish Council is setting its budgets for 2010/11. This is quite a drawn-out process and it has been known for budget meetings to end after midnight but the Parish Council has to decide what services or level of services it should provide next year and at what cost to the ratepayers of Mere.

We are planning to have the Christmas Tree and lights ready for switching on during the first week in December and one of our parish councillors has kindly agreed to judge the annual competition for the best residential Christmas lighting display. On that note, on behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish all parishioners of Mere a very Happy Christmas.

For information on Parish 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.

Eric Mitchell, Chairman, Mere Parish Council

BT Community Connections

BT Community Connections is an award scheme, which enables community and charitable organisations to get online and make use of information and communication technology (ICT). Groups can apply for a laptop and a year's free broadband connection and there are more than 1,000 award packages available to give to groups who can demonstrate how an award will benefit their work and the local community.

The scheme has been devised to reduce the digital divide by providing community and charitable organisations with a route to access ICT equipment and broadband and to provide a UK wide award scheme open to all community and charitable organisations by offering a sustainable award system which adds value to new and previous applicants.

The scheme supports a diverse range of community and charitable organisations. In the past voluntary projects, silver-surfers, conservation organisations, family support groups, sports teams and youth groups have all been supported.

Almost any organisation, working in any field of community benefit, located anywhere within the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland can apply for a laptop and a year's free broadband connection.

To find out more, either visit: www.btcommunityconnections.com where you can complete an application form or print a postal application form as well as view case studies of previous winners and read the judges' top tips to help you complete your application.

Alternatively, ☎ 0845 257 6792 for more information. Postal applications must be received by 5th January 2010 or online applications must be submitted by 7th January 2010. Winners will be announced the week commencing 8th March 2010

Lindsey Wood, Parish Clerk

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES

This month I will wish you all: "A very happy Christmas and New Year". Wiltshire Council is likely to remove the terminal hour for new licence applications for alcohol, in our (Salisbury) area. This is part of the harmonisation of Wiltshire. Therefore in theory you will be able to drink the New Year in 24 hours a day!!!!!! Merry Christmas.

Do not forget harmonisation of car parking charges could impose charges for Mere Car parks. This will be discussed in Trowbridge on 12th January, 2010, at the Environment Select Committee.

George Jeans, Wiltshire Councillor, Mere Division

MERE WEATHER

During October, we had a total of 83.5mms (3.29ins) of rain. Last year we had 110mms (4.33ins). In fact, we have had less rain each month than last year. Most of the rain was small drops over night. We only had three days with more than 10mms (0.39ins). The weather has been mild with most days having sun in the afternoon.

Up to the 15th November, it has been wet. Very wet! We have had 109.5mms (4.3ins) of rain in the two weeks, as much as the total for August and September with strong winds, particularly on the 14th. It is getting cooler as winter approaches.

Peter Durkee

LIP READING CLASSES

Please note that my e-mail address given in the November issue was incorrect and should read: libsian@nuttlebury.fsnet.co.uk. I am also available by telephone.

Liz Messer ☎ 01258 817200

**THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY
MARILYN and SAM of
THE FRUIT SHOP in THE SQUARE, MERE
TELEPHONE: 860300**

MERE DENTAL PRACTICE



The practice currently has **NHS appointments** available to anyone.

The practice at present has two Dentists:

Mr Stephen Sherrard

Ms Jacqueline Barnes

..and one Dental Hygienist:

Ms Wendy Hester (Mondays only)

Contact Details: -

Mere Dental Practice

Duchy Manor, Springfield Road

Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6EW

☎: 01747 860365

For Christmas opening see below

Tuesday 8.45am – 7.00pm (Both Dentists cover evening appts.)

Normal hours (9.00am – 5.30pm on Mon, Wed, Thurs & Friday.

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

MERE DENTAL PRACTICE NEWS

Christmas opening hours

Christmas Eve - emergency drop in clinic starting at 9.00am till 11.30am

Christmas Day - closed until Tuesday 28th December

Tuesday 29th December – 9.00am until 5.00pm

Wednesday 30th December – 9.00am until 5.00pm

New Year's Eve - emergency drop in clinic starting at 9.00 until 11.30am

New Years Day – closed

Monday 4th January - normal opening hours

Wiltshire PCT does run an out of hours emergencies during the Christmas/New Year period, starting from 6.30pm on Christmas Eve. The telephone number is ☎ 0300 1115717, any non Wiltshire residents will have to call NHS Direct ☎ 0845 4647.

Contact with Patients

The practice now has an e-mail address for patients to contact us on: meredental@btconnect.com The practice has started to e-mail patients' appointment reminders and recalls by e-mail or text (trying to reduce our paper trail). The practice is also putting together its first web page and, hopefully, this will be up and running in late December or early January.

Francine Sherrard, Practice Manager

Connect to Wiltshire Advert – Full page

MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Well the Business Competition is under way and we have had the first two heats.

The Entrants from Mere were quite diverse: Freebird Campers owned by John Gammie and Mary Harbert, Richard Beavan of Transit Transport, Around the World in 80 Handbags author Will Baxter and not least George Jeans with Waltons of Mere.

They each had to give a presentation of their businesses to a panel of judges, Philip Coward of Hill Brush Company, Alex Sparks from South West Economic Partnership and Mark Bird from HSBC Trowbridge on 14th October.

The results were then fed back to Wessex Chamber and on Monday 2nd November, we attended the Athenaeum Theatre Warminster to combine with Warminster and Westbury Chambers to hear the contenders from all three towns again give a short presentation. Peter Blackburn gave out the result for Warminster and Westbury and then Barbara Hewitt gave the result for Mere. And the winner was..... Will Baxter of Around the World in 80 Handbags.

Thank you to the Judges for taking part in what is a new event for Mere. We very much appreciate your time and for the decision you had to make, we are sure it was not easy.

Our thanks to Warminster Chamber for their hospitality in hosting the event and now on to round 2 as we headed for Trowbridge for the Semi Finals on Thursday 12th November. Who from all the towns in Wiltshire will be the ultimate finalist?? Watch this space.

Barbara Hewitt (Ms) MSSP Chair of Mere & District Chamber of Trade

Don't forget our AGM on 2 December 2009 at Indigo Blue Restaurant. Please contact John Gammie ☎: 0783 1572831 so we can cater for numbers.

Julie Cousins, Secretary ☎ 01747 837909

LINKSCHEME FESTIVAL

A BIG thank you to all who supported the 2009 literary festival

This year's Mere Literary Festival was again blessed with good weather and it proved a happy week. The speakers have commented on 'the lovely audiences' and Mere's warm welcome and hospitality. (And did you spot some of them on TV the following week?) Most events were well supported although numbers for the coffee morning, when local authors gave excellent talks, were disappointing. As well as the programmed events, poetry readings were given to residents in Fives Court and Bramley House and at both meetings of the Day Centre. There were also writing workshops for pupils at Mere and Zeals schools.

The poetry competition attracted a record entry in all sections with entries coming from as far away as New Zealand. A list of winners is posted on the Link notice board outside the Co-op and names of certificate awards on the MLF website: www.merelitfest.co.uk

Congratulations go to local poets Peter Gillott (2nd Open) and Colin White (2nd local) on their success, also to Mal Mallett and Jeffrey Mason who were awarded certificates and to Harvey Emby who won the Grace Wines Memorial Prize in the junior section. Thanks go to this year's moderator, Roger Wilding, and to all the readers without whom the competition could not take place. Senior Judge, Louis de Bernières, praised the standard of the short list. Our thanks go to him and to Sue Ashby and Mary White, the local and junior judges.

Although the organiser mourns the passing of the team quiz, the new style one proved popular and our thanks to all who sold or bought the question sheets. There were four tying in marks for the prize which was drawn at the Awards Ceremony by Parish Councillor Michael Hall. The winner was Barbara Gayford (Mere) and answers are posted on the Link notice board.

The thanks and appreciation of the Linkscheme and the Lit.Fest.Group go to all the sponsors, advertisers, donators of prizes and helpers who make the Literary Festival possible. You are invited to a 'thank- you' evening on Friday 11th December at 7.30p.m.in the Grove Buildings to meet Linkschemers and hear the results of Lit. Fest. No.13, and what might be happening at Lit.Fest. No.14.

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

MERE & DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

Requests for Transport ☎ 01747 860096

Once again we congratulate and thank Adrienne Howell and her team of volunteers for arranging another enjoyable week of events in the literary festival. The donation we receive from the festival is a vital contribution towards the running of the Linkscheme and we are grateful to all who attended the different events and made a successful outcome possible.

Christmas Closure.

The Linkscheme will be closed from Wednesday, 23rd December until Monday, 3rd January 2010. Requests for transport early in January may be left on the answerphone.

Molly Burden ☎ 01747 860007

MERE FILM SHOWS

Before giving any details of our December film I must apologise profusely to the Ladies of the W.I. for showing a film on the first Thursday of the month, which I know very well is W.I. night, but I am afraid it was a case of Thursday 3rd December or not at all! However, for those of you who will miss this excellent film I promise I will do my best to have an equally excellent film for January!

'Last Chance Harvey' (12A) stars Emma Thompson and Dustin Hoffman as two strangers who meet by chance and unexpectedly find that romance can blossom at any age. This

is a wonderfully light-hearted film that has been playing to full houses on the Moviola circuit and is just the thing to begin the Christmas celebrations. Don't miss it! Full details are on page 19.

Dates for your diary: Thursday 14th January and Friday 19th February. Films for the New Year have yet to be confirmed but they will be good ones! Look out for posters.

In the meantime have a very Happy Christmas! *Mary White* ☎ 01747 861257



MERE CARNIVAL

Saturday 19th December, 9.45am – 12 noon

Father Christmas is coming to town, Come visit him in the clock tower.

£2.50 per child includes a present from Father Christmas.

Come along and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere with warm mince pies available for all.

Don't miss this magical event

Organised & operated by Mere Carnival Committee to raise funds for 2010 Mere Carnival

Deborah Merx, Mere Carnival Committee ☎ : 07771 774054

MERE WEA BRANCH

Spring courses

The Industrial History of South West England

An examination of the industrial history of Cornwall, Devon and Somerset looking at mining, quarrying, clayworking, textiles, papermaking and associated industries. We will also look at transport systems. Fully illustrated with slides and handouts. This course will run for 6 sessions of 2 hours each starting on

28th January 2010 to 11th March 2010 From 10.00am – 12.00noon

At Footprints, Tutor, Mick Atkinson PhD, Fee £42

A one day course

The Archaeology of Religion and Burial

Cultures display more about themselves through their burial rituals than through many other aspects of their lives. This course will look at largely British examples and try to understand the motivation for and the beliefs demonstrated by the diverse burial treatments encountered.

Saturday 13th February 2010 10.00am – 4.00pm

At Footprints, Tutor Ian Meadows, Fee £17.50

Pre booking required. For both courses please contact:

Natalie Hooper ☎ 01747 861108

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Christmas Social

Our next meeting is our Christmas Social on Wednesday 9th December 2009, at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings. It will be in much the same format as last year which everyone enjoyed so much. There will be a quiz and seasonal drinks will be provided but Members are asked to bring a plate of food, and a table decoration. Just for fun, there will be a competition for the best decoration. Visitors and friends very welcome.

There will be no meeting in January 2010: *Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884*

MERE MUSEUM

Our new exhibition, 'Made by Hand' (the work of a number of local craftsmen and women), has attracted widespread interest and admiration for the astonishing range and the quality of the work on display. It is certainly not to be missed, but you must visit before the end of the year when another new exhibition will be installed. This will provide a showcase for accessions to the collection during the first decade of this millennium – a fitting way to launch the Museum into a new year! The exhibition will be open to the public from Tuesday 5th January 2010.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

There's still just time to get your tickets for our next fund-raising event: a (suitably seasonal) talk by **Robin Yapp** entitled 'How Wine Came to Mere'. Robin's talk will be illustrated (so there are bound to be pictures of sunshine and vineyards – good for the spirits at this time of year!), and there will be an opportunity to buy a glass (or two) of Yapps' wine as refreshment. The date is **1st December**, the time **7.30 p.m.** and the venue, the **Grove Buildings**. Tickets - only **£3 each** - are available NOW at Mere Information Point. Do join us!

The Friends' preview of the new exhibition (see Museum notice) will be on **Monday 4th January at 6.30 p.m.** We shall ensure that the event is suitably celebratory!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE THEATRE CLUB

Our new theatre club continues to go from strength to strength with now over 60 members, including some from other villages such as Maiden Bradley, West Knoyle, Zeals etc.

We are about to sit down with the new programmes for next year and sort out a long list for all our members to vote on, from which we can select a short list from which people can book. So if you would like a play or concert to look forward to during the winter months, do let us know by phoning Madelaine or Wendy, numbers below. We would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a stimulating and cultural new year!

Madelaine Morris ☎ 01747 861833, Wendy Horne ☎ 01747 861712



UNLOCKING HISTORY

MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A Year in Parish Life

Richard Moore

Wiltshire Family History Society

This talk will follow the Church Calendar and its effect

on our ancestors.

Tuesday 8th December at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings

Silchester – Excavating an Iron Age and Roman Town

Prof Michael Fulford

Reading University

Professor Fulford has been director of Reading University's excavation at the Roman town of Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester), where the University has been working since 1997. The research provides a fascinating portrait of the changing life, occupations and values of the inhabitants

Tuesday 12th January 2010 at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings

£2 entry for non members, who are very welcome to both talks.

Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797

CASTLE HILL QUILTERS

This new Patchwork and Quilting Group is attracting more members each meeting. There was a visiting Quilter from Bedfordshire at the first of the Thursday meetings with a selection of quilts to look at and plenty of advice for those new to patchwork.

There will be meetings at the Grove Buildings on Wednesday 2nd December and Thursday 10th December followed by the Christmas break. Meeting Dates for 2010 are Wednesday, 6th & 20th January and a further Thursday meeting on 14th January. All meetings are from 2.00 until 5.00pm. We ask visitors and members to contribute £2.

If you are new to the area and would like to see what we are doing, do pop in and have a look. We also welcome those who prefer to hand piece rather than using a sewing machine as a few of our members do.

If you are interested in joining a very friendly group and a genuine interest in patchwork and quilting, please get in touch with either:

Carol Lord ☎ 01747 861923 or Jean Daw ☎ 01747 860997

Note! COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY 2010 ISSUE:

MONDAY, 18th JANUARY

The Walnut Tree Inn Advert – Full page

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

So was she? An Honourable Woman? Just so that you don't become totally engrossed in discussions about the Autumn Production with friends and family into the New Year and beyond, we are putting on a special surprise event in January! Set aside **29th or 30th January 2010** so that you can come to our **Old Time Variety Show**, which will take place in the **Lecture Hall at 7.30 p.m.** Watch out for posters: tickets will (eventually) be available at Mere Information Point. Meanwhile, a Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all our supporters.

Now: was she or wasn't she...?

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MOTHERS UNION & OPEN MEMBERS GROUP

Our next meeting will be the Carol Service on Tuesday 8th December at 3.00pm in St Michaels Church. There will be an enrolment of new members, followed by tea and mince pies in the Grove Buildings. All welcome, including men.

Information for January meeting will be given out later, following the Committee meeting.

Thelma Ings ☎ 01747 860262

SHREEN HARMONY

We finished our Summer Season with a concert at the Walnut Tree Inn in Mere and began our new term in September. We were delighted to welcome several new members including a good male contingent!! The choir is now well into rehearsals for the Christmas season. We have our Annual Christmas concert in the Grove Buildings on **Saturday 19th December**. The programme has both old and traditional and new carols from here and around the world. I am sure a glass and nibble will be on offer! There will be no entrance fee, but we hope to make a collection for the Garden Restoration Fund at Fives Court Residential Home here in Mere. There will be Posters put up in Mere in December with more information regarding our concert and all will be welcome.

We meet every Thursday in the Methodist Church Hall in North Street at 7.30 pm -this is a happy and informal community choir and we welcome all new members who enjoy singing.

Sandra Fisher ☎ 01747 860424

BRASS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

GILLINGHAM IMPERIAL SILVER BAND

Presents

A CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

AT MERE LECTURE HALL

ON SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER STARTING AT 3.00PM

THERE WILL BE A RETIRING COLLECTION

WINCANTON CHORAL SOCIETY WINTER CONCERT 2009

Wincanton Choral Society, conducted by Simon Twiselton, presents a Winter Concert on Sunday 13th December at 7.30pm in Wincanton Sports Centre, West Hill. The programme will include Fauré's exquisite *Requiem* and a new work, *Let me be to Thee*, by Simon Twiselton, as well as traditional seasonal favourites. Soprano Maria Marton and baritone Tom Hunt are the soloists, and Anita D'Attellis is the pianist. To order tickets, which cost £13 (£8 for those 18 & under), call the box office ☎ 01749 813 899 or www.netaticket.co.uk. Tickets will also be available at the door. Licensed bar.

THE COMMUNITY LUNCH

will be held at the Walnut Tree Inn

on Tuesday 8th December 2009 and again

on Tuesday 12th January 2010

From 12noon on each occasion

The 2 course meal with tea or coffee will cost £8.99.

The Menu for December

Roast Loin of Pork with Apple Sauce and Stuffing

Liver, Bacon and Onion Casserole with mash and vegetable medley

Fillet of Breaded Plaice with chips and peas

Homemade Crumble and Custard

Profiteroles with warm chocolate and butterscotch sauces

Golden Syrup Sponge with Custard

Please book your place by 6th December 2009

The Menu for January,

Slow Cooked Pork and Cider Hot Pot

Chef's Cottage Pie with vegetable medley

Baked Fish with Parsley Sauce

Homemade Crumble and Custard

Forest Berries Meringue with cream

Bailey's Irish Cream Cheesecake

Please book your place by 10th January 2010

The aim of the Community Lunch is

- to bring together people of all ages, social organisations and businesses from Mere and surrounding villages to network and inform, for companionship and fun.
- to provide a nourishing and cost effective lunch in pleasant surroundings.
- to be held on the second Tuesday of the month between October and March.
- to advise that transport is available through the Connect2Wiltshire bus (☎ 08456 525255) and the Linkscheme (☎ 01747 860096)

A 'WILTSHIRE WOODTURNERS GROUP'?

Have you seen the displays of local craft-work at the 'Made By Hand' exhibition at Mere Museum in the Library? Fantastic! It is on until the end of December and is well worth a visit.

Feedback on my own exhibits there and in generally talking to people over the last year indicate that within our local community there are many others who would like to learn how to turn wood, or have some experience and would just like to get together and further their knowledge and skills. If you haven't tried it and would like to, please contact me and arrangements can be made for you to come and give it go. I can assure you that it is a very pleasant and therapeutic experience.

Before moving to Mere, I was an active member within a wood turner's group with a membership of 80 (plus a waiting list). Ages of the membership ranged from 18 to 80+, male and female, one in a wheel chair, one turned with his single arm and several were partially sighted – so anyone can do it. We owned 10 lathes, met once a week, supported local charities and public functions and had visits from professional turners who would inspire us with their demonstrations on a regular basis. In time, we could have something similar going in our area.

'Big Oaks from little acorns grow'. I am more than happy to co-ordinate and organise a venue etc., for an inaugural meeting/session perhaps in January so if you are over the age of 18 and would like to get together to form such a group then please do let me know. E-mail me at: rajefferies@btinternet.com or telephone

Richard Jefferies ☎ 01747 863425

GROVE BUILDINGS RESTORATION FUND

The Result of the '100' Club Draw for November, drawn after Family Communion on 1st November by Carole Elliot, was:

1st Prize (£20)	-	No. 64	Miss Jennifer Croxton-Smith
2nd Prize (£15)	-	No. 47	Generously returned
3rd Prize (£10)	-	No. 124	Generously returned
4th Prize (£10)	-	No. 158	Mr S G Thomas

Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (Mere & District Day Centre), Lynch Close, Mere

10.30am - 3.00pm on Mondays and 10.30am - 4.00pm on Fridays

It is always wonderful to hear the banter, jokes, laughter and enthusiasm of the guests at the Rosemary Goddard Centre, but every now and then we have a special moment. These occasions occur spontaneously. A question is asked or a tale told and someone

feels safe enough to reveal a painful experience. The room goes silent, everyone listens, without judgement, comment or flippancy, whilst the person reveals their most intimate pain without anger, without blame without self pity. These moments are not orchestrated in any way, there are no professionals or counsellors, just the support, understanding, love and fellowship of people who have experienced similar circumstances. For the volunteers, who have shared these moments there is a sense of wonderment, admiration and honour at the chance to experience these powerful and moving memories of the older people of Mere.

If you are in the vicinity of Lynch Close around 2.00pm on Friday 11th December, why not pop in and watch a demonstration by Sue Marks on the making of a Gingerbread cake, something different for Christmas and if you want a good laugh, come and watch our panto at 2.00pm on Monday 21st December. For more details ring Lynette ☎ 01747 861646

A very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to all our supporters and friends.

Caroline Cook, Secretary ☎ 01747 861797)

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

You may have noticed a fiery glow and emanating from the back garden of Fives Court earlier in November. It was just the Residents enjoying their annual fireworks display. The Friends always take much pleasure in being able to provide this display each year – and the 2009 display was the best ever (so the Residents told us!).

A warm thank you to everybody who so kindly supported us at the Charities Fair. As a result of your generosity another £100 has been added to our garden fund which is very heartening in these damp, grey days of winter.

Our last activity this year will be at the Fives Court **Christmas Bazaar** to be held at **Fives Court on Saturday 5th December at 10.30am**. Meanwhile, a very Happy Christmas to everyone. More in the new year (happiness, we hope, as well as news!).

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

BRAINWAVE CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

During the past couple of months the Brainwave shop in the centre of Mere has been re-vamped and improved. The aim has been to make best use of the space in the shop and to display as many goods as possible for our customers to buy. The income from the Brainwave shops is used to fund the work of the Bridgewater-based Brainwave charity which provides practical help for brain-damaged children and their families. Thanks must go to local people who generously donate their unwanted goods to sell in our shop and to the team of Mere volunteers who are involved in the work of running the shop. We are presently trying out new ideas in the hope of raising even more for our good cause and during December we hope to offer our customers a range of small gifts for Christmas.

As your thoughts turn to Christmas shopping, please think of Brainwave. Perhaps you have some unwanted items that you would be willing to donate to make way for the presents you will probably be receiving this year. If you have any unwanted new or nearly-new items that would serve as Christmas gifts, please donate them to Brainwave. The Mere shop is open Monday – Friday from 10am until 4pm and Saturday 10am until 1pm. We hope you can be our Father Christmas and bring us a few small gifts – they will make a big difference to Brainwave. Finally, please remember us after Christmas when we shall be glad to receive any items that were received during the festive season and prove to be surplus to requirements.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Liz Fricker ☎ 01747 860529

BRAMLEY HOUSE RESIDENTIAL HOME

Castle Street, Mere

COFFEE MORNING

8th December at 10.45am

Grand Raffle

Various Stalls: Cakes, Crafts, Plants & Cards

Christmas in Mind for **your** Presents

Jo Avery ☎ 01747 860192

Angela House Advert - ¼ page

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
Proudly presents

Last Chance Harvey^(12A)

"It's about first loves, last chances
and everything in between."

Emma Thompson Dustin Hoffman

An engaging blend of comedy, drama and romance in
this richly layered story about two outsiders who meet
by chance and unexpectedly transform each other's
lives.

In the Lecture Hall

Thursday 3rd December, at 7.30pm

(Doors open 7.00pm)

TICKETS £5.00

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

For more information call Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

Visit our website at: **www.moviola.org**

LINEDANCING CLUB

Southern Breeze Linedancing Club would like to wish all in Mere and surrounding area a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Currently we meet every Thursday afternoon from 2.00-4.30pm at Mere Social Club and new members are always welcome. Please note however that there will be no classes after 17th December until the end of January 2010. Once again Merry Christmas from Lynn and Paul of Southern Breeze and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year if not before.

Lyn and Paul Mills ☎ 01747 824642

1ST MERE BROWNIES

Recycling! Jewellery and Mobile phones

We are still continuing to recycle unwanted mobile phones so if you receive one for Christmas – we will be happy to receive your old one. (They do not have to be working, but it is advisable to remove the SIM card).

Thank you for your jewellery contributions. We have sent off the first batch and have just received a cheque for £31.80. This appeal is ongoing so if you have any unwanted jewellery, maybe you have a single earring, few links of a bracelet, a stopped watch, a ring with a missing stone, or any gold, silver or costume jewellery, which were once fashionable but you haven't worn for years. We can recycle it and subsequently receive a donation to our unit funds. If you can, please ask your family and friends also.

Please note: This is about you giving unwanted items. Please be careful not to give anything of sentimental value that you may later regret donating

Your jewellery and mobile phone contributions can be brought to Waltons Newsagents, The Post Office, Mere Library, or Jeans Electrical Shop and Chapel Showroom.

Sue Jeans, Assistant Brownie Guider ☎ 01747 860215

MERE TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

All our teams have made a good start to the new season, many members showing a marked improvement in their play.

In the Under 11s team, Seren Banneel and William Batty Smith each scored a hat trick, part of the 13 - 3 win against AFC Corsham.

The Under 9s team are short of players and would welcome more newcomers, we also need two more coaches, so if you would like to help, do contact me.

Do come to our Christmas Bingo on Friday 4th December, in the Grove Buildings. Eyes down at 7.30pm. We have very good prizes.

Neil Francis, Chairman ☎ 01747 860750

Churches together in Mere

Carol singing in the Town Square

Everyone welcome on Christmas Eve at 11.00am.

St Michael the Archangel, Mere

Sunday 13th December 4.00pm Christingle Service
Thursday 17th December 7.30pm Lessons and Carols
Christmas Eve 6.00pm Crib Service (Children invited to dress as characters in nativity story)
11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Family Communion with carols
Sunday 27th December 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion with Carols.

St Mary's, West Knoyle

Sunday 20th December 6.00pm Lessons and Carols
Candlelit procession through village leaves the village hall at 5.30pm)
Christmas Day 9.25am Family Communion

All Saints, Maiden Bradley

Sunday 20th December 10.30am Lessons and Carols
Monday 21st December 6.00pm Carol Singing around the village
Christmas Eve 300pm Crib and Christingle
11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 9.30am Family Communion

United Reformed and Methodist Churches

Sunday 20th December 6.00pm United Carol service in the URC
Christmas Day 10.30 am United Christmas Service also at the URC.

Christmas 2009

St George's, Bourton
Christmas Eve

4.00pm All-age Carol service with dedication of the crib, candles and much more besides.

St Peter's, Stourton
Christmas Eve

6.30pm Traditional service of lessons and carols.

St Mary's, Kilmington
Christmas Eve

11.30pm Midnight Mass.

St Martin's, Zeals
Christmas Day

10.00am Festival of family Communion for all ages.

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

Provisionally, mass is at 6.00pm on Christmas Eve, and 11.30 on Christmas morning, but could visitors please phone Teresa Read to check about Christmas morning (01747 860289).

All the Churches wish everyone a happy, holy and peaceful Christmas.



Christingle

Shining light into darkness

Join us for a special
Christingle celebration – it's
the service **everyone** wants
to be **part of**

ON Sunday 13th December at 4.00pm

at St Michael's Church, Mere

Christingle originated in the
Moravian Church in 1747

Charity registration number 221124 All proceeds go to The Children's Society



**The
Children's
Society**

With children, for children, with you

Manor Farm Veterinary Advert ½ page

DI Woodworx Advert ¼ page

MERE SCHOOL

November 2009

We continue to be busy at Mere School.

Orange class had a visit to Stourhead. Kiorra said that they found pennies in a lake and collected beautiful leaves. Elias saw ducks on the river and had a great time. There was also a secret den with statues and lots of water features. They all really enjoyed their visit.

All of music week we were concentrating on 'junk' after a visit from 'Weapons of Sound' - a junk band from Plymouth. During music week people had to bring in junk and everyone built an instrument. Some people made 'poptars', drums and shakers. Year 6 had a rhyme and Eliza played bottles and Bex played the xylophone. We prepared a performance to do to our family and friends. The parents really enjoyed it. We had a music evening when we played our musical instruments to our parents. This evening really had the 'wow' factor and to top it off Shreen Harmony came in and sang a song. Mr Miles also came in to do some drumming with us all. We played rhythm games and everyone had fun.

Madame Jacobs ran a cluster French day at Chilmark School and some Mere School children were chosen to take part. These children performed a French café production. We sang songs and tested French food.

Mrs Harlow also organised a cluster music day. The theme was space and we composed a piece of music to perform to our parents. We played the cello, keyboards, trombone, cornets and we also sang.

As you know we like to be busy at Christmas and we are now preparing for our Christmas productions of Santa's on Strike and Finlo.

*Elias Banks, Kieran Crockin, Kiorra Rowe, Tyler Hooper,
Madeline Howden, Eliza Howell, Evie Sutton Fay, Jack Harvey,
George Peirce, Curtis Cassell, Charlie Hill, Klara Jenkins,
Claudia Henderson and Adam Filleau*



A Sure Start Children's Centre

As always a huge thank you to everyone that supports us, including the families, childminders, volunteers and staff, as it has been such a busy month. That said, we know that there are lots of families that may not know what a Children's Centre is and have not yet been in to any of the sessions that now run in Mere, Maiden Bradley, Zeals and Kilmington.

Mere Footprints Children's Centre is now into the last quarter of its first year and we are here helping and supporting families both directly and indirectly. We have fun sessions, stage special events and workshops, help individuals and families on a one to one basis through our outreach team. We don't pretend that we have all the answers BUT we can promise that we can definitely find them so if you need help with benefits, or are thinking of going back to work (now or in the future), if you have housing queries or questions relating to your children or those that you care for we can ALWAYS help. All our services

and activities are FREE including refreshments for families with children between 0-5, and we are open from Monday – Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm and every other Saturday.

You can just 'drop in' to meet friends or come with the children to play with our toys. You can use the IT suite and internet for FREE and you can always find tea and toast and someone to talk to.

We are also open every other Saturday morning. Last week saw us making lanterns in preparation for the Lantern Parade on the 17th December (please let us know if you want to join in as we are booking transport – we have plenty of lanterns to share).

November saw the first Speech and Language drop in session (run by Pia Grant and her team from Salisbury Hospital) and it was a huge hit. From this we have met some new families who are dropping in with many of the other regulars in the Children's Centre based in the Duchy Manor Building. The next session is 11th January.

New to Mondays are our 'Winter Walks' from 9:30am for about an hour. Pull on your wellies and wrap up warm and join Kate for a walk, toddle or push with your children followed by a mug of hot chocolate and refreshments - the routes will all be easy and the time is guaranteed to fly.

Tuesdays are now officially for 'Late Breakfasts'. Join Kate and Danielle for Free Breakfast and a chat from 9:30 – 11:30 in one of the locations. We also have the Wilshire College advisors in for anyone wanting to start or considering an IT course – Many courses are FREE or funding is available.

Wednesday mornings are 'Messy Mornings'. Come to 'Crafty Kids', a range of themed activities (and refreshments). Our outreach team leads a morning of FUN & MESS finishing with drinks and yummy snacks which are sometimes made during the session. During December we are making decorations and gifts finishing with a Party on 16th December.

Wednesday Evenings from 7.00-9.00pm cookery classes are held in Mere Children's Centre free for parents with children between 0-5.

Thursdays continue with Pilates from 2.00 -3.00pm in the Children's Centre with a free crèche; bookings in advance are usually required. Please bring a mat with you if you have one!

'Kindermusik' sessions continue on Fridays but due to their popularity, and in response to requests, we are going to rotate sessions around the villages within the area. The 9.45am session will continue in Mere followed by one at 11.00am in: Maiden Bradley, Kilmington, Zeals or Semley. Please call us or have a look at our website for details.

If you haven't yet been to try out the Baby and Toddlers massage sessions we strongly advise you to book for the 4th December and 8th January Sessions - these are all FREE.

Help Required - we are looking for more parents and people with time on their hands to get involved with our centre to help us understand what you want and need. Please do

come to our Steering Group sessions or just drop in! Free Refreshments will be available. If you are a childminder, or are looking for one please do come in as we keep a notice board for you to advertise.

Job Centre Plus has partnered with us to provide 'Journeys to Work', an innovative and thoughtful service to help you get to where you want to be. They can be contacted through the Children's Centre and meetings arranged at a time and place that is convenient for you and we will provide a free crèche to give you time to think and talk.

For all session times please refer to our website, brochure or telephone Natalie or Kate for further information.

In the mean time we wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing even more of you as we move into the New Year, but if you haven't been please do put the Christmas Party in your diary 16th December from 9.30am. Don't forget to wear your favourite outfit or costume as Santa will be here at Mere!!! (If anyone requires transport please let us know). We are closed from 23rd December until 5th January, but if you have any problems please call ASK, the Wiltshire family information service ☎ 0845 585072 or ☎ 01380 872915.

You can be assured of a warm welcome not to mention a Free T-Shirt and Calendar when you register in December or January.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!

Georgina and the Footprints Team ☎ 01747 861108

THE POPPY APPEAL 2008

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal accounts are now announced at the end of September each year. Thus, we now know that the total for Mere for 2008 was - £3,072.05. This was a very creditable result and all thanks to those who went house to house collecting, had static boxes at their establishments, bought wreaths, gave generously at church collections and of course those amongst you who made free will donations.

We shall have to wait for the 2009 result but I hope that individual collectors will, by now, have been informed of their own personal total collected. Again a big thank- you, to everyone.

David Ransley ☎ 01747 860964

THE BARN BUDDIES

The autumn term has seen lots of new members and we have also been pleased to welcome some new Mums who stay as helpers. If you have not had the chance to try Barn Buddies why not come along to our Christmas Open Evening on Friday 18th December, from 6.30pm at Barrow Street Farm, BA12 6AB. There will be carol singing,

festive food, a bar and raffle, and the opportunity to show off your skills at table tennis or snooker, or at beading or drawing. Come along, see what we do, everyone welcome.

The Barn Buddies is a youth club for children from school year two and upwards, held each Friday evening from 6.30 until 8.00pm. At our Open Evenings, as well as welcoming parents of existing members it is always a good opportunity for new parents and children to try us out. We are also pleased to welcome older friends, without whose support we could not run. For further information contact: *Tim Merrell* ☎ *01747 860195*.

Finn Removal advert - ¼ page

Heather & Kevin Smith advert - ¼ page

Iver House advert - ¼ page

Church of St Michael, The Archangel

Special Notice

Sunday 17th January

Songs of Praise

6.00pm



Join us in singing popular hymns and hearing familiar, much-loved, readings.
See Church Notices (pages 31-34 in this issue) for other services.

**THE REV'D ROS HOLLINGSWORTH,
THE METHODIST CHURCH MINISTER, WRITES:**

There is a lovely story about an unusual accident which is supposed to have taken place on the streets of Liverpool, but it might have happened anywhere....

There was an Italian who made his living walking the city centre streets selling plaster models of saints. Unfortunately, one day, a burly sailor barged in to the Italian's tray and sent them crashing to the ground. In the accident, St Anthony's arm, with the infant Christ on his arm, was snapped off from the remainder of his plaster body. The poor Italian was distraught.

"I'll never be able to sell him now" he wailed.

"Sell him? Of course you can sell him" said the sailor. "Just stick a patch on one eye and you can sell him as Lord Nelson".

Perhaps many of us are compelled to admit that plans we made weeks, months or years ago, are no longer possible. The way forward which we may have mapped out has turned out to be something of a dead end. We are all suffering the effects, in one way or another, of the Credit Crunch.

Like the Italian in the story, we may have seen part of our hopes of gain or moving forward or security as we get older, come crashing to the ground in a way we have not been responsible for or able to prevent.

Maclachlan advert - ¼ page

Oliver Vernon(Tree Surgeon) advert - ¼ page

Richard Robins advert - ¼ page

This could be the time to focus again on the wonder of God and His gifts offered to each one of us. God came to earth at Christmas as a human, in the form of His Son, Jesus Christ. God is fully involved in the anguish of our world and us as individuals. The world is a mess because the human race has made it so and the human race must work to clearing it up. Faith in God offers us hope that God is with us through the mess and that there is a better life to come.

The story of the plaster saint and his potential for re-marketing as Nelson can remind us that many of our human hopes may so easily be forlorn ones but our faith and hope in God, even when we are bruised and broken, can be a living one.

In the New Testament, the letter to the Hebrews says "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful."

May you search and find a way through these troubled times. and in this season of Christmas may you discover afresh the wonder of what God has done for us through the most precious gift of His Son Jesus Christ.

God bless you,

SUCHANA

Suchana is the health and education project in West Bengal, India run by our niece and her husband. All 'admin' work is voluntary, as well as much of the teaching, so every penny directly benefits extremely disadvantaged children!

- **Tuesday 22nd December 10.30am-12.00noon Coffee and Mince Pies at Grove Cottage** Everyone welcome for a mini Christmas party!
- **Tuesday 26th January 10.30am-12.00noon Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at Grove Cottage** (opposite the Library entrance) Everyone welcome.
- **Shrove Tuesday 16th February Quiz and Pancake Night in Grove Buildings** (Details in February 'Mere Matters')

Mark Lillie and Ross and Judith Thompson ☎ 01747 860553

QUIET DAY AT IVY HOUSE

Finding God in our everyday lives

Christmas and the New Year are approaching and with them all the business of preparations and seeing family and friends. This can be an incredibly pressured time of the year and you may stop occasionally to think and wonder if this is really what Christmas is all about. Is God to be found in our hectic lives as well as in church?

How would you like to be able to have some time to yourself when you could guarantee there would be no interruptions; just some time to think and to be? We are after all human beings, not human doings but it doesn't always feel like that. St Mary's West Knole is holding a Quiet Day at the beginning of Lent to think about the presence of God in our everyday lives.

If you haven't been to a Quiet Day before, this is for you. It's a wonderful opportunity to give yourself some time and space to think and reflect in beautiful, inspirational surroundings with thought provoking sessions. If being silent all day sounds a challenge, there will be breaks in it during the day.

The date is Saturday, 20th February 2010 at Ivy House, Warminster from 10.00am-4.00pm. The cost is £16 per person to include morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea. This event is open to all who are interested. To book your place, please contact me by e-mail: dodson@barnstable.fsbusiness.co.uk or by phone. Space is limited so please book early.

Kate Dodson ☎ 01747 861987/07921 335056

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

'Date for your 2010 Diary!'

On Saturday 6th February, there will be a 'Beetle Drive with Supper' at The Grove Building starting at 7.00pm in aid of the Friends of St Michael's. Fun event for all ages. Tickets available from: *Lindy Elliott ☎ 01747 861646*

THE 2009 CHARITIES FAIR

A very big 'thank you' to everyone who braved the storm and tempest on Saturday 14th November. What stars you all were to have supported the event so well. Thank you also to all those generous people who donated bottles for the tombola and then were prepared to pay a pound to win them back!

Such support is so encouraging for my hard working committee who put in so much effort every year to make sure the Fair goes on. I am sure I speak for all the charities who were represented when I say well done and thank you to you all.

Peter Knapp, Chair, Grove Building Management Committee

AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE 'CONTEMPLATIVE BIBLE MEDITATION'

If you were at St Michael's on 11th October you will have heard the description of 'Contemplative Bible Meditation' in relation to the story of Jesus' love for the rich young man who couldn't bring himself to give away his wealth and follow Jesus.

Response to this way of reflecting on events and stories in the Bible suggested that some people might find this sort of approach really valuable. If you would like to give this gentle, peaceful way of responding to the Bible a try, please come along to one or both of the following:

Wednesday 2nd December 7.30-8.30pm CONTEMPLATIVE ADVENT MEDITATION

Before getting embroiled in Christmas busy-ness, why not come along for a short time of quiet meditation focussed on an advent Bible passage, to deepen a sense of what the coming of the Christ-child might mean for you, and all of us, this Christmas?

Wednesday 6th January 7.30-8.30pm CONTEMPLATIVE MEDITATION FOR EPIPHANY

Epiphany means 'making known' 'showing forth' 'appearance'. There are various 'epiphanies' in Jesus' life when his true nature and glory was seen and recognised; and the first of these was the great star which lead the eastern astrologers to come and pay homage to the little child. This meditation will help us

to 'get inside' this beautiful story and discover connections for our own life and times.

Both Contemplative Bible Meditations will be held in the Upper Room in the Grove Building. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Paul Barnes ☎ 01747 863313; Ross & Judith Thompson ☎ 01747 860553

AFTERNOON GET TOGETHER

There will be no meeting in December. In January however, we shall welcome Rev'd David Bridge back for "A Winter-warmer Afternoon" on 27th January at 2.30pm in the Methodist School Room.
Mary Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370

BUDDHISM AND CHRISTIANITY ON VIOLENCE AND THE SELF



a weekend of reflection led by Ross Thompson

15-17th January 2010 at Hilfield Friary, Dorset.

We have all experienced pain and suffering in our lives, and often we have responded negatively by blaming others or ourselves. And on a global scale we wonder how people might stop responding to violence with violence, so perpetuating the cycles of suffering. Ross Thompson explores how Christian and Buddhist spirituality can enable us to respond more creatively.

These big issues will be explored through a careful balance of input, discussion, guided meditation and free time for reflection, in the beautiful setting of Hilfield Friary in the South Dorset downs.

Book with Sarah Hargreaves: hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk ☎: 01300 341741.

Find out more from Ross Thompson: rkathomson@aol.com ☎: 01747 860553.

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

December 2009

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel ☎ 01747 863313

Each Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday	8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
	4.30pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday	6th	10.30am
		6.00pm
		Family Communion
		Choral Evensong

Wednesday	9th	6.00pm	“Start the Month” HolyCommunion (BCP)
	13th	10.30am 4.00pm	Parish Communion (CW1) Christingle
Thursday	17th	7.30pm	Lessons and Carols
Sunday	20th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)

CHRISTMAS

For Christmas Services see page 20 & 21

Sunday	27th	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion
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The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	6th	11.00am	Peter Kershaw
	13th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
	20th	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Sivyour Holy Communion
		6.00pm	Rev'd Margaret Laurie United Carol Service with the Methodist Church

CHRISTMAS

For Christmas Services see page 20 & 21

Sunday	27th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
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The Methodist Church (☎ Gillingham 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: ☎ 01747 861370

Sunday	6th	6.00pm	Rev'd Ros Hollingsworth Holy Communion
Sunday	13th	6.00pm	Mr & Mrs Rawlins
Sunday	20th	6.00pm	Carol Service with the URC

CHRISTMAS

For Christmas Services see page 20 & 21

Sunday	27th	6.00pm	Mr R Rickards
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The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's. (☎ Warminster 01985 212329 – Fr. Bede Rowe)

**Mere Contacts: Teresa Read ☎ 01747 860289 or
Winn Richardson ☎ 01747 861004**

Every Friday	10.00am	Mass
Every Sunday	11.30am	Mass

CHRISTMAS

For Christmas Services see page 20 & 21

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

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

Sunday	6th	9.25am	DIY
Sunday	13th	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad)

CHRISTMAS

For Christmas Services see page 20 & 21

Sunday	27th	10.30am	No service, but Benefice service at St Michael's Church, Mere(CW1 trad)
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Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

January 2010

The Parish Church, St Michael The Archangel (Tel. 01747 863313)

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
		4.30pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday	3rd	10.30am	Family Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Covenant Service at Mere Methodist Church
Wednesday	6th	7.30pm	"Start the Month"
			Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	10th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
Sunday	17th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Songs of Praise
Sunday	24th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	31st	10.30am	Choral Matins

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, Tel: 01747 860685

Sunday	3rd	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	10th	11.00am	Rev'd Morris Munns

Sunday	17th	11.00am	Dr Geoffrey Tapper
	24th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
	31st	11.00am	Holy Communion Rev'd Stella Sivyour

**The Methodist Church (Tel. Gillingham 01747 823777)
Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: Tel: 01747 861370)**

Sunday	3rd	6.00pm	Rev'd Ros Hollingsworth
			Covenant Service
	10th	6.00pm	Mrs Barbara Jeffery
	17th	6.00pm	Rev'd Helen Caine
	24th	6.00pm	Mr Ken Harvey
	31st	6.00pm	Rev'd Ros Hollingsworth

**The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's. (Tel: Warminster 01985 212329 – Fr. Bede Rowe)
Mere Contact: Teresa Read: 01747 860289**

Every Friday	10.00am	Mass
Every Sunday	11.30am	Mass

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

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

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

Sunday	3rd	9.25am	DIY Service
Sunday	10th	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad)
Sunday	17th	9.25am	Matins
Sunday	24th	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad)
	31st		NO SERVICE (10.30am Matins at St Michael's Church, Mere)

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

DECEMBER 2009

1	Tue	7.30pm	Friends of Mere Museum Yapps Wine Talk	GB
2	Wed	9.30am	Tai Chi (Also 9th & 16th)	GB
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (Also 9th & 16th)	L
		7.00pm	Chamber of Trade AGM Indigo Blue Restaurant	
3	Thur	10.00am	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	MH
		1.30pm	Bridge Club (Also 10th & 17th)	L
		2.00pm	Line Dancing (Also 10th & 17th)	MSC
		7.00pm	Guides	L
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
		7.30pm	Moviola/Mere Film Shows "LastChance Harvey"	L
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (Also 10th & 17th)	MH
4	Fri	6.30pm	Barn Buddies (Also 11th and 18th)	BSF
		7.30pm	MTYFC Bingo	GB
5	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning (NO cake Stall)	CC
6	Sun	3.00pm	Brass Band Christmas Concert	L
7	Mon	9.00am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (Also 7th & 14th)	L
		6.00pm	Beavers	YC
		6.45pm	Cubs	YC
		7.00pm	Scouts	YC
		7.00pm	Slimming World (Also 14th &, 21st)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council	AYP
8	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Historical Society	GB
9	Wed	2.00pm	Whist	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Gardening Club	GB
10	Thur	9.00am	Tiddlers & Toddlers	L
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters	GB
		5.00pm	Rainbows (Also 17th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (Also 17th)	GB
		7.30pm	Guides (Also 17th)	GB
11	Fri	9.30am	Merely Women	GB
		7.00pm	Linkscheme Social Evening	GB
19	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony Concert	GB

JANUARY 2010

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

2	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
4	Mon	6.00pm	Beaver Scouts (Every Monday)	YC
		6.45pm	Cubs (Every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (Every Monday)	YC
		7.00pm	Slimming World (Every Monday)	L
6	Wed	9.30pm	Tai Chi (Every Wednesday)	GB
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters	GB
7	Thur	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (Every Thursday)	L
		10.00am	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	MH
		1.30pm	Bridge Club (Every Thursday)	L
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (Every Thursday)	MH
8	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 22nd)	GB
		6.30pm	Barn Buddies (Also 15th, 22nd & 29th)	BSF
9	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC
11	Mon	9.00am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (Also 18th & 25th)	L
12	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Historical Society	CC
13	Wed	2.00pm	Whist	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (Also 20th & 27th)	L
14	Thur	2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters	GB
		5.00pm	Rainbows (also 21st and 28th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (also 21st and 28th)	GB
		7.30pm	Moviola/Mere Film Shows (To be announced)	L
		7.30pm	Guides (also 21st and 28th)	GB
16	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
18	Mon	7.30pm	Mere Parish Council Meeting	AYP
20	Wed	2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters	GB
		7.15pm	Church Meeting	CC
23	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning + RGC Bric a Brac	CC
26	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
27	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		2.30pm	Afternoon Get Together	MH
29	Fri	7.30pm	MADS Old Time Variety Show	L
30	Sat	10.30 am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
		7.30pm	MADS Old Time Variety Show	L

TISBURY & DISTRICT SPORTS CENTRE

A facility provided by Wiltshire Council, Where everybody matters

New Opening Hours

Our opening hours are changing. From January 2010 they will be as follows:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 07.30-21.00

Thursdays 09.00-21.00

Saturdays 07.30-12.00

Sundays 08.30-12.00

The Centre will open Saturday afternoons for parties, which are booked in advance.

Yoga Class Floodlit Multi Sports Area

Our existing tennis courts have now been transformed into a floodlit area offering not just tennis, but netball, football, hockey and cricket.

For further details concerning any of the above, a copy of our programme, or information about the wide range of activities which take place at the Centre, please contact: Reception by e-mailing, e-mail us at tisburyisc@wiltshire.gov.uk or visit the website at: www.wiltshire.gov.uk or ☎ 01747 871141

Sewing Lady (Jan Holt)- ¼ page

Trinity Osteopath advert - ¼ page

BOOKING MEETING HALLS IN MERE

To Book the Lecture Halls: ☎ Ann Read 01747 861486

To Book the Grove Buildings: ☎ Isabel Howell 01747 860297

MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY

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

CITIZENS' ADVICE: Tuesdays: 10.30am to 4.00pm
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