

MERE MATTERS AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE AND
GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



APRIL 2011



MERE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets every month. Whilst it is not a public meeting, members of the public are welcome to come and listen. The Council members are working on YOUR behalf to sustain and improve the quality of life and the environment that we enjoy in the parish - come and hear what they are doing for you! You will be permitted to raise questions in a public session before the meeting starts. The next meeting will be **on Monday, 4th April 2011** at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.

As I am writing this report, the sun is shining, the weather is warmer, England has nearly won the Rugby Six Nations) and the flowers are starting to bloom.

I would like to say a big thank you to all the people who generously sponsor our flower tubs and to also thank everyone who helps plant and maintain them. This does not only include general watering and tidying up etc, but also the replanting after the occasional vandalism that occurs. I feel the tubs would certainly be missed if not on display – so well done everyone.

Onto the emotive subject of tree felling on Long Hill, it is regrettable that the ‘Save Long Hill’ website, set up by Mr. Andrew Holder, seems to suggest that all the trees on Long Hill are to be felled. The Management Plan does not say that Long Hill will be cleared of trees. The plan states that all archaeological features should be cleared of trees and that a programme of tree clearance, phased over a number of years, should be introduced to retain calcareous grassland habitat of Castle Hill & Long Hill and that these efforts should be concentrated on lighter scrub and secondary woodland. This secondary woodland is mostly ash and sycamore. There has never been any intention to clear or fell the older woodland.

The Parish Council would like to give access to the Management Plans for Castle Hill & Long Hill and has therefore cleared copyright and obtained authors’ consent to publish these plans on our website & reproduce them electronically – please visit **www.merewiltshire.org** (click on Parish Council and then Management Plans for Castle Hill & Long Hill). If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the Parish Clerk on 01747 860701 and she will gladly photocopy the plans and send them to you.

Please note that, since these plans and proposals were produced, the Parish Council has submitted an application for Higher Level Environmental Stewardship scheme, funded by the UK Government and the European Union, whereby we would enter into an agreement with Natural England in order to deliver the scheme as advised. We understand that our submitted bid is in a long queue of bids awaiting assessment.

The proposals for Long Hill and Castle Hill have been based on professional opinion, advice and research and we have afforded every opportunity for public input and consultation by including the management of Castle Hill & Long Hill in the Parish Plan,

the management plan in Mere Matters (March 2007 & June 2007), discussions in our annual parish and open parish council meetings with minutes and documents widely available, either publicly or on request.

At the last meeting of the Parish Council, members agreed that this topic would be discussed at our Annual Parish Council meeting (public meeting) to be held on Wednesday, 4th May 2011 at 7.30pm in the Grove Building, Church Street, Mere. We hope that some of these advisory agencies will send representatives to the meeting to answer questions. Mr. Simon Ford also generously offered to lead an evening walk to look at the wildlife and, perhaps archaeology (if we can persuade English Heritage to come) in early May and you will find details of this on page 15.

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

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES

Mere Amateur Dramatic Society put on a pantomime Ali Baba and the Naughty Thieves in Mere Lecture Hall. The punishment for the bad guy was to write "George's long and tall stories"; the bad guy said he would never live long enough, and, well, here is another one.

The proposed shortening of the hours at the Mere Library stand at 31 hours, reduced from 45 hours, 17 from the Library Service and 14 from Customer Services. This was part of the budget measures agreed at Full Council on the 22nd February, 2011. The meeting started at 10.30am, but many Councillors are in long beforehand to attend pre-meetings, organizing etc. The meeting finished about 11.00pm. I walked out of County Hall at about 11.30pm and arrived home after wishing Councillors good night at about 12.30am the next day! It was the longest Council Meeting for Wiltshire for a long time, probably the longest ever. I am aware of around 20 people who are interested in volunteering to keep Mere Library open.

I have fought the development of Street Trading Licenses, with proposals that could impact on Church Fetes, Carnivals etc. It seems the unintentional lawful consequences are being addressed. I will be sitting on the Licensing Committee on the 5th April, and hopefully a sensible outcome will eventually result.

I have helped Mere, Kilmington and West Knoyle Parish Councils to apply for a community grant to help provide a community public access defibrillator (PAD). Stourton and Gasper already have theirs ready and hopefully it will never be required. At the South West Area Board held on the 18th March at Wilton, it was decided to defer the

application. Other boards in Wiltshire have received such applications, and consultation is now being held with the National Health Service. These PADs are in many places now and I shall pursue the provision in our area.

The South Wilts Core Strategy will recognize and address rural issues. Mere itself will have a development quota of 200 dwellings between 2010 and 2025. For the same period the villages of Zeals, Kilmington, East and West Knoyle, Sedgell, Stourton and Semley (when allowed) will have 50, 20 of which have already been built.

With the public spending cuts in Wiltshire, the subsidised bus services in my view have fared well, the only reduction being the withdrawal of the mid-afternoon journeys for the Mere, Maiden Bradley and Frome services. These services had almost nil usage. The Council is prepared to consider alternative proposals for any reductions in all areas of Wiltshire.

Finally, the Convent near Alfred's Tower. I was trying to find historical information regarding inhabitants during living memory. This information will update a web site about Alfred's Tower. Thank you to those who came forward giving information on inhabitants back to the 1920s; I will be pleased to receive any further information that anyone has.



MERE POLICE TEAM NEWS

Priorities

Our priorities were discussed in conjunction with the local community and the following decisions were made. Please note priorities are based on feedback from the local community and crime reports. Please see below for an up-date on our current priority:

Anti-social behaviour - Town Square and Castle Street, Mere

This priority relates to reports of ongoing problems with anti-social behaviour in Town Square and Castle Street in Mere. The issues are occurring weekends and evenings.

We are still carrying out patrols in these areas on foot and by vehicle, both daytime & evenings. Response Officers from Warminster are aware of our priority and are also monitoring the situation with us. Things have been relatively quiet which is a positive thing, however we remain vigilant and will continue to monitor the situation. Please let us know if you have any information regarding this issue.

Our Neighbourhood Policing Team mobile telephone has now been withdrawn from service. We continue to be contactable via our main line number ☎ 0845 408 7000 or via our NPT email address merentp@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk.

Good work

We are pleased to say that we were recently able to assist the Mere Amateur Dramatic Society with their recent pantomime 'Aladdin & the Naughty Thieves'! The subject was deemed highly appropriate for us to loan some police whistles for use during the play. We are looking to extending our involvement should the next play be entitled Jake & His Sheep!

And finally.....

The appointment of our new volunteer to staff our enquiry office at Mere Police Station is still underway. The process is still on-going but as soon as all of the actions required are completed we will announce the opening hours via our website/bulletin.

*Richard Salter, Community Beat Manager, Police Constable 1312
07528 972928 (not 24 hour)*

e-mail: richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Jake Noble, Police Community Support Office

07528 927926 (not 24 hour)

e-mail: jacob.noble@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

WEATHER REPORT

The rain in February was 66.5mm (2.62in). Last year was 105mm (4.14in). It was a cold month with sunny intervals and frosty mornings at the end of the month. March started dry with many frosty mornings, but generally sunny and cold winds. Up to the middle of the month we only had 4.5mm of rain apart from several nights of slight misty rain which did not record.

Peter Durkee

MERE & DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

Requests for Transport ☎ 01747 860096

ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 20th MAY at 7.00pm in the GROVE BUILDING.

You may have requested help recently, you may be interested in volunteering, or you may just want to find out more about the Linkscheme. Whichever it is, if you would like to hear more about our work in the past year and meet our volunteers, do please come and join us

Molly Burden ☎ 01747 860007

MERE CARNIVAL

SELECTION OF CARNIVAL ROYALS 2011

Would you like to represent Mere in the afternoon and the evening Carnival processions on Saturday 17th September and travel in our newly decorated float? If so, we would

love to hear from you. The Princess and Attendant will be aged 5 years - 14 years and the Carnival Queen aged 15 years+. You must live within the BA12 6 postcode area. There is no entry fee and there is a small clothing allowance available to each of the successful Carnival Royals. Please let us know why you would like to be chosen to represent Mere Carnival and also let us know a little about yourself, including your name, age and contact details. Please ensure you ask your parent/guardian's permission before entering. Applications in writing only please to: Carol Payne, 2 Walnut Road, Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6FG or by e-mail luciechesh@hotmail.com marking the subject line 'Carnival Royalty entry'. **The deadline for entries is Saturday 30th April 2011.**

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE 2010 DONATIONS

The 2010 Committee has now been able to donate monies to the following causes from the many Mere Carnival fund raising events including Carnival Day:

Rosemary Goddard Centre	£ 250.00
Mere Matters	£50.00
Valley News	£50.00
Wiltshire Council (Mere)	£1,000.00 (Mere defibrillator project)

MERE CARNIVAL COMMITTEE 2011

Would you like to join the Carnival Committee? We usually meet about once a month and would welcome anyone who would enjoy ensuring that the Mere Carnival continues for many years to come. Please contact Carol Payne ☎ 01747 861639 or luciechesh@hotmail.com for more information.

A CREDIT UNION IN MERE

Would you be interested?

What is a Credit Union? It is a local self-help co-operative. Members make saving deposits, which after a time enable a member to borrow at low interest from the funds which have built up and every year get a member's dividend. The S-W Wiltshire Credit Union area includes Mere and their committee would like to open a collection point at the Library.

If you might be interested to save and get the benefits, or might volunteer to staff a collection point on a rota basis every three or four weeks, please contact Russell Carpenter on ☎ 01747 861 365.

The next step will be a meeting on Tuesday, 10th May in the small hall at the Grove Building, at 7.30pm.

Committee members of the local Credit Union will come to present information and answer questions about having a collection point in Mere.

LOCAL CLUB HELPING JOB SEEKERS

Any local resident looking for work will find a warm welcome and practical help at the Gillingham Work (Job) Club. Advisers give practical help, advice and support to anyone of any age looking for work, training or volunteering opportunities. This includes helping to write or update CVs, analysing and reviewing skills, filling in application forms and making appointments for job interviews. A cup of coffee and a warm welcome are part of the club sessions, that take place Friday mornings from 10.00am to 1.00pm in the Jubilee Room of Gillingham Town Hall, on School Road, just off the top of High Street behind LIDL. Job seekers can use computer terminals and current issues of the local press in their job searches.

The club's website at www.gillinghamjc.webs.com has an up to date weekly list of all the jobs available at the Yeovil Job Centre, plus jobs that employers have listed directly with the club. The contact is the co-ordinator, David Walsh, who can be contacted on ☎ 07544 921671

MERE DENTAL PRACTICE



The practice currently has **NHS appointments** available to anyone in Mere, but Jacquie Barnes is the only dentist seeing new NHS patients

The practice has two Dentists:

Mr Stephen Sherrard

Ms Jacqueline Barnes

..and one Dental Hygienist:

Ms Wendy Hester (Mondays only)

..plus a dental therapist

Jay Lonsdale (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Contact Details: -

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

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 AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

The Mere and District Chamber of Trade Luncheon

A luncheon will be held at the Old Ship Inn, Mere on Wednesday 6th April in association with Rosemary Macdonald from the Community Foundation for Wiltshire & Swindon. Community Foundation for Wiltshire & Swindon is a local charity dedicated to improving the lives of disadvantaged people in our county. In 2009/10 the Foundation distributed £913,000 in grants to support the charities and voluntary sector groups working to make our communities better. Rosemary will highlight the work undertaken by the foundation and share some of their inspiring stories and plans for the future.

The lunch is a two course meal (main course and cheese and biscuits)

- £12.50 for members
- £14.50 for non members

To make a booking, please contact Mere & District Chamber of Trade on ☎ 01747 863203 or email pa@hamilton-litestat.com

Barbara S Hewitt, Chair ☎ 01747 863203

SHORT WALK

Meet as usual in the Surgery Car Park at 2pm for a walk of 3-4 miles around the by-ways of Mere on Friday 15th April. Tea at The Angel Cafe afterwards for those who wish to indulge!

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

BIG BREW BREAKFAST

Many thanks to those who supported this event during Fair Trade Fortnight. With generous support from the Co-op, I was able to send a donation of £40 to help Traidcraft's work with bee-keepers around the world.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

THE COMMUNITY LUNCH
The last lunch before the summer break
on
TUESDAY 12th April 2011
12 noon
at
THE OLD SHIP HOTEL

Castle Street, Mere
For a £8.95 two course lunch of
Roast Chicken and Trifle, coffee or tea
Ring ☎ 01747 860258 to book

NEWS OF BRAINWAVE



Spring seems to be starting at last! At Brainwave, we are now busy filling the rails with our Spring collection of 'new to you' clothing. Our selection of jewellery, books, toys and bric-a-brac is being constantly refreshed and updated, so it's worth making regular visits to our Mere shop to see what's on offer.

On Saturday 16th April, we are holding a very special event at the Lecture Hall. It will be a Pampering Evening offering a taster of everything you might need to step into Spring with a bounce in your step. There will be FREE make-up and nail demonstrations and a chance to have a makeover. Also in the main hall, there will be collections of Brainwave's best clothes, shoes, handbags and jewellery on sale. In the smaller hall there will be something for the body and 'inner woman' including taster sessions of holistic treatments and a chance to 'Explore your Aura'. Jane Donohoe, the Brainwave shop supervisor, is hoping that this fund-raising event for Brainwave will be an opportunity for those in the area with a special skill, to showcase their speciality (make-up/hair/beauty treatment/holistic therapy). So if you would like to participate in this event, please contact Jane. Tickets for the event cost £5 each, including refreshments and free access to all the demonstrations and are available for purchase at the Brainwave shop. There is also the chance to be a catwalk model for the evening (7.00pm-10.00pm). For further details, contact Brainwave Shop on ☎ 01747 863432.

GARDENING CLUB

Bees and the Gardener

Gerald Fisher

Wednesday 13th April 7.30pm Grove Buildings

Gerald is president of the Somerset Bee Keepers' Association, a long-established tutor and a national authority on the insect. He will give a potted history of bee keeping, explain the importance of bees to our gardens, and suggest plants to attract them. He will bring **honey for sale**.

Visitors and friends very welcome

If you were unable to attend the AGM, you missed the opportunity to pick up, at the bargain price of £1 per plant, a pot of Dianthus Mrs Sinkins (sic) to grow on for our Annual Show. There are still a few left if you hurry and get in touch with me! If you wish to renew your membership please ring our membership secretary, Elizabeth Munro ☎ 01747 860052

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

MERE FILM SHOWS

First of all this month I must extend a big thank you to the audiences of the two screenings of *The King's Speech* for their generosity and let you know that the donations for Japan that were made on that day amounted to a total of £330.00 which has been split between Save the Children Japan Appeal and the Disaster Emergency Relief Fund.

Do you believe in ghosts? The film for this month, on Thursday 14th April, is a wonderful and charming ghostly mystery story written and directed by Julian Fellowes, who does these things so well, and stars Maggie Smith, Alex Etel, Timothy Spall and Pauline Collins, among other familiar faces. Full details are on page 16 and tickets are on sale in the Library.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 19th May: **Film title to be confirmed** (but it will be a good one!)

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257



MERE MUSEUM

Our current exhibition, **'Preserving the Past for the Future'** is continuing to generate lots of interest. We are delighted to tell everyone that the Wiltshire Museums Service, whose conservation work the exhibition celebrates, has asked us to convert the exhibition into a travelling one which other Wiltshire museums can display during the rest of the year. The objects won't travel of course, but all the information and photographs of the objects will. This is quite a coup for Mere Museum – make sure you see the exhibition before it goes on tour! It will be on show until the end of May.

We are extending the entry deadline for the **'Make an Exhibition of Yourselves'** competition by two weeks, to Saturday 2nd April, to allow groups which are still undecided to get their entries in. Don't delay any further or you may miss this opportunity of a lifetime!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

The next event in The Friends of Fives Court calendar is a **Cake Sale and Coffee Morning**, to be held in **St. Michael's Church** on **Saturday 30th April** (yes, the day

after the wedding), at 10.00am. We've got a small shopping list for the finishing touches to the new garden (opening on Saturday 14th May at 2.00p.m.) – a matter of icing on the cake, really - and would be very glad of your support. Watch out for posters!

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

There is still just time to get your tickets for the talk by **David Crisp** on **Tuesday 5th April 2011** will talk about the **Frome Coin Hoard** and how he discovered it. The talk will be held in The Grove Buildings at 7.30pm., and tickets are available from Mere Information Point/Library, price £5 (licensed bar available). Come and hear the latest about this exciting discovery and get up-to-the-minute news about the final destination of the hoard.

Please also remember the Friends' **Plant Sale**, to take place on **Saturday 14th May**.

More details in the next issue

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

So Ali got his princess, the Chief Thief got a very long sentence and all those stolen goods have been returned to their rightful owners. Traditionally things now go a bit quiet for MADS, for at least a couple of weeks. But fear not! A new play has been chosen for the Autumn, and we are all thinking terribly hard about possibly starting work on it. Soon.

Meanwhile please note that the AGM will take place in May as usual; watch for details in the next issue.

Date of next meeting: Monday 11th April Lecture Hall (Drama Room), 8 pm.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

COFFEE & CAKE FOR ASTHMA UK ON TUESDAY 15TH MARCH

Many thanks to all our friends and neighbours new and old who contributed so generously to a wonderfully successful morning and helped to raise over £270 for Asthma UK. Our daughter Kate was delighted with such lovely expressions of support. Particularly our thanks to Imogen and her crew at the Angel Corner Cafe who were fantastic.

Hazel & Tony Grinyer

WILDLIFE WALK ON CASTLE HILL AND LONG HILL

Please come for a short evening walk (about an hour) to see some of the wildlife and archaeology on Castle Hill and Long Hill. Meet 6.00pm in Castle Hill playground on

Tuesday 10th May. Wear suitable footwear and clothing - some moderate climbs. All welcome.
Simon Ford 📞 01747 863396

**REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE MAY ISSUE
MONDAY 11th APRIL**

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

'From Time to Time' (PG)

Written and directed by Moviola's Patron Julian Fellowes from Lucy M Boston's book *The Chimneys of Green Knowe*. Tolly Oldknow (Alex Etel) is sent away from wartime London to stay with his grandmother (Maggie Smith) in her ancient house in the country. There past and present intersect and he finds himself able to move among the house's ghosts. Gradually he begins to unravel the mystery which has bewildered his family for two centuries.

In the Lecture Hall
Thursday 14th April, 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 on 01747 861257

Visit our website at www.moviola.org

MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Somerton Town Walk and Lytes Cary Manor

Somerton is an attractive Somerset town and was once the ancient royal capital of Wessex. On arrival we will have coffee in the Parish Rooms, followed by a guided tour of the town. We expect to have a couple of hours free time and then we will move on to the charming small manor house of Lytes Cary. This National Trust property has a 14th century chapel, a 15th century great hall and Arts and Crafts style gardens.

We will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.45am and return by 5.00pm

Cost: Club Members £12.00, non-members £14.00 per person, to include coffee and a copy of the Town Trail guide book in Somerton.

Please remember to bring your National Trust membership card if you have one, otherwise entrance will be £5.75 for the garden or £8.10 for the house and garden.

For more details please ring Ros Castro on ☎ 01747 861957. Booking forms are available from Mere Information Point.

If you were unable to attend the AGM please send your fee (£6 per member) to the Membership Secretary: **Joan Slight, 7 Nursery Gardens, Mere.** ☎ **01747 860890.** Standing Order forms are available.

MERE THEATRE CLUB

The spring and summer mailing will be coming out soon, so if you don't want to miss out, do join our mailing list by ringing or emailing Wendy or Madelaine. **madsmorris4@tiscali.co.uk**

Madelaine Morris ☎ 01747 861833, *Wendy Horne* ☎ 01747 861712

MERELY WOMEN

A date for your diaries – our next meeting will be on Friday 8th April at 10.00am in the Grove Building

GROVE BUILDINGS RESTORATION FUND

The Result of the '100' Club Draw for September, drawn after Family Communion on Sunday 6th March 2011 by Mrs Caroline Bishop was:

- 1st** Prize (£20) - No. 199 Mrs Julie Afford
- 2nd** Prize (£15) - No. 22 Mrs June Watson
- 3rd** Prize (£10) - No. 5 Mrs P Cooper
- 4th** Prize (£5) - No. 58 Mrs G Toms

Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964

MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had our Annual Meeting on 3rd March and have our Committee for 2011. The President for the coming year is Miss Molly Burden. Our next meeting on Thursday 7th April at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings is in fact our 'Craft and Cookery Show' with more than 20 classes ranging through Cookery, Handicrafts, Flower Arrangements and Photography. As usual visitors are very welcome.

Sheila Shotter ☎ 01747 861771

Friends of Mere Museum

Present a talk by

Dave Crisp

finder of the

THE FROME ROMAN COIN HOARD



Tuesday 5th April
The Grove Building 7.30pm

The Head of Portable Antiquities and Treasure at the British Museum has declared the Frome Hoard to be an extremely important find and one which has a huge amount to tell us about the coinage and history of the period.

One of the largest hoards of Roman coins discovered in Britain and less than 10 miles from Mere !

Come along to hear more about this very newsworthy story.
Tickets, £5, available from the Information Point
Licensed bar

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART 1350-1500,

from Giotto to Botticelli

Mondays, 3.30pm to 5.00pm, Oct 3rd -Dec 5th 2011 in the Grove Building. Fee:- £80.

It is hoped to run two consecutive courses of 10 weeks each. The second will run from the end of January until Easter. The courses will study the architecture, sculpture and painting of the period, and the historical context of its production.

Tutor :- **Hendrika Foster MA**, who taught for many years in the Continuing Education Dept. of the University of Bristol. It would be helpful in assessing possible enrolment, if anyone interested in attending could contact either hendrika-foster@hotmail.co.uk or ☎ 01963 32172 as soon as possible.

MOTHERS UNION & OPEN MEMBERS GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th April at 2.30pm in the Grove Buildings. The speaker will be Alison Knight from Christian Aid

Thelma Ings ☎ 01747 860262

Mere Drama Society in conjunction with Rural Arts Wiltshire

presents
singer/songwriter

Barb Jung

in concert
accompanied by Jenny Carr on piano

Britain's most acclaimed song stylist presents a collection of some of the most beautiful songs to have been written on the theme of love. Interpreting songs by Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Neil Diamond and more, Barb brings a unique vocal vision to this moving material. Join us for this cabaret style entertainment in

Mere Lecture Hall on Friday 6th May at 7.30pm

Tickets available from the Tourist Information Office at Mere Library or by ringing ☎ 01747 860163.

£6.50 adults, £5.50 Concessions, £3.50 children.

"There are few better interpreters of contemporary song than Barb Jung."

Rock'n'Reel

Support live entertainment in Mere

CASTLE HILL QUILTERS

The Grove Building is a busy place when the quilters meet with sewing machines and needles busily making cot quilts, bags, lap quilts and wall hangings. Jennie Hoffman held a very interesting workshop during March and twenty two members and friends now look forward to our planned visit to the South West Quilt Show to be held in Exeter, on Friday 25th March.

We are now one of the 60 Affiliated Groups of the Quilters' Guild of the British Isles which gives us the opportunity to invite a speaker from the Guild and to be part of the wider community of those who enjoy this absorbing hobby.

We look forward to a workshop organised by another of our members who will show us how to do Crazy Patchwork with an embroiderer's embellishment.

If you would like to join us, we welcome newcomers. We meet on Wednesday 6th April prior to our Easter break.

Carol Lord ☎ 01747 861923.

MERE SNOOKER CLUB

Spring Bargain ! Mere Snooker Club members have voted to keep their fee rates unchanged for another year, so, if you are looking to renew your connection with snooker and billiards, need somewhere to practice or are looking to start a new, year-round sport, then why not come and see what the "oldest club in Mere" has to offer you. Contact the Secretary, Kevin for more information.

Kevin Smith ☎ 01747 860305

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT
invite you to join them for a
COFFEE MORNING
& HOME-MADE CAKE SALE
Saturday 30th April in
St Michael's Church
10.00am - 11.30am



Donations of home-made cakes would be much appreciated; please deliver to the church before 10.00am or we will be happy to collect - contact Carol ☎ 860976 or Angela ☎ 861602.

MERE CROQUET AND BOULES CLUB

At the time of writing it finally looks as though Spring has sprung. The opening of our 2011 season is almost upon us, and the date to note is Saturday 9th April. As in previous years this will be an Open Day starting at 2.00pm with a glass of wine and refreshments on offer. Everyone is welcome: both members and anyone else interested can be assured of a friendly reception. Should you have any questions about the Club please contact Rex Roberts.

Our between-seasons get together was held at The Bell and Crown in Zeals on February 24th. This was very well attended and proved to be a most enjoyable evening resulting in several new members joining the ranks.

High on the agenda for this year is the intention to acquire an outdoor table tennis table as soon as possible, so adding another activity for members.

Thanks to the much-appreciated dedicated efforts of those volunteering for the working parties, the Croquet Lawn is looking in excellent shape, the Boules Court slick and

ready, the Pavilion is pristine with a new coat of paint and various other minor improvements have been completed, including the disabled access.

Rex Roberts ☎ 01747 860873

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE

*The day centre for Mere and district, Lynch Close, Mere
Mondays 10.30am - 3.00pm; Fridays 10.30am - 4.00pm*

**THE CENTRE IS APPEALING FOR VOLUNTEERS.
CAN YOU DONATE AN HOUR ONCE A MONTH?**

The Centre can only exist through the generous gift of our volunteers' time. Our volunteers do such things as helping with the sessions, washing up, collecting some Guests by car etc. At the moment our pressing need is for volunteer drivers on Mondays to collect the lunchbox at midday from Fives Court Residential Home in Angel Lane, delivering it to the Centre in Lynch Close and to return the lunchbox later to Fives Court.

It will only take an hour of your time once a month - but for the Guests who attend, a day at the day centre is the highlight of their week, giving them company, fun and inspiration. Without the day centre many of our elderly Guests would be socially isolated and might need to move out of their homes into residential care.

**If you are thinking of volunteering some time to our community
you would be hard-pressed to find a more effective and valued use
of your time!**



Lynette Elliott (Organiser) ☎ 01747 861646

MODEL RAILWAY OPEN DAY IN MERE IN AID OF BRAINWAVE

We are delighted to announce the third Model Railway Open Day in Mere will take place on Saturday 21st May at The Old Forge, North Street, Mere BA12 6HH from 10.00am till 4.00pm all in aid of the Children's Charity Brainwave.

This popular event is enlarged this year. The main layout, a large working 0 Gauge layout, The Blackmore Vale Railway will be in operation for visitors to watch in the railway room over the garage. Two additional layouts will also be attending the open day. Gogton Minor, also an 0 Gauge layout will be in operation in the garage. Children attending the show will be invited by the layout operators, to help run the trains and be in charge of the train controllers. After all, for small boys and girls, what is the point of coming to a railway show if they are not allowed to touch anything?

Weather permitting, a large Gauge 0 Test Track will be operating in the garden. This is more for the modelling enthusiast, where visitors are invited to bring along their own locomotives and stock to run on the railway. Members of the West Wiltshire 0 Gauge Group, based in Trowbridge, Wiltshire, will be running their own locomotives and stock, helping to ensure an entertaining and enjoyable day for the visitors. The three layouts are all continuous running layouts, so come along and spend a pleasant time watching the trains go by. Also for the children will be a lucky dip, with prizes with every ticket.

There will be a tea stall in the garage next to Gogton Minor, selling teas, coffees and a wide range of other refreshments. Tables and chairs will be provided for visitors to sit and enjoy the railways in the lovely setting of the Old Forge's garden.

The open day will commence at 10.00am until 4.00pm.

There will not be an admission charge, but donations will be greatly appreciated. As mentioned, all profits from the day will go to the Children's Charity, Brainwave, which provides therapy and exercise programmes for children with a wide range of disabilities such as Cerebral Palsy, Down's Syndrome and Autism and works with families to unlock a child's full potential.

For any further information please contact Paul Smith; SW Fundraiser for Brainwave on ☎ 01278 726927 or paulsmith@brainwave.org.uk

MERE CRICKET CLUB

A new season fast approaches and this season Mere have more junior teams entered in the North Dorset League than ever before. Juniors coaching will start on Friday 29th April at 6.15pm at the Duchy Manor fields (next to the school) and continue every

Friday through to the summer holidays. Anyone aged 7 to 16 is welcome. Under 9's and 11's will finish at 7.15pm, the older ones at 7.45pm.

We look forward to seeing many old and new faces. The adult side will soon be starting outdoor net sessions on Wednesday evenings following our indoor net practices at Warminster. We are always looking for new players and members, so if you are interested in getting involved with cricket in Mere in any way at all, please contact either myself or Mark Cassidy at the Walnut Tree Inn.

Kevin Whitmore ☎ 01747 860639



Wincanton Choral Society and orchestra, conducted by Simon Twiselton, will be performing Haydn's oratorio 'The Creation' for its Spring Concert. This is considered by many to be his finest work. Performing with the Society will be Melanie Armitstead (Soprano), Paul Badley (Tenor) and Stephen Charlesworth (Bass). The concert takes place on Sunday 15th May at 7.30pm in Wincanton Sports Centre, West Hill, Wincanton.

Tickets are available from Netaticket on ☎ 01749 813899, or www.netaticket.co.uk and ☎ 01749 838843, priced £12.50 or £14.00 on the door. Concessions for 18 and under (£8)

MERE SCHOOL

March 2011

Last half term we were very lucky and had Art Week at our school. Mr Philburt came to our school for 2 days. The first day he was Vincent Van Gogh and the second Pablo Picasso. He told us all about these artists and their lives and we all did paintings in the style of Picasso or Van Gogh. These pictures went into our art exhibition and our parents were able to buy a framed copy. We had a great week and enjoyed it very much. Silver class even made a toast and egg picture of Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers'!

Happy Red Nose Day to everyone! Red Nose Day is coming and we have already sold all of our noses and raised £240 for people less fortunate than us. We are coming to school dressed in red with our noses.

On Monday 7th March Purple Class went to the Bristol Museum and Planetarium. There were so many things to do - freeze your shadow, a learning lounge, a tornadowhere you stand in and a tornado moves around you and a TV studio where you could present your own show. We also went in the Planetarium. We had loads of fun and didn't want to leave.

This year, our book week theme was poetry. Lots of parents came in to read poems and stories - a big thank you to everyone who did. The Travelling Book Fair came in and lots of us bought books. We had a competition to design a hat that could be worn whilst reading a poem or story. Holly Brown won the KS1 prize and Emily Kelly the KS2 prize. We also came back to school one evening for a bedtime story.

Mere School has been very lucky and had a visit from The Life Bus. We had some very good discussions about the body and how we should keep ourselves fit and safe.

In Eco Club we have started to create a wildlife garden to attract insects. We hope it will be a success. We are aiming to achieve the 'green flag' award and to be graded as an eco school. Green class went to the Co-op to find out about Fair Trade food. Mrs Way came to tell us about Fair Trade cotton. We made some bunting and posters to persuade people to buy Fair Trade food. The Co-op has displayed some of our posters and the bunting. The bunting will go in for the world record length of bunting with lots of others. We are going to have a raffle to raise money for the Fair Trade charity.

We have taken part in 2 football tournaments recently. Our year 5/6 team did not win the pyramid competition but our year 3/4 team did. Both teams played very well.

Mere School is a clean, eco-friendly place to learn. The only thing we ask is to have an environment in the town of Mere that we can enjoy safely. PLEASE CLEAN UP YOUR DOG MESS when you are walking around our town. People sometimes step in it on their way to school, which is most unpleasant for everybody. Also, dog mess can be very dangerous to young children. Please be considerate to us.

Alexandra Porter, Zoe Acreman, Jessica Corbett, Izzy Young, Jacob Price, Zach Hillier, Emily Kelly, Millie Stainer, Teigan Gifford, Chloe Tealey, Adam Filleau, Dannan White, Joe Demmar, Tom Harvey and Sean Williams.

A Note from Mrs Williamson

Mrs Bundy is retiring from her post as Deputy Head Teacher at our school in July. She has been here for 30 years and taught many children in Mere. If you would like to

contribute to a leaving gift or just sign a card to say thank you please could you pop into the school office.

TISBURY & DISTRICT SPORTS CENTRE

Healthy Living? – The Biggest Loser!

We, like most people within the fitness industry, have been watching with growing concern the programme “The Biggest Loser”. If somebody tried to shock, use militant tactics and intimidate us into exercise, we certainly would not take part, and it is felt by those within the Leisure Industry that this programme is having a negative effect, by putting people off exercise, but we suppose it makes for good television!!

Exercise is something that should be enjoyed, and it is important that you do find some form of exercise which you do enjoy, otherwise the chances of you continuing to participate are slim. Being as overweight as some of those on the TV programme is difficult enough for them as it is, but to make them physically vomit, faint and be in need of medical attention, is downright dangerous.

We run well structured, supervised and “safe” classes, and would like to assure all our potential clients, and those we have had in the past, that we would not at any time resort to these sort of tactics to make you lose weight.

- Yes – you have to want to lose weight,
- and no - it doesn't happen easily.
- Yes – you have to work at it,
- and no – there are no easy fixes.
- Yes - there are better and safer ways of doing this,
- and no – it won't happen overnight – you have to be in it for the long haul.

But results you will see – especially if you stick to a well balanced diet of food and exercise. So please do not be put off by what you have seen on the TV – we most certainly are not all like that!!!

For further details on the above, or any of our other activities, please contact ☎ 01747 871141, email at tisbury@wiltshire.gov.uk or our web site www.wiltshire.gov.uk

WEST KNOYLE GARDEN FETE

June 5th 12.00pm – 5.00pm
At the Parish House, West Knoyle

This year's fete is themed around the garden and its plants. Although the garden at the Parish House has not been open previously it is now well worth a visit and to enhance your visit we have invited local specialist nurseries, craftsmen, landscapers and garden service providers.

For those whose fingers are less green there are many other attractions, including a book stall, BBQ, locally made ice creams and cream teas plus lots of surprises for people of all ages.

Protection against the elements is in the form of a tent provided by White Horse Marquees.

Funds raised will be donated to West Knoyle Church.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH FÊTE

Time is speeding on and it is now only a couple of months until the church fete on 4th June. We are hoping to have all the usual favourite stalls, and also want to introduce a couple of new ones. We need stall holders, plus as many helpers as possible.

If you are not already involved in the fete, would you please consider helping? It need only be for an hour on the day. Please ring Jean and Colin on ☎ 01747 861168. We look forward to hearing from you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BARN BUDDIES

It is hard to believe that this year the Barn Buddies will celebrate their tenth birthday. Starting in May 2001, the Barn Buddies provide a youth club for young people from

Mere and the surrounding area who are in school year two or above. Hundreds of children have been through our doors over the last ten years, some now married, some are parents.

There has always been a great community feel to the Barn Buddies and the support of local organizations, businesses and individuals has enabled the Barn Buddies to be such a success. We are planning a party to celebrate this anniversary on **May 20th** from **6.30pm at Barrow Street Farm**. If you know of anyone who has been involved with the Barn Buddies during this time please let them know, it will be great to see them

Tim Merrell 📞 01747 860195

THE REV'D PAUL BARNES WRITES:

I expect you have heard the story about the motorist who stops to ask for directions. The immediate response from the person he asks is very positive, he knows exactly where the motorist's hoped-for destination is, but he then goes on to say, "but if I was going there, I wouldn't start from here!"

In all of human history there cannot have been a more unpromising starting point than three terrified women running away from an empty tomb. If you were planning a movement that you hoped would radically change the lives of millions of people, I have a feeling that you wouldn't immediately think of starting from there! An empty tomb sounds much more like the sort of place a venture might come to a grinding halt or an embarrassing end, rather than the place where it all begins.

No one could have been more shocked or surprised that God was doing a new thing early on that first Easter morning than those three women who went to Jesus' grave with the intention of anointing his body for burial. Their only hope as they walked through the dark deserted streets and out into the burial ground was that they would be able to gain access to Jesus' dead body. No doubt they knew that a large stone had been rolled across the entrance to the tomb, a stone that without help they would not have been able to move.

Discovering that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance must have thrown them into a state of confusion, but they still bravely entered, finding the tomb empty except for a mysterious figure who told them that they should not be looking for the living among the dead. Having experienced all of that, while still grieving for their departed loved one, it's hardly surprising that they 'fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them.' (Mark 16.8)

So how on earth can it be possible that 2,000 years after those frightened women ran for their lives that millions of people all over the world will meet together this month to recall and celebrate what those women were the first to discover?

For me the only fact that can logically explain how and why the discovery of that empty tomb led to the founding of the Christian faith is that what that mysterious figure said to those women was true, that Jesus was no longer dead but alive. I am absolutely certain

that if Jesus had not been raised from the dead, we would never have heard of him, as Archbishop Michael Ramsey once said, "No resurrection; no Christianity."

Those women had gone to the tomb to pay their last tribute to a dead body, and as far as the other disciples of Jesus were concerned everything they had hoped for had come to a tragic end as he died on the cross. What else, but his resurrection, could have changed those sad and despairing men and women into people radiant with joy and so full of faith and courage that some of them were willing to die for what they had seen and believed.

But it is not a historic event that Christians will be celebrating on Easter Day, we will be celebrating the presence of our Risen Lord with us now. We do not believe in Christ's resurrection because of what we have read in the Bible, we believe that he is alive because we have met him for ourselves and experienced his presence and his love in our hearts and in our lives. That is why later this month Christians throughout the world will sing:

*Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.
Women and men, in age and youth, can feel his Spirit, hear his call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.*

**FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
SPRING BAZAAR**

Saturday 7th May 10am to 12 noon

In the Grove Buildings, Church Street

Cakes, Books, Bric-a-brac, Plants, Raffle,

Coffee and Tea

Everyone will be most welcome

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Afternoon Get Together

There will be no Get Together this month as it falls in Easter week but we shall be back in May at 2.30pm as usual. A Happy Easter to everyone.

Mary Siderfin 📞 01747 861370

DARING TO DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE – HELP NEEDED!

Christian Aid is a very special charity because its vision of freedom from poverty and abundant life for all is derived directly from the belief that there are no limits to God's love for the world and all who live in it. We can all help to work for a fairer sharing of the good things we enjoy, so that the poorest no longer have to struggle to exist, and all people may have a chance to flourish.

Because Christian Aid works closely with tried and trusted partners in poor countries (rather than through government agencies) we can be sure that the money we raise is well spent. Christian Aid works among the poorest people – of any faith or none - both in times of emergency, and in longer term work to enable people to stand on their own feet and rebuild their lives through sustainable small-scale projects.

An example of this is the project in Nicaragua which, through small loans and careful guidance has enabled previously struggling coffee-growers to build their own processing plant, and, eventually, build a school for their children. There are small projects which make a real difference in people's lives among earthquake survivors in Haiti, flood victims in Pakistan, Burmese refugees in Thailand, among the dalits in India, and in Kenya, Rwanda, Peru, Bolivia, Southern Sudan and many other poor parts of the world.

Churches Together in Mere and District is reviving the house-to-house collection for Christian Aid Week in Mere this year (15th-21st May) to enable as many people as possible to share in and support this vision. House-to-House collectors are needed for a couple of hours at times to suit you during that week. Please help if you can! To sign up for your delivery and collection 'patch' please come to the Lent Lunches on Fridays in the Grove Building or give me a ring. *Judith Thompson* 📞 01747 860553

ROYAL WEDDING STREET PARTY

Messy Church is having a street party to celebrate the Royal Wedding at St Michael's Church on Friday 29th April at 4.00pm. All families are welcome to join us. There will be outside games and activities for the children and refreshments for the adults. This will be followed by a celebration tea for everyone to enjoy. The food will be 'pot luck' which

means that you bring something with you on the day for everyone to share that is suitable for a celebration tea. Please ring Tamsin or email meremessychurch@hotmail.co.uk if you require any further information. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Tamsin Edmed ☎ 01747 860758

A VISIT TO INDIA

Thursday 7th April at 7.30 at Rivermead, Pettridge Lane
 (Jean & Colin Kantharia's house ☎ 01747 861168)

Ross & Judith Thompson & Mark Lillie will show photos and talk about their recent visit to India, focussing especially on Suchana. Everyone is welcome to come and discover a bit more about the children we, and you, are supporting through this project, and about the land they live in..

No charge, but donations for Suchana will be very welcome.

LENT & EASTER 2011

The Lent Lunches continue up to and including Good Friday; 12.30pm at the Grove Buildings. All are welcome to a frugal lunch of soup, bread and fresh fruit for £2.50 per head.

Procession of Witness on Good Friday Leaves the Square at 11.00am. All welcome. Why not come to Lent Lunch on your way back from Castle Hill?

Floral Crosses. These will be made by volunteers from all the Churches in the Grove Buildings from 1.00pm on Good Friday immediately after Lent Lunch and before the afternoon services and meditations (see Church calendar).

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

APRIL 2010

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)
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday	3rd 10.30am	Family Communion with distribution of posies
	6.00pm	Evensong

Wednesday	6th	6.00pm	“Start the Month” Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	10th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	17th	10.30am	Palm Sunday - Family Communion (CW1) Begins with procession from Square. Benefice Service with Maiden Bradley and West Knoyle
Monday	18th	8.00am	Holy Communion (beginning of Holy Week)
Tuesday	19th	8.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday	20th	10.30am	Holy Communion
		12.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Maundy Thursday	21st	8.00pm	Service of the Last Supper followed by The Watch until midnight
Good Friday	22nd	8.00am	Holy Communion from reserved sacrament
		9.30am	Stations of the Cross for children (with Hot Cross Buns)
		11.00am	March of Witness up Castle Hill
		2.30pm	The Last Hour – a meditation in music and readings
Easter Sunday	24th	6.00am	Vigil and Service of Light (at the Barn, Barrow Street)
		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1) with Easter Eggs!

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	3rd	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	10th	11.00am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	17th	11.00am	Rev'd John Page
	21st	7.00pm	Rev'd John Page Holy Communion
Good Friday	22nd	10.15am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp
Easter Sunday	24th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie Holy Communion

The Methodist Church (☎ 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: ☎ 01747 861370

Sunday	3rd	6.00pm	Rev'd Gordon Eloff Holy Communion
	10th	6.00pm	Rev'd Ros Hollingsworth
	17th	6.00pm	Mrs Sharon Hawkes
	24th	6.00pm	Rev'd Gwynneth Owen Holy Communion

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's. (☎ Warminster 01985 212329 – Fr. Bede Rowe)

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

Every Friday		10.00am	Mass
Good Friday	22nd April	NO MORNING MASS	
		3.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Easter Sunday	24th April	1.30am	Mass (PLEASE CHECK BEFOREHAND AS MAY BE CHANGED)
Every Sunday		11.30am	Mass
Children's Liturgy Service each Sunday when help is available.			

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	3rd	9.25am	Mothering Sunday; Matins (BCP)
Sunday	10th	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad)
Sunday	17th	10.30am	Benefice Service at Mere
Easter Sunday	24th	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad)

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

CW1 indicates Common Worship Order 1 (trad = traditional language)

DIARY DATES

APRIL 2011

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

1	Fri	11.30am	Lent Lunch	GB
		6.00pm	Funky Feet Dance Club (every Friday)	L

		6.30pm	Barn Buddies	BSF
2	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
4	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers	L
		6.00pm	Beaver Scouts (Also 18th & 25th)	YC
		6.45pm	Cubs	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (Also 18th & 25th)	YC
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.00pm	Yoga (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Mere Parish Council Meeting	AYC
5	Tue	10.30am	Lent Course	CC
		6.00pm	Funky Feet Dance Club (every Tuesday)	L
		7.00pm	Friends of Mere Museum	GB
6	Wed	9.30am	Yoga (every Wednesday)	L
		9.30am	Tai Chi	GB
		11.00am	Pilates (Every Wednesday)	GB
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (Every Wednesday)	L
7	Thur	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (also 28th)	L
		10.00am	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	MH
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (Every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	WI Produce sale	GB
		6.30pm	Weight Watchers (every Thursday)	L
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (Every Thursday)	CC
8	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women	GB
		11.30am	Lent Lunch	GB
		6.30pm	Barn Buddies	BSF
9	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC
11	Mon	2.00pm	Pilates	GB
		8.00pm	MADS	L
12	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		12.00pm	Community Lunch	The Ship Inn
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
13	Wed	11.00am	Pilates	GB
		2.00pm	Friends	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Gardening Club Bees and the Gardener	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Moviola Film Shows 'From Time to Time'	L
15	Fri	11.30am	Lent Lunch	GB
		2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Short Walk	CP
		6.30pm	Barn Buddies	BSF
		7.00pm	Mere Football Club	GB
16	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
		7.00pm	Brainwave Charity Pampering Evening	L

18	Mon	2.00pm	Pilates	GB
		8.00pm	MADS Meeting (Drama Room)	L
20	Wed	11.00am	Pilates	GB
22	Fri	11.30am	Lent Lunch	GB
23	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
26	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		10.15am	Lipreading	Footprints
27	Wed	11.00am	Pilates	GB
		2.00pm	Friends	GB
		7.30pm	Julian Meeting (Upper Room)	GB
28	Thur	5.00pm	Girl Guides	GB
29	Fri	4.00pm	Messy Church Street Party	St Michaels Church
30	Sat	10.00am	Friends of Fives Court Cake Sale	St Michaels Church
		10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC

BOOKING MEETING HALLS IN MERE

To Book the Lecture Hall: ☎ Ann Read 01747 861486
To Book the Grove Building: ☎ Richard Jeffries 01747 863425
07950 797273

MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY

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

CITIZENS' ADVICE: Tuesdays: 10.30am to 4.00pm
Private Appointments ☎ 01722 327222

HEALTH MATTERS
ADVICE Wednesdays: 9.30am - 12.30pm

REGISTRAR **By appointment only**
OF BIRTHS Thursdays: 9.30am to 11.30am
& DEATHS: For appointments ☎ 01985 213435

COPY DATE FOR MAY ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the May issue should be sent to Graham Avory, Little Tawny, Pettridge Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6DG (tel. 01747 860439) or alternatively handed in at The Information Office, The Library, Mere (in an envelope marked 'MERE MATTERS') by 4.00 pm on **MONDAY, 11th April 2011**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome; please send to: **merematters@inbox.com** after Monday 4th April. Would ALL contributors, however they provide copy, please add their name and a contact telephone number.

ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:

Mrs Jane Kennedy

e-mail: jane.kennedy83@btinternet.com

☎ : 01985 844740

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