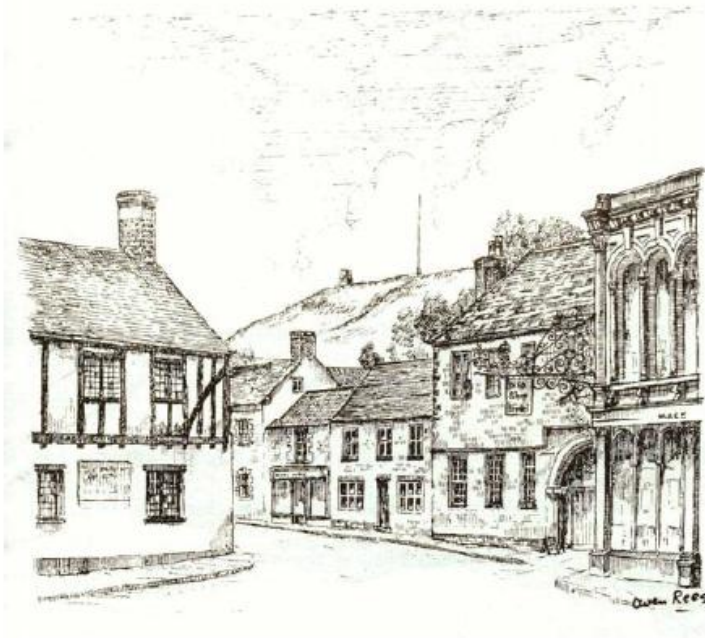


MERE MATTERS AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE AND
GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



JUNE 2011



St Michael the Archangel Church Fete

is on Saturday 4th June and

will be opened at 2 pm by

Doctor David Longbourne

Much loved doctor of Mere.

Many stalls including -

Bric a brac

Plants

Bottle Tombola

Jewellery

Home made cakes, biscuits and preserves

Bouncy Castle

Various games

Accessories

Books

and many others

Icecream and strawberries and cream and of course
delicious teas in Grove Buildings

Exhibition by Mere Quilters,
and also by Mere Zumba
Live Music by Les Petites Annonces



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. 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 can raise questions in a public session before the meeting starts. The next meeting will be on **Monday, 6th June at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.**

The Chairman writes:

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday, 9th May, I was elected as the new Chairman of Mere Parish Council. Our retiring Chairman, Councillor Eric Mitchell, has done sterling work over the last two years and I hope I can continue in the same vein. Councillor Mrs. Lesley Traves was elected as the new Vice-Chairman.

At the well attended Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th May, to which all parishioners may come and hear reports on the work of the Parish Council and raise any issues they may have, the main topic of discussion was the Management Plan for Castle Hill and Long Hill. There have, in the recent past, been concerns over the clearance of some scrub and secondary woodland, mostly ash and sycamore, which will take place over a number of years in order to retain the calcareous grassland habitat of Castle Hill and Long Hill, and there have been suggestions that all the trees on Long Hill are to be felled, which is most certainly not the case. At the meeting we were fortunate to have with us Rob Large from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Alison Pike from Canopy Land Use who gave further clarification and explanation of the detail of the Management Plan in answer to questions. However, as well as those with queries and concerns there were also many comments in praise of the work being carried out.

There was also a good attendance on the walk of Castle Hill and Long Hill on Tuesday 10th May taken by Simon Ford whose talk on the origins of the hills, the natural flora and fauna and biodiversity of the hills was not only extremely interesting and informative but will, I hope, also allay some of the fears expressed as to the effects of the Management Plan on the future of the hills. We are extremely grateful to Simon Ford for all the time and work he has given voluntarily over the last several years and in particular for leading the walk on Tuesday.

Owing to the resignation of Councillor Michael Hall, who is moving away from Mere, we now have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. The Returning Officer has been informed and Vacancy Notices have been posted around the town. If by Friday, 3rd June, 2011 a request for an election to fill said vacancy is made in writing to the Returning Officer at Wiltshire Council by TEN electors from the Parish of Mere, an election will be held to fill the said vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option. When the Parish Council knows whether or not it can co-opt we shall display further notices inviting expressions of interest.

For further information on Parish Council activities, details of meetings and copies of minutes, please go to the Mere website: **www.merewilts.org** or contact the Parish Clerk, Mrs. Lindsey Wood, ☎ 01747 860701 or e-mail: **lindseywood@merewilts.org**

Mary White, Chairman, Mere Parish Council

Floral Enhancements

The Parish Clerk would like to report that once again, the Parish Council will be keeping up appearances by planting the tubs around the town to give impressive floral displays. Last year we were very grateful to the various sponsors (business and members of the public – see below) who helped to make these floral displays possible. The scheme was a great success. There are 14 tubs within the town and they are planted twice a year for summer/autumn displays and winter/spring displays.

Mr. Clive Hazzard has graciously agreed to replant the tubs again this year and I should point out that this is done at cost price and at no profit to him and we thank him for this generous offer. We also thank the willing volunteers who water the tubs. We estimate the cost of planting each tub is £40 per year and once again, we are looking for sponsors and we would be grateful to any businesses or members of the public who would like to sponsor a tub. We will publish a list of all sponsors in a future edition of Mere Matters.

If you would like to help with Mere's floral enhancements, please contact: Mrs. Lindsey Wood, Parish Clerk, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere. ☎: 01747 860701 or e-mail: **lindseywood@merewilts.org**

We would like to thank the following, who sponsored the tubs last year:

Roy Sims in memory of Ann (Millie) Sims,	Mrs. Jane Hurd
Jill & Tina Waggott	Mere Gardening Club
Two Counties Golf Range	Rodney & Shirley Coward
Louis & Sarah Stanton	Bruce & Ann Leece
Jack, Chloe, Isabel, Eleanor, Connor, Bryony, Tye & Olly	

Castle Hill & Long Hill

We have noticed recently that there have been a number of cyclists and horseriders on Castle Hill & Long Hill. Cycling and Horseriding is not permitted on Castle Hill or Long Hill and we have recently erected signs to this effect but, unfortunately, some of the signs have been removed or broken.

Lindsey Wood, Parish Clerk

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES

The Royal Wedding “Street Party” held in St Michael’s church yard was a great success with well over 100 in attendance. I also attended Leaping Frogs Kindergarden events, one of which was fancy dressed wheelbarrows and people racing through the streets of

Mere. I am sure the villages around Mere had some equally enjoyable informal events amongst family and neighbours. With the present economic gloom, the celebrations certainly heartened me.

Wiltshire cast just under 1% of all votes cast in the UK with respect to the referendum on the Alternative Vote, held on the 5th May, 2011. The vote was as follows:- The number of votes cast in favour of YES was: 45,782 and the number of votes cast in favour of NO was: 113,459.

May is proving to be a busy month for me. I had two long days in Chippenham rising at 6.00am to attend part of a 3-day licensing panel, probably the longest for years. After the Chippenham panel finished, I went across Wiltshire to Dinton to the South West Area Board's event on Localism that started at 5.00pm, and finished at 7.00 pm.

Last month, I said that I understood 'Localism' will not be 'parochial'. Should a local community want to develop a community building that may not otherwise be allowed, that community should find it easier to develop such a building under 'localism'. Conversely should a community wish to prevent a development, no additional weight will be added by 'localism' to that which already exists.

One point regarding the possible outcome of The Localism Act. It appears that if there are developments your parish wishes to progress, that would not easily get permission at this time (may be a sports facility), or would like housing development placed in an area the parish would prefer to put it (when practical), as opposed to where it might otherwise go, then the parish will need a Neighbourhood Plan. This could be, for example, a village plan developed into a neighbourhood plan. However, Forward Planning at Wiltshire Council indicate that it would prefer villages and towns to develop an Area Board Community neighbourhood plan covering one community area. In our case, it would be for the Community Area of Mere. This point was raised, to reduce the possible number of neighbourhood plans. It was acknowledged that not all Area Boards will form or wish to have a neighbourhood plan.

I asked the question: "with 'localism', will the low cost (rent or purchase) houses so desperately required for some, if not all local areas, be principally for those local people reasonably close to the development, or having employment in the area, before being offered to people who are further away from the development?" You can guess the answer I received, the person who could provide the answer was not the presenter of the presentation. That person had just left the meeting before I raised the question! A coincidence I am sure! As I understand it, 50 % of the residents of a parish would have to be in favour of a neighbourhood plan developed on their behalf for it to be accepted.

I attend The Audit Committee in Devizes this month. I indicated last month that some services are now being moved outside Wiltshire Council, however, the expertise is being kept "in house". We discussed the future provision of Internal Audit, which was

discussed with the press and public being excluded. The sums of money that Wiltshire Council has to administer are large, £850 million per year, hence the procedures and reports we have to discuss are often complex.

Now that County Hall is subject to workplace transformation (a lot of building work), we have our meetings spread even more across Wiltshire than previously. This month's Council Meeting will be held in The Olympiad Sports Hall in Chippenham. One of the written Councillors' questions put forward to that meeting may be of interest: "When are you going to ballot the tenants in the former Salisbury District Council Area to ascertain their views as to moving control of the housing stock to a Housing Association?" The answer from the Cabinet Member was, "The change in the financing of council housing as provided for in the Localism Bill effectively removes the financial advantages of transferring to a housing association and indeed appears to offer a much improved opportunity for investment in stock. We know that tenants have expressed their clear preference to stay as council tenants and so we are now committed to an ambitious programme of improvement to provide a landlord service that is amongst the top performing local authority landlords."

On a related subject, since April 2009 there has been a steady increase in the number of households across Wiltshire that have registered with Homes4Wiltshire. In April, 2010 there were 10,654 on the register, now in April 2011 there is a total of 13,800 households on the register.

MERE POLICE NEWS



King Alfred's Tower, Kilminster & Stourhead Car-Parks

With the improved weather conditions and much lighter evenings, we are, once again, carrying out patrols in these areas on foot and by vehicle, both daytime and evenings with the help of Response Officers from Warminster. Things have been relatively quiet, which is a positive point, however we remain vigilant and will continue to monitor the situation. Please do not leave any valuables in your vehicle whilst unattended. In this way you are helping us to help you. Together we can tackle crime - for the greater good!!

Operational News

I am very pleased to note that so many of you have bought our shed security alarms. From as little as £6 per unit they represent excellent value and priceless piece of mind. If you have not already considered purchasing one please do so now. You can contact Jake Noble via email for further details.

On a less happy note, I have to report that several commercial premises were targeted over the weekend of 6/7th May. The burglaries were all probably linked. It is suspected

that the offender(s) moved from an unsuccessful attempt in Mere onto Semley where two premises were broken into. Whilst this is a fairly rare crime in our area, I would urge you to call us on 999 if you see anyone acting out of place. Hopefully, with your vigilance we can catch these criminals.

Consultations and Contacts

To get details on meetings to be held in the upcoming months please see our section of the website: **www.wiltshire.police.uk**. Click on 'policing in your area' then select 'Mere'. If you wish to speak to Jake or Richard please e-mail us and we will always try to get back to you as soon as we pick up your message. Our duty dates are 'on-line'. Don't forget that our Neighbourhood Policing Team mobile telephone has been withdrawn from service. We continue to be contactable via our main line number 0845 408 7000, NPT email address: **merenpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk** or see details below.

You may recall that we recently announced the appointment of our new staff volunteer to cover our enquiry office at Mere Police Station. Since this announcement, a second volunteer has kindly offered his services to us. It is our intention to formulate proper opening hours, which we will publish when the training period is completed. The essential bureaucratic policies aside, I hope to have both in post ASAP. Watch this space for more info.

Richard Salter, Community Beat Manager, Police Constable 1312

☎ 07528 972928 (not 24 hours)

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

Jake Noble, Police Community Support Office

☎ 07528 927926 (not 24 hours)

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

MERE WEATHER

They say 'April showers bring forth May flowers'. Well, with the scarcity of showers we had in April this year May should be pretty barren. We only had 18.5mms (0.73ins). Last year we had 25mms (0.98ins). The last time I recorded such a low monthly rain fall here was in 2007- and that was also in April. But, it was pleasantly warm this year.

May started the same and then in the second week we had a total of 29 mms (1.14ins). The weather got cooler with persistent winds from the West. Last year May, June and July were all under 40mms (1.57ins). Are we in for a hot summer? *Peter Durkee*

Merrell's Mobile Foot Health Clinic.

For the professional treatment of: Corns • Callus/Hard Skin • Nail Trimming • Fungal & Thickened Nails • Athletes Foot • In growing toenails • Qualified to treat diabetics and those taking Warfarin and steroids • Massage given to make your feet feel fitter in the comfort of your own home. **Contact Mary ☎ 07809 738237**

MERE SURGERY

Computer System Change

We are planning to change our computer system during the week commencing the Monday, 11th July 2011, and would be grateful if patients would try to help us with a smooth implementation by ordering any repeat medications due in July by Saturday, 25th June 2011.

If you are currently on the Automatic Prescription Service we will try to ensure that all prescriptions that are due in July are ready for collection on your normal due date.

From August onwards you will need to order your medications as repeat prescriptions since the new computer system does not support the Automatic Prescription System. However, it does have an alternative system that will improve patient safety and minimise wastage.

We would also ask patients to try and avoid making non-urgent appointments during the period of the change over.

We would like to thank you all for being patient with us during this transitional period, and we hope to keep the disruption to our service as minimal as possible.

Angela Pitman, Practice Manager, ☎ 01747 860001



THE MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

New Business Competition

We had the final judging in Devizes on 12th May and the finalist overall from Wiltshire (17 towns competed) was announced at Bowood Golf & Country Club, Calne on 20th May. I believe our candidate did very well, but watch this space in July as unfortunately the result will be too late for Mere Matters' June edition.

We are looking for Patrons for the Wessex Association of Chambers of Commerce of which Mere & District is part. If you have an interest please call Julie Cousins ☎ 0785 670 0576. This helps Mere & District Chamber to grow further and help businesses within the area.

We also have a South Wilts Chambers meeting where Mere & District, Tisbury, Wilton and Tidworth get together once every 3 months. This enables the Chambers to keep in touch with one another and plan events together.

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday 8th June: Lunch with speaker Sue Wilkin from Trading Standards at the Old Ship Hotel, Mere at 12.30 for 12.45pm. Contact Julie Cousins ☎ 0785 670 0576

Wednesday, 15th June: Next Chamber Meeting, to be held in the Small Room at The Prince of Wales Club at 7.30pm.

You are most welcome to join us at our meetings and if you are interested in being on the committee please come along. More ideas are always essential to keep a Chamber active.

Please call Julie Cousins ☎ 0785 670 0576 if there is anything the Chamber can do for you. We are here to help all businesses, large or small.

Barbara S Hewitt MSSP Assoc CIPD, Chair, Mere & District Chamber of Trade

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, 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

TRAVEL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR LIFE

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust (WCMT) is an annual grant making trust established in 1965 as the living memorial to Sir Winston Churchill. In 2012 it will make 100 grant awards to British Citizens resident in the UK aged 18 and above on 31st December 2011 to travel at overseas for between 4-8 weeks to study areas of topical and personal interest, to gain knowledge and to enlarge their experience for the benefit of their profession, community and the UK as a whole. The purpose is to widen an individual's experience in such a way that he or she grows in confidence, knowledge, authority and ambition, and to bring benefit to others in the UK through sharing the results of their travel experience. The Fellowship grant covers all travel, daily costs and insurance.

The WCMT categories for 2012 are:

Art History; Communities that Work; Discovery and Exploration; Education and Vocational Training; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Innovation in the Public Services; Medical and Health Science; Engineering and Technology; The Arts and Older People and an "Open" category.

Apply NOW to make a Difference to your life:

For more information and to apply on line before Tuesday, 4th October 2011 go to:
wcmt.org.uk

(I was awarded a WCMT Fellowship in 1978, so I can provide further information to anyone interested – Editor)



ONE WORLD FAIR

Saturday 22nd October 2011

In the Grove Building

22nd – 29th Oct

11.00am – 3.00pm

Book a Stall Now for your Organisation!

Following the success of last year's One World Fair, Churches Together in Mere and District are holding a similar event this year. The aim is to celebrate being part of the 'Global Village', with the opportunity to enjoy and learn a little about other cultures and life-styles, as well as to contribute in a small but significant way to making the world a fairer place. The theme this year is 'Living for One World'.

Last year's stall holders were keen to book again, but there will be room for a few extra ones. As last year there will be a variety of stalls selling goods to support fair trade and greater opportunity for people living in poverty throughout the world. Display and information stalls are also welcome, and anything which might contribute to a sense of celebration of cultural diversity and the promotion of peace and justice in the world.

Any organisation or group in sympathy with the aims of One World Week (see their website **www.oneworldweek.org**) is very welcome to book a stall.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884 Judith Thompson ☎ 01747 860553

On behalf of Churches Together in Mere and District

WYLYE VALLEY ART TRAIL

Saturday May 28th 2011 to Sunday June 5th 2011 Inclusive

By now some of you may have seen the free catalogues with guide map listing the artists and events taking place during the Wylve Valley Art Trail 2011. They are available in all Tourist Information offices in our area and many local shops or visit: www.wvat.co.uk.

There are 82 venues showing the work of 260 artists, makers and craftspeople taking part this time, so it should be another good week for people to follow the trail and take a look at some unique work in the area in which the various artists work. Artists and craftspeople open up their studios, galleries, and many other venues in order to take part in this biennial event, just follow the yellow numbered trail markers from even to event - you can even cycle!

Admission to all events is free, so enjoy your time browsing. It is a unique opportunity to go and meet your local artists and makers as many steward their own events. Most are open from 10.30am until 5.30pm daily, and there are a variety of events in and around Mere displaying an amazingly different selection of arts and crafts for you to drop in and view. In some events you can take part - look for the notice in the guide, you may have to pre-book - and some will take classes or workshops beyond the Art Trail period.

There is also a trailblazer prize to be won - so get the brochure and have fun looking at the many venues around our area!

Barbara Ralph ☎ 01747 840289



Castle Street, Mere, Barb Ralph, Venue 38

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART 1350-1500

Part 1

Further to the article in the April issue of Mere Matters, the dates of the first part of the course have had to be changed. The venue is still the Grove Building with Tutor Hendrika Foster MA and the fee remains at £80.

The 10 session course will now be held on Tuesdays from 2.00-3.30pm and the revised dates will be 20th & 27th September; 4th, 18th & 25th October; 1st, 15th, 22nd & 29th November and 6th December. The second 10 weeks of the course will run from February to April 2012.

The whole course will provide an in depth study of Renaissance art in Florence, Venice and Rome up to 1500. Study begins with the Arena Chapel in Padua painted by Giotto and continues to cover architecture by Brunelleschi, sculpture by Donatello and painters from Masaccio to Botticelli.

Pre-booking is essential. Please telephone Hendrika Foster ☎ 01963.32172 or email: **hendrika-foster@hotmail.co.uk** as soon as possible to ensure enrolment.

SHREEN HARMONY

It does seem that summer is coming – the gardens are beginning to flower and everywhere looks fresh and green. This is the time of year when it is perfect for a picnic and where better than at Stourhead on Saturday, 11th June at the 'Festival of the Voice'.

Shreen Harmony will be joining many other invited choirs to sing in the gardens and around the lake. You can bring your friends and a picnic, sit by the lake listening to the music and relax. A lovely day out for everyone.

On Saturday, 25th June we are singing in St Michaels Church in Mere. Please come and support us. See notice on page 18. We are also singing in Gillingham on Thursday, 7th July during Alzheimers Awareness Week, further details soon.

The choir continues to flourish. We meet every Thursday in the United Reform Church in Mere and we look forward to seeing you at one if not all of our concerts this summer.

Sandra Fisher ☎ 01747 860424

JUNE SHORT WALK

This months short walk will hopefully be across the flower meadows in full bloom! Meet as usual in the Surgery Car Park at 2.00pm on Thursday, 16th June.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884



BRAINWAVE

This month we are dedicating our space to pay tribute to all those who made our Pamper Evening such a huge success. The event raised £1,421 for Brainwave. Thanks must go to Imogen and Faye at the Angel Cafe, The George, the Mere Co-Op and the Catley family for supplying food and drink. We also thank our many helpers and therapists who made the evening possible. Finally, we are grateful to our loyal customers who were already queuing on the pavement long before the doors opened.

The Pamper Evening was a first for us and probably a first for Mere and we noticed people had travelled from outside the immediate area to be with us. Hopefully, there will be another Pamper Evening in November in preparation for the party season. So please, watch this space and in the meantime, if you have suitable items to donate, please think of us. For further information about Brainwave or forthcoming events please call the shop during business hours ☎ 01747 863432. Thank you.

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

With the AGM done and dusted, our thoughts are turning to the Autumn production though, as we tell ourselves daily, this is still a VERY long way away. We certainly want summer first. However, we can reveal that in the autumn (well, in November), Mere audiences will be given a rare opportunity to attend a **World Premiere** production of a new play. More than that we are not prepared to reveal yet, but we may well unveil title and author in next month's edition. Meanwhile, we beg you to contain your souls in patience!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE FILM SHOWS

The last film of the current season is 'Mao's Last Dancer' (PG) on Friday, 17th June and is a wonderful film of an extraordinary true story. Raised in a desperately poor village during the height of China's Cultural Revolution, Li Cunxin's childhood revolved around the commune, his family and Chairman Mao's Little Red Book – until Madame Mao's cultural delegates came in search of young peasants to study ballet at the academy in Beijing and Li discovered that the only way to cope with the harsh regime was to give in to it and strive for brilliance. In doing so and in eventually managing to defect as the result of a cultural tour to America, Li became Mao's last dancer.

The dancing in the film is superb but whether or not you enjoy ballet this absorbing story is one to hold everyone's attention. See Notice on page 29.

Distribution of Funds

At the end of the last season it was decided, due to the small amount in the pot, to hold distribution of funds to this year. Therefore we are now inviting applications from organisations in Mere that are currently fundraising.

Please write with brief details and address your letter to me at The Parish Office, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere, BA12 6EW to be received by Thursday, 30th June please. The amounts will not be huge but cheques will be sent out in July.

Have a very good summer.

Our next film season will begin with a film for Carnival Week in September.

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Propagating Pelargoniums with Sarah Holmes

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 8th June at 7.30pm in the Grove Building. Our speaker is Sarah Holmes, Horticulture and Garden Experience Office at Stourhead.

Richard Colt Hoare, owner of Stourhead from 1791-1838, was an avid collector of pelargoniums and by 1821 he owned over 600 species forming the precursor of the important Stourhead Pelargonium collection.

Sarah will begin with a short chat and then comes your opportunity to have a go at propagating for yourself.

It will helpful if you could bring along a couple of clean pots (max 3in diameter) and a pair of secateurs or sharp knife. Compost will be provided.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884



SHREEN HARMONY

present

**Music for a
summer Evening**



At

St Michael the Archangel Church, Mere

On

Saturday, 25th June 2011 at 7.30pm

**Come and enjoy an evening of words and
music**

Summer refreshments.

**No tickets required but donations
appreciated**



In aid of

The Friends of St. Michael's

MOTHERS' UNION & OPEN MEMBER'S GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14th June at 3.00pm at Mere Down Farm. Our Archdeaconry Chairman, Jocelyn Stewart, will be joining us.

We shall be running the cake stall at St Michael's church Fete on Saturday, 4th June. Donations of cakes would be much appreciated. They can be brought to the church on the morning of the fete between 10.00am and 12.00noon. Thank you.

Thelma Ings ☎ 01747 860262



MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

**Next Meeting: Thursday, 2nd June
7.30pm in the Grove Building**

Thorns Thistles and Roses – This month's speaker, the Rev'd Mary Teed, will take an illustrated sideways look at flower arranging.

During May the Craft group met again for joint activity, this time based on making samplers, after which a group of members went out for a sociable and enjoyable lunch at that pleasant venue the Fox and Hounds at East Knoyle.

For members who fancied a short break, the Wiltshire Federation had arranged a holiday in the Lake District at the end of May.

Future Diary Dates

Thursday, 7th July Carol Whitehead, a well known Wine Educator from America and now resident in Wiltshire, will give a talk on "Wine Adventures". 7.30pm in the Grove Building.

Thursday 14th July Following the success of our previous Coffee Morning in the Grove Building, we are doing it again. Final details to be arranged.

Future Federation Events

A coach trip has been arranged to the LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC Site on Tuesday, 13th and Wednesday, 14th September 2011. There will be a Blue Badge Guide on board to explain what will be seen, how the site has been regenerated for the games and what the legacy of the games will be.

The theme for the 2013 Federation calendar will be "Wiltshire in Bloom" and members are invited to submit suitably striking photographs, which can afterwards become printed postcards.

Gillian H Brignell ☎ 01747 861114

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE

(Mere & District Day Centre, Lynch Close, Mere)

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

"We're all going on a summer holiday" as Cliff's song goes... Well, not quite – but thanks to a very generous kind donor, in June we are able to take the Guests on a coach outing to the seaside - Weston super Mare. Like everyone else, we are interested in the latest must-go-see trend, so we are off to visit the new pier. Although

not everyone will be going on the fun rides, some of us still think that we are "just 17 – you know what I mean" as the Beatles song goes. But – you never know - at the Rosemary Goddard Centre, we are game for anything!

You should have seen us at the recent 50s and 60s disco organised by one of our volunteers, David Stokes. David played music that brought back the memories, we even danced around our handbags – or was it the house keys – I can't remember, my memory is not as good as it used to be – but that's the only concession we are prepared to make to old age.

Want some fun? Come and join us! Village people all together now "R—G—C--eh? you'll find it at the R-G-C-eh?, You can hang out with all the boys ... etc..." For further information, please contact:: *Lynette Elliott (Organiser)* ☎ 01747 861646

CASTLE HILL QUILTERS

Some members of the Castle Hill Quilters will put on a small exhibition of their work on Saturday, 4th June, the afternoon of the Fête, at The Parish Church of St. Michael the Archangel, Mere. Some of the members will be working on their projects and would be happy for you to come and look and ask any questions. They look forward to meeting you.

On Thursday, 9th June there will be a Linus Day at the Grove Building where members will be making Linus Quilts. These quilts will be given to children who are ill or traumatised and some may go to the "Little Giants" children's group in Shaftesbury. These children suffer from learning disabilities and other problems, and we are delighted to now be part of the caring project to make a difference to a young life. A comfort quilt with fun pictures can be very special for these children.

If you would like to know more about our quilting group please contact me or look at our website **Castlehillquilters.org.uk**. During July and August we do not have our usual meetings but we are planning a visit to Romsey Abbey on Thursday, 7th July and a Garden Party in August.

Carol Lord ☎ 01747 861923

GROVE BUILDINGS RESTORATION FUND

The result of the '100' Club Draw, drawn after Family Communion Service in St Michael's on Sunday, 1st May by Mr Russell Carpenter was:

1st Prize (£20)	-	No. 54	Mr R Bellars
2nd Prize (£15)	-	No. 79	Mr R Dearnaly
3rd Prize (£10)	-	No. 48	Alison Oliver
4th Prize (£10)	-	No. 188	Mr B Edwards

Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

We were blessed with a lovely sunny day for the opening of the new garden at Fives Court in mid-May, and the event was well attended by Residents, families, Friends and friends and a very respectable scattering of VIPs! The garden looked spectacular, having been carefully tended by the Residents and their Activities Co-ordinators, and the much-prized greenhouse was bursting with burgeoning seedlings. We were even given a sneak preview of elements of what may well be yet another winner in this year's inter-home 'themed garden' competition! All will be eventually revealed. Meanwhile The Friends have begun making plans for the Autumn Fair in September....

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908



MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VISIT THREE: Tuesday, 19th July 2011

Silchester and The Vyne

Calleva Atrebatum, the Roman town of Silchester, is a fascinating archaeological site and Reading University's excavation will be active at the time of our visit. Professor Fulford will help us to understand the archaeology, and we will be able to view the work from a raised walkway.

We will go on to The Vyne (National Trust) for lunch or a picnic, and you may use any remaining time to view the house and gardens.

We will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.15am and return by 6.00pm.

You will need sensible shoes and to be prepared for a bit of walking.

Cost: MHS Members £13.50, non MHS members £15.50, per person, includes Silchester tour and garden. **Non National Trust members £9.95 for The Vyne, house and garden. (£6.10 garden only).**

For more details please ring Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797

Booking forms available from Mere Information Point

Although you will have received a pack if you were a member last year, **if you haven't got a blue membership card then you haven't renewed your membership.** If you intend to renew, it would be a great help to the Society if you would send your fee (£6 per member) to the Membership Secretary: Joan Slight, 7 Nursery Gardens, Mere, BA12 6PP. ☎ 01747 860890. Standing Order forms are available

MERE MUSEUM

The new exhibition '**Wish You Were Here! Some Mere Postcards**' will open to the general public in the Library on **Wednesday, 1st June**. The Museum holds close to 600 postcards, and selecting those for exhibition has been fascinating, and extremely difficult! We've chosen cards with written messages (and therefore stamps!) as well as those of interest for other reasons. In those far-off times when the Royal Mail delivered several times a day, postcards were used rather like e-mails or text messages are now! We hope you enjoy the exhibition, which will be on show until we launch the 'Make an Exhibition of Yourselves' project in November *Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

FRIENDS OF MERE MUEUM

A huge vote of thanks to everyone who so generously supported the Friends' Plant Sale on Saturday, 14th May, as well as all the other charity events that were happening that day! We were delighted to find that we had made a profit of £772, all of which eventually goes to support the Museum. We are most grateful. The winner of the Hamper raffled at the Plant Sale was Mrs Claire Boughen of 12, Downside Close.

Friends: please note that the **Preview** of the new exhibition (see above) will take place on **Tuesday, 31st May at 6.30pm**. As always, the preview presents an excellent opportunity to join the Friends, so don't hesitate to come along to meet us all and sign up to what we reckon is the largest voluntary group in Mere!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

BOWLS CLUB

Well! The season is up and running, we have had a successful session with the Wiltshire County Coach where he filmed the delivery action of players and then played it back with a positive critique; most useful for all involved. To date we have played five friendly matches - winning four, losing only to Frome Selwood; the Ladies team had a narrow victory by one shot over Shaftesbury Ladies at their green.

The club have arranged a County Coaching Day for Saturday, 28th May starting at 2.00pm. For this session a number of qualified coaches will be on hand to help new and old bowlers get the most from the game by analysing and hopefully improving many aspects of their game.

During April and May our Club night and roll-up evening have been starting at 5.00pm. This will revert to 6.00pm from June until August, then forward in September to 5.00pm – so if you fancy a go at bowling why not pop along to the Green in Springfield Road on any of the evenings mentioned above or on any

Saturday afternoon at 3.00pm and give it a try? You never know you may be a natural and a possible future member of the British Commonwealth Games Team!

I might add that Mere Bowls Club is not only for the people who live in the town, but also for anyone living in any of the villages in the area. We have a small number of members who live in Gillingham, Maiden Bradley and Zeals, so location of your home will not bar you from becoming a member if you so wish.

For any information regarding the club please contact Alan Inwood ☎ 01985-844215 or Jeff Vigers ☎ 01747-860976. *Don Butchers, Club Secretary*

MERE SWIMMING POOL

We plan to open the pool on Saturday, 28th May 2011 for what we hope will be a sunny hot season!

Work is well under way preparing the pool and repairing the usual damage done by vandals during the winter months. This is ongoing and is proving very costly. The Council have erected a new fence surrounding the pool to try to deter people getting in, but they have broken the fence between the pool and multi play area.

Our running costs for the pool itself and lifeguards is in excess of £4,000 and without the very generous donations given to us, we would not be able to carry on. This cost does not include repairs caused by vandalism and so reluctantly we have to raise our prices a little this year.

Membership 2011: £10.00 per family
£7.50 per person

Cost of swim 2011: £2.00 per member
£3.00 non member

Opening times:

Monday & Friday	3.00 – 3.30pm	Adults – until end July
From end July	2.30 – 3.30pm	

Public swim:	Monday & Friday	3.30 – 6.00pm	Children & Adults
	Saturday & Sunday	3.00 – 6.00pm	Children & Adults

The pool is available for private hire, ring Bob Parsons ☎ 07817 939570 for details.

Lastly, for this month, we need some help. We have plans to improve the pool and give the town a facility it can be proud of. Can you spare just a little time, please. If we could get a few helpers, it would make light work for everyone, rather than a burden of the few. If you like swimming, please come along to one of the adult sessions and experience the joy of swimming in a heated open air pool.

There will be an Open Day at the pool on Sunday, 19th June with games and refreshments. Come along and see our lovely pool and the fun the children have!

Doreen Modlen, Secretary ☎ 01747 863456 email: doreenmodlen@gmail.com

TISBURY & DISTRICT SPORTS CENTRE

A facility provided by Wiltshire Council, where everybody matters

Active Women of Wiltshire Week, 6th-12th June 2011

We will be participating in the "Active Women of Wiltshire Week" during the period 6th-12th June 2011, offering you the opportunity of taking part in one of our weekly classes for "FREE".

If you haven't tried some of our classes before, then now is your chance to enjoy a variety of different formats and disciplines, and it won't cost you a penny.

Listed below is the variety on offer to you, some of which will be necessary to book, due to limited equipment or space:

Monday

9.30-10.30am	Aerobics*
7.00-8.00pm	Circuits

Tuesday

10.00-11.00am	Prime Fitness Ladies
11.00am-12.00pm	Yoga (<i>booking required</i>)
1.45-2.45pm	Pre & Post Natal*
7.00-8.00pm	Step
8.15-9.15pm	Spin (<i>booking required</i>)

Wednesday

09.30-10.30am	Boxercise*
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Thursday

09.30-10.30pm	Step*
11.00am-12.00pm	Yoga (<i>booking required</i>)
7.15-8.00pm	Spin (<i>booking required</i>)
8.00-9.00pm	Zumba

Friday

09.30-10.30am	Prime Fitness Mixed
5.00-6.00pm	Tai Chi (<i>booking required</i>)
7.00-8.00pm	Step

*Creche facilities available

For further details, and to book any of the above, please contact us.

- Reception on 01747 871141,
- e-mail us at: **tisbury@wiltshire.gov.uk**
- or visit the website at: **www.wiltshire.gov.uk**

MERE TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Soccer School

We are holding a Soccer School on Tuesday, 9th, Wednesday, 10th and Thursday 11th August 2011 at The Duchy Manor Playing Fields, Mere from 10.30am - 3.00pm

All players aged between 6 years to 16 years, Boys and Girls, are welcome to come along and enjoy some quality training with our coaches and take part in friendly matches.

Cost £20.00 per Child for the 3 Days and please bring your own lunch, snack and drink as well as a Hat and change of clothes, depending on the weather. For more information contact:

Mary Crorkin ☎ 01747 861652 or Julie Hodge ☎ 01747 860336

MERE GIRLGUIDING

To celebrate the recent Royal Wedding, instead of our normal meeting we held a "Royal Wedding Party" attended by the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

Everyone dressed up in Red, White and Blue and wore Union Jack Bowler hats to add to the occasion. Relevant various activities were enjoyed, including icing and decorating biscuits, making crown named place cards and Hunt the Ring.

After refreshments, the Brownies and Rainbows were given bubbles to take home shaped like a Wedding Cake.

The older Brownies stayed to join the Guide meeting. They took part in making The Bridal Party Wedding Outfits from recycled materials, which included the Bride, Groom and also the Archbishop! *Sue Jeans and Sue Luffman ☎ 01747 860215*

MERE SCHOOL

May 2011

Before our Easter holiday we had some Easter celebrations. The Friends organised an Easter disco for us and we also had an Easter bingo. Mrs Bundy attended the evening and she said that it was a wonderful event with some fantastic prizes. There were lots of people in the hall and the money raised went towards our visit to the pantomime in December. Although Mrs Bundy did not play bingo, she went home really happy as she had spent the evening with her friends.

On the last day of term we all had an Easter egg hunt and we all found an egg. They were yummy and chocolaty and it was a hot and sunny day. Everyone loved it and had a brilliant time looking for the eggs.

Our Mums and Dads came to see the teachers about our work just before the holidays. A report was sent home and our parents talked to the teachers about how well we were doing. Our parents were very proud of us.

At the end of each term every class performs an assembly about the topic they have been learning about. Their topics ranged from space and dinosaurs to superheros. Our mums and dads really enjoyed them.

On Thursday, 28th April we celebrated the wedding of Catherine Middleton and His Royal Highness, Prince William. We started the celebrations with a street party then we were involved with lots of different activities - peg dolls, painting plates, flags, biscuit decorating etc. We really enjoyed the day and had a delicious lunch.

Cassie Young, Libby Skinner and Red Class

MERE TIDDLERS AND TODDLERS

We are open term time in the Lecture Halls, Mondays and Thursdays. Doors open at 9.00am, so you can come in after drop off at school, but set up is 9.30 until 11.30am, so drop in anytime! We have a singalong to some action songs with musical instruments, and parachute games at the end, plus craft activity, healthy snack and unlimited tea, coffee and biscuits for all parents and children under school age. Only £1.50 per session! This covers rent, insurance, craft and refreshments.

Scrapstore Visit

Toddlers have a visit from the brilliant scrapstore mobile van on Monday, 6th June between 10.00 and 11.30am. The funding cut backs have meant we need to use this facility or lose it.

Local businesses have donated any scrap to be recycled, all of which has innumerable craft uses! Small carrier of your choice of scrap, £4, binbag size, £8. Also on sale, reduced cost new paints and craft items. All welcome.

Community Chest:

Waitrose have kindly chosen us for the green disc appeal for Community projects; please choose us! We are raising funds for some floor cushions and bean bags for mums and babies, and new storage boxes for our toys. We always need new toys, books, ride-ons and equipment!

Anne Rich ☎ 01747 861493

(Supported by Ivers Inclusive Training Project students)

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

Mao's Last Dancer

(PG)

'Before You Can Fly You Have To Be Free'

Based on the extraordinary autobiography of Li Cunxin, director Bruce Beresford's film tells how, at the age of 11, Li was plucked from a poor Chinese village by Mao's cultural delegates and taken to Beijing to study ballet. Thrust into an unfamiliar world, Li set out on a path that would open his eyes to life and love beyond China's Communist borders. Falling in love with an American woman during a cultural exchange tour and eventually managing to defect, he went on to become a principal dancer in America and Australia.

In the Lecture Hall

Friday 17th June, 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**

THE FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MERE

The Committee would like to thank all those who contributed to the excellent Spring Bazaar held on Saturday, 7th May.

A big thank you to all who made cakes, gave plants, bric-a-brac, books and raffle prizes and to all those who helped on the stalls and with serving coffee, and, of course, to everyone who came to support us. It was a very happy morning and raised the wonderful sum of £804.

Patricia Stephenson ☎ 01747 860278

METHODIST CHURCH NOTE

Sunday 5th June – Mission Sunday at the Methodist Church. Mr Steve Lancaster of AIM International brings news of the Gospel in Africa at 4.00pm. Tea will follow.

M Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370

Together Churches in Mere & District

An Invitation to join in some
Tea and Games
ending with prayers and songs

Sunday, 19th June 2011
at Stourton Cricket ground.



Programme

From 12.30p.m. Picnic Lunch

Bring your own, with drinks provided.

From 1.30 p.m. Games for all

*To include child-friendly cricket, parachute games,
& other activities for all ages & abilities.*

No obligation to take part, but all welcome!

From 3.45pm approx. Tea and cakes.

Offers of cakes welcome:

From 4.30 – 5.00pm Short informal worship:

To sign up for cricket, please ☎ David Barton 01747 840893
For other information/offers, ☎ Chris Moorsom 01747 840221

SITUATION VACANT AT ST MICHAEL'S

Peter Mason is to retire from the post of Organist/Director of Music at St Michael's, Mere, on 25th September and we are currently seeking to appoint his successor.

If you would like to know more about this important position, please contact the Rev'd Paul Barnes by e-mail: paulnbarnes@hotmail.com or ☎ **01747 863313**

The closing date for applications is Sunday, 3rd July 2011. CRB clearance will of course be required.

OPEN DAY AT URC

The URC is holding an Open Day on Saturday, 27th August from 10.30am. More details in 'Mere Matters' July/August edition.

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

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God". Micah 6:8.

Recently, I attended a meeting led by Rev'd Warren Bardsley, a Methodist Minister, previously of this Circuit. Some of you may remember him. He spoke to the meeting and then facilitated discussions on the 'Kairos Palestine' document. (Kairos means 'a crucial moment in time'). The document, written in 2009 by Christians in Palestine, explains their experience of life in Palestine. It is an appeal to each one of us to stand against injustice and apartheid and to work for a 'just peace'.

Too often, we close our eyes and ears to things going on, both close at hand, and further away, which may, if investigated further, challenge us to respond in some way and disturb us in our relatively comfortable world.

In Palestine, people suffer the dehumanising effect of the Separation Wall, humiliation at check points, restrictions on religious liberty and homes being demolished or expropriated. There are refugees in camps and prisoners unjustly incarcerated.

In case you are wondering, this document is not about racism, religious or ethnic. It is not anti-Semitic or Islamophobic. It is a call to reach a common vision built on equality and sharing, not superiority or aggression. It advocates a non-violent response, but it seeks a response.

I urge you to look into the issue further. If you have access to the Internet, why not look at **www.kairospalestine.ps** and **www.justpeaceforpalestine.org**. Try to find out what you can do to restore equality and resolve conflict. The first week in June is designated as a week of prayer for peace in Palestine-Israel. Why not join in? Why stop? Why not keep praying? What else can you do?

We are all, you and me included, at a moment of truth. It is a moment to choose and take the side of humanity and justice at home and abroad.

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something – try spending the night alone with a mosquito!

God bless you.

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE JULY/AUGUST ISSUE

MONDAY 20th JUNE

WEST KNOYLE GARDEN FETE
At The Parish House, The Middles,
West Knoyle BA12 6AJ

Sunday, 5th June 2011 12.00 –
5.00pm

Specialist Plant and craft stalls

Cream teas, BBQ, Hog Roast & locally made Ice
Cream

Games and fun for all ages

Funds raised will be donated to West Knoyle Church.

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

JUNE 2011

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

Thursday	2nd		ASCENSION DAY
		7.30am	Hymn Singing at top of Tower
		8.00am	Holy Communion (followed by Breakfast at the Old Ship Hotel)
Sunday	5th	10.30am	Family Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Choral Evensong (BCP)
Wednesday	8th	6.00pm	'Start the Month'
			Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	12th	10.30am	PENTECOST
			Benefice Holy Communion (CW1)
		10.30am	Children's Sunday Club in Grove Building
	19th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	26th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
			'Messy Sunday' in Grove Building

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt: ☎ 01747 860685)

Sunday	5th	11.00am	Dr Geoffrey Tapper
	12th	11.00am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp
			Holy Communion
	19th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	26th	11.00am	Rev'd John Page

The Methodist Church (☎ Gillingham 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: ☎ 01747 861370

Sunday	5th	4.00pm	MISSION SUNDAY
			Mr Steve Lancaster
	12th	6.00pm	Rev'd Helen Caine
			Holy Communion
	19th	1.00pm	Stourhead - Churches Together
	26th	4.00pm	Circuit Service

Rev'd Tom Stuckey

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

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

Sundays	5th	12.00pm	No service. Church Garden Fete at Parish House, West Knoyle
	12th	10.30am	No service in West Knoyle. Benefice Service at St Michael's, Mere
Sunday	19th	9.25am	DIY
	26th	9.25am	Holy Communion

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

DIARY DATES

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; MSC-Mere Social Club; PWC Prince of Wales Club RGC-Rosemary Goddard Centre; MSC Mere Social Club; YC-Youth Centre

JUNE 2011

1	Wed	9.30am	Yoga (every Wednesday)	L
		9.30am	Tai-Chi (also 7th & 28th)	GB
		11.00am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
		2.00pm	Mere Quilters (also 9th, 15th & 23rd)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
2	Thur	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (every Thursday)	L
		10.00am	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	MH
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		6.30pm	Weight Watchers (every Thursday)	L
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
3	Fri	6.00pm	Funky Feet Dance Club (every Friday)	L
		6.30pm	Barn Buddies (every Friday)	BSF
4	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC
		2.00pm	Annual Church Fête	St Michaels
5	Sun	4.00pm	Mission Sunday	MH
6	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (every Monday)	L
		2.00pm	Pilates (every Monday)	GB
		6.00pm	Beaver Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.00pm	Yoga (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
7	Tue	10.15am	Mere Lip-Reading (every Tuesday)	MH
		10.30am	Carers Support Group (Salisbury Area)	Lynch
		6.00pm	Funky Feet Dance Club (every Tuesday)	L
		6.30pm	Plain Fit (every Tuesday)	GB
8	Wed	12.30pm	MCDT Lunch with Speaker	Old ship Hotel

8	Wed	2.00pm	Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
9	Thur	5.00pm	Girl Guiding (also 16th, 23rd & 30th)	GB
10	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 24th)	GB
11	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC
12	Sun	10.30am	Chidrens Sunday Club	GB
13	Mon	8.00pm	Mere Amateur Dramatic Society (Drama Room)	L
14	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		7.30pm	MDCT Chamber Meeting	PWC
16	Thur	2.00pm	Mere Short Walk	CP
17	Fri	7.30pm	Mere Film Shows/Moviola: "Mao's Last Dancer"	L
18	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning & Traidcraft Stall	CC
22	Wed	2.00pm	Friends Together	GB
24	Fri	3.00pm	Messy Church	Footprints
25	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning	CC
26	Sun	10.30am	Messy Sunday	GB
		2,00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
28	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L

Eat al fresco in Stourhead's glorious gardens and marvel at a firework display on Saturday, 23rd July.

This ever popular event is back again for another year.

Take family and friends along on Saturday, 23rd July from 7.30-10.00pm to relax and enjoy the tranquillity of the world-famous landscape garden as dusk falls.

Pack a hamper with cucumber sandwiches, strawberries and cream, or whatever you like best. Enjoy the magic of the world famous landscape garden with a walk around the lake while the sun sets.

This is a rare opportunity to see the Stourhead in a different light. The garden transforms when the lakeside temples are illuminated, and is an ever popular event with people from across the region.

Even if you know the garden like the back of your hand, sitting next to the lake enjoying a summers evening picnic is an experience not to be forgotten . Seeing the illuminated temples reflected in the lake and the fireworks over the water, is a huge thrill. It is a truly unique evening.

The evening will end with a spectacular firework display.

The cost is £12 per head. Tickets are available now. Either, book on line at: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events or ☎ 0844 249 1895..

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 JULY/AUGUST ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the June issue should be sent to Graham Avory, Little Tawny, Pettridge Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6DG (☎ 01747 860439) or alternatively handed in at The Information Office, The Library, Mere (in an envelope marked 'MERE MATTERS') by 4.00 pm on **MONDAY, 20th June 2011**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome; please send to: **merematters@inbox.com** from Monday 13th June. To help secure publication, 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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