

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



APRIL 2014

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 held in the Andy Young Pavilion **at 7.30pm on Monday, 7th April 2014.**

The Chairman writes:

There is a very important public consultation document that has recently been presented by Wiltshire Council on Youth Activities Review. This is a 10 week consultation that runs from 3rd February 2014 until Monday, 14th April 2014. Wiltshire Council is considering four main options as a way forward, but each of these options will lead to a change in how youth activities and support are provided in Wiltshire. If you feel strongly about the need to keep our youth club open and providing youth activities, then you might want to take part in the consultation (please see: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations/consultationyouthactivitiesreview.htm>).

The Parish Council has supported a submission, made by Mere Footpath Group, to Wiltshire Council's South West Wiltshire Area Board, to significantly improve accessibility to some of Mere's major footpaths, and to create a circular walk for disability scooters, wheelchair users, pushchairs and prams. The Parish Council is extremely grateful to the Footpath Group for all their hard work in helping to keep our footpaths accessible, and for the work that has gone into preparing this submission. We hope that funding and support will be forthcoming.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 23rd April 2014 in the Grove Building, Mere at 7.30 p.m. Refreshments will be available from 7.00 p.m. This is your opportunity to find out what is going on in and around Mere, hear reports from various groups and organisations and air your views to the Parish Council. Specific discussion items on the agenda this year are:

- Management of our Rivers & Waterways
- The future of Mere Swimming Pool
- Dogs in Mere Recreation Ground
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Potholes

It seems a shame to end this report on a moan, but we have been experiencing some vandalism and anti-social behaviour in and around the Duchy Sports Grounds and Multi

Richard Robbins - Trained Gardener - 25 years experience. All aspects of Garden Care Undertaken
01373 473008 Mobile 0751 0130 083



Use Games Area (MUGA) over recent months. It is such a shame that this vandalism and anti-social behaviour is spoiling facilities for others who get so much use out of them. There is now only one MUGA light working and it is likely to cost our parishioners, as ratepayers, around £600 - £1,000 to get one or two of the other lights repaired.

The Parish Council is happy to hear the views of our parishioners. You can email, telephone or write to our clerk, or have your say in the public session at the beginning of our meetings. 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

Lesley Traves, Chairman, Mere Parish Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES:

I informed you last month that with extra funding we shall see the start of the resurfacing of roads in some areas. This is known as capital work, not just potholes being filled, which is known as revenue work. The Government has promised an extra £140 million nationally for highway maintenance. The first of the capital resurfacing projects promised by Wiltshire Council have been announced. In our area it is Maiden Bradley Road, Kilmington, on the B3092. This is for a 100 metre plus length of SCRIM, which means the road has been tested for grip and has been found to be near the time when its skid resistance would not be up to standard.

Two types of resurfacing are planned for part of Woodlands Road at Mere, one for that part of the highway approaching the Beaumont Industrial Park, being suitable for HGVs. The other type of surface suitable for lighter vehicles will be applied towards the Dorset boarder. The other area to be resurfaced is part of Southbrook at Mere. It is worth remembering that normally, unless a road is designated for cycles, it is only maintained to that suitable for motor vehicles. Pothole repairs will continue.

Lee Haine has been appointed our new Highways co-ordinator for this area, and I expect to be speaking to him soon!

Kilmington has Speed Watch and West Knoyle is forming one. These are local volunteers who monitor the speed of traffic in an effort to deter speeding motorists. In the past, some of these volunteers had complained as to why they had to travel to Devizes for training when it can be done locally. Now we have been promised local training again, which might help encourage people to volunteer.

I mentioned last month that the inspector for The Wiltshire Core Strategy had told Wiltshire Council that we are short in our assessment of housing requirements by some 5000 dwellings. I have now been informed that the town of Mere may take around 30 or so more dwellings over 20 years than was previously proposed. It is proposed that

the existing 50 “others” in the villages outside Mere, but in the Mere Area, will remain as 50 over the 20 years of the plan, also the Parish Councils may be invited to examine their development boundaries, which is where they have a development boundary.

In the Mere Recreation Ground, the Mere Skate Park will be ready for summer. Mere Parish Council is hoping to cut the long-term cost of hedge maintenance, along the lane at the back of the White Road houses that form one of the boundaries of the Mere Peace Memorial Recreation Ground, by reducing the hedge to 6ft in height. The adjacent houses have been consulted.

Regarding The World War 1 commemorations this year, being one hundred years since the start of The Great War, it is coincidentally the seventieth and last year of 43rd Wessex Parades in Mere on Sunday, 13th July 2014. Every year those involved, and others, come to Mere in July to commemorate the lost soldiers in the battle for Hill 112 in Normandy, Northern France in World War II. I do not believe that many local residents are aware of this once a year event, which is a march through the main streets of Mere and a service with a band performed on the slopes of Castle Hill, on top of which there is a commemorative memorial. I have asked other youth groups to join this commemoration and I hope more people will come on to the street this year if it is publicised. Hopefully the poppies, which the Mere Chamber of Trade and Clive Hazzard will soon be planting, will be in flower, thereby reminding us of the many people locally and nationally who also fell in The Great War of 1914-18.

The consultation regarding Mere Youth Development Centre (Youth Club) is underway for 10 weeks, from the beginning of February. Please enter into the consultation. , “Positive Leisure Time Activities for Young People”, as it is known, is all that Wiltshire Council has to address by statute. With the current financial pressures, Wiltshire Council plans to reduce its budget to youth. At the last full Wiltshire Council it was agreed to put back in the budget £250,000 from savings, one of which is to remove paper reports and agendas from us councillors. In my opinion this change to the way youth provision is delivered across the county may partially affect the ability of the youth service to identify some vulnerable children, and offer them the support they need and deserve. By sorting out children's problems now, Wiltshire Council may not save money in the longer term.

It appears to me Wessex Water are proceeding with its very large water main from Poole to “up country”. It is crossing or rather being laid under the A303 at West Knoyle at the present time.

I have been asked when the flag will return to Castle Hill. A strong rope was broken by the inclement weather, but the flag will be flying again soon and may be flying by the time you read this. Mere Parish Council has had one Union Jack donated and another has now been promised. Hopefully they will be seen flying over Mere for Spring and Summer, but not both at once I might add!

WILTSHIRE HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

Do you wish you could read more books but find it a struggle to get to the library? The Home Library Service may be able to help.

The Home Library Service is for Wiltshire residents who want to read or listen to library books but have problems getting to their local library. This may be because of a disability, frailty, ill health or a short term need as a result of an operation.

A member of library staff will arrange a visit to discuss the kind of books you enjoy and then a volunteer will deliver the books on a regular basis, usually fortnightly. All volunteers have an enhanced disclosure check and the service is free of charge.

In addition, the library is also recruiting Home Library Volunteers. If you have time to spare, like books and reading and have a friendly, outgoing personality please get in touch.

For more information please contact Mere Library ☎ 01747 860546

MERE LIBRARY

Children's Quiz

Congratulations to the two winners of the quiz "We Live in the Library – Who are We?" held in February as part of our "Love Your Library" events.

Book prizes have been awarded to Viggo Jennings (4 and under age group) and George Rich (over 5s).

Easter Fun

Calling all children between about 3 and 8 years old. "Hop along" to the library on Thursday, 17th April between 2.30 and 3.30pm for rabbit-themed stories and activities.

The event is free of charge, but please call in or ring beforehand to pick up or reserve a ticket, as numbers are limited.

Laura Ford, Mere Library Assistant ☎ 01747 860546

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING NEWS

It seems that we have finally been promised some decent weather by the Met Office! Hooray, we have seen enough floods, trees down and disruption caused by the awful weather to last us a lifetime.

February in our area saw us hit again by non-dwelling burglaries. We had one at Semley, where chain saws,



strimmers etc were stolen, one in Mere, and attempts on the equipment store at Stourhead and a stables in Fonthill Bishop . These were all after dark and may be linked by a dark Subaru estate acting suspiciously in our area, which has been seen on CCTV and by residents. The same vehicle was reported by Dorset Police as acting suspiciously around farms with four males on board.

I would ask anyone who saw anything suspicious, especially if it involved a Subaru Estate, as detailed above, to call us on '101' and help us catch these crooks!

Rogue Traders & Rude Sellers

Rogue Traders have been active in Mere this month, males in a white transit van offering to cut down trees and then upping the price when the work was done! Sometimes to three times the original quote. This is illegal and trading standards are dealing with it. Some observant neighbours told them they were calling the Police and they legged it in the van very quickly! Apparently one even knocked on a door offering to do some work, but then asked the householder if he had a saw he could use!!!

Nottingham Knockers have been in East Knoyle and Mere. These are ex-offenders who sell cleaning materials door to door. We had a report of one being very rude to an elderly lady resident. We stopped them and gave them strong words of advice about their behaviour. At least they were trying to earn an honest living. The young male in East Knoyle was very polite and we had no complaints from residents there.

Keeping you informed

We are posting on FACEBOOK now, so you can be kept up to date on an hour to hour basis if anything happens in Mere or our surrounding areas. Google 'Mere Neighbourhood Police Team' and you can ask to be a friend and follow us. If you do, our posts will appear in your timeline, so you can be instantly informed.

We will e-mail newsletters every month if you would like one. Just e-mail me, Peter, at my e-mail address below and I will arrange for it to be sent to your inbox. Thanks for reading this, and keep safe.

Call '101' for non-emergencies and 999 in an emergency.

PC Richard Salter and PCSO Peter Tscherniawsky ☎ 101 (24hrs)

✉ richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk or

✉ peter.tscherniawsky@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

COMMUNITY LUNCH

**The Walnut Tree Inn
Tuesday, 8th April 2014
12 noon for 12.30pm**

The two course meal will cost £8.99p. Drinks not included. To reserve a place please book in advance ☎ 01747 861220

This will be the last Community Lunch for this winter, giving you a chance to get out into your gardens during the lovely summer which I am sure we will have, we certainly deserve it. We will be starting again Tuesday, 14th October 2014 when we combine with Mere Literary Festival, so put it into your diary. Everyone is welcome.

For further details please contact me.

Lynette Elliott 📞 07873 714149

Mere Dental Practice

The practice has Dentists: Stephen Sherrard & Christopher Davies and a further Dentist has started.

It also has Dental Therapists Wendy Hester & Jay Lonsdale.

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

*E-mail: **meredental@btconnect.com**, Website: **meredentistry.co.uk**,*

Opening hours: - Monday – Thursday 8.45am – 5.30pm, Tuesday 8.45am – 7pm & Friday 8.45am -5pm



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

LAUNCH OF “DANDELION CLOCKS”

World Book Day, Thursday, 6th March 2014 was celebrated at Mere Primary School with the launch of “Dandelion Clocks” by Rebecca Westcott, Literacy Advisor to Mere Primary School. This is her first Puffin Book, with another due in the summer.

“Dandelion Clocks” is an extraordinary diary kept by Ms Westcott, from childhood into adulthood. Rebecca’s blog on Twitter over the last few months has revealed her nerves as 6th March approached. So I do hope she has great reviews for the book.

During a report of this event on the ITV local news a presenter, dressed as “Cat in the Hat”, gave a light-hearted introduction to Ms Westcott and her pupils in their classroom.

Merrell’s Mobile Foot Health Clinic.

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

I was struck by the orderliness of the classroom and the self possession of the pupils. The children were extremely articulate and obviously passionate about books.

Rebecca Westcott signed books, read aloud from her work, and then there was a presentation of some prizes for book covers and some other writing. Children were being collected, and others waiting around, all disguised as their favourite children's books character. Such a lot of work for adults beforehand to dress-up their children. 'It was brilliant', as we might have said ourselves as children. This was followed by Glee: a massive celebration of the children singing together, and superb to see the sensitivity and close relationship between the children and their conductor Ms. Westcott, and to hear the singing.

Understanding boundaries as we grow up is very important, but it is vital for children to express themselves, which is why three members of Pennybank Writers, who judged the writing competition, chose a prize for each age category and also awarded 2nd and

3rd places as well as highly commended. They wished to encourage writers with obvious potential, even though sometimes the writing and grammar might need some work! Judge and children's author, Pauline Morphy, told the Salisbury Journal in 2012 of her delight in the standards in Mere Primary School.

I join with her and Adrienne Howell, Director of Mere Literary Festival, in thanking Mr. Jordan-Barr, School Governor, who presented the event, for giving us the joy of reading Children's prose today and attending such a fantastic celebration of life. I rarely look at blogs, but thrilled now because the reviews and photos on Rebecca's blog the day after this event, really do reflect the explosion of colour and talent in Mere School Hall, and terrific responses to "Dandelion Clocks" itself.

Nanci Swann, 2014 Pennybank Writers Judging Panel ☎ 01747 860475

MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS

Throughout the winter our members have met fortnightly, and now form a cohesive group. Most members have contributed seminars about their respective interests within the hobby. Dave and Elizabeth Dunn have finished their layout that will be displayed at our Model Railway Exhibition on Saturday, 21st and Sunday, 22nd June in the Lecture Halls. This year we celebrate West Country Branchlines that strongly influence the displays.

Adult entrance will be £4. Free entrance is afforded to Primary School aged children when accompanied by an adult.

For further information please contact me.

Tom Snook ☎ 01747 861977

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT STOURHEAD.



**National
Trust**

Stourhead is looking to recruit a team of volunteer Day Makers to help turn what could be a good day out into a great day out for their 400,000 visitors each year.

Day Makers help make Stourhead an even more friendly and interesting place for all visitors, being on hand to answer questions, give directions and offer information to help visitors decide how best to enjoy their day out.

If you have a little time to give and want to meet new people, make new friends, learn new things, and become a member of a fun and friendly team then this is perfect for you.

You need to be outgoing, lively and proactive, love meeting and helping others, energetic and confident, enjoy variety, like to be busy, and brimming with cheerfulness. The National Trust Stourhead is launching a new 'story' in the Palladian mansion house and world famous landscape garden this year, so it's the perfect time to get involved. To find out more and get involved please contact me by phone below or
✉: jean.nimmo@nationaltrust.org.uk *Jean Nimmo ☎ 01747 841152*

APRIL SHORT WALK

Join us for a short walk around the hidden paths of Mere for a short walk of 2-3 miles. Meet at 2.00pm in the Surgery Car Park on Thursday, 10th April.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

THE REAL EASTER EGG CAMPAIGN

Why not buy a Fairly Traded Easter Egg this year with the Easter Story? I have a limited supply, so order yours soon to be sure of one. They cost £3.99 and have chocolate buttons inside.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884



MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

**Mere Chamber is offering a 1-day CIEH
Level 2 Award Course**

FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING

'Nationally recognised certificate valid for 3 years'

Wednesday, 23rd April 2014



The Food Safety Act 1990 requires that people handling food must be trained in food hygiene. The course includes:

- Introduction to food safety
- Food Safety hazards
- Taking temperatures
- Refrigeration, chilling and cold handling
- Cooking, hot holding and re-heating
- Food handlers
- Principles of safe food storage
- Cleaning
- Food premises and equipment
- The Law

At the end of the course there will be an examination whereby successful candidates will be issued a nationally recognised certificate to handle food. The cost of the 1-day course is: Members: £65 Non Members: £85.

Next Mere Chamber Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 9th April at Mere Social Club for 7.30pm

For further information on Chamber activities and above event please contact me

Julie Cousins, Chamber Secretary, ☎07856 700576

MERE CANCER RESEARCH

MERE MAY FAIR

**SATURDAY, 17th MAY 10.00am to 2.00pm
IN THE SQUARE**

**Street stalls, plants, cakes, tombola,
Darth Vader & Storm Troopers
Classic cars, horse rides, fire breather, craft stalls
And lots more**

A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT

Enquiries: ☎07788 138003

Find us on Facebook: Mere Cancer Research

MERE CANCER RESEARCH

In 2013, we celebrated our 40th Anniversary with a total of over £270,000 raised for Cancer Research UK. £7,500 of that figure was raised in 2013. It is all thanks to you, the people of Mere and the surrounding area for your continued support and inexhaustible donations of cakes, Bric a Brac, plants, and of course help in running the many events throughout the year.

Special mentions to our President, Brian James, who is celebrating his 40 years of fundraising, and to Shirley Thomas, who is celebrating her 25 years. Thank you, both.

As a charity, it is a priority to keep our costs low - 80p from every pound raised goes directly to research and the remaining 20p is invested into future fundraising, with every pound invested earning £4 more. So we are always seeking new ways for fundraising - if you have any ideas for events at your local pub, club or organisation, please get in touch.

Our next events are: Easter Saturday, 19th April, Cream Teas at the Stourton Memorial Hall (Stourhead), and the Mere May Fair on Saturday, 17th May.

For any information on future events or offers of donations or help, please contact Harvard ☎ 07788 138003, pop in and see Sarah at 'Sprout & Flower' or follow our 'Facebook' page: Mere Cancer Research.

SILTON SINGERS

Spring Concert

Saturday, 5th April 2014 at 7.30pm

St Michael's Church, Mere

Durufle - Requiem

Durufle - Ubi caritas (from Quatre Motets)

Faure - Cantique de Jean Racine

Bainton - I saw a new heaven

Tavener - Song for Athene

Musical Director: Charles Hetherington

Tickets: £10, available from;

The Parish Office/Carole Brooks ☎ 01747 825826/at the door
Proceeds from the Concert to St. Michael's Church Funds and Silton Singers Funds

CHAIR YOGA

These sessions offer gentle yoga exercises to stretch, flex and strengthen the body which help to improve balance and co-ordination; all whilst sitting in a chair. Chair Yoga helps people with disabilities, reduced mobility, weight challenges and inflexibility.

The chair replaces the yoga mat and becomes an extension of your body allowing you to take full advantage of yoga's amazing fitness and health benefits. Bramley House also offers day care and support for older people in the community. As well as chair yoga, Bramley House offers other activities such as pottery, drumming, reminiscence sessions, painting and cookery. These activities are all open to the local community. Call Bramley House for information ☎ 01747 860192

SHREEN HARMONY

Members of Shreen Harmony have been busy rehearsing their Spring/Summer programme since the start of the year and are meeting the challenge of singing in Macedonian, Georgian and Swahili! They are also learning some lovely songs in English ranging from the Georgian period to the modern day.

This year, the choir has accepted invitations to sing at fundraising events in Gillingham, Buckhorn Weston and Motcombe in May, June and July. Please keep an eye out for further details of these concerts.

You can learn more about the choir from its website: **www.shreenharmony.co.uk** or via its facebook page. Thank you for supporting your local Community Choir.

EASTER BINGO



Friday 4th April

The Grove Building

7pm for 7.30pm start

Good prizes

Raffle

Refreshments

Raising funds in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care

Contact: Becci Ridout ☎ 07528 846560 or ☎ 01747 825161

MERE FILM SHOWS

Another true story is the basis of our film this month with the screening of **'Saving Mr. Banks' (12)**, starring Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson, on Thursday, 10th April at 7.30pm.

When Walt Disney's daughters begged him to make a movie of their favorite book, P.L. Travers, 'Mary Poppins', he made them a promise - one that he didn't realise would take 20 years to keep. In his quest to obtain the rights, Walt comes up against a curmudgeonly, uncompromising writer who has absolutely no intention of letting her beloved magical nanny get mauled by the Hollywood machine. But, as the books stop selling and money grows short, Travers reluctantly goes to Los Angeles to hear Disney's plans for the adaptation.

For those two short weeks in 1961, Walt Disney pulls out all the stops. Armed with imaginative storyboards and chirpy songs from the talented Sherman brothers, Walt launches an all-out onslaught on P.L. Travers, but the prickly author doesn't budge. He watches helplessly as Travers becomes increasingly immovable and the rights begin to move further away from his grasp. It is only when he reaches into his own childhood that Walt discovers the truth about the ghosts that haunt her, and together they set Mary Poppins free to ultimately make one of the most endearing films in cinematic history. Full details on page 23.

As mentioned in last month's Mere Matters, owing to some restructuring of charges within the Moviola organisation we must reluctantly increase our tickets prices – which have remained at £5.00 for six years – to £6.00 from this month. However, with many excellent films to come over the summer and autumn, I hope you will feel this is still good value and continue to support the Film Shows.

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

GREAT BRITISH FISH AND CHIP SUPPER



Hold a Fish and Chip Supper on Friday, 16th May 2014 to help spinal cord injured people rebuild their lives after injury.

Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday, 16th May 2014 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting the Spinal Injuries Association's (SIA) vital services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 8 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £40.00 from your supper, but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

In 2014 SIA is celebrating its 40th anniversary and so we want to make the batter matter and raise £25,000 from everyone holding suppers. Last year we raised £12,500 from the suppers.

The money raised from the suppers will help the SIA offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives, by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to rebuild lives after spinal cord injury.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

The SIA says: "The Fish and Chip Supper" is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work, to hold a "Fish and Chip Lunch" in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

For more information or to request a fundraising pack call me on the number below or ☎ fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit: www.siafishandchips.co.uk

Elizabeth Wright ☎ 0845 071 4350

40 years of rebuilding lives after spinal cord injury

MERE THEATRE CLUB

It has been suggested that we expand our repertoire and start up a separate arm which would visit concerts and musical events of all kinds. If you would be interested, whether you are currently a member or not, please let us know so that we can assess whether there would be sufficient interest. Thank you.

Wendy Horne ☎ 01747 861712 Madelaine Morris ☎ 01747 861833.

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Our next meeting on Wednesday, 9th April at 7.30pm in the Grove Building will be a talk by Dawn Collins on: "The Art of garden Design". Come along and be inspired to give your garden a new look. **£2 entry for visitors who will be very welcome.**

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884



MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Well, what can we say about our Annual General Meeting last month. The Treasurer's report revealed a less than opulent position, but pleased to say that we are still solvent. How did we manage last year to do everything as described in the Secretary's report? All in all a very varied and interesting year as referenced and complemented by our President, Christine Marsh, in her report. The elections for 2014 were held quite quickly with very little change to the current positions. All in all, a very enjoyable evening with plenty of chat, refreshments and in-house entertainment to conclude the proceedings.

Our speaker on Thursday, 3rd April in the Grove Building at 7.30pm will be Julie James presenting "Lacock, A Village Lad". Julie gave us a presentation last year on her volunteer work for the Seamen's Mission for which we knitted numerous woolly hats which went to needy seamen from overseas together with other warm clothing donated to the Mission. Many of these men join commercial ships overseas with barely any warm clothing and are at the mercy of extreme cold and bad weather, perhaps docking in the UK only able to speak their native tongue. We enjoyed Julie's presentation so much that we asked her to come back again and talk to us about Lacock.

Julie was born in Lacock and lived there for 59 years. Her father ran the village garage and she was a childhood friend of Miss Talbot, daughter of the pioneer photographer Fox Talbot who lived at Lacock Abbey. She knows much of the social history of Lacock from 1910 onwards and has written a book called, "Lacock, A Village Lad", copies of

which will be available for purchase. Her talk will be about the village, the people and village life. We are sure that you will find it very interesting. We welcome visitors and new members. Please come and join us. *Janet Fisher ☎ 01747 861323*



**Mere Mothers Union invite
Mums with children for an**

Easter Holiday Fun Afternoon

**on Wednesday, 16th April 2014
2.30-4.30pm in the Grove Building.**

**Children's Easter Egg hunt,
Toys & games for little ones; craft activities for older
children; Tea and cakes for everyone! Husbands/Partners
welcome.**

*Just come along, or for more info, please contact:
✉: judithvthompson@aol.com or ☎ 01747 860553*



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

April is a busy month! We have our Easter Holiday Fun Afternoon on Wednesday, 16th (see above), and the Kite-flying event from 3.30-5.00pm at Westbury on Wednesday, 2nd April in support of our President's 'Walk-a-Week' (for details see page 25 of March Mere Matters, and please phone if you would like a lift).

As well as those two events, we have our regular monthly meeting at 2.30pm on Tuesday, 8th April in the Grove Building. At this meeting, Christine Marsh will be giving a lively account of the 'Open the Book' programme for primary schools, which seeks to

introduce the Bible to a generation quite unfamiliar with its teaching and stories and its place in our cultural heritage.

All welcome.

Judith Thompson ☎ 01747 860553

SILENT AUCTION

IN AID OF THE ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (MERE DAY CENTRE)

In the Grove Building

Saturday, 10th May 7.00 – 10.00pm

Tickets £3 (including light refreshments)

Lots of interesting items and pledges to bid for.

***Tickets available from Mere Information Point,
(except Monday and Wednesday mornings)***

or Chris Dillon ☎ 01747 823088 or ☎ Pat Gear 01747 860320

We welcome donations of household & garden items in reasonable condition for the Auction. Or, perhaps you could pledge a few hours to do some gardening, DIY, cooking, computer help, or driving.

Please contact Chris Dillon, or Pat Gear for further information.

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

MADS members hope that you enjoyed their recent production of 'the Welsh Play'. They are all now resting, but not for long. We shall soon resume the narrowing down of a long list of possible plays for the Autumn - doubtless with a WW1 theme. More anon!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE MUSEUM

We have been very encouraged by the warm response to our new exhibition '**Bats, Balls and Bicycles**', about sport in Mere, past and present. The oldest football team photograph dates to 1897, and there are also photographs of ladies posing with their croquet mallets from about the same date. But there's lots to see about sport in Mere in the 20th century too, as well as cutting edge news from the 21st! We hope you'll come and visit, and bring your friends.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

Rather like Spring itself, The Friends of Mere Museum's Annual PLANT SALE is drawing ever nearer! The date is **Saturday, 10th May**, the place, **The Grove Building**, and the time **10.00am**. If you find unwanted seedlings, surplus self-seeded plants ('volunteers!') in your greenhouse or garden, please pot them up, nurture them through

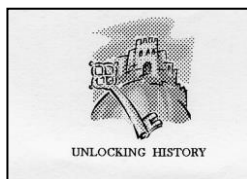
this coming month, and let us sell them for the benefit of the Museum. And if you are sowing seeds, especially of vegetables, please plant one or two extra for us! Thank you in anticipation!
Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

GROVE BUILDINGS “100 CLUB”

The Result of the ‘100’ Club Draw for March 2014, drawn on Sunday, 2nd March by the Rev’d Alan Wadge was:

1st Prize (£20)	-	No. 1	Mrs Leake
2nd Prize (£15)	-	No. 19	Mr T Rankin
3rd Prize (£10)	-	No. 40	Mr J Moore
4th Prize (£5)	-	No. 63	Mr C Anderson

Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964



MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wareham and Moreton

Wednesday, 21st May 2014

Wareham's strategic setting has made it an important settlement throughout its long history. The town's oldest features are the town walls, ancient earth ramparts surrounding the town, most likely built by Alfred the Great in the 9th century to defend the town from the Danes. Our guided tour will take in St Martin's church where there is a stone effigy of T E Lawrence, as well as the town museum. In the afternoon we will go to Moreton where Lawrence is buried, and have a guided tour of St Nicholas' church with its beautiful windows created and engraved by Laurence Whistler.

**We will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.00am
and return by 5.30-6.00pm**

**Cost: MHS Members £21, non-members £24 per person
*Includes guided tours and tea with cake in Moreton.***

Booking forms are available at Mere Library.

For more details please ring me

Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797

MERE BOWLS CLUB

Saturday, 19th April will signal the start of a new season as existing members gather at the green to renew acquaintances that have hibernated over the wet winter months and

hopefully new members will find out what a friendly lot we really are. The Club will also take this opportunity to collectively remember the many good times we had with our member, Derek Wilson, who sadly passed away earlier this year. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him; our thoughts are with his widow, Audrey and his daughter, Anita.

The Club will be hosting an Open Day on Sunday, 4th May. It will be an ideal time for any reader wishing to learn the finer arts of bowling, or maybe just want to try it, or just sit and have a cup of tea and a chat. The green is located just inside the school grounds opposite the dental surgery. All you require to bring is a pair of flat shoes and the Club will do the rest.

For any information regarding the club or the sport of Bowls, please contact Alan Inwood: ☎ 01985 844215, Jeff Vigars: ✉ jeffcarolvigars@hotmail.co.uk, ☎ 01747 860976 or me, Don Butchers: ✉ don.butchers@btinternet.com.

Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ☎ 01747 860775

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

'Saving Mr. Banks'

(12)

Emma Thompson Tom Hanks

'Where her book ended, their story began'

Author P.L. Travers reflects on her childhood after reluctantly meeting with Walt Disney, who seeks to adapt her Mary Poppins books for the big screen.

In the Lecture Hall
Thursday, 10th April, at 7.30pm
(Doors open 7.00pm)

TICKETS £6.00

Available from The Library

For more information call Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

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

MERE ARCHERS

The club enjoyed a very successful 2013 season and our club members are now hopeful of a successful 2014 season. We were well represented at the County Indoor Championships in March. Gerald Farrell maintained his position and remained County Champion with Richard Eddington placed second.

The afterschool club at Mere school is really popular and providing a pathway to joining the club. We are taking bookings for the first outdoor beginners course, due to start mid April, when practising outdoors on Tuesday evenings starts. So if you are interested please contact us by 'phone (below), or via ✉: merearchery@gmail.com

Gloria Mead, Club Secretary ☎ 01747 863360

TISBURY LEISURE CENTRE

A facility provided by Wiltshire Council, where everybody matters

Easter “Kids for a Quid” Programme 2014

Our programme this Easter for children takes place from Monday, 7th to Saturday, 19th April 2014. All activities are priced at just £1, apart from Art and Craft, which is £2 per child. All the old favourite activities are planned, as well as a returning favourite “Gladiators”.

Don't let your child miss out. Ensure that you book to avoid disappointment. Please note that the Centre is closed on Good Friday, 18th April, and Easter Monday, 21st April.

For a copy of our full programme, more information about any of our classes, to book a place or details concerning any of our other activities, please contact us:

- Reception, ☎: 01747 871141,
- ✉: tisburyse@wiltshire.gov.uk,
- Website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk
- Follow us on [Twitter@TisburyLC](#) or [Facebook](#)

MERE CHILDRENS CENTRE

What extraordinary weather we have been having so far this year. Well done to all those hardy souls who have braved the elements to attend our sessions. Let's hope that the ground has a chance to dry out a bit before it is time to have some 'out and about' activities.

We say a fond farewell to Carla Russell who has moved from the Centre, and we extend a warm welcome to our new members of staff, Amy Crawford and Rachel

Davies who are both support workers, and also to Angeline Bowser, our new Senior Families Practitioner. These three will be working across the sister Centres: Mere, Tisbury and Wilton.

As usual we have been having a busy time with lots of varied activities for the children – and grown ups - to take part in.

On Tuesday mornings in Zeals Parish Room, **Musical Beginnings** is going strong with Mums and Toddlers enjoying a wide range of rhymes and musical activities, which stimulates development in communication and language, and is a very good bonding activity to do with your child.

In **Stay and Play** on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am we have been doing activities alongside Nursery Rhymes, for example planting flowers and singing planting songs like 'Mary, Mary Quite Contrary', to encourage children to learn their rhymes, which helps their language development.

Family Learning is running a 'fun with food' programme for us on Thursday mornings, with lots of tips for healthy eating and good ideas for yummy recipes.

We have been having fun in our **Baby Group** on Friday afternoons at 1.30pm, exploring the senses, blowing bubbles and playing in the ball pit. This is a welcoming group for parents, carers and babies to come along to meet each other and do activities planned to support early development.

Our next **Baby Massage Course** is starting on Tuesday, 22nd April. This is an excellent and enjoyable course, which helps bonding with your baby and may help with their sleeping and digestive patterns. If you are interested in a place on this popular course, please ring the number below to enquire.

Our exciting **Sensory Room** is available for individual bookings by ringing the number below. We are also available if you wish to drop in and use the centre's facilities for your children at times other than those when groups are running.

For those of you with children under five who have not yet attended our groups and would like to do so, please come along to the centre and meet our friendly team. All our activities are planned to promote and encourage children's physical, linguistic and emotional development while they have fun.

For further information about any of our groups and activities please ring the number below or drop in and speak to one of our friendly team.

Jane Smith, Support Worker, ☎ 01747 861108

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE MAY 2014 ISSUE

MONDAY, 14th APRIL 2014



BLUE CLASS REPORTS

World Book Day

World Book Day on Thursday, 6th March was a very exciting day for Mere School as it was the launch of Mrs Smith's first book 'Dandelion Clocks'.

The day began with all the children and staff dressing up as their favourite book character.

Callie-Mai from Blue Class said "I liked dressing up because I could wear my tiara to school, Cinderella wears a tiara and she is my favourite book character".

ITV News came in to see Mrs Smith and talk to her about her book. Mackenzie, Caroline and India-Skye also spoke to ITV news about being inspired to read.

When asked about being on the T.V, Caroline said "My family were very excited to see me on the TV, I was 'Gangster Granny', it's my favourite book.

India-Skye said "I enjoyed the fact that we dressed up as our favourite book characters, I was Dorothy from 'The Wizard of Oz' and I liked seeing myself on television.

The book launch for 'Dandelion Clocks' was after school in the hall, it was a huge success! The hall looked fantastic. It was decorated with all the children's work.

Prizes were given out for lots of competitions. The best costume went to Ellie Deeker (Reception) and Woody Hillier (Year 5).

The Garden in the Pot prizes went to Mia Ward (Reception) and Jessica Robillard (Year 3).

The children also re-designed their favourite book covers and the winning entries were Luciano Elsmore (Reception) and Lacey Read (Year 2).

The Key Stage 2 children also had the opportunity to write a diary entry and the winners were Sophia Elsmore (Year 3) and Lily Ward (Year 6).

In school we are looking forward to the Book Fair next week and celebrating Easter.

We are also busy preparing for our exciting DT week at the end of term.



WAR TEARS LIVES APART

Love can help piece them back together

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life. Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise. It stands at 42 million people – a horrifying statistic.

Christian Aid is working to help rebuild lives devastated by homelessness and extreme poverty in war-torn places, and we have a chance to share in that work through Christian Aid Week, which is **11th – 17th May**. Every member of every church (and non-church members, too) is encouraged to help this year by giving, acting, praying – or/and, of course, by collecting!

As his particular contribution, in Holy Week (on 15/16th April 2014) the Right Rev Dr Edward Condry, Bishop of Ramsbury, will undertake a **Walk of Solidarity**. Leaving his home in Warminster on foot, carrying possessions for the night, he will head to a remote location on the Wiltshire Downs and sleep alone in a Shepherd's Hut. Bishop Ed will be praying for displaced people; for those living in conflict and poverty around the world; informed by his meeting with our Iraqi partner, Sarjon (REACH).

The next morning he will walk into Mere to share in ecumenical prayers and breakfast; in the final stage of the walk, Bishop Ed will also be joined by young people from Mere's congregations. At 10.30am he will confirm people in St Michael's. Look out for more details soon!

You may not feel quite up to anything as tough as Bishop Ed's overnight walk, but could you spare two or three hours to collect for Christian Aid in one or two streets in Mere? Training and everything you need will be provided.

PLEASE SIGN UP at Lent Lunches or at St Michael's Church, or give me a ring. Your reward will be in knowing that you have made a real difference to at least some of the world's displaced people.

Judith Thompson (Mere Christian Aid rep) ☎ 01747 860553

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Café Worship

Coffee with Worship in the Methodist School Room on Wednesday, 30th April with the Rev'd Paul Arnold. Coffee is served at 10.30am as usual and worship commences at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome.

Mary Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370

THE REV'D ELIZABETH KEMP, UNITED REFORMED CHURCH MINISTER, WRITES:

“Go to work on an *”**

When was it that Edwina Curry had to cope with the national outbreak of salmonella and eggs were seen as the Nation's primary health hazard?

On the radio recently we were told the story of a class which had watched eggs hatching in an incubator. The children chose names for the chickens including: “breakfast”, “lunch”, “tea”, “nugget” and “korma”. Only two chicks were given names that did not label them as part of the food-chain - perhaps the teacher should have asked for names for “fluffy little chicks” rather than “chickens”!

Today, apparently, increasing numbers of people living in urban locations are rearing hens, to enjoy the benefit of fresh eggs. I believe that there may be more to avian husbandry than just feeding chickens and collecting eggs, so I shall not be joining their ranks.

I was surprised to learn that if you buy fertilised eggs, you do not need to keep them warm until they reach your incubator - in fact they can be kept in a domestic refrigerator for three days and once they are placed in an incubator will begin their 21 days of growth to hatching. Perhaps it shouldn't amaze me; after all, birds' eggs will be in nests on some pretty cold days.

Nature is brilliant. Bulbs left in the dark will burst to growth in spring time. We in the church will be celebrating the resurrection of Christ at Easter; spring flowers and Easter eggs are images, which help us communicate the news.

People who have been grieving begin to put their lives back together, communities are rebuilt, people turn over new leaves against the odds, and hope is in the air.

Whether your Easter celebrations will include chocolate eggs, sunrise services or just a relief that winter is receding, I wish for you a glimpse of the wonder of new life and small steps towards fulfilment of potential.

Shalom,

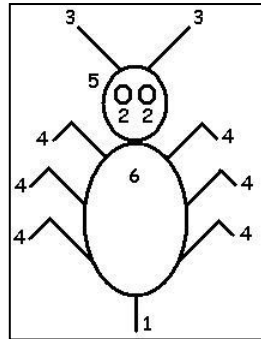


You are warmly invited to come to a **Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy from 10.30-12.00 on Tuesday, 8th April** at 14 Prospect Place (Carole Marshall's home Tel 861905);

and also to a:

BEETLE DRIVE
On Friday, 25th April 7.30pm
in the Grove Building
Tickets £5 (Children £3)
Including supper
with licensed Bar

A fun evening for all ages



To book ☎ **01747 863324** (Elisabeth Barrett) or ☎ **01747 860553** (Judith Thompson) or sign the list at the back of St Michael's Church.

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

APRIL 2014

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:
 Priest in Charge: Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ 01747 861859,
 ✉ carolw953@aol.com
 Churchwardens:
 Mrs Jean Knapp ☎ 01747 860142
 Mrs Elizabeth Howden ☎ 01747 863424

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
The Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker has a rest day			
Tuesday	1st	6.00pm	Start the Month Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	6th	9.15am	Said Eucharist followed by coffee
		10.30am	Family Praise Service
		6.00pm	Lenten Worship
Sunday	13th	10.30am	Palm Sunday
			Parish Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Lenten Worship
Holy Week			
Monday	14th	7.30pm	Compline
Wednesday	16th	10.30am	Confirmation Service led by the Right Rev'd Dr Edward Condry, Bishop of Ramsbury
		7.30pm	Franciscan Service
Thursday	17th	8.00pm	Maundy Thursday
			Holy Communion (CW1) & the Watch
Friday	18th	9.30am	Good Friday
			Stations of the Cross for children
		11.00am	Walk of Witness up Castle Hill
			Meet in Square for 11.00am start
		2.00pm	Meditation
Sunday	20th		EASTER DAY
		5.30am	Vigil
		8.00am	Holy Communion
		10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
Sunday	27th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		3.00pm	Scouting Service (see page 33)

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	6th	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Sivyour
	13th	11.00am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp
	20th	11.00am	EASTER DAY
			Rev'd Margaret Laurie
			Communion service
	27th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham

The Methodist Church (☎ Gillingham 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370

Sunday	6th	6.00pm	Local Fellowship Service
	13th	6.00pm	Mr Ken Elcock
	20th	6.00pm	EASTER DAY
			Rev'd Paul Arnold
			United Holy Communion Service
			with the United Reformed Church
	27th	6.00pm	Mr Steve Hawkes

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

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

Every Friday	10.00am	Mass
Every Sunday	5.00pm	Mass

On the 4th Sunday of the month - there will be Coffee after Mass.

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

Sunday	6th	9.15am	DIY
	13th	9.15am	Holy Communion (CW1)
	20th	9.15am	EASTER DAY
			Holy Communion (BCP)
	27th	9.15am	DIY

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

DIARY DATES

APRIL 2014

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

1	Tue	10.15am	Lip Reading (also 8th, & 29th)	GB
		6.00pm	Pilates (also 8th, 15th & 22nd)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (every Tuesday)	L
2	Wed	9.30am	Tai Chi (every Wednesday)	GB
		10.30am	Tai Chi – small hall (every Wednesday)	GB
		11.00am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
		2.30pm	- 4.00pm Memory Loss Group (every Wednesday)	Lib
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
3	Thur	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers	L
		10.00am	- 11.30am Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am	- 12.00pm Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (also 10th)	GB
3	Thur	7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (every Thursday)	CC
4	Fri	10.30am	St Michael's "First Friday" Coffee Drop in	GB
		12.30pm	- 1.30pm Lent Lunch (also 11th & 18th)	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Gold (also 11th & 25th)	L
		6.30pm	Barn Buddies (also 11th & 25th)	BSF
		7.30pm	Marie Curie Cancer Care "Easter Bingo"	GB
5	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning (also 12th, 19th & 26th)	CC
		7.30pm	Silton Singers Concert	St Michaels Church
7	Mon	10.00am	Chair based Zumba (also 14th & 28th)	L
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (also 14th & 28th)	L
		2.00pm	Pilates (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council	AYP
8	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic (also 22nd)	L
		12.30pm	Community Lunch	Walnut Tree Inn
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
9	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
		7.30pm	Chamber of Trade Committee Meeting	MSC

10	Thur	2.00pm	Mere Short Walk	CP
		7.30pm	Mere Filmshows/Moviola "Saving Mr Banks"	L
11	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 25th)	GB
13	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
14	Mon	7.30pm	MADS meeting (Drama Room)	L
16	Wed	2.30pm	"Easter Holiday Fun Afternoon" Mothers Union	GB
17	Thur	2.30pm	Easter Fun "Hop along" for children	Lib
19	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
23	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
25	Fri	7.30pm	Suchana "Beetle Drive"	GB
28	Mon	6.00pm	Beavers	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts	GB
30	Wed	10.30 am	Café Worship	MH

STOP PRESS

ST GEORGES DAY PARADE

On Sunday, 27th April 2014 we are the host group for the West Wiltshire Scout Association's St George's Day parade and service at St Michael's church.

We will be marching from Mere school to the church moving off at 2.30pm. There will be 300 of us, so please come out to see and support us.

Garry Edwards, Group Scout Leader ☎ 01985 844761

PaulWinchcombe - ¼ Page advert

BOOKING MEETING HALLS IN MERE

Grove Building:

Richard Jefferies

☎ 01747 863425

Lecture Hall:

Sally Johnson

☎ 01747 861063

Methodist Church Schoolroom

Mary Siderfin

☎ 01747 861370

MERE INFORMATION

For full information on the businesses, organisations, societies, attractions and activities in Mere, together with current and back numbers of Mere Matters, please visit Mere's own website; www.merewilts.org

MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY

The following Clinics/Advice Centres are held on a regular basis

CITIZENS' ADVICE:

Tuesdays: 10.00am to 3.30pm

HEALTH MATTERS
ADVICE

Tuesdays: 1.30 to 4.30pm

MEMORY LOSS

READING GROUP

Wednesdays: 2.30 to 4.00pm

CARER SUPPORT

1st Friday: 10.30am to 12.30pm

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT

1st Friday: 2.00 to 4.00pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS

By appointment only (☎ 01225 713007)

& DEATHS:

Thursdays: 9.30 to 11.30am

CREDIT UNION

1st & 3rd Saturdays 10.00 – 11.00am

COPY DATE FOR MAY 2014 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the May 2014 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, 14th April 2014**.

E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send to: **merematters@inbox.com** from Monday, 7th April 2014 onwards.

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

ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:

Mrs Jane Kennedy

✉: jane.kennedy83@btinternet.com

☎: 01985 844740

The picture on the front cover is by kind permission of Dr Colin Anderson

