

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



*Grave Buildings - Mere
Cain Anderson 1992*

November 2014

MERE DRAMA SOCIETY

Proudly Presents



ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

By Joseph Kesselring

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Joseph Weinberger Ltd

7.30 pm at The Mere Lecture Hall

Thurs 20th, Fri 21st & Sat 22nd November 2014

Tickets from Mere Library or call 01747-861257

Find us on Facebook

Mere Amateur Dramatic Society - MADS
or www.mereamdram.co.uk

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, 3rd November 2014** at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.

The Chairman writes:

Due to the success of the goat grazing scheme on Long Hill, the Parish Council has sought permission from English Nature and English Heritage to introduce goats onto Castle Hill. We have received grant funding for the necessary fencing and gates, which we hope will be installed in the next few weeks. Unfortunately, due to the steep nature of Castle Hill, it will be necessary to erect the fencing on the outside of the footpath and therefore we will need to enter the fenced area, via kissing gates, in order to walk around Castle Hill. However, we are confident that the goats will do a sterling job of keeping back the grass and scrub and thereby doing away with the need to manage the hill with trimmers and machinery.

At the September meeting the Parish Council agreed to revise its decision to display banners on the Clock Tower advertising community/charity events within the town. The Parish Council would now like to invite applications for banners to be erected on the eastern elevation of the clock tower for the period 1.1.2015 – 31.12.2015. The banners should be no more than 8ft X 2ft, made from Correx board and the lettering should be no more than 9" (225mm) high. The Parish Council will erect the banner, which will remain in situ for a maximum of 8 nights (7 days) each. There will be a maximum of 4 banners for community/charity events within the town per year, and the permission decisions will be made by the Parish Council during the December Parish Council meeting so please submit your applications before Monday, 1st December.

Remembrance Sunday will fall on Sunday, 9th November and the Parish Council will be laying a wreath at the War Memorial. We will be congregating at the Clock Tower at 10.30am, and at 11.00 a.m. there will be a 2 minute silence when we will pause to reflect on the sacrifices made by our brave Servicemen and women. All are welcome to come along. There will be a service in St. Michaels Church afterwards.

**Richard Robbins - Trained Gardener - 25 years experience. All aspects of Garden Care Undertaken
Tel: 01373 473008 Email: richard.robbins@live.co.uk**



For information on Parish Council activities; details of meetings and copies of minutes, please view the Mere website: www.merewilts.org; or contact the parish clerk, Mrs Lindsey Wood: ✉: lindseywood@merewilts.org or: ☎ 01747 860701.

Mrs Lesley Traves, Chairman, Mere Parish Council

WEST KNOYLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 9th September where members discussed their concerns about the fact that drivers are still repeatedly driving out of the Willoughby Hedge Service Station and the Little Chef onto the wrong side of the carriageway along the B3089 believing this to be a one way slip road onto the A303. The Parish Council agreed that Esso and the garage manager had been very co-operative and the bollards outside the new toilet block had helped the situation. It was suggested that the directional arrows on the B3089 need to be renewed and there need to be more of them right up to the A303 with “no entry” signs onto the right hand side of the B3089 onto the A303. The bollard in the centre of the road at the exit of the B3089 needs a new “keep left” arrow on it as well. It was agreed that a scheme should be submitted to Wiltshire Council’s Community Area Transport Group to see if they could help with advice and funding.

There was a bit of a whisper about more changes to our bin collections - it was involving green bins - we wait with baited breath!

The Community Speedwatch Scheme in West Knoyle should be operational by now. We hope that this will help deter drivers from speeding through the village.

Jinny Brockway, Chairman, West Knoyle Parish Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, WRITES:

I would like to thank BBLP, the contractor repairing some roads locally on behalf of Wiltshire Council, for repairing roads around Limpers Hill, Mere, to a standard above my expectations. Some living locally to Limpers Hill have also commented likewise. AMEC, as expected, are still this month putting a new gas main in Hazzards Hill, White Road and Chetcombe Road in Mere. Motorists have been jumping the four-way traffic lights causing problems. It should be remembered that with the rotation for four sets of lights, with a long stretch of road leading from one set of lights to another, it can be a long wait. The smell of gas has often been noticed around Hazzards Hill over recent years. Hopefully, this should now be a problem of the past. Work should be finished around the middle of November.

Wiltshire Councillors allowances for 2013-2014 have now been published including mine, which can be compared with other Wiltshire Councillors on-line or in some newspapers with more space than available in this article. Please note your Parish

Councillors receive no allowance, beyond reimbursement of what they might spend on behalf of the council. A chairman may receive an extremely small allowance.

We were pleased to welcome our local MP Dr Andrew Murrison to the last South West Wiltshire Area Board, which also included a health fair. Dementia was one of many health issues highlighted. If you, or someone you care for, is living with dementia, Heathwatch Wiltshire is going to hold regular workshops for people interested in assessing dementia services so that experiences and feedback can be shared with the people who provide these services. For more information contact ☎ 01225 434218.

The South West Wiltshire Area Board is now charged with providing a youth service for young people aged 13 to 19. At the Area Board Meeting of Wednesday, 8th October, held at Nadder Hall, Tisbury, the Board voted to approve the terms of reference for the creation of a Local Youth Network (LYN). Out of this will come a LYN management group, which will put forward its ideas for youth development and youth clubs in Mere, Tisbury and Wilton. These ideas will be put to our South West Wiltshire Area Board for the award of grants. The LYN should consist of youth, police etc. At this time we are still awaiting our devolved youth funds for this area from Wiltshire Council, and we are told that we shall receive them shortly. A Community Youth Officer (CYO) has been selected by Wiltshire Council for our area; I await the person's name. The Mere Youth Club will continue with a charity 'Seeds for Success' organising youth work. Jaki Farrow, who has been excellent over the years, has agreed to be Service Manager for Seeds for Success for two days a week. The Mere Youth Club building hopefully will be able to be used also for other organisations.

Wiltshire Council has now moved to the survey stage regarding the construction of four older persons bungalows for local people in the Mere area in order to release existing larger houses for young families. These proposed bungalows form part of a £6M investment across Wiltshire. From the meetings I have attended, the council have the money, however I feel the council is spending too much time on the development stage of what is much required housing for local people. Wiltshire Council has 11,000 households on the register in need. In a similar vein, when planning approval is given in general, the legal department can still take many months, and even years, before the formal planning permission is allowed to be implemented, (for one reason working up what is known as section 106's agreements.)

Many are interested to know when we are going to get faster broadband. I am advised that our areas postcodes are within the intervention area for the Wiltshire Online programme, but at this stage it cannot be absolutely guarantee when Open Reach will get to our community. The deployment for 2014 has now been planned and our postcodes are in the second half of the rollout (2015/16). I am told the reference to 2016 would be the first half of 2016. Every three months, the next set of communities due to be surveyed will be released and at that point the affected postcodes from this stage will be moved into the survey stage. It is recommended that you regularly check the online

postcode checker to keep abreast with progress of the rollout. More government funding is available for phase two, implementation of which will start after March 2016. I was informed we would get a presentation at my area board regarding Wilton that now has the infrastructure for superfast broadband installed; I am now told this will not be for some time. I understand this is an important topic for many and I intend to pursue the issue.

Broadband improvement in Wiltshire is a partnership with South Gloucestershire. Wiltshire has many more partnerships, Police, Schools, academies (which White Sheet School at Zeals and Kilmington has now become), Wiltshire College and so on. These partnerships can work well to give better outcomes with reduced funds. Locally we now have the local youth service that will be a partnership between Wiltshire Council (SWWAB) and the local community. In my opinion if the rate of decline of grant from central government continues as all seem to agree likely, more of these partnerships will be required locally to maintain some services.

Local gain as many of you know can come from development. While sitting on the Southern Planning Committee, it passed an application for a development that was outside the development boundary. I understand that in this area the houses would not have been put forward easily for officer recommendation, had not the following community benefit been offered. Twenty houses, six of which were affordable, 48 dedicated parking spaces, which is above that often offered, £130,000.00 towards local community facilities and an education contribution of £142,092.00.

Speedwatch does work well across Wiltshire, however the Kilmington group has had to disband. They have proved to me that the speed of traffic travelling along Kilmington Common is often too high. A visual Speed Indicator Device has been put in place for a period, however it was not sited as the parish council requested.

Regarding A303 improvements. The Department for Transport has commissioned a feasibility study to improve A303/A30/A358 between Amesbury, Honiton and Taunton. Wiltshire Council is a member of the Stakeholders Reference Group for the study. The following is the outcome of Stage 2 of the study, based on the presentation to the Group by DfT on 28th August 2014.

Stage 1 of the study completed earlier in the year identified five single carriageway sections of the route for further investigation: Amesbury to Berwick Down, Chicklade Bottom to Mere, Sparkford to Ilchester, South Petherton to Southfields and Southfields to Honiton.

Stage 2 looked at options to improve these sections and will take the following proposals into final stage for prioritising schemes:

- Amesbury to Berwick Down options - part online/part offline dual carriageway and tunnel or offline dual carriageway to the north
- Chicklade Bottom to Mere -online and offline widening to dual carriageway

- Sparkford to Ilchester - Online and offline widening to dual carriageway
- South Petherton to Southfields - Online widening to dual carriageway
- Southfields to Honiton and/or Taunton options - online and offline widening and improvements

The final stage of the study is programmed to be completed by October 2014, with an announcement by government of the shortlist of schemes expected before end of the year.

MERE LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know that at the library, you can:

1. Get free WiFi
2. Borrow free children's audio books
3. Research your ancestors
4. Hire a meeting room

From Wiltshire Libraries website, you can:

5. Look up local clubs or advertise your own
6. Read copies of The Times back to 1785
7. Practice your driving theory test
8. Search from over 230 reference books
9. Look at old Mere photos and read about its history
10. Borrow free e-books and read on your smartphone, tablet or e-reader (except Kindle)

For some things, you will need to be a member of the library, but it is free and easy to join (and new members will get one week's free loan of a DVD). You normally just need to bring in proof of your address.

From December we will be running children's book-related activities one Saturday morning a month, so we look forward to welcoming lots of keen young people!

Further details next month. *Laura Ford, Library Assistant* ☎ 01747 860546

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED

AgeUK Salisbury District urgently requires more volunteers to join their dedicated team of **Information and Advice** volunteers.



- Do you have empathy with older people?
- Do you have excellent communication and listening skills?
- Could you make a commitment of time and energy?
- Would you like the opportunity to make a difference?

If you can answer 'yes' to the above we would love to hear from you; we urgently need your skills to fill a number of roles so that we can expand on the help and support we offer to older people living in south Wiltshire.

We are currently recruiting for the following roles:

- Information & Advice advisors
- Outreach volunteers
- Welfare & Benefits Home Visiting volunteers
- Talk team (volunteers to give talks to other organisations about our services)

Full training and support will be given and travel expenses will be reimbursed.

If you think you can help please contact us for more information or visit our website where you will find our volunteer application form along with descriptions of all the roles listed above.  enquiries@ageuksd.org.uk  01722 335425



POLICE REPORT

Home Security

This month is National Home Security Month, a good time to review security and plan for the dark winter months. Look online for the detail. Basic security measures including security lights that come on when someone approaches can deter a thief.

A light left on whilst you are out perhaps with a radio playing would make someone think twice about trying!

If you are early shopping for Christmas (10 weeks away!) make sure you don't leave them on view in your car whilst you shop elsewhere.

Be secure and keep warm.

The Dark Nights

*The dark nights are coming
There's a chill upon the air.
There's no lighting in your garden,
So you can't see who is there.
Is there someone in the darkness
Trying doors and windows too?
Will you be the burglar's victim.
NO! There's something you can do!
Lock your doors and lock your windows.
Put a lock on your shed too,*

*When you park and leave your car,
Take your valuables with you.
Don't let strangers in your house and
Keep your handbag out of sight.
Always check these things are done
Before you go to bed at night.
Have a light outside your front door
And if you can, in the garden too.
Do all of these suggestions
And the burglar won't bother you.*

Keep your Dog Safe

2 dogs were stolen at the beginning of October. One was taken from a farm in West Knoyle, which was taken from a kennel. The second was taken whilst the owner was walking it in Sedgehill! The owner called Police and put an alert out on Facebook and someone found the dog at the other end of Sedgehill. The owner had heard a car screech to a stop and then could not find her dog. For more information about dog theft and its prevention, please contact: www.doglost.co.uk

Police Information and consultation

As a reminder, John Hancock is at Mere Police station on Saturdays from 10.00am until 12.00noon.

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

Mere Cancer Research proudly presents:

Victorian Christmas Street Market Friday 5th December 6 - 9pm at the Grand Mere Christmas light switch on

Over 20 stalls full of Festive goodies and present ideas, food and drink

And of course mince pies, mulled wine & Roasted chestnuts!

Carols around the tree with the Silver band and of course Father Christmas will be there!

Local shops will be open as well

Enquires: Harvard 07788 138003 Sarah 07966 572351

Cancer Research UK

LIP READING AND MANAGING HEARING LOSS

If you don't have hearing loss yourself, there are some things you can do to help someone who has.....

Ask what they need to help communication go well. Needs vary from person to person, and you being willing to make the effort to meet someone halfway makes a HUGE difference. Really, you have no idea how much that is appreciated!

Try rephrasing your comment or question. Often we get stuck on a single word of a sentence. There are some words that look alike when Lip Reading so it does take a little work figuring out things like this. Please be patient and repeat it often if necessary.

Don't say, "Never mind" or "It wasn't important" – if it was important enough to say it once, then we might feel awkward or unimportant if you can't be bothered to repeat it.

You don't need to raise your voice unless asked, nor do you need to exaggerate your mouth movement as this distorts your lips and mouth shapes making it more difficult to Lip Read. For more tips and information, we have a leaflet that can be sent to you by calling/texting Sheila Thomson, ☎ 07760-731406, or ✉ SheilaT@Bishopstrow.org.uk

Weekly sessions are in the Small Hall in the Grove Building on Tuesday mornings from 10.15am to 12.15pm.

ARE YOU A CARER?

Do you help or support a partner, child, relative, friend, or neighbour who could not manage without your help? Caring is not easy and you may have unanswered questions regarding care. Why not come along and meet other carers and discuss your problems over a cup of coffee. Our new Carers Support Café will meet every second Monday of the month at the Angel Corner Tearooms in the main square.



Our next meeting will be on Monday, 10th November from 10.30am to 12noon in the Angel Corner tearooms.

If you would like more information on The Carers Support Café and carers support contact your Local Wiltshire Good Neighbour Ann-Marie Dean on ☎ 07557 922023

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



Mere Dental Practice

*The practice has three Dentists: Stephen Sherrard,
Christopher Davies and Mishari Al-Dhafeeri.*

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*

MERE CANCER RESEARCH UK

The Mere Cancer research committee are very pleased to announce that so far this year we have raised just over an amazing £13,000. We are very grateful to all of you who have come along to all or any of our events including The May Fayre, Posh Picnic, Teddy Bear Parachuting & Crockery Smashing, and a HUGE thank you for giving so generously. Also a very big thank you to all who have very kindly given us donations and bequests outside of these events.

A date for your diaries: Victorian Christmas Market on Friday, 5th December 6.00 – 9.00pm in the village square at the grand switching on of the Christmas lights. Over 20 festive food and gift stalls (please see advert on page 10 for more details).

As a committee, we are always looking for more helpers, donations of good quality bric a brac, tombola and raffle prizes, man shed contents, garden items and baked goodies to sell, and also any fund raising ideas.

If you can help with any of these, please contact us in one of the following ways: ✉ merecancerresearch@mail.com, or visit Sarah at Sprout & Flower, or Harvard Dallibar by ☎ 07788 138003. We also have a Facebook page – **Mere Cancer Research** - for all our up to date news and forthcoming events. *Penny Fennon ☎ 07833 137112*

TRUSSELL TRUST CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

As a very cold wind sweeps off the downs at the time of writing, it is a timely reminder of how bitterly cold the winters are in Bulgaria. Men, women and children are so delighted to find warm gloves, scarves socks and tights in their Christmas gift boxes. If you could include those items in **your** box, they would be **much** appreciated.

Collection date, in St Michael's, is now during morning service on Sunday, 23rd November, but I will be very happy to take delivery, or will collect from you if you are not able to be at the service on that day. *Wendy Horne ☎ 01747 861712*

MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS

Our recent AGM was held in our newly decorated club room in what used to be called the Band Hut in the Castle Street Car Park. Some twenty people were present at this meeting or responded with apologies for absence. A number of issues were discussed, more of which will follow. The author stated that it was his aim to finish the internal work before Christmas, and to this end all the structural rectification and internal and external panels have been completed. There remains surface preparation, painting, and furnishing of the complete unit, all being carried out at the time of writing.

The club meets at 7.00pm on each Wednesday evening and new faces will be most welcome.

Community Architectural Modelling Competition

The club has decided to build a 4mm to the foot model of a fictitious railway that ran through Salisbury Street to Castle Street. The focus will be the north side of these streets from **Chalke's Garage through to the 'Butt of Sherry' public house**. The challenge is to select a building of your choice and model it in a material of your choice. The square and clock tower will be included, as will 'The George Inn'.

Mere Station will naturally be located where Castle Street Car Park stands! The goods yard and loading facilities will be located where Church Street is in reality.

The period to be modelled is to be the 1930's and information regarding the state of the buildings at that time can be researched from the Library, Historical Society and in the case of Chalke's garage, by asking the staff to point to the correct picture in their show room.

Most of the materials required for this competition can be acquired from the author free of charge, as can further guidance in building and materials to use. All the models will be displayed at our **Annual Exhibition in the Lecture Hall 20th-21st June 2015**. An award of £50 will be made to the winning entry on Mid-Summers Day.

This competition is **not open** to Mere and District Railway Modellers.

Tom Snook ☎ 01747 861977

TRADCRAFT 'AT HOME'

I will be holding my usual 'At Home' Sale of Traidcraft gifts and goodies on 17th/18th November. Everyone is welcome to pop in and enjoy a seasonal drink and nibbles and browse the beautiful gifts or order from the catalogue.

Whether you are looking for a stocking filler, or something for a special loved one, you will find plenty of ideas and by purchasing a Fairly Traded Gift, you know you are also enabling another family to flourish and lift themselves out of poverty.

At: Wits End, North Road. Monday, 17th November: 8.30am - 8.30pm Tuesday, 18th November: 8.30am - 5.30pm.
Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

NOVEMBER SHORT WALK

This will take place on Thursday, 6th November. Meet at 2.00pm in the Surgery Car Park for a walk of 2-3 miles along the paths around Mere.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

PERSONAL THANKS

Bernard Howell

Bernard Howell sends his thanks and appreciation to all those who helped him celebrate his 90th birthday on 2nd October, and for the many cards, gifts and good wishes. Thank you for making it such a memorable day.

Adrienne Howell ☎ 01747 860475

John Cox

I should like to thank all my kind friends who sent sympathy cards, donations to Dementia UK or plants to me in memory of my husband, John. Your condolences mean a great deal and I shall be writing to each of you later to say how much these have helped me come to terms with his death.

Rose Cox ☎ 01747 861604

MERE CARNIVAL QUIZ NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER

7.30PM START

IN THE GROVE BUILDING

4 PERSONS PER TABLE £2.00 EACH

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING

**AND THE START OF OUR FUNDRAISING FOR CARNIVAL
2015**

Carol Payne for Mere Carnival Committee ☎ - 01747 861639

'SHOW YOU CARE AT CHRISTMAS'

A special week from 16th - 23rd: November.

With so many people sending e-card greetings, a special campaign has been launched to encourage us to support Charities by sending their Christmas Cards this year instead. I have a selection of Traidcraft, Christian Aid and CAFOD cards already in stock and will be selling them at the URC Coffee Morning on Saturday November 15th alongside RSPB and Survival cards.

Please come along and reach out further showing you care this Christmas.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

MERE THEATRE CLUB

As we head into the cold dark winter, don't get stuck at home; come and join the Theatre Club! It only costs £5 per household per year and you'll meet lots of friendly people and have the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of theatre and music, driven door to door by coach. We hope to see you soon.

Madelaine Morris ☎ 01747 861833 or Wendy Horne ☎ 01747 861712

COMMUNITY LUNCH



The next Community Lunch which will be held on Tuesday, 11th November 2014, at 12.00noon for 12.30pm, in the Walnut Tree Inn (Bookings: ☎ 01747 861220) when Jenny Wilding will give a short talk about the book on the Soldiers and Nurses of Mere from WW1, and Lindy Elliott will relate her experience of marching at the

Cenotaph in London.

For further details please contact me:

Lindy Elliott ☎ 01747 861646



THE MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE



The Chamber will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 26th November, 7.30pm at The George Inn, Mere. For further information please contact me at the telephone number below.

Next Mere Chamber Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 12th November for 7.30pm in the small room at Mere Social Club

Julie Cousins, Secretary, ☎ 07856 700576

WONDERING WHERE THE MAP HAS GONE?

Or hadn't you noticed it was missing? I'm referring to the map of Mere, in the Square of course. It's not been vandalized – far from it. It is being updated and re-furbished as part of the work the Chamber of Trade is carrying out to improve business and tourism in Mere and District. Funding is from the grant we obtained from the South West Area Board, and we are ably assisted by a couple of volunteers with vital skills in removing and improving the map and associated details.

It's part of the (street) furniture so we tend to walk past it without really looking at it. If you're a tourist, it could be most useful – except that the information hadn't been updated since it was erected some 10 to 15 years ago. We have some ideas of the information that is most valuable to include, but we would welcome any suggestions you may have, particularly from anyone with a design or artistic print background. A feature we hope to include is one of those little black and white squares called QR Codes. When scanned by a Smartphone, they automatically display information from a website. This can be much more than we can cram into the small space on the sign itself. If you have a suitable phone, try the example at the end of this article.

The other two maps in the car parks will be similarly refurbished when the main one has been completed.

Other refurbishment is to take place on the sign coming in to Mere from Stourhead, but undergrowth and access to property has delayed this by a month or two.



Elsewhere you will see that our AGM is to be held shortly. If you are interested in joining, helping, or just to find out more, come along then or contact me on the telephone number below or Julie Cousins, the Secretary, ☎07856 700 576.

The QR Code is above. Try it.

Hamish Bell, President, Mere & District Chamber of Trade ☎ 01747 861717



T@3



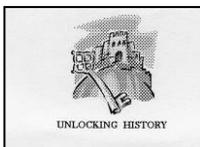
Community Tea Party
Wednesday, 19th November

From 3.00 to 4.00pm Angel Corner Tea rooms

T@3 is a time for meeting old friends and making new ones. Everyone is welcome to join us young or old.

This event is very popular and seating is limited so please let me know you are coming by contacting Wiltshire Good Neighbour Ann-Marie Dean ☎ 07557922023 no later than the morning of Monday, 17th November.

Wiltshire Good Neighbours helping you to access the services you need to live a safe, comfortable and independent life



MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Shaftesbury: King Alfred's Legacy

Rob Curtis

Tuesday, 4th November 2014 at 7.30pm in the Grove Building

Rob is a South West Tourism Blue Badge Guide who has researched and talked on many aspects of Dorset.

£3 entry for non-members who will be very welcome

Morning Talk

Our morning talk for Tuesday, 18th November, to be held in the small room of the Grove Building at 10.15am for 10.30am, is: "Occupational health hazards, post industrial revolution; chimney sweeps to deep sea divers", by Rose Cox..

£1 entry for non-members who will be very welcome

Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797

**REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR DECEMBER
2014/JANUARY 2015 ISSUE
MONDAY, 17th NOVEMBER 2014**

SHREEN HARMONY

Shreen Harmony's Christmas concert will be on Saturday, 20th December this year. Be sure to save the date and join them in The Grove Building at 7.30pm for some seasonal good cheer!

There are currently some vacancies in the Alto section of the choir, so if any ladies enjoy singing, why not give it a go?

Shreen Harmony meets to rehearse at 7.30pm on Thursday evenings at the United Reformed Church in Mere. Rehearsals are relaxed and fun and no audition is required.

It is not a 'drop in' choir so a regular commitment and an annual subscription (paid monthly or per term) are required. This works out at only £2.25 per session, however you are welcome to 'try before you buy' and your first session is free.

New members can be assured of a warm welcome.

For further information on your local community choir, please visit our website: www.shreenharmony.co.uk where you can also hear recordings of the choir or take a look at their facebook page.

Jane Edwards ☎ 01380 830918

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Good news from MADS. The props dept. has at last managed to lay its hands on some arsenic, so the Autumn Production (the hilarious, murderous comedy **Arsenic and Old Lace**) can go ahead after all! The set is being built, costumes are being unearthed (rather like the 'bodies' in the play), props are piling up (rather like the 'bodies'...) and all is well with The Misses Brewster. **Or is it?**

Come and find out on **Thursday, Friday or Saturday, 20th, 21st, or 22nd November at 7.30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.** Tickets are £6 each (£3 for children), available NOW at the Library.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE FILM SHOWS

Our film on Friday, 7th November is 'BELLE' (12a), inspired by the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle (Gugu Mbatha-Raw), the illegitimate mixed race daughter of a Royal Navy Captain. Raised by her aristocratic great-uncle Lord Mansfield (Tom Wilkinson) and his wife (Emily Watson), Belle's lineage affords her certain privileges, yet the colour of her skin prevents her from fully participating in the traditions of her social standing. Left to wonder if she will ever find love, Belle falls for an idealistic young vicar's son bent on change who, with her help, shapes Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery in England.

You will find full details on page 23.

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Gardening Folklore

Castle Gardens Speaker

Wednesday, 12th November 7.30pm Grove Buildings

Gardening is full of folklore, but how much of it can we trust? This is sure to be an interesting talk from one of the popular Castle Gardens Speakers.

£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

GROVE BUILDINGS RESTORATION FUND

The result of the '100' Club Draw for October, drawn on Thursday 2nd October 2014 by Mr E Bishop, was:

1st Prize (£20)	-	No. 72	C S Stallard
2nd Prize (£15)	-	No. 127	Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker
3rd Prize (£10)	-	No. 150	Mrs Bevington
4th Prize (£5)	-	No. 182	Mrs Irene Lucas

Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964

CASTLE HILL QUILTERS

We have a renowned quilter and teacher coming to give us a talk on 'Needles and Threads - a love story' at our meeting on Thursday, 13th November, at 2.00pm in the Grove Building. Visitors will be most welcome, at £3.50.

Gill Grout, President ☎ 01747 860914

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

Last year Susanne Hayes "The Sewing Lady" moved her Design and Dressmaking business from East Sussex to Mere in the office vacated by Rutters opposite the Lecture Hall.

Meeting a like-minded and skilled neighbour, Carol Lord, they have joined forces and are offering to impart their combined 30 years "Rag Trade" and twenty years textile knowledge in the form of Dressmaking Lessons.

Two five week taster courses will take place in the small hall in the Grove Building on Mondays from 10.30 am to 1.00pm or on Wednesdays from 7.00 to 9.30pm commencing Monday, 10th and Wednesday, 12th November respectively.

Whatever your experience, if any, we would love to teach you more.

Do come and meet Carol and Susanne in the small hall of the Grove Building on Tuesday 4th November at 7.30pm to find out more. Please note that there are only limited places available in the small hall of the Grove Building.

Susanne ☎ 07788 595434 or Carol ☎ 01747 861923



WOMENS INSTITUTE (WI)

Last month we spent the evening making decorations for our Christmas tree which will be on show in St. Michael the Archangel at Christmas along with others from clubs and organisations in Mere. It proved to be a very entertaining evening with spells of chatter and concentrated silence.

We also had a very enjoyable lunch at The George in Longbridge Deverill attended by 12 members. The Group WI meeting in Sutton Veny saw us once again being entertained by Frances Benton giving her presentation "A Passion for Pearls."

Our next meeting, on Thursday, 6th November at 7.30pm in the Grove Building, in a change to our programme, is going to be a talk by Bonny Sartin entitled, "Smuggling in Dorset and Hampshire." Smuggling was a major industry back in the 18th century. Organised gangs roamed the countryside importing brandy, tobacco (baccy), tea and wine by the ship load, more often than not financed or aided by the local gentry! If the law enforcement officers weren't open to bribery they very often had to face violence. The smuggler's ships were fitted with cannon and they weren't afraid to use them. Bonny's talk will be illustrated with quotes from the day, songs and poems. Please come and join us for a very entertaining evening. *Janet Fisher* ☎ 01747 861323



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Having travelled, at least in imagination, to Thailand and West Bengal in India at our September meeting, and to Compostella in North West Spain in October, we'll be much nearer to home. at our meeting on **Tuesday, 11th November at 2.30pm in the Grove Building.** We'll be discovering the remarkable 'Story of the London Eye' from the first-hand experience of Peter Platt-Higgins. This will be a fascinating and very enjoyable afternoon – and all are welcome.

Our **Carol Service** this year will be on **Tuesday, 9th December.** More details next month....! *Judith Thompson (MU Branch Leader)* ☎ 01747 860553

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

'Belle' (12A)

Emily Watson Tom Wilkinson
Matthew Goode Penelope Wilton

Inspired by the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle, the illegitimate mixed race daughter of a Royal Navy Admiral is raised by her aristocratic great-uncle in 18th century England, but finds social acceptance in his world does not come easily.

In the Lecture Hall

Friday, 7th November, 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 MUSEUM

Even if you have already visited the WWI exhibition, it's worth going again because there are now some new additions! **Three superb, small-scale model WWI tanks** now enhance the showcase with all the poppies, where a map of British and enemy trenches is displayed. The models have been specially built for this exhibition - do go and have a look!

We'd also like to remind you that the '**book of the exhibition**', about the servicemen from Mere who gave their lives in WWI and entitled '**The Proudest Uniform**', will be launched on **Friday, 14th November**. It will be available for purchase after the talk being presented by the Friends (see right). *Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

This is positively the final reminder that on **Friday, 14th November, at 7.30pm in the Grove Building**, Col. Iain Swinnerton will give a talk in aid of The Friends entitled '**1914: The Road to War**'. He will talk about the causes of World War 1, which go far beyond the assassination in Sarajevo, and about the involvement of Wiltshire Regiments.

Col. Swinnerton served in the Regular and Territorial Army for 34 years. He is well known internationally as a lecturer on family and military history. This is an opportunity absolutely not to be missed in this WWI commemorative year! Tickets at **£6 each** are available at the Library now. *Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

The Friends would like to pass on some **sensational news from Fives Court!** The Home entered the 'Trust in Bloom' competition, run annually by the Orders of St. John Care Trust (OSJCT) and won **1st prizes** for the Best Vegetable plot, Best Home-Grown Carrots, Best Flower arrangement and Best Homemade Scones. They were also runners-up for the Best Garden Theme, which this year was 'Mary Poppins'.

But it doesn't end there! Fives Court won **first prize for its Overall Garden and Grounds** (out of 21 in Wiltshire), AND THEN won against the three other county winners, making Fives Court the **Supreme Garden Winner**, the best of 76 OSJCT Gardens.

Warm congratulations are due to Sam Dean (Activities Co-ordinator) and to the Staff and Residents for a magnificent effort and a quite splendid achievement!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE

**For the over 60s. Mere and District Day Centre, Lynch Close, Mere
Mondays and Fridays 10.30am - 3.00pm**

We have just had our Annual Skittles Knockout Tournament and, at the time of writing this, it looks like the event raised in the region of £160! Thank you to everyone who got involved, whether you bought a ticket, donated a raffle prize or helped in the planning. The emphasis of the evening was all about having some fun whilst raising money for the RGC, and I can honestly say a great time was had by all. Congratulations to Steve Hawkins on winning the tournament and bagging the trophy!

We have a few places available for new guests on Fridays, if you would like to join our happy group, or know of a friend or loved one who could benefit from getting out and socialising once a week, please get in touch with me on the number below.
Website: [**www.MereDayCentre.org.uk**](http://www.MereDayCentre.org.uk)

Sandie Hawkins, RGC Organiser ☎ 07835 272406

MERE CRICKET CLUB

Another season has been and gone as autumn finally digs its heels in. The senior team had 45 fixtures this year starting on Sunday, 20th April and finishing at the very picturesque ground in Hinton Charterhouse on Sunday, 21st September. The fixtures were made up of a combination of 35/40 overs or timed weekend games, 20 over mid week evening games and a 6 aside tournament.

Success is measured more on enjoyment than results, but for the record Mere Won 17, Lost 18, Tied 1 with 9 cancelled. Duncan Weir topped the total runs scored, and 14 year old Danny Harkin showed up all the adults by taking the most wickets. A fantastic achievement and we look forward to many more record wicket taking seasons from him!

The Annual Awards dinner will take place at the Walnut Tree on Friday, 14th November. Please contact Mark Cassidy at the Walnut Tree Inn (☎ 01747 861220) to book your place.
Duncan Weir ☎ 01747 822005

MERE BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club is now in its dormant period when we recharge our batteries ready for next years' onslaught. There will be a number of social events prior to the start of next season, and additionally we will have to fit in an annual dinner and presentation evening some time in the New Year.

On Saturday, 14th February 2015 we will be holding our now famous annual Barn Dance in the Grove Building. Festivities start at 7.00pm with music and fun being provided by the Black Bear Band and, as our regular readers will know, we only support

local charities, so next year it is the turn of the Mere & District Link Scheme to be the beneficiary of our fund raising efforts.

In addition to music and refreshments, we will also be providing a Fish & Chip supper. So keep an eye on future issues of this magazine and local Notice Boards to find out when and where tickets will be available. As this event is so popular and tickets tend to sell very quickly, you will need to get your orders in very sharply once everything is finalised and details are published.

The club will officially open again on Saturday, 18th April 2015 at 3.00pm. Existing members need to arrive 30 minutes early in order to pay their fees, have a chat and wish each other Happy New Year, etc. Prospective new members or members of the public who just want to give the sport a try should turn up at 3.00pm, when a new and exciting life will open up to you, good healthy sport with friendly and sociable people. What more could you wish for?

If you can't wait until next year to find out details, then contact either Alan Inwood ☎ 01985-844215; Alan Spencer ☎ 01747-860803 or Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ✉ don.butchers@btinternet.com Alan Spencer ☎ 01747 860803



RED CLASS AND THE SCHOOL

Fire, Fire!

Don't worry they aren't real fire...it is the topic that Silver Class are studying this term. The new topic involves reading and writing traditional tales.

Terrible Tudors

Gold Class are busy learning all about the Tudors. They have made some delicious Tudor biscuits and are busy designing and making Tudor houses. The children in Gold Class are looking forward to their visit to Montacute House.

New Topics are underway!

All of our classes are working hard.

Blue Class

Our newest recruits in Reception have been busy using their senses to explore the world around them- including jelly! They have also been reading words and learning about sounds.

Yellow Class

In Year One, the children have been learning how to walk safely. They also now know how to use their scooters without getting hurt.

Green Class

Green Class have now joined Purple and Red Class upstairs. Their topic is The Second World War and they have been looking at what it was like living in an air raid. Green Class are looking forward to their trip to Nothe Fort.

Rotten Romans!

Red Class have been finding out just how rotten the Romans were! They have been learning about why the Romans wanted to invade Britain and why Claudius brought elephants over to help him! Red Class are looking forward to meeting a Roman Soldier in their Roman workshop.

Purple Class

As the oldest class, Year Six have been enjoying their new role as school role models. They have taken over the running of the School Council, organising the sound system for assembly, running the snack trolley and watering the plants. They have also been busy finding out about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain and the Viking invasion.

We are all looking forward to History Week...we will have plenty of history mysteries to solve

Christmas is coming.....

For the second year, Churches Together in Mere and District are providing a **Christmas Day lunch** in the Grove Building for anyone not able to celebrate with family or friends. It will be a traditional lunch with all the trimmings, in a good festive atmosphere, finishing with tea and Christmas cake.

There will be no charge, but donations will be welcome, and, so that we know how many to cater for, it is essential to apply for a ticket in advance. Numbers are limited to a maximum of 60, and the closing date is Friday, 28th November. If you would like a ticket; or know of anyone who would like to come; or if you would like to help, please telephone Christine Marsh on ☎ 01747 861212.



St. Michael the Archangel, Mere

Songs of Praise

Sunday 16th November @ 6.00 pm

Do come along to join us at this informal service of praise and worship and sing favourite hymns chosen and introduced by local people.

CAFÉ WORSHIP

Café Worship on Wednesday, 26th November will follow coffee served from 10.30am and will be led by Rev Judith Thompson at 11.00am. Do come and pause for reflection this month, as usual in the Methodist School Room.

Mary Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370

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

He was born in March 1896, in Essex and spent his adult life living and working in the East End. He lived through two World Wars and lost brothers and friends in both. He married, raised a family and was liked and respected within the community. Throughout his life he suffered from depression but it was never named or managed. His wife and family were, to some extent, the buffer between his depression and the world. His wife was left semi-paralysed following several strokes and friends and family helped them to remain independent in the "granny-flat" where they lived,

Throughout his life he'd worked hard as a manual labourer. His children married and moved away and when he was widowed his days could be very long and dark. My grandfather's story is by no means unique. He died almost 50 years ago and little seems to have changed.

A report: The Emerging Crisis for Older Men, released in October, warns that increasingly more men will be facing a lonely old age. The number of older men living alone is estimated to increase by 65% to 1.5 million by 2030. The International Longevity Centre UK's Chief Exec. Baroness Sally Greengrass highlights that: "many of our services don't work for men." Innovative clubs and social programmes are needed

to keep men socially connected after retirement... “as well as offering support at certain later-life events, such as widowhood.... Social isolation and loneliness pose a serious risk to health and local activities must be more tailored to suit mens’ interests and needs”.

When I was a child, churches used to run “Men’s Fellowship” meetings, today we hold coffee mornings to which all are welcome. Churches Together in Mere and District are again running a Christmas Day lunch particularly for those who will otherwise be alone; but it’s not enough.

You may not anticipate being part of the 1.5 million men living alone in 2030, there are 911,000 today. As a woman under 60 (just), I would not presume what sort of clubs or social programmes would be worth exploring, but I am convinced that we should be engaging with those who feel isolated and helping them to develop networks which are good for them.

My faith is shaped by One who offered: “life in all it’s fullness” to all people; whether you have a faith or not, that’s a good starting place. Mere is a good place to live for many people - with some sensitivity, listening and creative thinking we may be able to make it a great place for everyone to live.

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

NOVEMBER 2014

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:

Priest in Charge: Rev’d Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ 01747 861859,

✉ carolw953@aol.com

Churchwardens: Mrs Elizabeth Howden ☎ 01747 863424

Mr Michael Marsh ☎ 01747 861212

Church Administrator: Mr Ian Treece ☎ 07754 524802

✉ administrator@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

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
Sunday	2nd	10.00am	United Benefice service at All Saints Maiden Bradley. NO 9.15 or 10.30am service at St Michaels
		5.00pm	All Souls Service
Tuesday	4th	6.00pm	“Start the month” Holy

Sunday	9th	10.45am	Communion (BCP) REMEMBRANCE SERVICE starting in the Square at the War Memorial
	*16th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Songs of Praise
	**23rd	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	30th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		5.00pm	Advent Worship

*Traidcraft Stall after 10.30am service

**Please bring your Trussell Trust shoeboxes to this 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎ 01747 860685)

Sunday	2nd	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
	9th	11.00am	Remembrance Day, NO Service at the UR Church
Sunday	16th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham Holy Communion
	23rd	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Sivyour
	30th	11.00am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp Church Anniversary + Lunch

The Methodist Church (Tel. Gillingham 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370)

Sunday	2nd	6.00pm	Rev'd Paul Arnold Holy Communion
	9th	6.00pm	Mrs C Marsh
	16th	6.00pm	Songs of Praise at Parish Church
	23rd	6.00pm	Mr David Webb
	30th	6.00pm	Rev'd Paul Arnold

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's.

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

Every Saturday 5.30pm Mass

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

Sunday	2nd	10.30am	United Benefice service at All Saints, Maiden Bradley. NO service at West Knoyle
	9th	9.30am	Remembrance Service
	16th	9.30am	Matins
	23rd	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW1 Trad)

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

DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER 2014

AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; BH-Band Hut; 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; MSC-Mere Social Club.

1	Sat	10.00am - 11.00noon	Mere Credit Union (every Saturday)	Lib
		10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning (every Saturday)	CC
3	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (every Monday)	L
3	Mon	10.00am	Chair Based Zumba (every Monday)	L
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (every Monday)	L
		2.00om	Pilates (also 17th & 24th)	GB
		6.00pm	Beavers (every Monday)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
4	Tue	9.30am	Card Making (small hall)	L
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (also 25th)	L
		7.00pm	Dress Making Class introduction	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Historical Society	GB
5	Wed	9.30am	Tai-Chi (also 12th & 28th)	GB
		10.30am	Tai-Chi (every 12th & 28th)	GB
		11.00am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers	BH
6	Thur	10.00am - 11.30am	Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am - 12.00noon	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		1.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	November Short Walk	CP
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)	GB
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
7	Fri	10.15am - 12.00pm	St Michaels "First Friday" Coffee Drop in	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Film Shows/Moviola "Belle"	L
10	Mon	10.30am - 1.00pm	Dress Making Class (every Monday)	GB
		10.30am - 12.00noon	Carers Support Café	Angel Tea Rooms

		7.30pm	MADS Meeting (Green Room)	L
11	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		10.15am - 12.15pm	Lip-Reading (every Tuesday)	GB
		12.00pm	Community Lunch	Walnut Tree Inn
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
12	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together - Whist Drive	GB
		7.00pm - 9.30pm	Dress Making Class (every Wednesday)	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
		7.30pm	M&D Chamber of Trade Committee Meeting	MSC
13	Thurs	5.00pm	Rainbows (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		7.30pm	Girl Guides (also 20th & 27th)	GB
14	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 28th)	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Gold (every Friday)	L
		7.30pm	Friends of Mere Museum	GB
15	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
17	Mon	8.30am - 8.30pm	Traidcraft "At Home"	Wits End North road
18	Tue	8.30am - 5.30pm	Traidcraft "At Home"	Wits End North road
		10.15am	Mere Historical Society Morning Talk	GB
19	Wed	3.00pm	T@3 Community Tea Party	Angel Tea Rooms
20	Thur	7.30pm	MADS production "Arsenic and Old Lace"	L
21	Fri	7.30pm	MADS production "Arsenic and Old Lace"	L
22	Sat	7.30pm	MADS production "Arsenic and Old Lace"	L
25	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
26	Wed	10.30am - 12.00noon	Café Worship	MH
		1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		7.30pm	M&D Chamber of Trade AGM	George Inn
28	Fri	6.30pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L

STOP PRESS - Youth activities across Wiltshire begin to take shape

The new approach to youth activities is taking shape with key meetings between young people and community leaders happening across Wiltshire.

The meetings are setting up the Local Youth Networks, which will co-ordinate youth activities in local areas and encourage young people to be involved.

Meanwhile the team of Community Youth Officers (CYOs) started work this month and are planning networking events and helping forge relations between organisations and local communities to ensure the activities in each youth area match what people want to do.

The community-led model for youth activities is also being supported by a national scheme called Our Place – a package of government support and funding to give people more power over local services and budgets in their neighbourhoods.

Following a successful application to the programme, Wiltshire Council was selected as one of 100 areas in the country to take part and received £20k of funding.

In **South West Wiltshire** the area board and CYO are considering how to ensure transport is available to take people around the area. They are also working with a local charity called Seeds for Success to ensure provision into the future.

The changes to youth services means some buildings previously used are changing their use or being handed over to local groups to manage.

Cabinet Member for Children’s Services Laura Mayes said: “We had the lengthy consultation with communities and young people on how youth services should be provided and now we are seeing the new approach begin to take shape. Across Wiltshire communities are coming together and working with their young people to ensure young people can have activities they want in their area.”

For more information contact Wiltshire Council Communications 📞 01225 7133701, or 📞 10225 713115 or 📞 01225 713116

BOOKING MEETING HALLS

Grove Building:

Ian Treece

☎ 07754 524802

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

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT

1st Friday: 2.00 to 4.00pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS

By appointment only (☎ 0300 0034569)

& DEATHS:

Thursdays: 9.30 to 11.30am

CREDIT UNION

Every Saturday 10.00 – 11.00am

COPY DATE FOR DECEMBER 2014/JANUARY 2015 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the December 2014/January 2015 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, 17th November**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send from Monday, 10th November 2014 onwards to: editor@merematters.co.uk Would ALL contributors, however they provide copy, please **add their name and a contact telephone number to ensure inclusion.**

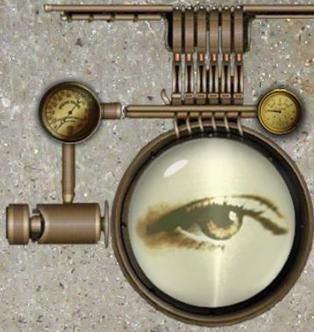
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☎: 01985 844740

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