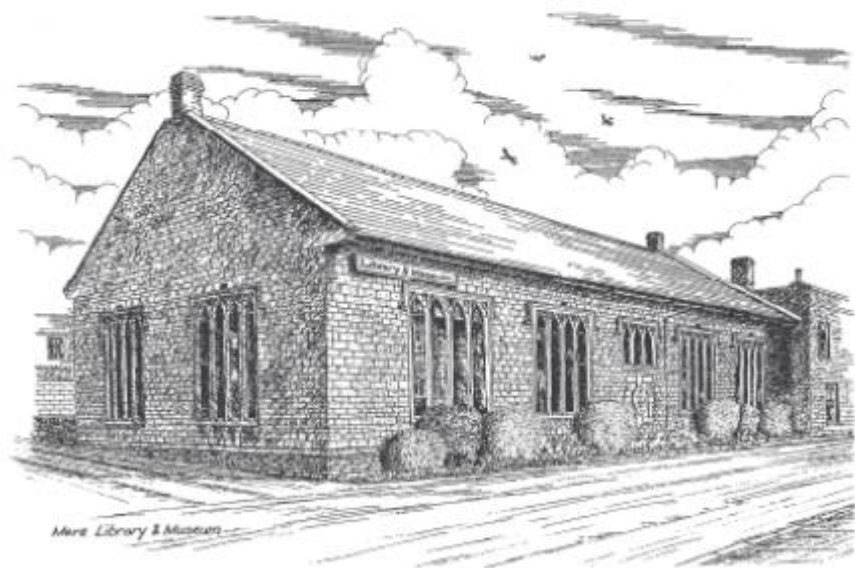


October 2014

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



October 2014

18th MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL

13th – 19th OCTOBER 2014

MONDAY 13th JAMES TAYLOR – Your Country Needs You – The Secret History of the Propaganda Poster. James Taylor's new book tells the story of Kitchener's famous WW1 Poster and other propaganda. **Grove Building 7.30pm. *£6**

TUESDAY 14th. Mere Historical Society MORNING TALK Harry's Story with Janet Way How WW1 came to Stourton House. **Grove Building 10.15am. Retiring Donations**

COMMUNITY LUNCH with after coffee readings from Mere's PennyBank Writers. (2 course Lunch £ 9.95 Book with venue on 01747 860427). **The George Inn 12.00 for 12.30pm.**

BY ROYAL APPOINTMENT – PHILIP COWARD of Mere's Hill Brush Company on being a Royal Warrant Holder. **Grove Building 7.30pm *£6**

WEDNESDAY 15th PETS A-PLenty with MALCOLM WELSHMAN A must for all pet lovers as author & vet, Malcolm Welshman, reveals more anecdotes & escapades from his new book, *Pets Aplenty*. **Grove Buildings 2.30pm. Retiring Donations**

WINTER by CHRISTOPHER NICHOLSON. The author will talk about his latest novel based on Thomas Hardy's later years, which has won much critical acclaim.

Grove Building 7.30pm. *£6

THURSDAY 16th BECOMING A PUBLISHED AUTHOR. Jennie Ann Rake, author of the novels, *Deception, Lies and Chocolate Muffins* and *Forgetting Mr. Nice Guy*, recounts her path to publication. **Grove Building 2.30pm. Retiring Donations**

FILM NIGHT Mere Film Shows & Wilts. Moviola present *The Book Thief*, the film of Markus Zusak's acclaimed novel. Starring Geoffrey Rush & Emily Watson.

Lecture Hall 7.p.m.*£6

FRIDAY 17th MUM IS IN CHARGE with John O'Neill. A delightful story of childhood based on true events covering 1939 - 45. **Grove Building 2.30pm-Retiring Donations**

BRITISH GARDENS IN TIME with Katie Campbell. The book, published to accompany the recent BBC4 series, tells the stories of Britain's greatest gardens and the people who shaped them. **Grove Buildings 7.30p.m. *£6**

SATURDAY 18th WRITING WORKSHOP led by Damien Lewis on Non-Fiction, Fiction & Ghost-Writing. Book with Festival Organiser.

Methodist Church Hall 10am. – 12.15pm. *£6

JUDY-A DOG IN A MILLION with DAMIEN LEWIS. The best-selling author's latest book tells the heart-warming story of WW2's only animal P.O.W.

Grove Building 2.30pm. *£6

CHILDREN'S EVENT with local author REBECCA WESTCOTT

Library 2.15pm *Free ticket

WW1 COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT - Songs, Poetry & Prose

Lecture Hall 7.30pm. *£6

SUNDAY 19th AWARD CEREMONY

Lecture Hall 3.0pm.

Book stalls from 2.30pm. **Free**

*Tickets from Mere Library: **01747 860546**, or Book with Festival Organiser: **01747 860475**
Full details/Postal Booking Form on: **www.merelitfest.co.uk** & in **Festival Programme**.

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, 6th October 2014**.

The Chairman writes:

At our September meeting, two new members of the Council were co-opted and I would like to welcome Kate Symonds and Nick Beale to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council felt that you should be aware about an important consultation being undertaken at the moment on the future of the Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service. The consultation gives three options that are being considered in order to save costs. The Parish Council feels very strongly about the importance of our local fire service, especially as they are emergency First Responders in this area, and we want to do all we can to ensure that our fire station is retained. If you are interested in taking part in this consultation please go to this page on the Fire & Rescue Service's website: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/strengtheningourfrs>

Now that we are in the autumn season, may we take this opportunity to remind all riparian owners to assess and cut the weed back in the rivers so that they are prepared for winter and possible high water levels.

The excellent weather has been a great factor in the success of outdoor events. On 7th September, we organised a skate park competition and invited our funders to see the skate park in action. It was a very successful day and very well attended. We would like to thank Zoe Smith, Roland Hemming and Lindsey Wood for organising the event, and all the sponsors and companies who donated prizes for the competition - a full list will be published on our website in the near future.

Carnival week was also successful, and the processions on the final day certainly brought out the crowds. You may recall that earlier in the year the Carnival was under threat. The newly formed carnival committee have worked so hard to produce a carnival this year, so let's hope the carnival is safe for years to come.

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



We would like to say a special 'thank you' to Barry Hansford who cleaned up all the litter throughout the town on the Sunday morning after the carnival procession.

Lesley Traves, Chairman, Mere Parish Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES:

The Mere Carnival was excellent this year; however I had to communicate with BBLP, which was repairing some roads locally, and AMEC, putting a new gas main in White Road. I must thank the two companies who left the roads in a reasonable condition on Saturday, 13th September such that the Carnival could take place.

A local person asked if I would make those in the area aware that it is easy to be left on some trains at Gillingham Station, the reason being the exit button does not respond after a certain default time and they then had to travel on to Sherborne. I did that once when younger, but that was because I fell asleep!

Wiltshire Council's existing model for the youth service will cease on the 1st October, 2014. The South West Area Board will now be charged with providing a youth service for young people aged 13 to 19 - however it may be a lesser one in my opinion. I am sure that all the members of the South West Wiltshire Area Board will do their best for the youth of Mere, Tisbury and Wilton.

Please note again. The next Area Board meeting on Wednesday, 8th October at Nadder Hall is to be run very differently as it will be a health themed event. There will be a "Health Fair" including Mere Memory Group, Good Neighbours, Lunch Clubs, Community Transport, Stroke Club etc., and Council services related to health (Public Health, leisure etc). Please see the following article. Also, please note that a display for the Fire Service consultation will be featured. Please try and take part in the Fire Service Consultation, as it could affect Mere Fire Station. The approximate times are from 3.30 - 7.00/7.30pm. Remember, it is a unique opportunity. Area Board business will take place in the seated area at 6.00pm.

I wish to inform readers again that Mere Swimming Pool, which was a memorial for The Second World War, is at risk of being lost. It may not be possible to keep the swimming pool, if no one person or group of people come forward to save it.

I have attended Warwick Conference Centre again for two days; I have two more days to do in October. I find it very useful; it informs us how to approach a challenge that we may have locally and how best to achieve a good result. It enables us to understand and communicate with those who may oppose our local wishes.

Wiltshire Council is still working towards providing at least four older persons bungalows in the South West Wiltshire Board Area, to release existing larger houses for young families.

WHAT IS THE FUTURE FOR NHS SERVICES IN WILTSHIRE?

Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group is led by local GPs. We plan and pay for the majority of NHS services that you use across the county. Over the next five years, we know that demand for NHS services in Wiltshire will continue to increase, although the money we have available to spend on these services will not increase at the same rate.

Modern advances in healthcare are helping people to live for longer than ever before, which is a cause for celebration. However, this does mean that the demand for NHS services from the over-65s is expected to increase significantly over the coming years. As a result, the CCG needs to adapt the way we provide NHS services so that they better meet the needs of our ageing population.

How will we meet this challenge?

The CCG has developed a Five Year Plan to enable us to respond to this challenge. Our plan sets out how we can continue to provide high quality but affordable health services in Wiltshire between now and 2019. We won't be doing it alone either. Our key partners like Wiltshire Council, GP surgeries, local hospitals and other NHS providers are vital to the success of the plan.

It will mean some major changes to the shape of health care services in Wiltshire. Our vision is that health and social care services should support and sustain independent living, and as the organisation responsible for designing and commissioning those services, we are keen to make them both affordable and the best possible for local people.

Our model for the future of health care in Wiltshire is based on three key principles:

1. Encourage and support Wiltshire residents to take on more responsibility for their own health and well-being,
2. Provide fair access to a high quality and affordable system of care for the greatest number of people,
3. Provide less care in hospitals and more care at home or in the community.

To achieve these aims we will need to change the way in which we spend our budget. We will:

1. Spend more money on health education and prevention to help people take more personal responsibility for their health and well-being,
2. Spend more money to improve community care, and increase the range of services provided in a local setting.
3. As a result, we would need to spend proportionately less money on providing bed-based care in hospital.



We are going to split Wiltshire up into 20 clusters of approximately 20,000 people. Each cluster will have an integrated team of GP surgeries, community nurses and therapists together with social worker support, who will work together to ensure that we have a more joined up system of health and social care.

How can you get more involved?

The CCG has already been carrying out a wide-ranging consultation about our Five Year Plan across the county and this has included public meetings, outreach events, and presentations to a variety of organisations. You may have been involved in one of these events?

Over the next few months the CCG will be giving presentations at the 18 Area Boards across the county. Each Area Board is planning a Health Fair with lots of different stalls for you to visit followed by presentations from the CCG and Wiltshire Council about our plans for improving health and social care. To find out the date of the Health Fair in your area please visit: **www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/healthfairs**

We hope you can join us for your local Area Board Health Fair but if you are not able to attend then you can find out more about the CCG's plans at: **www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk**

If you'd like to talk to someone at the CCG then you can  **WCCG.info@nhs.net** or  **01380 728899**

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL SOUTH WEST AREA BOARD INVITATION

Your local Area Board invites you to its next meeting at Nadder Hall, Tisbury, at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 8th October 2014.

This meeting will focus on **health care in Wiltshire** and what this will mean to you. You are welcome to visit the **Health Fair** from 3.30-7.30pm where personal health MOTs, advice and free passes to use for leisure activities will be on offer.

We look forward to seeing you.

WILTSHIRE GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Wiltshire Good Neighbours is funded by Wiltshire Council and provided by Community First in partnership with Age UK Wiltshire and Age UK Salisbury.



Wiltshire Good Neighbours is aimed at older people in rural communities across the county. The service provides a range of information about statutory, voluntary and commercial services that supports them to live safe, comfortable, fulfilling and independent lives. **Wiltshire Good Neighbours** are local people with the local knowledge and networks to connect with those most disadvantaged, vulnerable or isolated living in their community area. By visiting clients in their homes and listening to what they have to say about their needs, a Wiltshire **Good Neighbour** can identify which organisations are best suited to deal with each individual client's needs, and then refer or support the client to access that service. We will always follow up the referrals we make to ensure that our clients have received the service they needed. Wiltshire **Good Neighbours** work flexible hours, so they are available at a time that suits both their clients and their families.

We aim to be a friendly and familiar face in the community, to listen to your concerns and provide you with a range of information on services.

If you feel you or somebody you know may benefit from this service please feel free to telephone Ann-Marie Dean ☎07557 922023 or ✉: adean@communityfirst.org.uk

MERE LIBRARY NEWS

Congratulations to all the children who managed to complete the Summer Reading Challenge, and we hope everyone enjoyed doing it. We have a good selection of new teenage books now in stock, so if any young person needs a break from homework, do call in. If you do have homework to complete or assignments to research, we have computers and reference books available and quiet areas to work in. Remember, children's and teenage books are free to reserve so if we don't have copies here, the chances are we can get hold of what you want from another library.

Rhyme Time has got off to a flying start with loads of babies and toddlers coming to enjoy songs and rhymes. You don't need to come every week, nor do you need to book ahead, so do bring your little ones along between 10 and 10.30am on a Friday morning whenever you can. As an added incentive, they can join the free Bookstart Bear Club and collect paw print stamps in their own special "passports," as well as certificates.

If you are organised enough to be planning ahead with making gifts for Christmas, we have a selection of craft books for ideas and inspiration.

Tickets are available here for the Mere Literary Festival events. Don't forget the children's event on Saturday, 18th October at the library with our local author Rebecca Westcott.
Laura Ford, Library Assistant ☎ 01747 860546

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**



POLICE REPORT

Social Networking Works

We have had two good examples of Social Networking, working particularly well recently and helping the police deal with Anti-Social Behaviour. Wooden benches at Lynch Close were vandalised in early September when wooden slats were removed. Alert residents were able to get photo's of the suspects and pass them to Police. We have identified the 3 and are currently investigating the incident.

The second was when a local resident parked his car on the newly painted Zig Zag lines in Salisbury Street. An eagle eyed resident spotted the offending vehicle and took a photograph and put it on 'Mere Mutters', which is a website for things going on in Mere.

Police were able to deal with the resident and give him 'words of advice' about where NOT TO PARK in future.

Both are good examples of Neighbourhoods working with the Police to assist us.

We would remind any would-be 'posters' to be safe as some people may take offence at a photo of their car being taken, and to be aware that when you post on social media, your details are on there too.

We remind people not to use a website for reporting crime or issues. Call '101' or '999' if serious.

Look for us on "Facebook", we issue frequent bulletins and reports of crime in our area, along with security advice, plus PCSO Pete posts photos of his beat, and it is a very beautiful area! We also post on 'Mere Mutters' a website for all things Mere. A copy of this Newsletter is posted on both sites in JPG format. If you would like a copy e-mailed to you, please e-mail a request to ✉: merenpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk and we will add you to our e mailing list.

Jewellery Con Men

Unfortunately we have had another report of someone being conned by 2 Eastern European males in a dark blue BMW estate. They were parked up near to the Hindon traffic lights on the A350 and approached another driver offering 'gold' items like rings, chains and a watch and asking for £50! They were both smartly dressed and looked like businessmen, even offering a business card! When the buyer got home he realised that the jewellery was fake, only cheap metal, there were even fake hallmarks on the rings! Please spread the word about these two! They have been back quite a few times, sometimes using lay-bys on the A303. Be warned. Call us if they approach you.

Suspect Vehicle Seen

We have had reports of a white Peugeot Partner van which has been seen in circumstances which have aroused suspicion. If you see this vehicle in Mere or surrounds and suspect it could be the one, please call us and let us know. Remember "eyes and ears".

'Break In' Woodlands Road

Report of a break-in at Woodlands Road. Thieves broke two windows overnight 1st/2nd Sept. They accessed workshops and stole 2 laptops, a Nikon 'Coolpix' silver digital camera and an I-pod. Please call us on 101 if you have any information or have been offered these items.

Damaged Playhouse

Someone tried to enter the Nursery playhouse between the dentist and school in Mere last week, minor damage but needless as nothing of any value is stored in it. If anyone has any information, please call us and help stop this kind of thing. We are stepping up patrols in this area to deter would be vandals.

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

*✉ richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk or
✉ peter.tscherniawsky@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk*

MERE SURGERY

Flu Clinic Dates

Saturday, 4th October or Saturday, 18th October

9.00am-12.00noon

Flu vaccination is recommended for patients with any of the following conditions:-

People aged 65 and over

Carers

Pregnant women (at any stage of pregnancy)

Diabetes

Asthma (if you are using a steroid inhaler as well as Ventolin or Salbutamol)

Chronic Respiratory Disease

Chronic Heart Disease

Chronic Liver Disease

Chronic Kidney Disease

Chronic Neurological Disease

Patients with a low immunity

If you are unsure if you fall into one of these risk categories or not please check at the surgery.

Please contact the surgery to make your appointment ☎ 01747 860001, or appointments can be booked online. Please ask for a password at reception if you do not currently have access to this facility.

Child Flu Vaccination

Children aged 2, 3 and 4 are being offered routine vaccination for flu this year. The vaccination is given in the form of a nasal spray and separate clinic times for children have been set up. Please contact the surgery to make an appointment for your child if you would like them to be vaccinated.

Shingles Vaccination

Patients aged **70, 78 or 79 on 1st September 2014** should also be vaccinated against Shingles. Appointments can be booked in the Saturday clinics above and given at the same time as your flu vaccination. Patients outside of these age groups will be called for vaccination at a later date.

Michele Mason, Practice Manager, ☎ 01747 860001

MERE SURGERY

Announcement from Dr Bill Price

The combination of my sixtieth birthday earlier this year and the need for chemotherapy during the summer, has persuaded me that it is finally time to retire from Mere surgery.

I still remember the warm welcome we received when we arrived here in 1987.

It has been a great pleasure to be able to commission the new surgery and to serve the local community since then.

It is gratifying to see the practice in such good hands.

I would like to thank you all for your trust and support over the intervening years.

Bill Price

HEAR TO HELP

Hear to Help is a Hearing Aid Clinic run by volunteers with Action on Hearing Loss. The clinic is run on the first Thursday of the month at the Surgery in Dark Lane from 10.00 to 11.30am. Anyone who has a hearing aid supplied by Salisbury Hospital can attend.

We cannot test hearing, however we do re-tube aids (this should be done every 3 or 4 months), supply batteries, as well as give advice.

It is a great help if you would bring with you either your brown book or white card from Audiology.

The next clinic will be Thursday, 2nd October at Mere Surgery from 10.00 to 11.30am. Just turn up if you need help or information.

Gill Drayson ☎ 01722 580014

LIP READING AND MANAGING HEARING LOSS

Here are some tips to help....Ask the speaker to face the light and sit at your eye level so you can see their face clearly, and relax – lipreading takes concentration and is tiring, but is easier if you are relaxed in a quiet place without distractions.

Ask to be told the subject so you can use your own knowledge to help you, and for a whole sentence to be repeated or reworded – it's easier to lipread a whole sentence than a single word.

Watch how the lips, tongue and whole face moves as the person speaks to help you recognise sounds you no longer hear clearly, and it may help if you try to recall the sound of voices as you watch the speaker's face to help understand the conversation more clearly.

For more tips and information, we have a leaflet that can be sent to you by writing to Sheila Thomson, C/o Lip Reading Group at The Grove Building, Mere, or calling/texting 📞: 07760-731406, or ✉️: **SheilaT@Bishopstrow.org.uk** Weekly sessions are in the Small Hall of 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 , Mere

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 13th October 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 📞07557 922023

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

CARNIVAL 2014 REPORT

The Carnival Committee would like to thank everyone for their amazing support. The children's afternoon parade was the biggest and most imaginative for some time, and it was nice to see Mere School and Gymbuds joining us. It was a very difficult task for the judges. In the evening we had even more large floats from the Wessex circuit join us this year and with Star Wars characters leading the proceedings.

During carnival week we had a very successful bingo, quiz and film nights, which raised substantial monies.

Unfortunately our biggest fundraiser, comedy night at the Walnut Tree Inn, had to be cancelled due to another event taking place on the same night.

With regard to the non-show of the funfair, unfortunately this was beyond our control. Having confirmed their booking in January, we received a telephone call from Marshall Herberts to cancel just one week before they were due to arrive and, therefore, far too

late for us to source an alternative. Obviously the committee will ensure this does not happen in 2015.

We are re-scheduling the Comedy Night for the end October/beginning of November, so please look out for details and join us for a fun night at the Walnut Tree Inn.

Once again thank you mere for supporting us.

Mere Carnival Committee 2014

Street Collection

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Derek Sealy | £234.86 |
| Trudi Maidment | £83.42 |
| D. Beale | £82.14 |
| Nick Guy | £81.33 |
| Nick Beale | £75.53 |
| Clive Hazzard | £58.36 |
| Chris Miles | £45.96 |
| Emily Rose | £28.09 |
| Louise Strong | £23.30 |
| Mary Harbert | £10.19 |
| Katie Mac | £7.80 |
| Guides | £73.10 |
| Collecting float | <u>£202.47</u> |
| TOTAL | £1,006.55 |

The Fire Brigade collection to be added when known.

Children's Afternoon Carnival

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Class A: | 1st Riley's House | 2nd The Gruffalo | 3rd Jack in a Box |
| Class B: | 1st Queen of the Nile | 2nd Mini Mouse | 3rd Predator |
| Class C: | 1st Mini Matadors | 2nd Ice and Fire | |
| Class D: | 1st Elsa and Olas | | |
| Class E: | 1st Gymbuds | 2nd Mere School | 3rd Mere Scout Group |
| Class G: | 1st Room on the Broom | 2nd Hey Diddle Diddle | 3rd Bill, Ben and Weed |
| Best Costume: | Hey Diddle Diddle | | |
| Overall Runner-up: | Riley's House | | |
| Overall Winner: | Room on a Broom | | |

Carnival Draw Results

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------------------|
| 1st prize | £100 | NEWMAN |
| 2nd prize | £75 | DAVE BRIGHT |
| 3rd prize | £50 | SWAIN |
| 4th prize | £25 | HEATHER (Bourton |
| Family day ticket to Bowood House | | HOWELL |

TRUSSELL TRUST CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

Today, still in T shirts, it seems ridiculous to be thinking about Christmas Shoe Boxes! But now is a good time to start collecting, or knitting, nice things to go into your shoe boxes, which bring enormous joy to so many men, women and children in Bulgaria. They have been marginalized by society and have none of the things that we take for granted, especially Christmas presents. Please ask your friends, neighbours, and work colleagues to join us this year and make up a gift box. Collection date is 16th November at St Michael's church, but I am very happy to accept or collect before that date.

Wendy Horne ☎ 01747 861712

COMMUNITY LUNCH

All are welcome, but book now as space is limited. The great value two-course meal costs £9.95, but drinks are not included. The Community Lunch is always part of the Mere Literary Festival and will be held on **Tuesday, 14th October 2014 at The George Inn (Bookings: ☎ 01747 860427) starting 12.00noon for 12.30pm.** Following coffee there will be readings from Mere's Pennybank Writers.

If you cannot get in, don't despair, put in your diaries the next Community Lunch which will be held on **Tuesday, 11th November 2014, 12.00noon for 12.30pm, at 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 GROVE BUILDING

A new Grove Building Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Isabel Howell. Bookings can be made through Ian Treece, the new church administrator, whose telephone number is ☎ 0775 4524802. The Committee is committed to maintaining a wonderful modern facility which people will wish to use.

It was a matter of sadness and regret that Peter Knapp, Richard Jefferies and other members of the old committee resigned. They had done an excellent job at building up and maintaining this lovely facility.

The Grove Building was bought by the Parochial Church Council of St Michael's in 1970. In recent times it was modernised and refurbished by fundraising, and a substantial contribution of money from the sale of the St Matthew Chapel.

It is the PCC's wish to maintain the Grove Building to a high standard for years to come making it available to church and community alike.

Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ 01747 861859



**THE MERE AND DISTRICT
CHAMBER OF TRADE
Customer Service Training**



**with Business Motivational Speaker Chris Croft
at the Grove Building
on Wednesday 22nd October 7.00 - 9.00pm**

A buffet and refreshments will be available!

For further information please contact Chamber Secretary Julie Cousins on telephone number below

The Chamber will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 26th November, 7.30pm at The George Inn.

Julie Cousins, Secretary, ☎ 07856 700576

MERE THEATRE CLUB

The autumn programme is now underway including drama, comedy and music. If you want to join our mailing list, contact either Wendy or Madelaine and you'll be in time for the winter schedule, which will probably be out in December. Our outings usually allow time for lunch or some shopping as well as live theatre or music. See you soon.

Madelaine Morris ☎ 01747 861833. Wendy Horne ☎ 01747 861712

OCTOBER SHORT WALK

This month's short walk will take place on Monday 6th October. Meet as usual at 2.00pm in the Surgery Car Park for a 2-3mile walk to enjoy the Autumn colours.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

LINKSCHEME LITERARY FESTIVAL

The 18th Mere Literary Festival takes place from Monday, 13th to Sunday 19th October, and the LinkScheme hopes that you will give as much support to the events as possible.

The outline programme appears on the inside front cover – with thanks to Mere Matters – and the big green programme with full details is in circulation. There are events to interest readers, writers, historians, gardeners, pet-lovers and all the family. The successful stories in the Write-in-the-Week competition will be announced at the Award Ceremony when the speaker will be Anna Birch (aka Gilla Primrose) the author of *Call the Vet* which tells the story of her first years as a vet in Dorset.

Tickets are available at Mere Library, by postal booking form or telephone, and on the door. The LinkScheme look forward to your support.

Adrienne Howell & Lit. Fest. Group ☎ 01747 860475



T@3

**Join us in the
Angel Corner Tea Rooms**

on Wednesday, 15th October from 3 to 4.30pm.



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 ☎ 07557 922023 no later than the morning of Monday, 13th October.

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

SHAFTESBURY AREA TALKING NEWSPAPER **(for the Blind and partially sighted)**

Thanks so much to Mere Matters for running our plea, at Mike Neal's request, for more Editors in its September edition.

I have had a call from a gentleman in Mere who was interested and I gave him my e-mail address, but perhaps incorrectly. I would like to apologise to the person who called me, but cannot recall his name!!

I am repeating my telephone number and adding my e-mail address in the hope that the Mere resident will contact me again. ✉: colinfrancis6@yahoo.co.uk, ☎ 01747 851803.

Colin Francis, Chief Editor



RURAL ARTS WILTSHIRE **in conjunction with** **MERE DRAMA SOCIETY**

present

Forest Forge Theatre Company

in

Woman of Flowers

by Kaite O'Reilly

7.30pm on Tuesday, 28th October in Mere Lecture Hall
What happens when you want a different life to the one chosen for you?

A story of desire, duty, deceit and revenge.

An innovative re-telling of an ancient Welsh myth where nothing is quite as it seems. Rose cannot remember what came before the house at the edge of the isolated forest. Gwynne says he magicked her out of the flowers, but she's not so sure. She has played the part of the perfect farmer's wife for Lewis, who is kept firmly in place by his uncle Gwynne, and accepted her lonely existence. Then a stranger is seen in the forest. What lengths will she go to, to escape the life chosen for her?

Using a cross-art form approach, this beautiful piece of storytelling will feature live music, dance, video, integrated sign language and surtitles. It is suitable for age 12+

"Powerful, striking and unique in many ways" The Stage

Tickets £7 Concessions £6 Children £4.50

To book tickets please ☎ 01747 860163 – you can leave a message and collect the tickets on the door.

Please come and support a professional touring theatre in Mere

Maggie Durkee, for MADS, ☎ 01747 860163

MERE FILM SHOWS

This month's film is part of Mere Literary Festival and it is **'The Book Thief' (12A)**, taken from the book of the same name, and stars Geoffrey Rush and Emily Watson. The film is narrated by Death who tells the story of young Liesel, sent to live with foster parents just before the outbreak of war. Liesel cannot read even though she arrives at her foster home with a copy of 'The Gravedigger's Handbook', which she explains 'was not always hers'. Her foster father teaches her to read and thus begins her obsession with books – borrowed or stolen - and reading. When her foster parents, Hans and Rosa, hide a young Jew, the son of an old friend, in their cellar, Liesel must keep it secret in the face of the searching Nazis. But Death has a strange sympathy for Liesel!

There are excellent performances from Rush and Watson as the foster parents and particularly from Sophie Nelisse as Liesel. Come and see this excellent film and support Mere Literary Festival at the same time. Full details are on page 27.

Dates for your diary: Friday, 7th November: **'Belle'**

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

WOMENS INSTITUTE (WI)



Well we did it! If you remember in the September issue of Mere Matters I wrote that our speaker for September cancelled at very short notice, so we did not know what we would be doing at our meeting. We were very lucky to get Michael Gambel from

Trowbridge who kindly stepped in at very short notice with a PowerPoint presentation of photographs set to music entitled "Wiltshire through the eyes of a Moonraker."

His presentation took us to towns, villages, places of worship and the many quirky things in Wiltshire. Stonehenge of course featured, as did many beautiful gardens and buildings, together with rivers, lakes and canals. We also saw many famous people who were either born, educated or died in our county. Animals also featured, from those at Longleat through the usual farm animals to Bison, Alpacas and Badgers, not forgetting the Great Bustard and the many "white horses." I think that we all agreed how very lucky we are to live in such a beautiful and diverse county.

The day after our meeting, on Friday, 5th September, 8 members travelled to Lacock to meet up with a familiar speaker to Mere W.I., Julie James. Julie was born in Lacock and has written a book about growing up in the village and particularly about her father who ran a garage and other businesses there. The book is called "A Village Lad, Lacock 1907." Julie gave us a personal guided tour, pointing out the various houses,

pubs and businesses, describing village life as she grew up. We explored areas probably unknown to the normal visitor thanks to Julie's knowledge.

We had a delicious lunch in the Red Lion and then explored the Pack Horse bridge, the church and some of the most interesting and varied shops before heading home to Mere. A really lovely day, with weather to match.

Our next meeting, on Thursday, 2nd October at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings is going to be a craft evening. Time for some in-house activities, to catch up with news from friends, and to get to know our new members. Please come and meet us at this very informal meeting.

On Thursday, 23rd October at 7.30pm there is a Group W.I. meeting at Sutton Veny where Frances Benton will again be giving her presentation "A Passion for Pearls."

We will also be holding our monthly chat and craft, and games afternoons, and a lunch at The George, in Longbridge Deverill. *Janet Fisher ☎ 01747 861323*

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE

MONDAY, 13th OCTOBER 2014

MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Having travelled, at least in imagination, to Thailand and West Bengal in India at our September meeting, on **Tuesday, 14th October at 2.30pm** in the **Grove Building** you are invited to discover about **A cycling Pilgrimage to Compostella in North West Spain**, with the **Rev'd Alan Wadge**. All arm-chair or would-be cyclists or pilgrims – as well as real ones – are warmly invited to share indirectly in this once-in-a-life-time experience. Everyone welcome!

MU Members are also invited to the Salisbury Diocese Autumn Council in Market Lavington on Saturday, 4th October, and to the Heytesbury Deanery meeting in the Grove Building at 10.30am on Tuesday, 21st October.

Judith Thompson, MU Branch Leader, ☎ 01747-860553



Mere Mothers Union invite

Mums with children for a

Half-Term Fun & Games Afternoon

on Wednesday, 29th October 2014

2.00-4.00pm in the Grove Building.

**Toys & games for little ones; games & some craft activities
for older children; Tea and cakes for everyone!**

Husbands/Partners welcome.

Just come along, or for more information, please contact

✉ judithvthompson@aol.com or ☎ 01747 860553

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

The Friends of Fives Court are delighted to tell you that you helped us to raise £700 for the benefit of Residents at their Autumn Fair on 6th September. The sun shone for us and everyone was very generous. Thank you very much from us all!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (RGC) **for the over 60s**

The Day Centre for Mere and district, Lynch Close
Mondays and Fridays 10.30am – 3.00pm

We have enjoyed lots of different activities at the day centre over the last couple of months including a visit from Noel who entertained us with his keyboard skills. We sang along to classics like 'Daisy Daisy', 'Roll out the barrel' and 'You are my sunshine'. We enjoyed it so much that we have booked for him to come again during October.

We recently had a trip out to Orchard Park Garden Centre where we had a lovely lunch then wandered around taking in the wonderful range of products that they sell, some of us came back with trolley fulls!

Tickets are now on sale for our annual skittles knockout tournament which will be held at Mere Social Club on Saturday, 11th October from 6.00pm. We have kept the price the same as last year, and your £5 you will also get you a ploughman's plate.

Please come along and support our day centre whilst having great fun at the same time (you don't have to be very good or even have played skittles before, the emphasis is purely on the enjoyment of the evening, unless you want the trophy of course!) Contact me for further details.

We are sorry to lose Maggie Young, one of our session volunteers, this month but we wish her the very best in her new job. Thank you for all your efforts, Maggie.

I now have two volunteer slots to fill, one on the 1st and 4th Monday of the month and the other on the 3rd Friday of each month. If you can spare a few hours and are interested in either of the posts, please get in touch with me on the number below. Our website is: www.MereDayCentre.org.uk *Sandie Hawkins* ☎ 07835 272406

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Churchyard Yew
By Mark Hinsley

Wednesday, 8th October, 7.30pm Grove Buildings

Mark is an arborist based in Dorset. In 2006 he completed a dissertation for his MSc entitled "Churchyard Yews in Dorset - Pagan or Christian?"

Mark's talk will look at the history of Yew tree planting in churchyards, their cultural significance and the link they form with our Celtic origins, with some longbows thrown in for good measure!

£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome

Mere Garden Club Annual Show

This again was a great success with the Lecture Hall a blaze of colour, tempting household produce, delicious fruit and veg, and a display of the many artistic talents in Mere. We were delighted with the Family Welly Boot entries (although it would have been good to have had more!) and everyone was amazed at the wide results of the 2 Garden Club challenges. The weight of potatoes grown from one tuber varied from 60gms to 1,610gms and the number of chillies on a single plant grown in the same-sized pot from 18gms to an incredible 196gms, both won by Ted Snook!

Other cup winners are as follows:

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Allcomers Cup family group: | Sarah Jane Walsh, |
| Second and third rosette: | Trystan/Sabien Fisher |
| Bernard Morgan cup, veg section: | Gill Grout |
| Collins Cup, flowers section: | Ann Carpenter |
| Geoffrey Duckworth cup, fruit section; | Janet Fisher/Ted Snook |
| Holmen cup, household section: | Nancy Rankin |
| Honeydew cup, art section: | Tom Beall |
| Lew Bristow cup, highest points overall: | Gill Grout |
| MGC photographic cup, top photograph: | Pat Sams |
| Michael Powell cup, top: | No classes entered |
| Janet Way Novice cup: | Tom Beall |

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884



MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Archive Fever, Modern Research

By The Hon Victoria Glendinning CBE

Tuesday, 7th October at 7.30pm in the Grove Building

Victoria is a biographer, critic, broadcaster and novelist; she is an Honorary Vice-President of English PEN, was awarded a CBE in 1998, and is Vice-President of the Royal Society of Literature. Her most recent book is *Raffles and the Golden Opportunity*, 2012. **£3 entry for non-members, who will be very welcome.**

Morning Talk

Our morning talk for Tuesday, 14th October, to be held in the Grove Building at 10.15am for 10.30am, is: *It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.-. Henry, Alda and Harry's years at Stourhead.* by Janet Way.

This talk is part of the Mere Literary Festival programme.

Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797

MERE MUSEUM

The WW1 exhibition, **'The Proudest Uniform'**, will remain on display until the end of the year, but we have already received a page-full of positive comments from visitors. Now, however, there is **a new attraction at the Museum!** Our long-awaited **touchscreen** is now in place, and everyone is invited to have a go on it. No computer knowledge whatsoever is needed to use it; you just touch the screen and your next steps are then displayed for you to select. You will find that you can look at the Museum's website, at a large section of our catalogue of artefacts (touch 'Wiltshire Treasures') and you can also test your knowledge of Mere by trying the picture quiz. Do let us know what you think of this new venture! And don't forget, the Museum is now on **Facebook!** Find us at: **www.facebook.com/meremuseum**

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

The next Friends' event is a talk by Col. Ian Swinnerton entitled **'August 1914 - The Road to War'**, which will take place on **Friday, 14th November at 7.30 p.m. in the Grove Buildings**. Col. Swinnerton will speak about the causes of WWI, which go far beyond the assassination at Sarajevo, and about the involvement of the Wiltshire Regiments, both Regular and Territorial. Tickets will be on sale in the Library at the

beginning of November. At this event we shall also be **launching the book about Mere's soldiers** in WW1, containing the results of the research carried out for the current exhibition - and more. Do note the date - you get two events for the price of one!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

GROVE BUILDINGS "100" CLUB

The Result of the '100' Club Draw for September, drawn on Monday, 1st September by Mr Peter Knapp, was:

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------|---|---------|---------------------|
| 1st Prize | (£20) | - | No. 38 | Rev'd & Mrs A Wadge |
| 2nd Prize | (£15) | - | No. 159 | Mr D Mathias |
| 3rd Prize | (£10) | - | No. 42 | Mr J Cox |
| 4th Prize | (£5) | - | No. 111 | Mr C Stephenson |

Very sadly I have come to the conclusion that after 10 years, my collecting days for the 100 Club are over; but I'm still hoping to ring to tell you you've won a prize!

I have so enjoyed my annual visits to you and am always astonished by your generosity, loyalty and support. I'm also grateful to the new members who have joined us this year. We have raised a lot of money together for the Grove Building. A big thank you from me, and the Grove Building.

PS I couldn't have done it without an efficient husband and an excellent treasurer.

Valerie Ransley ☎ 01747 860964

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

Rehearsals are well under way for '**Arsenic and Old Lace**' - MADS' Autumn Production, and though the props dept. can lay its hand on any amount of old lace, it's having a spot of bother locating the arsenic! But never fear, all will be well on the night. The murders will be enacted at 7.30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall on **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 20th - 22nd November**, and tickets are available at the Library! Prices are £6, and £3 for children (it's actually a comedy and not at all scary!)

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE CRICKET CLUB

News from our Junior section

The junior section enjoyed success on and off the field during 2014. The under 9s finished 2nd in their league. In the under 11s league, our young team finished 8th out of 11 teams. The under 13s team, made up of only 11 and 12 year olds, finished 5th out of 9 sides and will hope to improve on that next season as they will all remain in the same age group. 10 players have been nominated by the Club for District coaching programmes over the winter.

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents
A Mere Literary Festival Event

The Book Thief^(12A)

Geoffrey Rush Emily Watson

It is 1938 and young Liesel (**Sophie Nelisse**) is sent to live with foster-parents Hans (**Rush**) and Rosa (**Watson**) in a small German town. Taught to read for the first time, Liesel becomes obsessed with books, rescuing them from the Nazis' bonfires and stealing them from private libraries. Meanwhile Hans and Rosa are hiding a young Jew in their cellar.....

In The Lecture Hall

Thursday, 16th October, 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***

Friday nights coaching regularly saw nearly 30 children attending, and our winter coaching programme will be published soon.

During the season, the juniors did their first independent fund-raising, a 'bat-a-thon', which was brilliantly supported by the club and community. Next year, please keep your eye out for a 'floodlit' event!!!
Duncan Weir ☎ 01747 822005

MERE BOWLS CLUB

A date for your diary, Saturday, 14th February 2015 – yes Valentines Day! Mere Bowls Club are planning to hold a Barn Dance in the Grove Building with music (and advice on each dance) by the Black Bear Band, a fish supper and a raffle, proceeds provisionally in aid of the Mere & District Link Scheme. Tickets will be on sale early in the New Year, keep your eyes on Mere Matters for details.

Early in September the club held the finals of its internal club competitions. The results are as follows: Novice champion is Colin Rankin with Tom Cardoza as runner-up (again!); Singles Champion is Chris Coombs who narrowly defeated her husband Richard Coombs in a close final. And 2-Wood champion is Alan Isgrove, won with another narrow win over Richard Coombs.

In the pairs competitions, Sandy Fingerhut and Richard Coombs defeated Karen Guy and Bob Holdom in the Mixed Pairs; the 2-Wood pairs was won by Mary Butchers and Alan Isgrove when they defeated Peter Lord and Spencer Pierce, and in the Open Pairs, Maureen McCormack and Arthur Holberry won out against Sandy Fingerhut and Richard Coombs.

The triples competition was won by Sandy Fingerhut, Isobel Naughton and Richard Coombs following their win over Maureen McCormack, Alan Isgrove and Phill Powell. Finally our newest competition, known as the 100-Up, was a repeat of the Club Singles with Chris Coombs defeating her husband Richard in a tightly fought and very late final.

The club will open again for the 2015 season next April. Would you like to give it a try? Then come along to the green or contact either Alan Inwood ☎ 01985-844215 or Don Butchers ✉ don.butchers@btinternet.com

Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ☎ 01747-860775

MERE CROQUET AND BOULE CLUB

The end of season Get Together and BBQ on 6th September proved to be a great success, very well attended with really excellent food. An added bonus being the very useful profit made to boost Club funds. The extremely hard work put in by a number of members was so greatly appreciated, they were brilliant.

A working party took place on 28th September when hedge cutting and a variety of jobs were undertaken. The lawn needed some rather ruthless treatment this year and it may prove that after this work, play may not be possible, so curtailing the customary late season activity we usually enjoy.

The Boule players have now finished their league matches in which they did very well, winning more matches than last year. At least three enthusiastic new members have been recruited. Their league games have been held on Sunday mornings and some evenings, both home and away.

New players will be warmly welcomed, whether total novices or experienced. Come along for a fun game or two on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. Call me, Mrs. Joan Sutton, on the number below or ✉: joan.sutton2.tiscali.co.uk for this or any information regarding club activities.

The usual winter 'Get Together' will again be held in mid to late February. The date and venue will be published nearer the date. *Joan Sutton* ☎ 01747 860873

MERE TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

All training will now be held at Gillingham School on the Astro and the cost of training is £3 per week. This must be paid at the start of each training session when signing in.

| Team | Manager/Coach | Contact ☎ | Training Time |
|-------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| U8's | Pete Down | 07711 279549 | 5.30pm |
| U10's | Karen Harkin | 07870237572 | 5.30pm |
| U12's | Matt Lake/Ryan Johnson/Zoe | 07720 844695 | 5.30pm |
| U14's | Julie Hodge/ Chris Searrio | 07808715725 | 6.30pm |
| U16's | Mary Crockin/Tom Cowley | 07534946076 | 6.30pm |

There is an additional £2 match fee, which is payable for Home matches only.

Mere Town Youth Football Club hold a committee meeting on the 1st Tuesday of every month, 7.30pm, at Mere Social Club. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend/join the committee to discuss any issues/concerns/ideas with our volunteer members.

We are looking forward to another great season!!

Sincerely, Tom Read, Chairman of Mere Town Youth Football Club.

Tracey Thorpe ☎ 17519 299925

Christmas is coming.....

For the second year, Churches Together in Mere and District are planning to provide 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, know of anyone who would like to come, or if you would like to help, please telephone Christine Marsh ☎ 01747 861212.



PURPLE CLASS REPORT



Back at School

We are now back at school and working hard in our new classes. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Sarah Schofield, who is teaching Gold Class and Mr David Rich as a part time teacher.

New Playground

We were all very excited to see all the work that had gone on in the playground on our first day back and enjoyed the official opening. We now have lots more play apparatus including a climbing wall and a tunnel. The artificial grass looks great too. We were very lucky to be given the money for it from Mrs Howard, when she died, and we are very grateful to Kingsmere Surfacing and Howell Landscaping for working hard to make it so great.

Blue Class

All our new children are settling in well to life at school and are very lucky that their outdoor area has also had a magnificent revamp. Miss Bevan has returned as Mrs McClelland having got married in the summer so we are all getting used to her new name.

Topics

We are all excited to be starting new topics, lots of them are history based this term. Silver class are learning about The Great Fire of London and the Guy Fawkes story; Gold Class are learning about the Tudors and Green Class are finding out about what it was like for children in World War II.

We are lucky to be studying a new topic - The Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and are excited because we are going on a trip to the Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne, next week. It should be a great trip as we get to do lots of activities, including blacksmithing and felt making and have lunch in a replica real size Viking long house.

Hot Dinners

Mrs Corbett and her team of cooks have been even busier than normal in the kitchen as now most of our younger children can have a hot lunch for FREE as part of the government's new idea. They are of course as delicious as ever.

Well, that's all our news for now so we hope you enjoyed reading our first report of the year.

FR. LOUIS BEASLEY-SUFFOLK, PRIEST AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST MARY'S, WRITES:

Taciturn – definition – habitually silent, reserved or uncommunicative, not inclined to conversation. *Collins English Dictionary*.

That adjective could never be ascribed to any Scot I know. Why Scots in particular?

Well, I am writing this a couple of days before the referendum on devolution between Scotland and England, the result of which will decide whether Scotland remains part of the UK or 'ploughs its own furrow'. Tremendous passion has been generated by supporters of both camps; even families are feeling the tension with members opting for different sides of the discussion.

Tension foments tension, and I wonder how long it will take for the visible divisions which have arisen from this debate between the people of Scotland, to heal. Divisions in any community are remembered with greater intensity than any 'union' or positive success. In Scotland, whichever way the vote goes, disunity will prevail as the healing of wounds received in verbal battle can take a long time to be completely healed; and in some cases, that healing never happens.

One only has to reflect on the many countries which have been divided during the last century to know how painfully true that can be. Historically, momentous decisions are never forgotten, and the proof of that is visible in our own islands; in our own country.

Christians in this country are divided and we know the reasons only too well. Consider how many hundreds of years it has taken for religious scars to heal; consider how many men and women from all denominations have put their energy and their love for both God and man striving for Christian unity. The drive for Christian unity is a duty for all Christians and currently we are enjoying the fruits of the hard work and love for unity that is the legacy to us from our forefathers. Whatever the result of the referendum in Scotland, may the scars received in verbal battle not take hundreds of years to heal.



If you've ever wondered quite what Suchana is or does, and why and how people in Mere are involved with it, now is your chance to find out!

On Friday, 10th October at 7.30pm at Hillcrest, Hazzard's Hill (on opposite side from Yapps and just a little way up from the stream) there will be an Suchana Evening with an illustrated talk, including video clips, and with Indian and other nibbles and drinks. No charge, but donations for Suchana will be very welcome.

Hillcrest is the home of Rob and Elisabeth Barrett ☎ 01747 863324

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Café Worship

As usual Café Worship will be on the last Wednesday of the month, 29th October - coffee at 10.30 followed by worship at 11.00am. Do join us - all are welcome - we are truly ecumenical!
Mary Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370



ONE WORLD WEEK

This year's theme is '**Breaking Chains and Making Change**' and there will be TWO events in Mere & District.

***Tea and cakes at 4.00pm**, followed by a Service at **5.00pm on Sunday, 19th October at Mere Methodist Church**, at which the speaker will be **Dr Roger Williamson** – former Chair of One World Week, international affairs specialist for the C of E, has also worked for Life & Peace Institute, Sweden, Christian Aid & British Council of Churches, and organised nearly 80 international conferences; currently he is Visiting Fellow for Development Studies at Sussex University and at the UN Helsinki-based World Institute for Development Economics Research.

DON'T MISS THIS EVENT! We are very privileged to have a speaker with such wide, deep and varied international experience.

***A few stalls still remain for the ONE WORLD FAIR in STOURTON VILLAGE HALL** (near Stourhead Gardens) from **1.30-4.00pm on Tuesday, 28th October** (Half Term Week).

Any local charity or any organisation in sympathy with the aims of 'One World Week' is welcome to have a stall for a booking fee of £5.00. Please book immediately – and please come to support and enjoy this event, even if you don't have a stall!

Judith Thompson ☎ 01747 860553 & Janet Way ☎ 01747 8608840
Joint Secretaries, Churches Together in Mere & District

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE OCTOBER 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 ☎ 0775 452802 (Mon & Fri am)
✉ 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 | 5th | 10.30am | HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE Please bring tins and dried food for the Foodbank. Family service with shortened communion |
| Tuesday | 7th | 6.00pm | Evensong |
| | | 6.00pm | 'Start the Month' Holy Communion (BCP) |
| Sunday | 12th | 10.30am | Parish Communion (CW1) |
| | *19th | 10.30am | St Lukes Day Parish Communion (CW1) |
| | 26th | 10.30am | Bible Sunday Parish Communion (CW1) |

*Traidcraft stall after 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt: ☎ 01747 860685)

| | | | |
|--------|------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 5th | 11.00am | Rev'd Margaret Laurie |
| | 12th | 11.00am | To be announced |
| | 19th | 11.00am | Rev'd Hazel Barkham Holy Communion |
| | 26th | 11.00am | Rev'd Stella Sivour |

The Methodist Church (☎ Shaftesbury 01747 854631)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: ☎ 01747 861370

| | | | |
|--------|------|----------------------|--|
| Sunday | 5th | 6.00pm | Rev'd Paul Arnold Holy Communion |
| | 12th | 6.00pm | Rev'd David Hull |
| | 19th | <u>5.00pm</u> | One World Week Dr Roger Williamson Tea at 4.00pm |
| | 26th | 6.00pm | Church Anniversary Mr & Mrs Mike Rawlins |

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

| | | | |
|---------|------|--------|------------------|
| Sundays | 5th | 9.30am | DIY |
| | 12th | 6.00pm | Harvest Festival |
| | 19th | 9.30am | Matins (BCP) |
| Sunday | 26th | 9.30am | Holy Communion |

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

OCTOBER 2014

AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; CC-United Reformed Church; CP-Main Car Park; MS-Mere School; GB-Grove Buildings; L-Lecture Hall; Lib-Library; Lynch-Lynch Community Centre; MH-Methodist Church Hall; MSC-Mere Social Club; RGC-Rosemary Goddard Centre; Rec-Recreation Ground

| | | | | |
|---|------|---------------|--|----------------|
| 1 | Wed | 9.30am | Tai-Chi (every Wednesday) | GB |
| | | 10.30am | Tai-Chi (every Wednesday) | GB |
| | | 6.00pm | Karate (every Wednesday) | L |
| 2 | Thur | 10.00am | - 11.30am Hearing Aid Clinic | Surgery |
| | | 10.00am | - 12.00pm Mere Art Group (every Thursday) | MH |
| | | 2.00pm | Bridge Club (every Thursday) | L |
| | | 2.00pm | Castle Hill Quilters (also 9th, 23rd & 30th) | GB |
| | | 7.00pm | Womens Institute meeting | GB |
| 3 | Fri | 10.00am | St Michaels Coffee "Drop in" | GB |
| | | 10.00am | - 10.30am "Rhyme Time" (every Friday) | Lib |
| | | 6.00pm | Zumba (every Friday) | L |
| 4 | Sat | 9.00am | - 12.00noon Flu Clinic (also 18th) | Surgery |
| | | 10.00am | - 11.00am Mere Credit Union (every Saturday) | Lib |
| | | 10.30am | Drop In Coffee Morning (also 11th, 18th, & 25th) | CC |
| 6 | Mon | 9.30am | Tiddlers and Toddlers (every Monday) | L |
| | | 10.00am | Chair Based Zumba (every Monday) | L |
| | | 11.00am | Zumba Gold (every Monday) | L |
| | | 2.00pm | October Short Walk | CP |
| | | 2.00pm | Pilates (every Monday) | GB |
| | | 6.00pm | Beaver Scouts (also 20th) | GB |
| | | 6.45pm | Cubs (also 20th) | GB |
| | | 7.00pm | Scouts (also 20th) | GB |
| | | 7.00pm | Slimming World (every Monday) | L |
| | | 7.30pm | Parish Council Meeting | AYP |
| | | 9.30am | Card Making (small hall) | L |
| 7 | Tue | 10.00am | - 11.00am Mere Charity Grant Application | L |
| | | 10.15am | Lip Reading (also 14th & 21st) | GB |
| | | 6.00pm | Pilates (also 21st & 28th) | GB |
| | | 6.20pm | Zumba (every Tuesday) | L |

| | | | | |
|----|------|-----------------|---|--------------------------|
| 7 | Tue | 7.30pm | Mere Historical Society | GB |
| | | 7.30pm | St Michaels PCC meeting | GB |
| 8 | Wed | 11.00am | Pilates (every Wednesday) | GB |
| | | 1.45pm | Friends Together Whist Drive | GB |
| | | 7.30pm | Gardening Club | GB |
| 9 | Thur | 5.00pm | Girl Guiding (also 16th & 23rd) | GB |
| 10 | Fri | 10.00am | Merely Women (also 24th) | GB |
| 11 | Sat | 6.00pm | RGC Centre Annual Skittles Tournament | MSC |
| | | 6.30pm | Oasis Carnival Club Bingo | L |
| 13 | Mon | 10.30am | 12.00noon Carers Support Café | Angel Tea Rooms |
| | | 7.30pm | Lit Fest "Your Country Needs You" | James Taylor GB |
| 14 | Tue | 9.00am | Foot Care Clinic (also 28th) | L |
| | | 10.15am | Lit Fest/Historical Soc. "Harry's Story" | Janet Way GB |
| | | 12.00pm | Lit Fest Community Lunch | The George Inn |
| | | 2.30pm | Mothers Union meeting | GB |
| | | 7.30pm | Lit Fest "By Royal Appointment" | Philip Coward GB |
| 15 | Wed | 2.30pm | Lit Fest "Pets-A-Plenty" | Malcolm Welshman GB |
| | | 3.00pm - 4.00pm | T@3 | Angel Tea Rooms |
| | | 7.30pm | Lit Fest "Winter" | Christopher Nicholson GB |
| 16 | Thur | 2.30pm | Lit Fest "Becoming a Published Author" | J A Rake GB |
| | | 7.30pm | Lit Fest/Mere Filmshows: "The Book Thief" | L |
| 17 | Fri | 2.30pm | Lit Fest "Mum is in Charge" | John O'Neill GB |
| | | 7.30pm | Lit Fest "British Gardens in Time" | Katie Campbell GB |
| 18 | Sat | 10.00am - | Lit Fest Writing Workshop with Damien Lewis | MH |
| | | 2.15pm | Children's Event with author Rebecca Westcott | Lib |
| | | 2.30pm | Lit Fest "A Dog in a Million" | Damien Lewis GB |
| | | 7.30pm | Lit Fest "WW1 Commemorative Concert" | L |
| 19 | Sun | 2.00pm | Mere Footpath Group Walk | CP |
| | | 3.00pm | Literary Festival Award Ceremony | L |
| 20 | Mon | 7.30pm | Mere Amateur Dramatic Socy Meeting (Green R.) | L |
| 22 | Wed | 1.45pm | Friends Together | GB |
| | | 7.00pm | Chamber of Trade Training Course | GB |
| 25 | Sat | 10.30am | Drop In Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall | CC |
| | | 10.00am - | 12.00noon Cancer Research "Autumn Sale" | L |
| 28 | Tue | 7.00pm | Church Meeting | CC |
| | | 7.30pm | Forest Forge TC/MADS "Woman of Flowers" | L |
| 29 | Wed | 11.00am - | 12.00noon Café Worship | MH |
| | | 2.00pm - | 4.00pm MU Half Term event for Children | GB |

TISBURY LEISURE CENTRE

A facility provided by Wiltshire Council, where everybody matters

Autumn 2014 – Coached Sports

Juniors

With Autumn fast approaching, our coached sessions re-commenced in September, and we are now taking bookings for Football, Gymnastics and Trampolining. We are also looking to introduce new sessions for:

Teeny tots football

Girls football

Second football session of turn up and play for 11-16 yr olds

Advanced gymnastics

Family roller skating

If any of these would be something you or your child would like to participate in, please contact us to register your interest.

Adults

Want to improve your fitness level? Then why not take part in one of our fitness classes. We offer Aerobics, Circuits, Active Fit Plus for Men, Ladies and Mixed, Soccercise (ladies class), Legs, Tums and Bums, Studio Cycling, Junior Fitness, Yoga, Pilates and Zumba. Then there is the Gym, with a total of 26 equipment stations, we can tailor your workout to suit your requirements. Don't wait – book an assessment now and get started.

Future Plans for the Centre

With the recent approval of planning permission for a Campus on the site, the Leisure Centre will benefit from more space and additional facilities in the future, giving us the opportunity to expand our weekly programme of activities for everybody. More details can be obtained by visiting the Wiltshire Council website.

For a copy of our current 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,
- ✉: tisbury@wiltshire.gov.uk,
- visit the website at: www.wiltshire.gov.uk
- Follow us on **Twitter@TisburyLC** or **Facebook**.

HALL BOOKINGS

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 NOVEMBER 2014 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the November 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, 13th October 2014**.

E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send to: **editor@merematters.co.uk** from Monday, 6th October 2014 onwards.

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

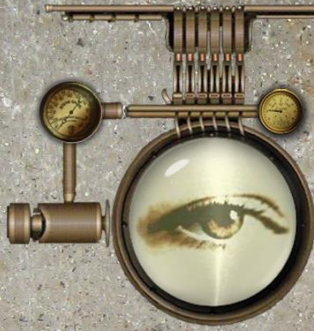
ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:

Mrs Jane Kennedy

✉: jane.kennedy83@btinternet.com

☎: 01985 844740

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



Teeandee Productions

Tel: 01747 841458
Mob: 07799 325214

Email: tim@teeandeeproductions.com

Website Design & Computer Services