

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

**YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS**



APRIL 2017

MERE TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Council meet 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 April at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.**

The Chairman writes:

Last month I chaired the Annual Parish Carnival meeting. I would like to thank the Carnival Committee members, and their helpers, for all the hard work they put in to produce a successful carnival week in Mere. I had no idea that the cost of putting on the evening carnival procession is just under £3,000. Raising funds to support Mere carnival is a challenge in itself. To keep this tradition alive, what is needed is more carnival committee members and helpers. If you would like to get involved please contact the Carnival Committee or the Town Council clerk.

The 130 house planning application in Castle Street dominated the February Town Council meeting. The Town Council voted by majority not to support this planning application. The Town Council was asked at short notice to consider a revised planning application at the same site at the March Town Council Meeting.

The revised planning application included plans for a new Doctors Surgery. After careful deliberation the Town Council voted by a majority not to support this revised planning application. Whilst the inclusion of a new GP Surgery would undoubtedly relieve some of the pressure from the existing service provider, members did not feel that this would outweigh the pressure that 130 new houses in Mere would put on other services and infrastructure around the town, and did not consider it enough of an advantage to compensate for the unnecessary development of a greenfield site.

Wiltshire Council is conducting a consultation on Wiltshire housing allocations policy. The way the Council and housing providers in Wiltshire Council's area operate, the housing list is heavily influenced by legislation and following the

Localism Act 2011. The current policy has now been in place for 2 years. Wiltshire Council is conducting a review to make the policy more efficient and make amendments based on feedback being received. For those interested, please visit the Wiltshire council consultation portal and participate by completing the online survey.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26th April 2017 in the Grove Building, Mere at 7.30 p.m. Refreshments will be available from 7.00pm. This is your

opportunity to find out what is going on in and around Mere, hear reports from various groups and organisations, and put your point of view forward.

For information on Town Council activities; details of meetings and copies of minutes, please view the Mere website  www.merewilts.org; or contact the Town Clerk, Mrs Lindsey Wood,  lindseywood@merewilts.org, or  01747 860701.

Brett Norris, Chairman, Mere Town Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, WRITES:

As I “pen” this information, Dame Vera Lynn is 100 years old today. Many more of us will see our 100th birthday, compared to those of past generations. This leads me onto the fact that our Area Board should receive their share of the £150K for pavement repair and creation, which was voted for at Wiltshire Council’s full meeting recently. This may be less than £10K for our Area Board. This money will be to target small local schemes where repair is needed to improve the quality of lives. The methodology for allocation will be discussed at a scrutiny meeting to ensure the most appropriate method is applied to make certain there is equity across the county.

I have asked our Community Engagement Manager if, on a future agenda, we can look at the cost of the liquid type surface I have seen spread by a large blade. A mobile walking frame only needs about a 10mm ridge to throw a person over, which I found when a local resident demonstrated the problem to me. There are now many of these telescopic mobile walking frames about. A low cost self-levelling surface, although not deep, would smooth out the surface, making it friendly to these frames.

Local authorities are seeking to increase funds; Luton Council could introduce street nameplates that carry advertising as part of a plan to raise £450,000 from advertising and sponsorship deals over the next five years. At present, apart from getting an existing street name plate reaffixed, there appears no money forthcoming from Wiltshire Council for replacements. It would seem this is a cost that will fall on local parish councils.

Several councils including Wiltshire, with low levels of school funding, have written to the Prime Minister to warn of their “alarm” at inadequate school funding in England. The joint letter - from representatives of councils including Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Devon, Hampshire, Leicestershire, West Sussex and Wiltshire - says: “We are struggling to understand where more cuts can be made

in the lowest funded authorities. We are extremely concerned that the government is in danger of replacing one injustice with another." The councils say all schools need a guaranteed basic level of funding to cover essential costs such as staffing. Separately, too much money is being paid for the land and buildings needed for new government-funded free schools, the Public Accounts Committee has said.

I get many complaints regarding dog fouling, including those who collect and then dump the bag. I have had one resident volunteer to empty a dog bin if fitted. A woman in Stoke on Trent who failed to clear the dog mess in her garden has been told to pay £860 after ignoring an order from the City Council to remove dozens of piles of poo, which it described as an "environmental crime".

The residential development of the old Hill Brush site has started with the demolition and site clearance phase, as I stated last month. In the method statement, the Developer has offered to meet with the local community to address possible future concerns. All large demolition lorries at present are being sent along Shaftesbury Road then to Gillingham, then if required to reach the A303 to travel back along the B3092 to Mere. This appears to be working well. Those living in the access and egress roads for construction traffic obviously want due consideration. I am told the following points will be addressed. Pettridge Lane and Shaftesbury Road traffic need to be assured of minimum disruption; Woodlands Road needs a sign saying "no large construction traffic beyond the site towards Gillingham" and the top of The Lynch requires a sign for those who have mistakenly come along Water Street to indicate the road is impassable for large Lorries.

As said last month, our area now has a South West Community Safety Partnership. I attended such a meeting recently at The Nadder Centre in Tisbury. There were presentations by Police and The National Farmers Union. I was made aware the Wiltshire population is close to 700,000 and over 200,000 live in Swindon, hence why Swindon has a need for a sizeable proportion of Wiltshire's Police Force. 20 special constables with power to arrest are being recruited as a specialist rural group. Hare Coarsing is a big problem: the dogs used are worth a lot of money and around £30,000 can change hands in bets in one night. Those involved damage fences, crops and 'eye up' that which could be taken, such as ATV's (quad bikes, etc). If approached, these people can be dangerous, and come from far afield such as Merseyside, East Anglia and South Wales. 485 incidents were reported in Wiltshire last year and there probably are more. At the Area Board, it was acknowledged dialling 101 could take more

time than the caller would wish, however it was acknowledged when dialling 999 for connection to the fire brigade, the average time was 7 seconds. The National Farmers Union reminded us that we produce 60% of our food; our landscape is not only a beautiful landscape but a productive landscape.

The South West employ directly, or indirectly, 10% of employed people in agriculture. Fly tipping, which we suffer from in this area can be unkind to Farmers. Also, if waste is dumped on their land, the farmer has to pay to remove it and if asbestos and other such materials are involved, this can be expensive. I was informed that one farmer recently had been prosecuted because what had been dumped on his land, he moved onto the verge, and he was found guilty of fly tipping of waste which was fly tipped originally by others.

Further information on the South West Community Safety Partnership is available from Bev Ford ☎ 01747 871638.

The South West Area Board has provided £500 to each parished area which applied to refresh some white road markings in its area. Several Parish Councils have agreed to add to this amount, and in some areas such as Stourton, third party money has been added. The National Trust has contributed because its car park entrance is part of the scheme. In Mere, the Duchy Grounds, which includes the school entrance, will have its junction white lines off Springfield Road, to the site refreshed.

As I said last month a planning application has been received by Wiltshire Council for around 130 dwellings at the west end of Mere. This application has now been resubmitted with the addition of a Doctors Surgery. It is worth noting that the application is outside the development boundary or the built environment.



Cranborne Chase

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

FARMLAND CONSERVATION PROJECT IN THE FRAME FOR AWARDS 'OSCAR'

THE South Wiltshire Farmland Conservation Project, an initiative aimed at improving bird and wildlife numbers and habitat on farmland in a 450 square mile area in and around the Cranborne Chase AONB, is one of three projects shortlisted for the Wiltshire Life Awards 2017. Listed in the category 'Conservation Project of the Year', the scheme has been running for two years and is a spin-off of the area's original South Wiltshire Farmland Bird Project.

Led by Farm Conservation Advisor Tracy Adams, the new project is still seeking to enhance the habitat and foraging areas of vulnerable birds, namely the corn bunting, lapwing, grey partridge, yellow wagtail, turtle dove and tree sparrow, and consequently boost their numbers, but its remit has widened to additionally include wildlife, as well as protecting soil and water.



“We were already working closely with around 150 farmers, advising them on managing their farms for food production side by side with the six bird species,” said Tracy. “We had good relations with them and wanted to capitalise on that, and funding from Wessex Water’s Partners Programme allowed us to broaden our environmental remit.”

The basic concept behind the South Wiltshire Farmland Conservation Project is to bring together groups of farmers, or ‘clusters’, to work together on improving soil, water and biodiversity, as well as submitting wildlife records, so that a better picture of the biodiversity of the area can be constructed. Beneficiaries of the scheme are set to include rare butterflies, including the marsh fritillary, as well as the 19 species of bumble bee.

“We are looking to join up and fill in the gaps of foraging habitats,” Tracy explained. “So, for example, by improving the network of nectar producing plants we are hoping to safeguard bumble bee species and increase their numbers.”

“This is an exciting project that’s all about bringing together groups of farmers and changing attitudes,” continued Tracy. “A number of the farmers we work with are already participating in government funded agri-environment schemes, but our new cluster approach is the proverbial icing on the cake”.

The cluster concept of environmental management was first trialled in 2012 by the farmer-led Marlborough Downs Nature Improvement Area. It was then piloted nationally by the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) in partnership with Natural England. It involves a group of farmers coming together to devise their own targets and record the progress of wildlife on a landscape, rather than a single-farm scale.

The Wiltshire Life Awards ceremony was held on 24th March 2017 at The Corn Exchange, Devizes. For more information on the South Wiltshire Farmland Conservation Project, call me on the number below or : tracyadmas@cranbornechase.org.uk Tracy Admas : 01725 517417

MERE LIBRARY

Book Sale

Monday, 24th April – Saturday, 6th May.

Come along and browse, the selection of Paperbacks and Hardbacks both Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction, and a selection of Large Print Books, DVD's and Spoken word Cassettes.

For further details call Mere Library on the number below.

Sally-Ann, Senior Library Assistant, ☎: 01747 860546



MERE COMMUNITY POLICE TEAM

Protecting Your Belongings.....

This last month saw a slowdown in break-ins to sheds and non dwelling breaks. This is no reason to become complacent though. We suggest that you need a shed alarm fitted if you are storing valuable items in outhouses. Thieves are generally looking for hedge

trimmers, lawn mowers, electric drills and chain saws. You can get alarms quite cheaply, battery operated and even solar powered ones! If you value your valuables, get one fitted.

If you live in a remote location, why not fit a spotlight that will come on when someone approaches. If you are thinking of planting a hedge, consider a thorny plant. It's called defensive planting. And now that most people have a smart phone, take pictures of your tools and keep them safe, so that if they get stolen, we have more chance of getting them back to you! Remember to include any marks or serial numbers in the photos.

Would You Spot a Cannabis Factory?

After the recent 'find' of a cannabis factory in Chilmark area, some locals have asked how would we know if there was one in our locality. The one at Chilmark in a bunker was massive, but most of the ones we find are in a rented house. Signs to look out for are.

1. Rent paid for in cash.
2. Person renting not living there, but lots of coming and going with vehicles and equipment being moved in, mostly at night.
3. Windows blanked off, sometimes curtains taped to the frames.
4. Neighbours adjacent to the building would hear a constant whining noise from fans needed for venting going day and night,
5. Cannabis production gives off a pungent smell - it is different to the smell of smoking it. You may get a smell of it when walking past.
6. Lamps growing the plants give off lots of heat, if it is snowing the roof would thaw

out quicker than others.

7. A massive upsurge in electricity usage.

If you suspect something like this may be happening in your neighbourhood, call Wilts Police on 101. Or as I found out in Trowbridge when I was out on patrol a few years ago, they can forget to close the door and I could walk in and find the whole upstairs used as a cannabis factory! Perhaps they had been using the stuff themselves and it clouded their minds!!

Cannabis is often referred to as a 'gateway' drug, users going on to a stronger drug after becoming addicted.

PCSO Peter Tscherniawsky, ☎: 101

☎: 07471 029519

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

Mere Dental Practice



Dentists: Waheed Syed, Jyothsna Mekala, and Christopher Davies.

Therapists: Wendy Hester and Laura Moss.

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

✉ meredental16@btconnect.com 🌐 meredentistry.co.uk,

*Opening hours: - Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 5.30pm,
Friday 8.45am - 5.00pm*



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

MERE SURGERY

Patient Participation Group

A patient participation group has now been set up at Mere Surgery. As well as supporting and assisting the practice in providing information leaflets and displays

relating to current health initiatives, and service developments, the group also provide an important feedback link for the practice with the wider community.

The group's next meeting is to be held at 5.00pm on Thursday, 27th April. We are inviting suggestions regarding health related issues, support groups or projects for the Group that you feel would help increase knowledge, awareness and well-being amongst the wider patient community.

If you have a suggestion, please write to PPG, Mere Surgery or e-mail Michele Mason, Practice Manager ✉: michelemason@nhs.net

Michele Mason, Practice Manager, Mere Surgery ☎: 01747 860001

MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL

Poetry Competition

The very popular Mere Literary Festival is gearing itself up for another successful year, following their 20th Anniversary festival held in October 2016.

We would like to announce our Biennial Poetry Competition organised this year by Pennybank Writers of Mere, supporting Mere and District Linkscheme. The Open Poetry Competition is sponsored by Freebird Campers, Classic 1970's VW Camper Hire. All poems can be on any subject and of no more than 40 lines. The Festival this year runs from the Monday, 9th to Sunday, 15th October. Closing date for all poetry entries is Monday, 26th June 2017. Entry details: from your Local Library, or s.a.e. to Poetry Competition, Monkswell Cottage, Mill Lane, Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6DA, or log onto:- www.merelifest.co.uk

The Adult section is being judged by the award winning Poet, Arts Practitioner and Journalist, Dawn Gorman. Dawn will be giving her time very generously and will judge every entry in the Adult Section. She will also give a short talk and a reading of some of her work before adjudication and presentation of the prizes.

Shortlisted poems will be showcased at a Festival Event – 'Poetry in the Grove'. These poems will be judged by the audience, prior to the announcements of the competition results at the Adjudication and Awards Ceremony on Sunday, 15th October. 'Poetry in the Grove' is always a very popular event.

Local Awards are for poems by local residents living within a ten mile radius of Mere. Our well known Jenny Wilding, Curator of the award winning Mere Museum, will judge these poems.

Lastly but certainly not least, we encourage Juniors of twelve years and under to showcase their talents. Schools in our local area will be invited to submit their pupil's work. Individual entries are encouraged, and Cash Awards await the lucky winners. The Judge for the Junior Section is Angela McDonald. So come on Juniors, we just love to read your work and hopefully recognise the stars of the future.



Mere Literary Festival is renowned for their thought-provoking guests throughout the festival. So, with Dawn, Jenny and Angela joining our ranks we hope to encourage bumper entries for the Biennial Poetry Competition. Dawn Gorman, poet and freelance editor, devises and runs art events including the



popular Bradford on Avon poetry reading series Words and Ears. She was poet-in-residence at Edinburgh Fringe in 2015/16 and at Greenhill Cottage Gallery in Southwick, Wiltshire 2015/16. She is widely published in literary journals and anthologies.

Read more on her website

: www.dawngorman.co.uk

Angela McDonald, Junior Section Judge, is a lady of many and varied talents. Her passion for Genealogy has found family roots reaching back over 500 years. She also researched the history of men commemorated on the WW1 Memorial in Mere. Details were published in the book 'The Proudest Uniform' still available to buy at Mere Library.

Jenny Wilding is also Archivist to both the Mere Historical Society and Mere Drama Society. Jenny raised funds for the conservation of the King James II Coat of Arms which now hangs in St. Michaels Church in its restored glory.

Linda Jones, for Pennybank Writers, ☎: 01747 860171

Flower and Music Festival News

Just a reminder about this event taking place from Thursday, 8th to Sunday, 11th June 2017. Thoughts are now seriously focused on both the floral displays and the music concerts with plans also taking shape on the provision of tasty refreshments throughout the festival.

Various people, organisations and businesses are now coming together to design arrangements and displays to showcase the "Community of Mere". It truly promises to be a spectacular event. Furthermore, in addition to the evening concerts, music of many styles will be heard at intervals throughout the weekend both in and around the church.

Make sure you keep the weekend free and come to as many of the events as you can or you might prefer to simply just wander around the floral displays and enjoy a cup of tea and cake afterwards – invite your friends too! Don't forget, also, that there will be church services on the Sunday with The Bishop – it would be great to see you there.

It is still not too late to get involved with this event – please contact Elisabeth for further details.

Elisabeth ☎: 01747 863324 ✉: festival@hillcrest.me.uk

MERE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE



Tourism

We live in a lovely area of the country and on the edge of an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. One of the aims of the Chamber is to support tourism in the district and we do this in several ways.

We pay some £500 per year to have an entry in the '**Visit Wiltshire**' brochures and on their website. This publicity is distributed to coach and travel firms all over the country. A significant attraction to visitors is the availability of toilets and free parking for both cars and coaches. Businesses and other properties in the main streets and the Square take pride in their maintenance and upkeep. The plantings in the Square are also attractive and, with the backdrop of Castle Hill, provide an interesting view for photographers. We have had good reports from visitors appreciating these facilities.

Tidiness

Occasionally though, the general standard of tidiness falls below that which we would like. A telegraph pole carries outdated or torn posters. Weeds grow at the bottom of walls and discarded wrappings of food, drinks, or sweets are left to be blown in the wind. We can all take responsibility for these and make sure that the area around our properties looks smart.



Signage

The town logo of the Clock Tower has been missing from one of the welcome signs incoming from the Maiden Bradley direction for some time, and the other has become discoloured. The Chamber is currently arranging for them be restored and cleaned. This is being done at no cost to the Town Council or ratepayers.

Maps and Guides

Have you seen, or better still, bought your own copy of the 'Mere Walking Maps' or the small booklet, 'A Mere Meander'? Both of these publications are on sale in the town shops and the Library. The maps show six easy to moderate walks in the town and surrounding countryside and are £3. In A5 size, they are easy to slip into a pocket and have both written instructions and interesting information of the area. The booklet, 'A Mere Meander' costs only £1 and provides some historical information about houses and other features in the town. The Chamber

has sponsored, with local businesses and individuals, the production of these. The proceeds are being retained to update and extend them in the future.

Local Development

We made a verbal submission to the Council Meeting on 4th February, regarding the proposed housing development at the Gillingham turning. A revised planning request has now been submitted but is still unacceptable. Objections need to be made again through the Wilts Planning website, as it is effectively a new proposal. The previous objections will not automatically be taken into account.

If you are interested in helping the Chamber in any way, please contact me or Julie Cousins ☎: 07856 700 576. Our email is ✉: merechamber@outlook.com

Hamish Bell, President, ☎: 01747 861717

MERE CANCER RESEARCH

A massive thank you to everyone who came along to our Spring Bazaar - we raised a magnificent £601.27. It was a very busy couple of hours with loads of new faces adding to the familiar ones coming along and getting themselves a bargain or two, some cake, winning in the raffle and Tombola. Good to see our four guest tables being well supported by our visitors.

Two dates for you in April to come along and support us:

Saturday, 22nd April - we will be selling our little bags of Magic! Yes the Magic Sunny Flowers are back and will be for sale at the Stars Appeal Spring Fair at the Social Club.

Sunday, 30th April - Cars and Coffee. We are hosting a fine selection of Classic cars in the Town Square from 9.00 to 11.00am. Come along buy a coffee from one of our local shops, and The George Inn are doing Bacon Butties with 50p going to Cancer Research from each one sold. We are also selling some of our famous homemade cakes as well, so come along, admire, dream and see these classics.

As usual we appreciate any support that you give us and are now gearing up for the May Fayre (Saturday, 20th May) and are looking for donations for the following stalls - Books, plants, Man Shed - please contact us, details below, nearer the time to arrange collection/delivery. More May Fayre news next month!

✉: merecancerresearch@mail.com Face book: Mere Cancer Research

Penny Fennon ☎ 07833 131712 (after 6.00pm)

APRIL SHORT WALK

Unfortunately owing to other commitments I am unable to lead a walk this month. Watch out for May's date, however, when we will visit the Bluebell Woods.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

BIG BREW

Many thanks to all who attended my Big Brew Coffee Morning this year in Fair Trade Fortnight. Together with contributions at St Michael's on the Sunday we raised £96, which is a fantastic total to help support Traidcraft's work with poor farmers and smallholders around the world supplying our everyday foods.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

CARNIVAL 2017

Bingo Night Fundraiser

On Friday, 21st April, in the Grove Building.

Doors open 6.45pm

"Eyes down" at 7.30pm.

There will be an excellent variety of quality prizes,

Specials, raffle and refreshments.

Fun for all the family.

Organised by Mere Carnival Committee with proceeds to Carnival Funds.

Sue Jeans, For Mere Carnival Committee, ☎: 01747 860215

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR MAY 2017 ISSUE
MONDAY, 17th APRIL 2017

Squeaky clean

Bookings now being taken from April onwards.

Windows, Gutters, Fascias & more

Call – Terry ☎: 07899 937482

MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS


By the time this is read, our model ferroequinologists (that is a new word for me, but it means a person who studies trains -Editor) will have completed their annual outing to The London Festival of Railway Modelling. This is arranged by the West Camel Club and the three clubs which participate is completed by the Shepton Mallet club.

The author of this piece has now been appointed Secretary of the Wessex Association of Model Railway Clubs which has recently expanded to 29 members.

Mere Railway Modellers has agreed to participate in St Michaels flowers, with our treasurer modifying one of our simple layouts into a flower arrangement!! Looking ahead to September the Club will be open on Saturday, 9th & Sunday, 10th to support 'Creative Mere'.

The club continues to model in the common gauges of O, OO, & N, but a recent Peter (there are five of them!!) has now seen the sense of modelling in the narrow gauge of OO9. New layouts are being constructed and all the gauges are well supported. Within the club a '6 square foot challenge' has been issued, and the entries will be judged by an external expert.


The best four will be on show as part of our 2018 Exhibition. Subsequently we are increasing the opening hours of the club, by opening at 10.00am to 2.00pm on a Saturday commencing on 8th April.

Our club in Castle Street Car Park opens from 7.00-9.00pm on a Wednesday evening. Should this be inconvenient for anybody who wishes to have a look around, before thinking of joining, then please contact the author on the number below, or check the club's website:  www.mererailwaymodellers.co.uk

Tom Snook  01747 861977

COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next lunch will be held in The Walnut Tree Inn, Shaftesbury Road, Mere on Tuesday, 4th April 2017 at 12.30pm.

The two course set lunch costs £9.95, drinks not included. Please book in advance on : 01747 861220.

This is the last Community Lunch for this season as we head out into our gardens. We start again in October as part of the Mere Literary Festival. Details to follow nearer the time.

Thank you for all your support, It has been great seeing everyone and a big thanks to those who gave us a talk: more are planned when we return. For more details, call me.

Lindy Elliott : 01747 861646



TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY

Tea@3 will be held in the Angel Corner Tearooms on Wednesday, 19th April at 3.00pm.

All those wishing to attend should contact Paul or Marilyn on ☎: 01747 860524 and leave a message, or pop in, and leave your name by Monday, 17th April. Come in and have a chat with tea and cake. All are welcome.

Paul Farrow ☎: 01747 860524

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

As we all hoped, the slipper once again fitted, Cinders found her Prince (with the help of Super Nan - though with no thanks to Bella and Donna or Wash and Go, let alone Sweeny Bob) and so All is Well and MADS can breathe a big communal sigh of relief. Thank you to all our wonderfully enthusiastic audiences for cheering us on and for coming to the Ball.

What you need to do now is to keep your eyes open for notices of Play Readings as we begin the process of picking a play to present to you as our Autumn Production. As we have observed before, we never close! Oh - and mark Monday, 8th May in your diaries; this is the date of the MADS AGM (free coffee!). Details next month.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE FILM SHOWS

Our film for April, on Thursday, 20th, is the spy drama 'Allied' starring Brad Pitt and Marion Cotillard. In 1942 Max Vatan (Pitt), a Royal Canadian Air Force Paratrooper, is parachuted into French Morocco to meet Parisienne Marianne Beausejour, (Cotillard) a skilful member of the French Resistance. Their mission is to pose as a married couple and to assassinate the German Ambassador at a Reception, but their relationship develops as they flee together to London after the mission, and there they marry.

A year later Max is summoned to a meeting with a secret service agent who tells him they suspect Marianne of being a German spy and Max is given a terrible decision to make. This is a good film with lots of action, romance and drama and splendid performances from both stars. The journey of Max Vatan to discover the truth about his wife is outstanding and the conclusion is excellent.. Full details on page 28.

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday, 18th May and Thursday, 15th June. Films for both dates to be confirmed.

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257

SHREEN HARMONY

Our first concert this year will be held in Gillingham. We are singing on Thursday, 18th May in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm in aid of The Alzheimer's Society and we would love to have your support on that evening.

We are also singing on Friday, 9th June at the Flower and Music Festival in St Michaels Church in Mere. This concert is at 7.00pm and tickets for the evening, available on the door, are £5.00. The concert also has the choirs of Gillingham and Mere Schools performing and of course you will be able to explore the Flower Festival itself.

There will be a bar and hopefully it will be a sunny evening, so you can sit and enjoy a drink in beautiful surroundings.

We do have vacancies in the choir for alto, lady tenor, and bass. If you are interested, please do come along on a Thursday night at 7.30pm to the United Reformed Church hall in Mere, and see how you feel. There is no audition, just a love of singing and a warm welcome awaits!

Sandra Fisher ☎ 01747 861980

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Wild bees: their importance as pollinators and how to attract them to your garden

Brigit Strawbridge

Wednesday, 12th April, 7.30pm Grove Building

Brigit specialises in bees and has appeared on Gardeners' World and other TV programmes. She will speak about the importance of bees; the differences between Honeybees, Bumblebees and Solitary bees; the problems they all face (focussing on habitat loss and neonicotinoid pesticides), and what we can do to help them; and her Wildlife/Bee Garden and the importance of biodiversity.

Brigit is one of our key speakers this year, and it is still a good time to join the club as your membership fee of £10 will cover both her talk and the one by Alan Power in July, together with all the other talks and benefits of membership.

£5 entry for visitors who are very welcome.

DON'T FORGET to sign up for the Hanging Basket Workshop at Thorngroves on Wednesday, 26th April. Bring along a tub, pot or basket and learn how to plant for a stunning display! Transport can be arranged. It will run from 6.30-8.00p.m. and you will only be charged for the plants you use. Please book a place by phoning me by Monday, 24th April

Janet Way ☎:01747 860884

BAG A BARGAIN!

Good-as-New clothes and accessories charity sale at The Grove Building, Mere. 10.00am - 4.00pm on Sunday, 30th April (£3 entrance fee) and on Monday, 1st May 2017 (£1 entrance fee). Refreshments available. All proceeds will be going to **Wiltshire Air Ambulance** and the local Mere churches. Further details available from Emily Tulloch: ☎: **07866 848754.**

MERE THEATRE CLUB

April will see us in Basingstoke for a visit to a theatre new to us. In May we are attending the last concert at Colston Hall before the refurbishment, and in June we are having a day out in Chichester, including a visit to the Chichester Festival.

If our visits appeal to you do get in touch before the autumn programme comes out.

Wendy Horne ☎: 01747 861712 Madelaine Morris ☎: 01747 861833

GROVE BUILDING “100” CLUB

The result of the “100” Club Draw for March 2017, kindly drawn by Emily and Abi at Walton’s on Wednesday, 1st March 2017, was:

1st Prize (£20)	No.163	Mr Peter Dethick
2nd Prize (£15)	No. 21	Mrs Judith Yapp
3rd Prize (£10)	No.199	Mrs Judy Afford

Please note that Barbara Hewitt is now carrying out the monthly draws for the “100” Club, and I would like to give our grateful thanks to Sue Phelps and Lindy Elliott who have done a wonderful job of running this draw for the past eighteen months.

Date for your Diary

A Cheese & Wine Evening is being held on Wednesday, 5th July 2017 from 6.30pm until 10.00 pm in the Grove Building. All members of the 100 Club are invited to come and meet each other in a social setting.

Please contact me so I have an idea of numbers: *Barbara Hewitt* ☎: **07946 913191**
✉: **smileyb54@outlook.com**



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Our regular meeting on Tuesday, 11th April at 2.30pm in the Grove Building will include our AGM and also a 'bring & buy' in aid of MU's work overseas, as well as the enrolment of two new members. After that the Rev'd John Page will share poems for Holy Week, making it a very special afternoon. All are welcome.

You are also welcome - no need to book! – to come to the MU Heytesbury Deanery meeting to be held in the Grove Building, Mere, on Thursday, 27th April at 10.30am.

Judith Thompson (MU Branch Leader) ☎ 01747 860553

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE

For the over 60s

The Day Centre for Mere and District, Lynch Close

Mondays and Fridays 10:30am – 3:00pm

By the time you are reading this, we will have had our trip to Old Sarum Airfield. We are very much looking forward to seeing the Boscombe Down Aviation Collection and having a presentation. Then we are going to have some lunch at the airfield cafe. I will let you know how our trip went in the next edition of MM.

Last week we played a game called 'Estate Agents' where we got into pairs and had to try and guess the sale price of 13 different houses that have been sold in Mere within the last Year.

We had a leaflet that contained pictures, house plans and key points of each property. Our guests really enjoyed this game, and it was surprising to see the differences in the estimates. Well done to Keith and Carla who amazingly managed to get within £15,000 of the final total!

Sandie Hawkins, ☎: 07835 272406 🌐: MereDayCentre.org.uk



WOMENS INSTITUTE (WI)

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 6th April at 7.30pm in the Grove Building, when there will be a talk entitled "Paradise for Birds." If this is of interest to you, do please come along and join us. Visitors are always welcome.

Molly Burden ☎ 01747 860007

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

As we approach warmer weather our Dressmakers are busy making summer dresses, skirts and trousers. The two winter courses have been particularly full, in fact full to the brim on Wednesday evenings!

We are taking a break during most of April and commence the summer course, which is a five week course commencing on Tuesday, 2nd May (on a Tuesday as it is Bank Holiday on Monday, 1st May), then four Monday mornings from 10.30 am to 1.00pm, omitting Monday, 29th May as it is also a Bank Holiday. At present there will be space for a couple more people, and we are delighted that most of our new members have completed their garments in five weeks.

The Wednesday evening course (five weeks) commences on 3rd May, omitting 31st May and ending on 7th June. We will have further six week courses again in September.

We already have names down on the waiting lists for these course as they are very popular, and we welcome your interest if you are keen!

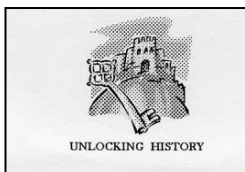
Please contact me (Carol Lord) for details on any of the courses.

Carol ☎: 01747 861923 or Susanne 📠: 07788 595 434

MERE MUSEUM

Where in Mere can you see a brass serpent, dizzy dots, a memory map and a 'Beano', all in one place? The answer (no prizes for getting it right), is at Mere Museum. If you are expecting visitors over the Easter weekend, don't forget to bring them to see our current exhibition called 'A Museum Medley'. We guarantee there is something to intrigue everyone! The exhibition will continue until mid-May.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908



Mere Historical Society

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 4th April 7.00pm in the Grove Building

Subscriptions for 2017/18 due (£10)

If you are unable to attend, please send your subscription to: The membership secretary: Gerry Cook, 20 Lovage Way, Mere, BA12 6RU, 01747 861797

Subs will be taken and wine and nibbles provided before the AGM which will start promptly at 7.30pm followed by:

‘The Yetties Group's tours across Europe, Far East and Africa’

Bonnie Sartin

Bonnie will be talking about his time with the Yetties.

The AGM papers are in your February 2017 newsletter. (see our website for a pdf copy of this newsletter)

A Lost Medieval Manor

Hilary Griffiths

Tuesday, 25th April, 7.30pm in the Grove Building

£3 entry to all talks for non-members who are very welcome

Note: There are no morning talks in April

Visit One Monday 15th May 2017

ss Great Britain

Brunel's ss Great Britain is one of the most important historic ships in the world. When she was launched in 1843 she was called 'the greatest experiment since the Creation'.

Leaves Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.15am and returns by 6.00pm.

Cost: MHS Members £23, non-members £26 per person.

Includes coach and tip, entrance and guided tour.

DEADLINE FOR BOOKING: 6th MAY

More details and booking forms available from Mere Information Point and our

website  :merehistoricalsociety.org.uk

Caroline Cook  : 01747 861797

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

Recently it has sometimes seemed as if spring really is just around the corner. The Friends very much hope that as you walk round your garden to see what needs doing first, you might spot a few plants that need dividing, or some volunteer seedlings that are sprouting where you don't really want them. If you could possibly harvest these and pop them into pots, we would be delighted to have them to sell at the Friends' Annual Plant Sale. This is on Saturday, 13th May at 10.00am in the Grove Building. Final reminder and all details next month! *Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

MERE BOWLS CLUB

This year we are supporting the Parish Council in their efforts to beautify the town centre by sponsoring a floral tub; the tub will be adorned with a small plaque showing members of the public which one is ours.

Once again the Bowls Club will be hosting a Barn Dance in aid of a local charity. This year we will be supporting the Mere Link Scheme. Why not come along for a great evening of fun and in the process add your support to a worthy cause, we all may need the services of the Link Scheme one day. The dance will be held in the Grove Building on Saturday, 8th April starting at 7.00pm. Tickets are available from the library, at the door on the night, or from Don Butchers on the number below. They will only cost a mere £10.00 each, and you get a fish supper thrown in as well!

On Saturday, 22nd of April, the Club opens its doors for the new season. If you are interested in learning to bowl, enjoy good company and like a friendly atmosphere, why not come along at 3.00pm? We have three qualified coaches who will get you bowling in no time, becoming proficient may take a little longer. It has been said that bowls takes only 10 minutes to learn but a lifetime to master, but it is always fun. I added the last bit (writers licence) as it is so true. For any other details about the Club please contact either Alan Inwood ☎: 01985 844215, Alan Spencer ☎: 01747 860803 or Don Butchers by phone below or by ✉: **Don.butchers@btinternet.com**.

Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ☎: 01747 860775

MERE SNOOKER CLUB,

We are almost at the end of the billiard season - our team plays in the Sandford Orcas Three Counties billiard league. Last year we lost our captain and best player Colin White, so we could do with one more team member. If you have played billiards in the past or would like to learn, please contact Gareth James, Team Captain, on ☎: 01747 861904 or Mike Durkee (club chairman) on the number below.

This year new members can join for a much reduced year's subscription of only £20.00. Come as a guest to try it out. *Mike Durkee ☎: 01747 860163*

MERE BOWLS CLUB
ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT A
CHARITY BARN DANCE

WITH THE BLACK BEAR BAND
AT THE GROVE BUILDING, MERE
ON SATURDAY 8th APRIL 2017 AT 7.00 PM
FISH AND CHIP SUPPER INCLUDED
IN SUPPORT OF MERE LINK SCHEME
BAR AVAILABLE RAFFLE
TICKETS £10 EACH FROM LIBRARY OR PHONE 01747 860775 TO
BOOK NOW

MERE CRICKET CLUB
A New Season Beckons!

Mere Cricket Club, your local friendly club, is on the lookout for players young and not so young for the start of our forthcoming season. So, whether your son or daughter already plays, or fancies trying out the sport, or if you're a lapsed cricketer who just fancies a bash in one of our many friendly fixtures this season, why not give it a go and join your local club!

We play over 40 friendlies on Sunday afternoons and T20 games on Wednesday evenings.

We will be having two indoor net sessions for adults (including our under 15 players) at Warminster indoor facility on Sunday, 2nd April from 6.30-8.30pm and Sunday, 9th April from 6.30-8.30pm.

Please come along and have a go. You'll be most welcome. For further information please contact Mark Cassidy ☎: 07763 001119, visit our website 🌐: www.merecc.co.uk or find us on Facebook.

If you're not a player, but fancy joining us as a helper, we're always looking for parents to help out at junior training, match day helpers, umpires, tea makers, and anyone who just fancies putting their feet up on a sunny Sunday afternoon and supporting their local cricket club!

Dairy Date...Sunday, 23rd April. 1st Home game v Horningsham at 2.00pm.

Junior News

Our junior section competes in the North Dorset League at under 9, 11, 13 and 15-year age groups.

We are fortunate at Mere to include the Dorset U14 and North Dorset Head Coach, the North Dorset U12 coach, and the Dorset under 15 girls coach amongst our coaching team.

We currently have several of our juniors representing both Dorset and Wiltshire at District and County levels, something which we at Mere CC are extremely proud.

This season's training begins on Friday, 7th April and then every Friday until the Summer holidays.

Registration from 6.15pm, training from 6.30pm. The joining fee is £5 and training is £2 per session. All equipment is provided by the club, if needed.

Any further details regarding junior training please contact: Becky Yeo, Head of Youth Cricket, ☎: 07971 366520 *Kevin Whitmore* ☎: 07528 875060

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE PARISH COUNCIL
proudly presents

'ALLIED'
(15)

Marion Cotillard Brad Pitt

In 1942 a Canadian intelligence officer in North Africa encounters a female French Resistance fighter on a deadly mission behind enemy lines. When they reunite in London, their relationship is tested by the pressures of war.

In The Lecture Hall
Thursday 20th April, 2017
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 🌐: www.moviola.org



Mere School Reports

Wild
be out

Silver Class

'Have you filled your Bucket Today' was the story in Silver class. They read the story and then filled their buckets with good deeds.

WORLD BOOK DAY AT MERE!

The children at Mere school once again celebrated World Book Day in style. All the children dressed up as their favourite book characters and enjoyed a day of books!

Blue Class

The children in Blue class acted out fairy tales and then created houses for the 3 little pigs to live in.

Yellow Class

Gold Class

Throughout the day the children of Gold class completed lots of different activities based on 'The Rainbow Fish'.

Purple Class

Year 6 studied cats within literature and how they are portrayed in both stories and poems.

A well known author, M. P. Robertson, also visited the school. He told the children all about his books and showed them how to draw a dragon.

Green Class

Green class looked at the book 'Leon and the Place Between' as well as 'Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator'.

Red Class

The children in Red class had a David Walliams day. This involved them designing their own character for one of his stories.

STOP PRESS!

Don't forget to look at our website for more details and pictures of what we have been up to



www.mereschool.co.uk

AGE UK WILTSHIRE

Is an independent local charity championing older people in Wiltshire, with a Mission to promote the well-being of older people in Wiltshire and to help make later life a fulfilling and enjoyable experience.



WHAT WE DO

The number of older people in Wiltshire is growing. For many of us, later life can be an active and fulfilling experience, however there are thousands of local older people and their families who contact Age UK Wiltshire for help. It may be a bit of information and advice or practical support at a time of real life crisis.

Information and advice

We offer confidential information and advice on a wide range of subjects. We explain the choices available and help you decide what you want to do. If you need help we may be able to take action on your behalf.

Local traders register

Many older people have difficulty in locating a reliable and safe trades-person to undertake basic tasks around the home. Age UK Wiltshire and Trading Standards can reassure people that basic checks have been carried out on the traders on the list.

Talk Team

Age UK Wiltshire has a dedicated team of presenters who deliver talks to groups and organisations on subjects and issues affecting older people.

Befriending

We offer support and friendship to isolated older people in their own homes. We match service users with volunteer visitors who have similar interests and can form a good friendship.

Buy products & services

The Age UK Group offers a range of products and services tailor-made for the over 50s.

Mobility and health care

We have a range of products to help you stay safe and independent in your home and in your community.

Contact Us

You can contact Age UK Wiltshire by Calling us ☎: 01722 335425. or emailing us ✉: enquiries@ageukwiltshire.org.uk or visiting us between 10.00am and 3.00pm Monday to Thursday (Friday closes at noon) Address: New Street Chambers, 5 New Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2PH

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Spring Bazaar

The Friends of St Michael's Church are holding a Spring Bazaar on Saturday, 22nd April from 10.00am in the Grove Building.

Stalls include Cakes, Toiletries, Bric-a Brac, Books, Teas etc. Do come along and grab a bargain.

Ann Dethick ☎: 01747 863498



**Come for some peace and refreshment in a beautiful setting
Everyone is welcome to a**



QUIET DAY

WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 10.00AM – 3.00PM

AT HILFIELD FRANCISCAN FRIARY

South of Sherborne (DT2 7BE) – Lifts available

LED BY REVD JONATHAN HERBERT

No fee, but please bring a packed lunch, and a donation.

**Places limited. To book phone 860884 or 860553
or sign the list at the back of St Michael's Church**

Two other important Churches Together events:

11.00am Good Friday. Meet by the clock tower for the traditional 'Walk of Witness' carrying the cross up Castle Hill. The Bishop of Ramsbury will be leading the walk, together with The Revd Carol, Vicar of Mere, and everyone – church members or not – will be welcome to join us.

7.30pm Tuesday, 25th April at URC Church, Mere: Churches Together AGM. This is a meeting, not for the co-ordinating committee, but for **all members of all the Churches** to reflect on how we have worked together in the previous year and how we might do this, and serve our community, better in future.

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

**DEACON MICHAEL HUGHES, PRIEST AT THE
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST MARY'S,
WRITES:**

None of us are ashamed to be baptised Christians. One day a year we gather together to witness to our Christian belief. It is that belief in Jesus which made our culture, made England what she is today.

Come along on Good Friday, 14th April, to our Walk of Witness. We meet at the clock tower at 11.00 am. Those who can climb will journey up Castle Hill, stopping at various points to remember the journey Jesus made from the place of trial to His death on the Cross. Those who prefer a less steep journey will go to St Mary's, nearby. However fit you are, Come and join us!

If Jesus was born on Christmas Day, what happened to him on Easter day?
This is a bit of a trick question: many answer "He died on Easter day".

Which he didn't, of course.

For love of you and me, He died on Good Friday. On Easter Day He rose from the dead. Through that victory on the Cross, he changed everything. Now He is always with us to help us be the best we can be, and fight off the dark mean things that bubble up within us. He is our way to Heaven.

Though the news always concentrates on the bad and frightening things happening in the world, in fact the world is growing more peaceful, and more people are becoming healthier, safer and freer. And ever more people are coming to know Jesus and respond to His love for them with love for God and for others.

It was good that last month so many Christians of the town gathered in our little Catholic church for the Taizé service of quiet prayer for peace and justice for the people of Syria. It was a moving and powerful time. Christians together CAN make a difference.

On Tuesday, 11th April at 6.30pm we are going to watch the Mel Gibson film "the Passion of the Christ". This will not be in Mere, but on the big screen at the Catholic church in Marnhull.

This Easter Day, the Catholics of the area are gathering together to rejoice at St Luke's church in Wincanton for Masses at 9.00pm on Saturday evening and 10.30am on Sunday morning.

Attention all artists! We have a regular LIFE DRAWING group in Mere lecture hall every Tuesday evening. This is an untutored group. We meet from 6-8pm. For more details contact Jules on 01985 845063 or juleshorn@rocketmail.com



Everyone is invited to a
Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy in aid of Suchana
on **Tuesday, 25th April 10.30am-12.00noon**
at Downside, North Street
(home of Joan & Hamish Bell ☎: 01747 861717)

And a huge thank-you to everyone who supported our Shrove Tuesday Quiz and Pancake evening. A good time was had by all, and we made over £600 which will go a long way in supporting very marginalized children in West Bengal, India. *Judith Thompson* ☎: 01747 860553

Churches Together in Mere & District Lent Lunches

**Sale
Table**



**Everybody
Welcome**

**Come along and enjoy delicious home-made soup,
roll & cheese followed by tea/coffee for just £4 !**

Grove Building: 12.30 - 1.30pm

Fridays: 31st March, 7th April,

**14th April Good Friday; lunches available as
the procession returns from Castle Hill.**

All proceeds will go to Christian Aid & Cafod.

Please support the lunches - see you there !

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH NEWS

Coming up in April

Easter Services

Sunday, 9th

10:30am - Palm Sunday

6:00pm - Stations of the Cross

Thursday, 13th

7:30pm - Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

Good Friday, 14th

11:00am (From The Square) - Walk of Witness up Castle Hill (we will be accompanied by Bishop Ed)

2:00pm – Music and Meditation Service for the Last Hour

St George's Day Community Service

Please come and join us to celebrate St George's Day on Sunday, 23rd at 10:30am.

Sherry Dixon, PCC Secretary ☎: 01747 861319

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

APRIL 2017

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:

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

(Days available to Parish, Saturday - Wednesday)

✉ vicar@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Churchwardens: Mrs Elizabeth Howden ☎ 01747 863424

Mrs Lynette Elliott ☎ 01747 861646

PCC Secretary: Mrs Sherry Dixon ☎ 01747 861319

✉ office@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday of Lent		12.00pm	Holy Communion
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
Sunday	2nd	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Lent 5
		6.30pm	Evensong
Tuesday	4th	3.00pm	Start the month Holy Communion
Sunday	9th	10.30am	PALM SUNDAY
		6.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Thursday	13th	7.30pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY
			Holy Communion

Friday	14th	11.00am	GOOD FRIDAY Walk of Witness up Castle Hill (meet in The Square)
		2.00pm	Music & Meditation service for the Last Hour
Sunday	16th	10.30am	EASTER DAY Holy Communion
	23rd	10.30am	St GEORGES DAY Community service
	30th	10.30am	Matins

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	2nd	11.00am	Mr Martin Heal
	9th	11.00am	Mrs Sharon Hawkes
	16th	11.00am	EASTER SUNDAY Mr Peter Kershaw Holy Communion
	23rd	11.00am	Mr James Hepburn
	30th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's

Mere Contacts: Margaret Thompson ☎ 01747 860291 or
John FitzGerald ☎ 01747 860867

Every Saturday		5.30pm	Mass
Tuesday	11th	6.30pm	Mel Gibson's Passion of the Cross film. In Marnhull Catholic Church
Good Friday	14th	11.00am	Stations of the Cross For those who are not going to climb Castle Hill

Tea and Cakes will be served after the last Mass of the month.

West Knoyle Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin:

Priest in Charge: Revd. Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ 01747 861859

✉ vicar@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Churchwardens: Mrs. Jill Randall ☎ 01747 830534
Mr. Colin Seaford ☎ 01747 830263

Sunday	2nd	9.30am	Holy Communion Lent 5
	9th	9.30am	PALM SUNDAY, Matins
	16th	9.30am	EASTER DAY Holy Communion
	23rd	9.30am	St GEORGES DAY Holy Communion
	30th	9:30am	DIY

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

DIARY DATES

APRIL 2017

AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; **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; **MSC**-Mere Social Club. **RMC**-Railway Modellers Clubhouse

1	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning (every Saturday)	CC
3	Mon	9.00am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (also 24th)	L
		10.00am	Zumba Beginners (also 17th & 24th)	L
		10.30am - 1:00pm	Dress Making Class	GB
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Beavers (also 24th)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (also 24th)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (also 24th)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
4	Tue	12.00pm	Community Lunch	The Walnut Tree Inn
		2.00pm - 4.00pm	"Get On-line" drop-in session	Lib
		2.30pm	Sandra Catley Core/Strength (every Tuesday)	L
		6.00pm	Life Drawing Class (also 18th & 25th)	L
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (every Tuesday)	L
		7.00pm	Mere Historical Society AGM	GB
5	Wed	9.30am	Tai-Chi (also 26th)	GB
		10.30am	Tai-Chi (also 26th)	GB
		11.15am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
		7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers (every Wednesday)	RMC
		7.00pm - 9.30pm	Dressmaking (Small Hall)	GB
6	Thurs	10.00am - 11:30am	Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am - 12:00pm	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		10.30am	Sandra Catley Core/Strength (every Thursday)	L
		12.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)	GB
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
7	Fri	10.15am - 12:00pm	St Michaels 'Open the Book'	GB
		12.30pm - 1.30pm	Lent Lunch (also 14th)	GB

7	Fri	1.45pm	Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - every Friday)	GB
8	Sat	10.00am - 12:30pm	Friends of St Michaels Spring Bazaar	GB
10	Mon	7.30pm	Mere Am. Dram. Socy (MADS) Meeting (Green R.)	L
11	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic (also 25th)	CC
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
		7.00pm	Yoga (also 18th)	GB
12	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together - Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
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	11.00am	Walk of Witness up Castle Hill	The square
		12.30am - 1.30pm	Final Lent Lunch	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba also 21st & 28th)	L
15	Sat	10.00am - 12.00noon	George Jeans' Election Surgery	L
		7.00pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L
19	Wed	3.00pm	T@3 (book by Monday 17th)	Angel Tea Rooms
		3.00pm -	"Get On-line" Drop-in session	Angel Tea Rooms
20	Thur	7.30pm	Mere Filmshows/Moviola "Allied"	L
21	Fri	6.45pm	Carnival Bingo Night Fundraiser	GB
23	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
24	Mon	9.00am	Two week book sale begins	Lib
25	Tue	7.30pm	Mere Historical Society evening talk	GB
26	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		7.30pm	Town Council Annual Parish Meeting	GB
27	Thur	5.00pm	Patient Participation Group meets	Surgery
		10.30am	Mothers Union Heytesbury Deanery Meeting	GB
28	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women	GB
30	Sun	9.00am	Cancer Research Cars & Coffee	The Square

Kado Garden Maintenance

Qualified Gardener working in and around Mere now available

Please call Mostyn Tel: 07999 771680

BOOKING MEETING HALLS

Grove Building:

Ian Treece

☎: 07754 524802

Lecture Hall:

Sally Johnson

☎: 01747 861063

URC Church Hall

Eileen Burfitt

☎: 01747 860685

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 Support/Advice Centres are held on a regular basis

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT

1st Friday: 2:00 - 4:00pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS

By appointment only (☎: 0300 003 4569)

& DEATHS:

Thursdays: 9:30 - 11:30am

'GET ONLINE'

DROP-IN SESSION

1st Tuesday 2:00 - 4:00pm

HEALTH TRAINER

Every Friday 2:00 - 4:00pm

COPYDATE FOR MAY 2017 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the April 2017 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 **4:00pm on MONDAY, 17th April 2017**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Send from Monday, 10th April 2017 to: [☎: editor@merematters.co.uk](mailto:editor@merematters.co.uk)

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

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