

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

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



Castle Hill Memorial

JULY/AUGUST 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 July at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion. There is no meeting in August.**

The Chairman writes:

There are a several important matters on the Town Council horizon, the largest of which is that we will be developing a Mere Neighbourhood Plan. We had excellent advice from David Beaton, who headed Gillingham's Neighbourhood Plan team. With a starting group of a few councillors we had enough information to convince the Council meeting that this was a 'must do' for Mere. We will now start the process and will be looking to have a first draft of ideas ready for some time in September, after which we will be consulting you, the residents of Mere, about how you see Mere developing in the future. We have the offer of several people who would like to help, and will be receiving assistance from Wiltshire Planning team.

We now have a firm quote on equipment which will improve the time keeping of the Town Clock, which, sadly, needs constant adjustment due to temperature and humidity changes. The auto-adjuster recommended is the same as the one used in the Hampton Court Palace clock, and many others, so the supplier is confident that we will have perfect time keeping. We hope to commission the work in July.

The issue of dog faeces not being picked up by owners in public places has prompted one of our new councillors, Aubrey Colman, to develop a range of suggestions. Can I thank him now for his suggestions and welcome him to the council. He and councillor Mead have both raised the issue, and we will be having a Wiltshire dog warden coming to discuss their ideas and also to provide us with some regular patrols to check on notorious areas for fouling. The dog warden has powers to issue fixed penalty notices, which may lead to prosecutions. It would be better if this was unnecessary, and we hope that those few dog owners who continue to offend will change their behaviour.

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**


One of our June meeting's major items was to approve the accounts from last year and this was done with the knowledge that our clerk takes great care managing our accounts and that we have the benefit of Mary White ready to audit the process . The Annual Return, accounts and related documents have now been submitted to the external auditors and are available for public inspection, on reasonable notice, on application to the Clerk. Details of the exercise of electors' rights and inspection of the accounts will be displayed on the Town Council noticeboard, outside the Lecture Hall, by Friday, 30th June. Information on the accounts is also published on the Mere website.

We had an opening discussion on the future of the public toilets and the car parks. The lease for the car parks runs out next year and we need to be prepared. The feeling of the council is that the public toilets are of great importance, but would benefit from improvement. How we manage the car parks in future depends on agreement with Wiltshire Council and there are many ways in which we could finance them in the future.

One further matter of a personal nature came up at the meeting. In the general election campaign, I was asked for, and gave an endorsement for, a friend who was contesting our parliamentary constituency. With the snap election, I hadn't time to see a proof of the leaflet and my endorsement was signed with my name, but also Chair of Mere Town Council. This was not how I sent in the endorsement, and I apologise for any upset it may have caused where readers thought the endorsement was from the Council.

We have just been informed, by Wiltshire Council, that it is intending to permanently close the mini recycling site network across the county. This will include the mini recycling site located at Salisbury Street Car Park, which will close on 18th July with the containers being physically removed shortly after this date. We will be discussing this matter at our July Town Council meeting (3rd July) and if you have any views on this, please let us know.

I had the pleasure of visiting the launch of the Flower and Music festival and may I compliment all involved in a splendid occasion.

I often meet people who have concerns and recommendations about Mere, and I now have an email for you to write to share your ideas if you aren't able to catch up with me. The e-mail address is  **chair@merewilts.org** and I will endeavour to reply promptly. If I get 'snowed under' with emails in the first few days then please bear with me on the reply.

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.


John Jordan, Chairman, Mere Town Council



WEST KNOYLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman writes:

The Parish Council met on 16th May for the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting where I was re-elected as Chairman, and Paul Yates was re-elected as Vice-Chairman for the coming year, and we welcomed our two new members, Cathleen Hoskins and Tony Davis. I congratulated George Jeans on his re-election as Wiltshire Councillor and thanked our Clerk, Lindsey Wood, for her guidance and advice.

With regard to Wiltshire Council's response to the C297 New Close (the road leading from the village up to Willoughby Hedge) it was reported that Wiltshire Council's engineer had visited the site and will be making the arrangements with their contractor to carry out work on the edges and verges later this year. It will need a temporary road closure to allow them to work safely so consideration will need to be given to the availability of diversion routes and the timing of the works.

The new West Knoyle parish website is up and running – please visit  www.westknoyle.org. If you would like to add anything or amend anything on the website, please let us know.

Following an internal audit of the Parish Council's accounts, kindly carried out by Mr. Derek Ward, the Parish Council approved the accounts and supporting statements for the year ending 31st March 2017, and the Annual Return was completed and signed so that it could be submitted to the external auditors appointed by the Audit Commission. Copies of the Annual Return and the supporting papers can be obtained by contacting the Parish Clerk on  01747 860701, or they can be viewed on the parish website  www.westknoyle.org. It was agreed that the next Parish Council meeting would be held on Tuesday, 12th September 2017.

Jinny Brockway, Chairman, West Knoyle Parish Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, WRITES:

I have just returned from a two-week holiday, the first two-week holiday ever I think, to many communications that need attention. I could only monitor the e-mails once while away when I saw the relining of the Salisbury Street car park had been postponed due to several events taking place at the same time as the proposed work. We in Mere have a local community diary in the library and I hope more attention will be paid to it

in the future. The relining is wanted sooner rather than later. Events taking place, amongst others, were the well attended Mere Model Railway exhibition and Open Gardens.

I have also noted the mini recycling site in Mere Salisbury Street car park will be closed on Monday, 17th July and I will investigate to see if some facility could continue.

I stated last month that the Old Ship Hotel, Mere now has permission for 7 flats and two houses. I understand enforcement action has been taken against the Old Ship Hotel preventing it being used as a house of multiple occupation. If it should be left unused for a lawful use over a long period, I fear it may deteriorate further.

The Police informed the newly formed South West Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership (SWWCSP) at the Nadder Centre, Tisbury, that two people have been arrested and charged who are associated with beauty spot thefts in the South West Area Board area. Locally it has been reported to me two people have had their cars broken into, smashed windows, and bags stolen near Rock Arch, Stourton. Alfred's Tower has been targeted for years. The Police indicated these arrests might ease the situation, as I understood it was suggested it only takes a few thieves to make it appear there are more thieves involved than is actually the case.

SWWCSP will meet four times a year, with invited representatives from Wiltshire Police and Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service. Being the Area Board representative, I did agree to chair the first meeting and subsequent meetings, which I enjoyed. Draft terms of reference were circulated. It was decided that a recurring agenda item would be one that allowed current priority policing request for the area including, Mere, Tisbury and Wilton, generated from the safety partnership. Several facts were given at the first meeting. Please note litter-clearing and removing fly-tipping cost Wiltshire Council £2.5 million a year. The use of covert cameras was discussed to help dissuade fly-tipping offenders.

The Police often run in this area at reduced capacity. By the end of 2018 it is hoped across Wiltshire to increase the number of specials constables from 140 to 500. Note: special constables have the power of arrest. Those wishing to apply can include those just retired from full time employment, should they be sufficiently physically fit. Some specialist Special Constables are being trained to target rural crime such as hare coursing and all the problems that can and do arise from these activities. Salisbury and Wilton CCTV will be switched back on later this year. Wiltshire Police and now the Fire and Rescue service both have two drones each. The Police stated theirs have better high definition cameras than does the Police helicopter. Community Speed Watch groups can now make use of a Police Car - and no I do not think the use of the vehicle is for pursuing offenders by civilian volunteers!

The Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service will be introducing a service similar to what was 'first responders' for medical emergencies. It is not unusual for the fire

service to respond within five minutes, which is often very much quicker than an ambulance would be able to attend a medical emergency.

The South West Area Board still has funds to help fund community projects and the youth, do you have a project?

At a recent South West Wiltshire Area Board Meeting, it has been agreed to enhance Speed Indicator Devices by the roadside, known as SIDs. Town, Parish or a collaborative scheme can apply to the Board for a grant to help purchase their own SID, or in this area, the community SID can also be used. Contact me if you need further information.

I would remind you once again that the Mere Snooker club is in danger of closing unless more members can be found. Very recently, after publicity, some have come forward. If any of you in Mere, West Knoyle, Zeals, Stourton or Kilmington would like to play Snooker, please consider the above if you would like to play.



MERE DENTAL PRACTICE

Dentists: Waheed Syed, Jyothsna Mekala, Chris Davies

Dental Hygienist : Laura Moss

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

email: meredental16@btconnect.com,

www.meredentistry.co.uk,

Opening hours: - Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 5.30pm, Friday 8.45am - 5pm

The Practice is now offering Dental Implants and Six months smile (minor teeth correction for adults)



LINKSCHEME LITERARY FESTIVAL

Monday, 9th – Sunday, 15th OCTOBER

Events for the 21st Mere Literary Festival (MLF) start, as always, on the second Monday of October but Churches Together will hold a community service on Sunday, 8th October to mark the start of festival week.

The programme of speakers is now in place and entries for the poetry competition, organised for the festival by PennyBank Writers, are being read and judged.

The festival programme will be officially launched on Friday, 21st July at the ever popular Quiz & Supper Evening in the Grove Building led by quiz-master Bill Pike and his team. Booking is advisable if you have a team ready for the challenge. (See box overleaf for details.) *Adrienne Howell & Lit. Fest. Group* ☎: 01747



Mere Literary Festival

?? QUIZ NIGHT ??

FRIDAY JULY 21ST

THE GROVE BUILDING 7 FOR 7.30 P.M.

£6 pp. including Ploughman's Supper

Teams of 4 or make up a team on the night

Book if you can please on Tel: 01747 861969

Raising Funds for the Mere & District Linkscheme

Registered Charity No:1062328

LOST PERSON FOUND

The Internet has a wealth of information, some free, some you have to pay for and sites like FaceBook are an amazing way to link people. But all these on-line resources couldn't help me locate the person I was looking for.

So, I turned to the Power of the Press in the form of Mere Matters and asked if anyone knew Jane Brown...

I have had 6 calls to date, many thanks to all those who got in touch in response to my request for information.

One of those calls was from Jane herself, someone had passed on my details from the newsletter. It must be 20 years since we last spoke; probably at the funeral of my Dad, her birth-father, so there was a lot to catch up on. Most importantly, I was able to pass on the sad news that Pat, her birth-mother had died quietly in her sleep.

Mere Matters succeeded where trawling the Internet failed, for which I am very grateful.

Mike Blake, ☎: 07789 990995.

MERE RIVERS GROUP

AGM & Open Evening

Mere Rivers Group (MRG) was very pleased with the attendance and interest shown at its recent AGM and Open Meeting.

The official business, when MRG committee members were re-elected en-bloc, was followed by short talks with question and answer sessions on various aspects of Mere's rivers. These included geology, history, ecology, AIM, future demand for water and water saving initiatives.

Important points to record from the meeting are :-

- 1) Welcome recognition by representatives of Gillingham Town Council of the strain continuing development puts on Mere's rivers. The mayor elect, Belinda Ridout, attended the meeting along with councillor David Walsh, portfolio holder for planning at North Dorset, and both took MRG's concerns seriously.
- 2) Michael Streeter, editor of the *Gillingham News*, attended and gave the meeting front-page coverage with a further inside report in the paper's June issue. Gillingham residents should now be more aware that their water comes from Mere and that demand effects its rivers.
- 3) MRG had commissioned a report on the quality of water in the Upper Shreen. This highlighted the danger of putting garden waste on river banks or in the stream as extra nutrients from this have leached into the water causing excess algae and brown sludge. **Please do not use river banks as a dumping ground for garden waste e.g. grass cuttings, weeds, hedge trimmings etc.** In many cases, such as

Waterside, the grassy banks are the equivalent of street pavements, no-one expects to see garden waste deposited on public pavements, so why think it acceptable on our river banks?

Please respect Mere's environment and dispose of garden waste properly or our rivers and river life will be harmed.

Adrienne Howell, for Mere Rivers Group ☎: 01747 860475

MERE CANCER RESEARCH

What an amazing event the May Fayre was, and the weather was on our side - we beat it by an hour! A big, big thank you to everyone who came along, bought, manned, sold, donated, moved, wheelbarrowed, shaved, waxed, drove, packed up and helped us in any way to raise a magnificent £4,251.43. Thank you all.

The Warminster Military Wives Choir are making a very welcome return to St Michaels Church on Friday, 7th July at 6.00pm start, for 7.00pm. Tickets are selling well and are available from either Ann Lloyd - 01747 863477 or Christine Marsh 01747 861212. They are £10 each or £12 on the door (subject to availability). This was a fantastic joint fundraiser for both Mere Cancer Research and St. Michaels, which filled the church last year! So come along have a 'sing along' and help both these worthy causes. There is a pay bar from 6.00pm and during the interval.

On Saturday 15th July we are kindly being hosted by Mr & Mrs Sainthill at Dewes House, Salisbury Street for a fabulous coffee morning from 10.00 am to noon. The gardens at this lovely house are beautiful and we are very pleased to be back - please note entrance is via the Salisbury Street car park. We are having a raffle, plant sale and some 'bric a brac' for sale. So come along and enjoy a cuppa and a piece of cake!

Our next event for your diary is the Autumn Bazaar on Saturday, 7th October and we are pleased to announce that Steve Hawkins is launching his 'Mere Calender 2018' at this event. More details to follow in the Mere Matters September edition

Once again thanks to everyone who supports us in any way to help us beat cancer sooner. Contact - ✉: merecancerresearch@mail.com, Facebook - Mere Cancer Research
Penny Fennon ☎: 07833 131712 (after 6.00pm, please)

MERE & DISTRICT RAILWAY MODELLERS

Summer Exhibition Report

Our fifth exhibition held in the Lecture Halls on 17th & 18th June was considered by those who have been to the first four, to be the best yet. This is in no way just down to the club, but as a direct result of the **outstanding support we receive from the fine community of Mere**. Long may it continue.

The author would like to particularly thank Brett Norris who with Town Council Chairman John Jordan reversed the decision to white line the main car park. This could well have caused complaints, that were limited to only two, this year, about car parking!

But more about the show that had five award winning layouts and hence people who are held in high regard by the ½ million or so railway modellers nationwide. They said :-

- Simon Challis -'Cheddar' " This is probably the best village show I've seen in the last 35 years please keep the standard up " (Simon has run SW Fine Scale at Wells for years)
- Robin Fox- 'Stamford East' " Mere and particularly your club is the friendliest show I've ever been to"
- Mike Carter – 'Red Hook Bay'. " We have really enjoyed ourselves and our stay at the Walnut Tree Inn. When I have built my next layout I would love to exhibit here again. In the meantime I will send you an up to date list of other good layouts in the London Area that I am sure would like to exhibit in Mere"
- John Thorne- 'Bottle Kiln Lane' "Tom it is a good show, I cannot manage 2018 but would love to come back in 2019"

As the organiser, it was pleasing to see people travelling from Cheshire, London, Bristol & Exeter to visit the show. All the club members attended and helped in their own way. But the star of the exhibition was Nancy and her ladies supplying catering throughout the heat of the show.

Further the ambience of the King Charles Room in The George Inn added to Saturday evening where a very pleasant dinner was had by nineteen of us.

The consensus of opinion was that as it was the hottest weekend of the Summer so far, that the younger members of our community preferred the outdoors. Subsequently the free entrance youth numbers dropped from 87 last year to 41 this year. This nearly totally accounted for numbers coming to the show being down on last year by 54 visitors. 414 people attended the exhibition.

Well that is it for this year, so I better get on arranging next year's exhibition!!

Further dates for your diary where Mere & District Railway Modellers are helping to promote the hobby:-

- Saturday, 1st July, Classic Transport Show (including Model Railways) at Henstridge Airfield
- Weekend of 23rd & 24th September at Queen Elizabeth School, Wimborne. The Dorset Model Railway Exhibition that will be the largest Model Railway event in Southern England this year.
- Weekend of 6th & 7th January 2018. The 'Wessex Association of MRC' Exhibition at the 'Cheese & Grain' in Frome. *Tom Snook ☎: 01747 861977*

FLOWER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

One last word....



This event took place from the 9th-11th June and what an amazing event it was!

The Community of Mere demonstrated in style that it is just that – a Community. People from all over the town and from all walks of life came together to make the event an astounding success not only with the money raised (in excess of £5,000) but in the planning, preparation and expedition of the entire festival of music and flowers.

Visitors came from near and far and, if you missed it, here are some quotes from the visitors book which show what they thought of the displays:

“Just stunning. Most lovely display ever seen”

“What a wonderful display, so lovely to see so many organisations represented”

“A wonderful community effort – well done Mere”

“What a joy – so clever and inspirational – Well Done!”

“A revelation – really beautiful and a reason for Mere to be very proud”

“Truly spectacular”



Over 1,000 visitors came to the church over the three days and, alongside the floral displays, many enjoyed the various concerts and musical interludes that were an integral part of the festival, as well as partaking of some amazing refreshments on offer in the Grove Building throughout the event, and buying a plant or two along the way! Children also enjoyed searching for the hidden bumble bees among the flowers.

The notes from the visitor's book almost say it all; the church, as well as many shop/business windows in the town, looked fabulous and there have been so many comments made about the way the entire community could get involved in so many different ways. The money raised will go towards the reordering of the church to make it more suitable for use by the community, and what a fitting way to do this by involving so many from within our community in the event.

Thank you SO much to everyone who helped in any way whatsoever, took part and / or supported the festival – we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

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

HIDDEN GARDENS OF MERE

On probably the hottest and sunniest weekend of the year so far, the Hidden Gardens of Mere event was a great success.

Over 350 people bought tickets to visit the 14 "Open Gardens". They came from all over Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset, with some coming from as far away as Yeovil, Poole, Midsomer Norton and Westbury, and even holidaymakers from Tunbridge Wells, Southampton and York.

We aimed to raise £2,000 and although the finances are not completely finalised, we have definitely topped that target. The profit will be split equally between the Friends of St Michael and the Mere Garden Club.

Our grateful thanks to all those involved in making the weekend such a success, the gardeners, teamakers, cake makers, ticket sellers, the programme designer and in particular, the Chamber of Trade for sponsoring the printing of the programme.

Most of all, thank you to all those who came along to view the gardens and support us, despite the hot weather.

Ann Dethick (Friends of St Michael) ☎: 01747 863498

JULY SHORT WALK

Please join me when I will be leading an Estate Walk at Stourhead on Friday 28th July. The walk through the woods and wider Estate is about 3 miles and takes 2 hours. They are free, but you need to book a place with Stourhead (Georgina Mead ☎: 01747 841152 or ✉: Georgina.Mead@nationaltrust.org.uk) itself as there is a limit to the number.

The walk will start at 11.00am, but if you need a lift, please contact me beforehand, so I can arrange it. There will be no walk in August. *Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884*

Creative Mere 9th & 10th September

Do make a diary reservation for this very special Arts & Crafts event where you will be able to see over 22 of our local art & craft people at work, purchase items and maybe even try something new yourself.

The event is being held over the 2 days starting at 10:30am each day and brochures will be available for sale in the Library and in the Market Square during the few weeks prior to the event or pay on entry at the Grove Building or the Lecture Hall on the day.

Richard Jefferies ☎: 01747 863425



MERE CARNIVAL BINGO

When: Friday, 7th July, 2017

Where: Grove Building, Church Street, Mere

Doors open 6.45pm

Eyes Down 7.30pm

Specials, Raffle Refreshments

Excellent variety of quality prizes, including vouchers for:

Theatre Royal Bath, 2 tickets for: 'The Lady in the Van',

(Saturday, 2nd September 2017 Matinee)

2 x adult tickets - Palmers Brewery Tour, Bridport, (valid until October 2017)

East Somerset Railway – 2 Adult Day Rover Tickets, (valid until 31st October 2017)

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Organised by Mere Carnival Committee with proceeds to Carnival Funds

Forthcoming Events:

Carnival Bingo on Friday, 1st September – same time – same place!

Carnival Day: Saturday, 16th September 2017

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

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2017 ISSUE

MONDAY, 14th AUGUST 2017



TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY

Tea@3, held in the Angel Corner Tearooms once a month has been suspended until September, so there will be no Community Tea Parties in July or August. Look out for the September date

in the September issue of Mere Matters.

Paul Farrow ☎: 01747 860524

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Well, the quest to obtain the final script to be read as MADS seeks to decide on the play which will most delight and amuse you as our Autumn production, has itself turned into quite an intriguing mystery.

However, the script has now at last been tracked down, and by the time you read this notice we shall have had that final play-reading, and we will then be able to come to a decision.

Alas this now means you will have to wait until September to find out what that is! But enjoy the summer meanwhile. *Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908*

MERE FILM SHOWS

Although the beginning of this season of films started out well I have to say that the selection of films on offer since the New Year has been poor. While we have done our best to find films to show, it has not been a good year overall, which is a shame as we don't like to disappoint all of you who regularly support our Film Shows.

However, I am promised better things to come for the autumn when our new season will begin with a film for Carnival Week on Thursday, 14th September.

We have not yet received our new film list for the autumn, but look out for posters in the second half of August when tickets will be in the Library as usual.

I must say a big thank you to our Librarians and our Library Volunteers for the selling and reservation of tickets and, of course, a big thank you to all of you who come to the screenings and support our Moviola film shows. *Mary White ☎ 01747 861257*

REFLEXOLOGY with GEORGIE PEART

The relaxing foot massage that can relieve all tension, re-balance the whole body whilst helping with many problems thus stimulating wellbeing.

Gillingham 01747 590714

07710 008744 georgiereflexology.com

SHREEN HARMONY

We have had two successful concerts – we sang for the Alzheimer's Society in May in Gillingham. It was a good evening, and very well supported.

In June we were delighted to be asked to sing at the Flower and Music Festival in St Michaels Church in Mere. It really was a beautiful setting. The church was filled with flowers and there was such a lovely atmosphere as all the community came together. We were very proud to sing there and to take part in such a successful Festival (which raised over £5,000 for St Michaels Church).

We are now busy learning new songs ready for our Big Sing in Frome in July. There are still vacancies in the choir and if you are interested, please come along and see - no auditions, just a love of singing. 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Mere.

Sandra Fisher ☎: 01747 861980

MERE GARDEN CLUB

Stourhead:

History, conservation and management of the garden

Alan Power

Wednesday 12th July 7.30pm Grove Buildings

Many of you will know of Alan, who is head gardener at Stourhead, and has had his own TV programme on historic gardens. For many years he has had Radio 4's "PM" listeners enthralled by his descriptions of Stourhead in autumn.

£5 entry for visitors who are very welcome.

Annual Show

We won't be holding the show in 2017 as that weekend, (9/10th September), we will be part of the "Creative Mere" weekend events. Be sure to put the date in your diary.

Janet Way ☎:01747 860884

MERE IN BLOOM

Hanging Basket and Tub Competition

There was a good response to the entries to our Competition and a wide variety of styles and wonderful displays. All of the entries were judged against RHS standards and marked by 2 judges out of 200 each.

The 3 winners gained over 300 points and the Highly Commended over 250.

FIRST PRIZE: 7 Lordsmead Road, SECOND PRIZE: 9 Long Hill

THIRD PRIZE: 2 Edgebridge

HIGHLY COMMENDED: 'Rosemary Cottage', Dark Lane; 'Midwinter', Castle Street; 'Wyndham', Springfield Gardens; 17 and 18 Castle Hill Crescent; 'Hillcrest', Hazzards Hill and 43 Lynch Close. Next year we hope to hold a Scarecrow Competition - so get your thinking caps on and imagination rolling! ***Janet Way ☎:01747 860884***

MERE THEATRE CLUB

By the time you read this, the autumn programme will be just out. So if you don't want to miss some good days out, culminating in the Candlelit Music and Reading at Wells Cathedral, join the club!

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

GROVE BUILDING

“100” Club Draw The result of the “100” Club Draw for June 2017, kindly drawn by Saffron from Gilyard Scarth, was:

1st Prize (£20)	No. 47	Mrs A Bellars
2nd Prize (£15)	No. 38	Rev'd & Mrs A Wadge
3rd Prize (£10)	No.125	Mrs S Walker

The results of the July and August draws will be published in the September issue..

Grove Building Temporary Closure: In order to make repairs to the drainage system, the Grove Building will be closed from Monday, 7th August and re-open to bookings a fortnight later on Monday, 21st August.

Isabel Howell, Chairman, ☎: 01747 860297

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE

For the over 60s

The Day Centre for Mere and District, Lynch Close
Mondays and Fridays 10:30am – 3:00pm

It's been a busy month for us at the RGC. Firstly we were honoured to be part of St Michaels Flower And Music Festival. Our display depicted our Day Centre with a bingo cage and over-sized teacup, both stuffed full of flowers. We then had a lovely visit to Bramley House, in the morning we got to get 'up close and personal' with some visiting snakes and spiders! We had a lovely fish and chip lunch followed by fun and music in the afternoon. Thank you to all the staff at Bramley House for making our visit such a lovely day.

We have also just had our annual visit to the seaside (Weymouth) where the weather was glorious, the fish and chips (again) were delicious and everyone enjoyed ice creams on the prom! Thanks again to all of you who purchased a seat on the coach and came along on the day. It was lovely to see so many happy glowing faces on the return journey.

Heather Stone: DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE.

A useful treatment for problems relating to: muscles ~joints~ movement
~ posture~ injuries (old and new) ~ circulation~ hormone balance~
digestion~ nervous system~ Or simply for **relaxation and wellbeing.**
Practising at Mere Osteopathy Clinic. **Heather: 07874 079 913**

We are holding an open day on **Friday, 18th August**. We will be opening our doors for all to come along, see what we do, eat some nibbles and cake, and enjoy some music from Johnny Mac! Look out for posters nearer the time or contact me for details if you are interested.

The Trustees of the RGC have offered to alternate our Mere Matters contributions with me, so look out for the September issue where they will be providing more information about the Day Centre.

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



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Our meeting at 2.30pm on Tuesday, 11th July in the Grove Building promises to be both interesting and entertaining, as **Bishop Bill Ind**, who featured in the TV 'An Island Parish' series on the Scilly Isles, is our speaker, and his subject is **A Bishop Reminisces**. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you would like to find out more before coming, please phone the number below.

We're also planning a **Teddy Bears' Picnic** for children with their mothers or carers during the summer holidays – but details aren't quite finalised as we go to press. Please phone if you would like details.

Judith Thompson (MU Branch Leader) ☎ 01747 860553



MERE WOMENS INSTITUTE (WI)

On Thursday, 6th July at 7.30 pm in the Grove Building, our talk will be by Stephen Wells again. Stephen is a Member of Actor's Equity and of the Magic Circle, and last year he gave us a talk on the History of the Magic Circle and included some baffling magic and anecdotes of famous magicians. This time he is going to give us the story of Butlin's Holiday Camps, and no doubt he has stories to tell us of many famous celebrities he has met who started their careers with Billy Butlin.

Visitors are welcome to come and join us for the evening and to enter our competition, a photograph of holiday fun.

Our August Meeting is an afternoon garden party at a members' house. We hope the fine weather of the recent 'Hidden Gardens of Mere' weekend will remain with us as we enjoy homemade cakes and sandwiches.

For our meeting on Thursday, 7th September at 7.30 in the Grove Building, our speaker will be Dawn Lawrence and her talk is entitled, 'Two steps behind – it all began with a

camel'. All will be explained! Visitors are welcome to come and join us for the evening and to enter our competition, 'A favourite quote from a story or poem about an animal.' Mere WI will be providing refreshments in the Grove Building on Sunday, 10th September as part of the 9th/10th weekend of 'Creative Mere', and will be selling, in addition, home-made cakes and produce. We hope to see you in support of this showcasing Mere event. *Hilary Gladding (President) ☎: 01747 861733*

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

We were delighted to be represented at the wonderful Flower and Music Festival in June in St Michaels church and, of course, Susanne's Wedding Dress and Christening Robe added a very touching addition to our display in the St. Matthew's Chapel.

Our garments are not just made in the UK but made in Mere, which is why they have their own label "Handmade by a Dressmaker in Mere" once they are completed. Do come and visit us at the Creative Mere Exhibition over the weekend of 9th and 10th September, where we will be in The Grove Building. Our stand is being run by the Dressmakers themselves.

Our next six week courses commence on the Monday, 11th and Wednesday, 13th September. Phone for details or visit us on our Facebook Page "Dressmaking in Mere". Enjoy the summer.

Carol ☎: 01747 861923 or Susanne 📠: 07788 595434

MERE MUSEUM

Visitors to the Museum this summer will find not only the superb exhibition of Anne Lander's spinning and weaving, which will continue until September, but also, for the month of July, a small show of **Paintings by pupils of Mere School**. Two for the price of one! Make sure you take full advantage of this rare opportunity!

The Museum is also thrilled and delighted to announce that the Rutter Family has generously donated to the Museum an historically valuable collection of printed materials such as posters for meetings and events, reports and newspaper cuttings and some written documents, all dating to the 19th century, collected by John Rutter and then by John Farley Rutter. These are currently in the form of two 'scrapbooks' but will need careful conservation in the near future. Watch this space for news of the fund-raising effort!

Come the autumn, we are planning that the next exhibition will be called '**Made in Mere!**' - a self-explanatory title suggested by a supporter. If you have items that might fit well under such a heading which you would be willing to lend, do please get in touch.

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

After their very successful Plant Sale in May, the Friends are (as usual) taking a break from fund-raising until the autumn. But (as you would expect), plans are already taking shape for new events later in the year. In the meantime make sure you go and look at the Museum's space in **the clocktower** where a new PowerPoint display, based on the recent exhibition about the conservation of the King James Coat of Arms in St. Michael's Church, can be seen. All these displays are created by Vincenzo Capozzoli, a busy and active Friend, and the Museum is hugely grateful to him for the imaginative work and the time he gives to creating these presentations.

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908



Mere Historical Society

Visit Three

Thursday, 13th July 2017

Swindon: Museum of the Great Western Railway

Leaves Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.30am and returns by 6.30pm

Bookings closed.

Visit Four

Thursday, 13th July 2017

Devizes:

Wadworth Brewery Tour and Wiltshire Museum

Tuesday, 5 September 2017

After climbing several short staircases, we will be guided through the traditional Victorian Tower Brewery, following the gravitational process down through each of the four floors. We will also see the 21st Century Copper House and visit the on-site Sign Studio to see Wadworth's unique hand-painted pub signs. Finally we will visit the stables, home to the working Shire Horses. The tour will end with a sampling session.

After time for lunch in Devizes, we will go to the Wiltshire Museum, which houses 500,000 years of Wiltshire's story through award-winning displays. These include spectacular treasures dating to the time of Stonehenge and worn by people who worshipped inside the stone circle. After the highlights tour there will be free time in the museum or to find tea.

NB The stairs at Wadworth should be manageable for most members, but if you would prefer to cut out the majority of the stairs, please ring Caroline for more information.

We will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.30am and return around 6.30pm.

Cost: MHS Members £26 Non-members £29

Includes coach and tip, tour of Wadworth, entrance to museum with highlights tour

DEADLINE Friday, 25th August

**Details and booking forms available from Mere Information Point
or download from the “What’s On” tab on our website**



: www.merehistoricalsociety.org.uk

Caroline Cook ☎: 01747 861797

MERE BOWLS CLUB

On one of the hottest days of the year, nine members of the club ventured down to Cranborne for a whole days bowling against Tisbury and Cranborne for the Win Green trophy. After playing four games of triples against two of the three sides from both opponents, we all settled down for tea and cakes while the organisers totted up the scores. After what seemed like an age Mere were declared winners by shot difference over Tisbury, who had the same number of points as Mere but had only scored 66 shots all day to a shot count of 77 by Mere Bowls Club. This is an annual match, and we look forward to attending at Tisbury next year where battle will again be entered against our old foes, but also our old friends.

As has been stated many times in this publication, if you want to give bowls a try, come on down on any Tuesday or Thursday from 5.00pm until 8.00pm or any Saturday from 3.00pm until 5.00pm and you will be made most welcome. Just remember to bring some flat shoes or you may feel the wrath of the Green Keeper. Or call me on the number below and, if I am free, I will meet you at the club at a time convenient to yourselves and get you started on the game of bowls.

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 CROQUET & BOULES CLUB

What better way to enjoy the recent fine weather than with a game of boule or croquet and a BBQ lunch!

The club is holding an open day on Saturday, 12th August, 12.00noon until 5.00pm and providing a BBQ lunch with a glass of wine, for the inclusive price of £5. There will also be a raffle.

New members are welcome, so please do come along to our club in Steep Street, Mere, BA12 6ED and join us. Whether you are a complete novice or an experienced player, you will be welcome. No equipment needed, if you don't know how to play, members will teach you, so come and have some fun and play a game of croquet or boules, or both. We are a friendly non competitive club but boules players can play in league matches if they wish.

If you wish to join us, please contact Hilary so that numbers can be catered for.

Hilary Gladding, Treasurer, ☎: 01747 861733



Mere School Reports

Gifted and Talented PE

Mere school hosted a Gifted and Talented PE morning for some of the children in Mere and our Wiltshire cluster schools. All the children took part in three different activities.

Street Surfing

The children had a great time learning how to surf on their wave boards. Fully clothed in their protective gear, they were taught the basic skills to be able to move independently around the playground.

Basketball

During this activity the children were taught some of the basic skills of basketball by our local coach from the

Fencing

The children wore their fencing masks and compete against each other using foam foils.

Year 5 Residential

Children from Y5 took part in the annual trip to Pencilli.

The children thoroughly enjoyed all the activities which included:

- Adventure walks
- Caving
- Canoeing
- Rock climbing
- Gorge walking
- Orienteering

The trip was a huge success and the children would like to say a huge thank you to Miss Beckwith, Mrs Green and Mr Barry for all their help and support throughout the week.

STOP PRESS!

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



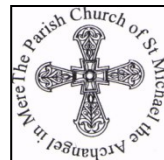
www.mereschool.co.uk

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH NOTES

We are looking for someone, either pianist or organist, willing to accompany our hymns at Sunday morning services at 11.00am, once or perhaps twice a month. We are a small, but friendly fellowship and you can be assured of a warm welcome. Please contact me at the number below, or ring ☎: 01747 860007.

Mrs E Burfitt ☎: 01747 860685

COMING UP AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH



In July **Military Wives Concert**

Friday, 7th July at 6.30pm for 7.00pm, Tickets, available from Christine Marsh ☎: 01747 861212 or Ann Lloyd ☎: 01747 863477, £10 each (£12 on the door)

Salisbury Cathedral Girls' Choir 'Sacred Masterpieces'

Monday, 10th July 2017 at 7.30 pm. Tickets available from Mere Library or Meg Oliver ☎: 01747 860111, £10 each, including refreshments. In aid of South Sudan.

In September **Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust**

"Ride & Stride"

Saturday, 9th September 2017, 10.00am - 6.00 pm

Would anyone like to do this in aid of St Michael's Church in Mere?

This is an annual national sponsored event with 50% of the money raised going to the participant's chosen church and the other half to the County Historic Churches Trust. Visit as many churches as you like, planning your own route. Seek sponsorship from friends, relations and colleagues. Participants may be cyclists, walkers, horse-riders or drivers of mobility scooters. Interested? Please contact Sherry Dixon by ☎: office@stmichaelsmere.org.uk or on the telephone number below

Sherry Dixon, PCC Secretary, ☎: 01747 861319

REV'D CAROL WILSON-BARKER, PRIEST IN CHARGE OF ST MICHAELS, MERE; WEST KNOYLE AND MAIDEN BRADLEY, WRITES:

Pied Beauty

Glory be to God for dappled things –
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:

Praise him.

By Gerard Manley Hopkins

I love the way this poem speaks of the beauty of creation under God's generous provision. The wonder and munificence of the created world is God's handiwork and the poem encourages us to be creative and imaginative in response to that world. Generations have responded to the beauty around us by caring for and beautifying their local churches.

At the recent Flower and Music Festival, 49 organisations, groups and businesses from Mere decorated our beautiful church of St Michael the Archangel. Our community responded with generosity, imagination and flair to the theme of "Celebrating Community". We were absolutely thrilled by the way you all came forward to be involved and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. The opening ceremony was attended by at least 100 people including the Lord Lieutenant and Bishop Ed Condry with folk music and spontaneous dancing in the aisle. On the next two nights we had concerts from local people including Gillingham School and the Farrant Singers.

On Sunday two bishops attended, one to take the service and then in the afternoon Bishop Nicholas Holtam, Salisbury, who was delighted to hear that around 1,000 people had been into the church. He said that he felt it made the church sing.

An event such as this takes so much planning and I want to particularly thank Elisabeth Barrett for her vision and patient perseverance, together with the hard working committee of Sandra, Maggie, Yvonne and Sarah of Sprout and Flower. Special thanks too to the jolly Pop-up café leader Penny Deeker. And thanks to you all for attending.

Life goes on at St Michaels though at a slightly slow slower pace! Look out for the Warminster Military Wives Choir on Friday, 7th July at 7.00pm and Salisbury Cathedral Girls and Men concert at 7.30pm on Monday, 10th July.



With blessings for a lovely summer
Everyone is invited to a
Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy in aid of Suchana
on Tuesday, 8th August from 10.30am-12.00noon
at 14 Prospect Place
(Home of Carole Marshall ☎: 01747 861905)

And thank you, retrospectively, or in advance – depending on when you are reading this - to everyone who supported or will support our **Strawberry Tea** on Friday 30th June. (If you're reading this before 30th June it's at Rivermead, Pettridge Lane, and everyone is welcome!)
Judith Thompson ☎: 01747 860553

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

JULY 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 3rd Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
Sunday	2nd	10.30am	Family Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong
Tuesday	4th	6.00pm	Start the month Holy Communion
Sunday	9th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	16th	*10.30am	Holy Communion
	23rd	10.30am	Holy Communion
	30th	10.30am	Matins

* Traidcraft stall after 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	2nd	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
			Holy Communion
	9th	11.00am	Mr Peter Kershaw
	16th	11.00am	Mr Martin Heal
	23rd	11.00am	Mrs Sharon Hawkes
	30th	11.00am	Songs of Praise

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's

Deacon Michael Hughes ☎ 01747 830766 ✉ michael@faithandjoy.co.uk

Mere Contacts: Margaret Thompson ☎ 01747 860291 or John FitzGerald

☎ 01747 860867

Every Saturday 5.30pm Mass

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	DIY
	9th	6.00pm	Evensong
	16th	9.30am	DIY
	23rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
	30th	9:30am	Holy Communion

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

AUGUST 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 3rd Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
Tuesday	1st	6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	6th	10.30am	Family Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong
Sunday	13th	10.00am	West Knoyle Patronal Service
			NO service at St Michaels
Wednesday	17th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	*20th	10.30am	Holy Communion
	27th	10.30am	Holy Communion

*Traidcraft Stall after 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	6th	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Heyton, Holy Communion
	13th	11.00am	Mrs Christine Marsh
	20th	11.00am	Mr Ken Elcock
	27th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's

Deacon Michael Hughes ☎: 01747 830766 ✉: michael@faithandjoy.co.uk

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

☎: 01747 860867

Every Saturday 5.30pm Mass

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	6th	9.30am	DIY
	13th	10.00am	St Marys Patronal Service
	20th	9.30am	TBC
	27th	6.00pm	TBC

DIARY DATES

JULY 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 10th & 17th)	L
		10.00am	Zumba Seated (every Monday)	L
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Beavers (also 10th)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (also 10th)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (also 10th)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.00pm - 9.00pm	Watercolour Club (every Monday)	
		7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
4	Tue	2.00pm - 4.00pm	"Get On-line" drop-in session	Lib
		2.30pm	Sandra Catley Core/Strength class (every Tuesday)	L
		6.00pm	Life Drawing Class (every Tuesday)	L
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (every Tuesday)	L
5	Wed	9.30am	Tai-Chi (every Wednesday)	GB
		10.30am	Tai-Chi (every Wednesday)	GB
		11.15am	Pilates (every Wednesday)	GB
5	Wed	6.30pm - 10.00pm	100 Club Wine & Cheese Evening	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers (every Wednesday)	RMC




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
		1.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
7	Fri	1.45pm	Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - every Friday)	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Gold (every Friday)	L
		6.45pm	Carnival Bingo Night ('Eyes Down' 7.30pm)	GB
		7.00pm	Military Wives Concert	St Michaels
9	Sun	7.30pm	Mere Footpath Group Moonlight Walk	CP
10	Mon	7.30pm	Salisbury Cathedral Girls Choir	St Michaels
		7.30pm	Mere Am. Dram. Socy (MADS) Meeting (Green R.)	L
11	Tue	2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
12	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together - Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
13	Thurs	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Mother & Baby Group (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		5.00pm	Rainbows (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		7.30pm	Girl Guides (also 20th & 27th)	GB
14	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 28th)	GB
15	Sat	10.00am - 12.00noon	Cancer Research Coffee	Dewes House
		10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
		6.30pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L
21	Fri	7.00pm	Literary Festival 2017 Quiz Night and Launch	GB
23	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
26	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
28	Fri	11.00am	July Short Walk	Stourhead


AUGUST 2017

1	Tue	2.00pm - 4.00pm	"Online Drop In Session"	Lib
		2.30pm	Sandra Catley Core/Strength class (every Tuesday)	L
		6.00pm	Pilates (also 22nd & 29th)	GB
2	Wed	9.30am	Tai Chi (also 23rd & 30th)	GB
		10.30am	Tai Chi small hall (also 23rd & 30th)	GB
		11.15am	Pilates (also 23rd & 30th)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers (every Wednesday)	RMC
3	Thur	10.00am - 11.30am	Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am - 12.00pm	Mere Art Group (also 24th & 31st)	GB
		1.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		1.30pm - 3.00pm	Mother & Baby Group	GB
		2.30pm	Sandra Catley Core/Strength Class (every Thursday)	L
4	Fri	1.45pm	Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - also 25th)	GB
5	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning (every Saturday)	CC

7 Mon The Grove Building Closes (Re-opens Monday, 21st August)GB


		7.30pm	Mere Am. Dram. Socy (MADS) Meeting (Green R.)	L
8	Tue	10.30am	- 12.00noon Suchana Coffee Morning	14 Prospect Place
12	Sat	6.30pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L
		6.20pm	Zumba (also 22nd & 29th)	L
18	Fri	10.30am	- Rosemary Goddard Centre Open Day	The Lynch
		6.00pm	Zumba Gold (also 25th)	L
19	Sat	9.00am	- 5.00pm Cancer Awareness Day	L
19	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
23	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
20	Sun	10.00am	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
21	Mon	10.00am	Chair based Zumba (also 28th)	L
		11.00am	Zumba Gold (also 28th)	L

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 SEPTEMBER 2017 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the September 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, 14th August 2017**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Send from Monday, 7th August 2017 to ✉: **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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