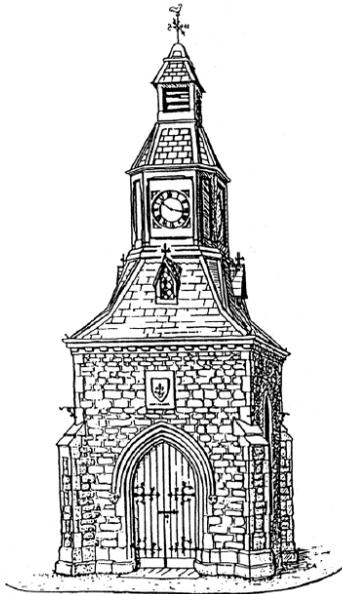


MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



Clock Tower - Mere

Colin Anderson 1992

MARCH 2018

MERE TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Council meets every month. Whilst it is not a public meeting, members of the public are welcome to come and listen. The Council members are working on YOUR behalf to sustain and improve the quality of life and the environment that we enjoy in the parish - come and hear what they are doing for you! You will be permitted to raise questions in a public session before the meeting starts.

The next meeting will be held in the Andy Young Pavilion **at 7.30pm on Monday, 5th March 2018.**

The Chairman writes:

In our February meeting we had the cheerful news that our nomination of Councillor Raymond Hill, as a representative for Wiltshire to attend the 2018 Buckingham Palace Garden Party, was successful and that he and his wife will be going. We heard from members of St. Michael's Church about the reordering plans for the church and had the opportunity to ask questions. The council heard from residents of The Lynch about traffic issues raise and, after discussion, agreed to make enquiries with Wiltshire Council about a possible width restriction on the road. Councillor Norris presented a report from the Mere Rivers Group on the effects on our rivers of extraction this past year, and how further monitoring of the situation will be done.

We also received the results of a recent Traffic Speed Survey carried out within the 40mph speed limit of Shaftesbury Road (north of Wet Lane) – the results showed that the average speed at which 85% of the traffic was travelling at was 34.2 mph. Notice was given of two temporary road closures: one in Woodlands Road from Monday, 5th March to Thursday, 29th March and again between Tuesday, 3rd April and Monday, 16th April (to enable sewer connection works), and the other in The Square on Sunday, 29th April 2018 for the Mere Cancer Research Classic Car Event.

I was able to tell the council that PCSO Peter Tscherniawsky has been out on Mere roads and speaking to drivers of cars whose parking is creating a hazard and I also had a chance, at another meeting, to speak to the Senior Inspector for the area who assured me that the matter would receive continuing attention.

We have been asked by the national Pageant Master about the town's involvement in

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**

national tributes to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War in November and we resolved to look to having a beacon on Castle Hill and to work with the churches on bell ringing. The proposal from the pageant master that the town has a piper piping at 6.00am on the day was not taken up!

I was able to make representations to County Councillors at the SW Wiltshire Area Board about our strong feeling that proposed changes with regard to housing allocation and planning are ill-judged. The proposals are to link Mere to Trowbridge, Westbury and Warminster for housing development and we are arguing the case that Mere should remain with its traditional link to Salisbury area. My thanks to Councillor Norris and Councillor Jeans for their support at the meeting. This will be a continuing battle until we achieve the result that we desire – we do not want to be in a housing area that seeks to find 6,500 more houses.

I was looking for some dates to plan special events for Mere and went to the library to check with the shared calendar there. There are only a few of the many events, that we are fortunate to have in Mere, which are recorded there. Can I ask that organisers do take the time to enter their events in the calendar so that we can avoid clashes. Thanks.

Finally, I had the privilege to finish the planting of an Oak Tree whereby Mere is marking the centenary year of the end of World War One, with a living feature of remembrance. We hope that the Oak Tree growing in a peaceful field can be an important counterpoint to the terrible scenes in fields abroad 100 years ago. This should become a place, for generations of Mere residents, for tranquil remembrance of the sacrifice made by so many military and civilian people and, hopefully, a place to aspire for peace.

For information on Town Council activities, details of meetings and copies of minutes, please view the Mere website:  www.merewilts.org, e-mail the town clerk at  lindseywood@merewilts.org or  01747 860701. To contact the chairman directly,  chair@merewilts.org

John Jordan, Chairman, Mere Town Council

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES

A very interesting presentation was made to the South West Wiltshire Area Board (SWWAB) by James Body on bringing Super Fast Broadband and 4G mobile coverage to the Chalke Valley. Several in my Mere Division require faster broadband. This presentation illustrated there are more ways than fibre to deliver a service where broadband is lacking. By 2020 the government appear to me that they will legislate for a universal access service. In my opinion this may be at an additional cost to the end user sometimes.

On 14th February I took some of Mere First Brownies in a mini bus for an overnight stay

near Lyndhurst in Hampshire, returning again the next day to collect them. I drove them in a bus kindly provided by the local youth group, Seeds4Success. Also I have taken Lynch Close Residents on day trips. I have a D1 endorsement on my driving licence, have passed a MIDAS test and drive the mini bus on a Section 19 permit as it is known. It is only the UK that allows this type of community transport within the European Union.

The all-party parliamentary group on hunger has called for funds to be redirected to support elderly people “withering away in their own homes” through loneliness. We are lucky in our area where we are small enough to have a true community spirit, even so I know many are lonely and we are again lucky to have several worthy groups such as The Rosemary Goddard Centre at Lynch Close, Friends Together in The Grove Buildings and recently Ann-Marie, Health and Well Being Champion for our South West Area Board, providing a 'Pop-Up' café in The Andy Young Pavilion.

DfT figures show that maintenance spending by councils on B roads, C roads and unclassified routes in 2016-17 was £1.87bn, the lowest level in 10 years and down from £2.46bn in 2004-05. This I can easily believe driving along The Street (or lack of it) at Kilmington. Also Wiltshire Highways have recently erected a sign on the main B3092 that directs you to Kilmington when travelling south, but not north. I am informed the signage problem will be addressed quickly.

I do not want Mere in the Trowbridge Housing Market as now proposed. The South West Area Board has agreed to support me with this, working with our Town Council. I have had a meeting with officers and it appears market areas are not directly aligned with land supply for proposed building. Evidence is required as proof that those who work or volunteer, do so locally or towards Salisbury and indeed Dorset and Somerset. Also that many of these workers when moving dwelling or workplace, move within in this area. I think so, do you know otherwise? I do not believe we have our market area around Trowbridge, it being in West Wilts.

This month I would like to endorse the fact that the two affordable rented bungalows for the over 50s at Homefield, Mere are on programme for completion in the Spring. These bungalows are aimed at those who have a larger house and would like to downsize to a modern residence, freeing up two houses for families. Leaflets to promote these have been distributed to all 254 affordable homes within the Parish, and to amenities within the Town, as well as to the addresses which have previously been discussed and in public areas. Appropriate wording to publish the details in newsletters and websites to raise the profile of the bungalows was made available. If you or someone you know is interested in one of the bungalows, you will have until the end of March to register with Homes4Wiltshire, before the adverts are made live for one week. Therefore, by mid April the occupants for the two bungalows will be known. Then fixture and fitting choices will be arranged (carpets/curtains), and any additional grab rails etc that may be required.

It is a fact that the number of Police stations with front counters where the public can speak directly to officers has fallen from 901 in 2010 to 510 now. Across the country a number of alternative contact methods have been made available including, as in Dorset, civilian volunteers staffing a police contact point in a library two days a week. Mere please note we still have a Police Station, which is open some days to the public being manned by volunteers: Roy Sims and John Hancock our ex Policeman, for which I thank them.

Last month I stated West Knoyle Parish council and local residents had contacted me over the last twelve months, regarding the parking situation at Stoney Bridge and I can now report that I have had three residents contact me regarding being involved in a self help scheme.

Mere Snooker Club in Salisbury Street has decided to stop being a limited company in the hope it will ease the bureaucracy and help secure the longevity of the club.

Mere Town Council had requested some of the pavement improvement budget awarded earlier in the year to the SWWAB. The proposal was to screed the pavement from Mere Post Office to St Michaels Church to help the ambulant disabled; this has not been awarded after Wiltshire Highways made a priority report. I have noted this well used pavement has deviations of up to or more than 20mm in places, which is unacceptable to the ambulant disabled, therefore I shall continue to pursue its repair.

Make a date in your diary. 'Mere Makes Music' is proposed for Saturday 28th April 2018. Wiltshire Rural Music School based in Trowbridge, but which is also a county-wide charity, is trying to work out in communities more. Wiltshire Rural Music School is also offering to fund six workshops afterwards.

A reminder again that I have a facebook page: 'Cllr George Jeans', for use to display some events I attend and may be other material. It is not a platform for conversation at present; I do not view it regularly, whereas : george.jeans@wiltshire.gov.uk or : 07710 441599 I can usually answer quickly.

A303 STONEHENGE CONSULTATION

Stonehenge is one of eight planned Highways England improvement schemes along the A303, A358 and A30 to link the South West and South East of England.

Progress Report

Since the announcement of the preferred route in September 2017, Highways England has been developing the scheme proposals to the stage where it would now welcome the public's views on its proposals.

The public consultation is now open, and will continue to run until closure on **Friday, 6th April 2018** at 11.59pm.

Feedback from this public consultation will help Highways England in its continued development of the scheme to the time when it submits an application for planning consent (known as a Development Consent Order) to the Planning Inspectorate.

What's next

Further information about the consultation is available on the dedicated website at www.highways.gov.uk/A303Stonehenge/consultation. From there, you can also use the consultation page to submit your views via an online response form, or download a response form to fill in and post to Highways England free of charge.

Timeline

Date

8th February to Friday, 6th April 2018

Late 2018

2021 (planned)

Event

Statutory consultation on proposed scheme

Submit planning application

Start on site

Community news

As part of the consultation process, Highways England are holding a series of public drop-in events where you can find out about the scheme plans and talk to Highways England's project experts. Everyone is welcome to these events and Highways England will be pleased if you go along, as it wishes to make sure that you get the latest, most accurate information about the scheme, and ask any questions you may have.

Of the 14 events being staged in the area of Stonehenge, the important one for us in Mere is the one on **Thursday, 1st March being staged in the Lecture Hall from 2.00pm until 8.00pm.**

Graham Avory, Editor

FREEVIEW TELEVISION RECEPTION PROBLEMS

How to Cure

Over recent months many people in Mere have found their television reception has degraded significantly. The cause of this is the new 4G mobile services which are now available in this area; these cause interference with the Freeview signal. Filters which cure this problem are available from 'at800' which was set up specifically to deal with the issue. The website <https://at800.tv/> is where full information can be found.

For example from at800's FAQs:

What are filters and how are they fitted?

at800 domestic/household filters are small boxes which block 4G at 800 MHz mobile signals, and in most cases enable you to carry on receiving watching Freeview as normal – we provide them free of charge. Each filter is smaller than a pack of cards and needs no batteries or external power supply. It will normally plug into the lead between the TV

and the aerial. If you have a TV signal amplifier or booster, the filter must be fitted between the aerial and amplifier.

To contact 'at800' ☎: 0808 13 13 800 (free from landlines). The company will supply filters at no charge. We needed an engineer to fit a filter to our rooftop aerial and that was also free.

We can confirm that having filters fitted has dramatically improved our TV reception.

John Elvin, ☎: 01747 861569

MERE SURGERY

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

OPEN HOUSE!

Come and join us for coffee and cakes.

Share your views about the health issues that concern you, and what you would like the PPG to address on your behalf.



Tuesday, 6th March 2018

10:30am for 11:00am

Lecture Hall, Salisbury Street,

Mere BA12 6HE

WARMINSTER FOOD BANK

On behalf of Warminster Food Bank, a very big thank you for all your generous donations at our collection outside the Co-Op in December. We collected a 'massive' 190kg of tins, packets, toiletries and many festive treats. A big thank you to Ann Ridler, who has been a stalwart for this increasingly vital service and who is now taking a well earned rest from collecting, driving and delivering supplies.

We have now sorted four dates for 2018 collections, so please consider buying an extra tin or packet when you are shopping. The following collection dates for 2018 to be held outside the Co-Op, Mere, in aid of Warminster Food Bank, which covers Mere, are:

Saturday, 21st April	9.00am to 2.00pm
Saturday, 21st July	9.00am to 2.00pm
Saturday, 13th October	9.00am to 2.00pm
Saturday, 8th December	9.00am to 2.00pm

We will be accepting donations the week before these dates at KM Beauty (during salon hours) and Mere Co-Op. More details to follow in Mere Matters and on Facebook – Mere Mutters.

We are looking for volunteers to help us on these dates, so if you can help for a few minutes or an hour or two, please contact Katie at KM Beauty ☎: 01747 860081 (please leave a message if no reply). We will be grateful for any 'in date' food donations of tins, packets, jars, boxes and toiletry items.

Please, **if you have eaten today remember those who have not**. More information on the website 🌐: www.warminsteranddistrictfoodbank.co.uk

Katie, ☎: 01747 860081

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH VISITOR'S BOOK

The following is an extract from the many new entries in the church's Visitor's Book over the last month:

Graham and Robyn, Brisbane, Australia

'A privilege to visit this magnificent church'

MERE RIVERS GROUP

Wildlife Sightings for January

Many thanks to all of you who went out in January, despite the intrepid weather, and passed on your wildlife sightings. These were Little Egret – 14 times, and Kingfisher – 4 times. Grey Wagtail, Water Vole and a 9" Trout were all seen once and a flock of 10 Long Tailed Tits were seen on the Shreen along Waterside.

Now the days are getting longer, and spring flowers are in our hedgerows and on the river banks, there are many more opportunities for you to take a stroll along the rivers and streams and let us know your wildlife sightings. Please send them to ☎: mereriverwildlife@btinternet.com

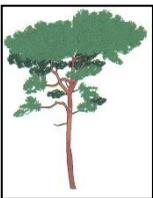
Nature Notes

Over the next month we would expect to see less of the Kingfisher and Egret as they will be moving to their nesting areas. We should see more activity from our Water Voles as they start to breed.

Water Voles breed from March to September and have up to 4 broods a year. The young born in March/April can themselves breed by the end of the summer. The average life of a Vole is about a year as they are killed by most predators e.g. mink, rats, owls and domestic cats.

At the end of the month you may see the return of the first summer migrants, Chiffchaffs and Willow Warblers are usually first.

Please enjoy our streams and report your sightings to ☎: mereriverwildlife@btinternet.com Lynne Bann ☎: 01747 860174



MERE FOOTPATH GROUP

Walks 2018

Sunday	18th March	2.00pm - Local walk
Sunday	15th April	2.00pm
Sunday	13th May	2.00pm
Tuesday	22nd May	10.00am
Sunday	24th June	2.00pm
Thursday	28th June	7.30pm - moonlight walk
Sunday	22rd July	2.00pm
Friday	3rd August	10.00am
Sunday	19th August	2.00pm
Thursday	6th September	10.00am
Sunday	23rd September	2.00pm

Sunday 14th October 2.00pm

Wednesday 2nd January 2019 New Year Walk

Note the addition of weekday morning walks this year.

Walks start from the main car park in Mere. Please share cars where possible. Everyone very welcome, including dogs if on leads. Bring small picnic if you wish. Further details of destination and distances will be posted on a board outside the Post Office nearer to the dates.

Liability Disclaimer - As the group has no insurance, walkers should be aware that they take part in walks at their own risk, and that neither the walk leader nor the group can accept liability for any injury or loss howsoever caused.

*Jean Young ☎: 01747 860950 & Ann Newberry ☎: 01747 861184
for Mere Footpath Group*

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**



MERE DENTAL PRACTICE

Dentists: Waheed Syed, Jyothsna Mekala, Christopher Davies

Dental Hygienists: Laura Moss, Emma Wise

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 -5:00pm

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

FIVES COURT EVENTS

Knit and Natter meets on the last Thursday of the month at Fives Court, Angel lane , Mere from 10.00am until 12.00pm. Whether you are an experienced knitter or crocheter, or taking it up for the first time, our knitting group has something for you, work on your own project or get involved in ours. Needles and wool are available or more experienced knitters can bring their own. Come along and enjoy a morning filled with laughs, refreshments provided.

On Tuesday, 6th March we will be holding our annual “Mad Hatters tea party” at Fives Court, Angel Lane, from 2.00pm until 4.30pm, a “Time for a cuppa” event promoted by Dementia UK. We will be raising money for carers, family and people living with Dementia. Come along for a fun filled afternoon and dress up or create a hat for the occasion. We will be selling delicious cakes and treats and refreshments.

For more information on either of the above events, please contact me.

Tatum Johnson, Activities Co-Ordinator, ☎: 01747 860707

STOURHEAD HAS VACANCIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are so lucky to have Stourhead on our doorstep and so many people of Mere are volunteers at this lovely property. We currently have vacancies for a variety of roles, so if you're interested and would like to discuss them, please e-mail me ☎: jean.booth@nationaltrust.org.uk or telephone me on the number below.

Jean Booth, Volunteer Co-ordinator, ☎: 01747 841152

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

The event began on Monday, 26th February and concludes on Sunday, 11th March. This year's theme is 'Opening Doors of Opportunity'- for all the artisans and growers producing goods with the Fair Trade Mark. Don't forget that I will be holding my usual Fair Trade stalls at the URC coffee mornings at 11.00am on the third Saturday in each month, and after the 10.30am morning service at St Michaels Church on the third Sunday in each month. In March these dates will be the 17th and 18th respectively, and will include a selection of new items from the 2018 catalogue. Why not come along, browse the goodies and buy or order your Fairly Traded Easter Eggs.

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

Singing Lessons now available in Mere

Sing and perform with confidence - All ages & abilities
Learn about technique and production - Individual or
Group sessions

Contact: KATIE SMITH B Mus - 07427 684269 or

www.reallysing.co.uk

MERE AND DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

Registered Charity No:1062328

☎: 01747 860096



Vital Journeys – Vital Link

January Journeys

Getting to vital medical appointments can be difficult in this area for those without transport. In January the **Link Scheme** voluntary transport service made 91 journeys for clients from Mere and surrounding villages. Our volunteer drivers help people get to medical and other appointments where no other means is available. We are glad people offer their services in this way and are pleased to have had some enquiries from potential drivers. We are always open to more offers. After all, a number of our drivers are older than our customers and there comes a time when they have to retire. Having more drivers also means we call less frequently on peoples' time.

Social Event

We held an enjoyable post Christmas drivers' social evening on 26th January. Despite this clashing with Yeovil playing Manchester United in the FA Cup we had a good turnout! Drivers were able to meet other drivers, and the co-ordinators who call them to arrange their drives. We were delighted to welcome the **Pearly King and Queen of Harrow** as our guests following their donation to the Link and to receive additional donations from Dick and Brenda Morris and Di Potter.

Safe Data

Behind the scenes we are preparing for the introduction of the GDPR. GDPR sounds like the initials of an oppressive and secretive state. In fact it stands for **General Data Protection Requirements** and from May 2018 it will be the new standard replacing the current Data Protection Act. As a Charity we must ensure that any personal data that we hold on clients and drivers (e.g. name and address), conforms to the new legislation. From our researches so far you can rest assured that this will not mean more red tape or questionnaires! While it affects our internal operations, our drivers and users will see little difference.

Hamish Bell, Secretary, Mere & District Link Scheme ☎: 01747 860096



MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Annual General Meeting Report

Mere and District Chamber of Trade held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 31st January 2018 at The George Inn in Mere.

Hamish Bell, President of Mere Chamber, thanked all the committee for their dedication over the last year. Throughout 2017, the Chamber had maintained membership of Visit Wiltshire as a Town Partner to endeavour to encourage tourism and visitors into Mere. The Chamber also supports 'The Walking Maps' and 'Mere Meanders', available for purchase in local establishments, which have proved very successful for both visitors and people living in and around Mere to use in their exploration of the stunning local countryside.

Hamish reiterated the Chamber's view that the town needed employment facilities more than new housing and had joined together with the Town Council to address keeping the car parks free of charge.

The Chamber hosted an Emergency First Aid at Work Training Course in Mere on the

28th October 2017. This is the third time that this course has been made available in Mere, and it once again proved successful. It was run by recommended professional trainers. A recognized Proficiency Certificate is awarded on completion of the course and is valid for 3 years.

The Chamber Committee was re-elected for a further year, with Hamish Bell as President, and continues to work towards supporting the local business community.

If you would like to know more about the Chamber and its work and activities or would be interested in training courses for your organisation, please get in contact with us. Watch this space for further details of our meetings and we look forward to seeing you at a Chamber event or meeting in 2018.

For information about Mere Chamber please contact me on the telephone number below or by e-mail : merechamber@outlook.com

Julie Cousins, Secretary, M & D Chamber of Trade : 07856 700 576

TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY



Tea@3 will be held in the Angel Corner Tearooms on Wednesday, 21st March 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, 19th February, please.

Come in and have a chat with tea and cake. All are welcome.

Paul Farrow ☎: 01747 860524



MERE 'POP UP CAFÉ'

Come and join us
on Tuesday, 20th March
From 3.00 to 4.30 pm



at the Rosemary Goddard Centre in Lynch Close

Do you feel you are not getting out and about enough? If so, why not come and join us.

We are run by volunteers, and the café is open to everyone of all ages. We will be serving free tea and coffee and the youth group will produce some delicious cakes.

If you need a lift to get there call me on the number below no later than Monday, 19th March.

Ann-Marie Dean, ☎: 07704 783742

THE COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch will be held at the **George Inn**, The Square, Mere on Tuesday, 13th March 2018 at 12.30pm. Cost: £10.95 per head, drinks not included. Please ring in advance ☎: 01747 860427. Everyone is invited to join us, we are a very friendly bunch, so if you are on your own, new in the area or just fancy a meal with company, come and join us. For further details contact me.

Lindy Elliott ☎01747 861646

MARCH SHORT WALK

This will take place on Friday, 16th March. Meet at 2.00pm in the Surgery car park for a walk around Mere's hidden pathways.

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

MERE FILMSHOWS

Our next film will be on Friday, 2nd March at the usual time of 7:30pm. **My Cousin Rachel (12A)** is the latest adaptation of Daphne du Maurier's novel.

Sam Claflin (*Their Finest*) plays Philip, the dashing but naive young hero, who inherits a country estate from his cousin Ambrose, who Philip suspects was murdered by his

Italian wife, Rachel (**Rachel Weisz**). When Rachel arrives for a visit, he falls under her spell. Is she only seducing him for the estate or is her affection genuine? A film definitely worth seeing, with its mix of resentment, jealousy, infatuation and suspicion! Did she or didn't she?? Full details on page 26.

We look forward to seeing you there! *Rosie Jordan-Barr* ☎: 01747 861567

MERE THEATRE CLUB

To members: if you haven't paid your subscription you won't get the summer mailing! What a shame - but still probably not too late.... Music, drama, a visit to the coast - who knows? To find out, whether you've been a member or are thinking of becoming one, contact Wendy or Madelaine.

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

MERE GARDENING CLUB

AGM and Spring Show

Followed by:

'Solitary Bees' by Briget Strawbridge

Wednesday, 14th March 7.30pm Grove Building

Subs will be collected at the AGM and are £10. This includes 8 monthly talks, discounted shopping at local Garden Centres, summer visits, a New Year Social and a mid-summer Garden Party.

The AGM is a very relaxed occasion and fun as we vote for our favourite exhibits to determine the winners. Bridgit's last talk was very popular so don't miss the chance to hear her speak again.

Schedules for this year's Spring Show are in the Post Office window and anyone is welcome to take part except for the Mere garden Club items (MGC).

£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome.

Mere Garden Festival

Plans are moving forward for our new event on Saturday, 1st September. We hope our new Show format will appeal to you and will prompt you into participating, whatever your skill level! The show will be open to EVERYONE whether a member or not of the Garden Club. The aim is to move away from the rather off-putting precision of traditional shows and towards including many more entries especially from novices. The various categories will be judged and certificates and rosettes will be awarded to outstanding entries- but the silverware (i.e our cups) is being put to bed!

The new-style Schedules and registration forms will be available from Sprout and Flower in April so you can begin planning soon.

Don't forget to visit our website for information about all our activities and to see photos of our summer garden evening last year to remind you of warmer days!

 <http://www.meregardenclub.org.uk>

Janet Way : 01747 860884

German and French Tuition

Beginners, intermediate or advanced learners.

Join a friendly group with an experienced, qualified teacher.

Also GCSE and A Level coaching.

Call Marilyn Morris BSc(Hons), PGCE 01747 228416

SPECTRA MUSICA IN WINCANTON

Spectra Musica, which includes singers from Mere, will be singing 'Motets, Madrigals and More' at St Luke and St Teresa's Church, Wincanton on Saturday, 17th March, in another lively concert led by their very talented Musical Director, Peter Leech. The group's programmes are always a colourful mix of words and music from many eras and styles.

Vautor and Bassani were 17th century composers, Brahms 19th century, and Villetto, Lloyd Webber and Seiber 20th century, all adding to the evening's variety.

The talented pianist Caroline D'Cruz will also feature in the programme as well as accompanying the group.

The concert starts at 7.30pm with tickets, priced at £12, available from ☎: 01963 350160, from ✉: tickets@spectramusica.co.uk or on the door.

Sally Greenhalgh, Chairman Spectra Musica, ☎: 01963 350160



MERE MUSEUM

Our new exhibition 'Mere's Amazing Neighbours' has been attracting large numbers of visitors who have already added some very complimentary comments to the visitor's book. If you haven't seen it yet, do pop along to the Museum. There's lots to see and learn - it's a very good way to pass some time during these cold and wet days. Visits to the Museum are always free.

We would also like to give you advance notice that we are planning a **Big Museum Event**, to take place in the spring (if it ever comes). Plans are under wraps for the moment but tea and cake will definitely be involved. Look for the date in the next edition of Mere Matters!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

At last, the news you've been waiting for! Our first fund-raiser of 2018 will be a **Quiz Night**. The date is **Friday, 27th April** - please put it in your diaries now while you think of it - you won't want to miss it. Refreshments will be available and there will also be a raffle. More details next month.

Not long after the Quiz Night will be the Friends' famous **Plant sale**. For now just make a note of the date: **Saturday, 12th May**. But, in the meantime, don't forget to pot up volunteer seedlings, and when it comes to splitting up too-large clumps of plants, please save a few pieces for the sale!

Jenny Wilding ☎: 01747 860908

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

Our next production is coming on in leaps and bounds! It is 'A Mere Variety Show', and in case you didn't make a note of the dates, you will be able to see the fruits of our labours on Thursday to Saturday, **22nd - 24th March at 7.30 p.m.** in the Lecture Hall.

The production is a celebration of the life of **Sharron Glide**, and the many and various contributions she made to MADS over many decades, all sadly cut short last year.

Tickets, at £10 a head which include a ploughman's supper, are **now on sale** at the Library. Ticket numbers are limited so you would be wise to book as soon as you can.

Any queries, please contact Penny Allen on ☎: 07539 329798 We look forward to seeing you there!
Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908



Mere Historical Society The Wessex Turncoat Michael Wills

Tuesday, 6th March 7.30pm in the Grove Building

The Wessex Turncoat is a novel which charts the life of a local boy who is drafted into the army of George III to fight in the American War of Independence. Michael will be talking about how he came to write this novel.

Members, when you come please make sure you pick up your Newsletter.

£3 entry for non members who are very welcome

Morning talk: Tuesday 13th March, "Stand Up and Be Counted – The Story of the Census" by Daphne Tighe. To be held in the **Grove Building** at 10.15am for 10.30am. (*Visitors welcome, suggested donation, including coffee, £3*)

Note: our AGM will be on Tuesday, 3rd April at 7.00pm for a glass of wine while you pay your **sub for 2018/19** which will be **£10**. The AGM will be followed by a talk "Out of my Attic – Boy's Toys of the 20th Century" by Michael Weale.

Don't forget to check out our web site:



www.merehistoricalsociety.org.uk

Caroline Cook ☎: 01747 861797

MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Mothering Sunday is on 11th March this year, and we're encouraging everyone who can to participate in MU's 'Make a Mother's Day' campaign with its imaginative ideas to bring hope and new opportunities to disadvantaged mothers and families in Guyana, Rwanda, Uganda, South Sudan, Papua New Guinea and other countries around the world – as well as in the UK. By giving an alternative 'gift of hope' – perhaps in thanksgiving for your own mother – you can make a real difference to poor families and communities. (Please ask for a gift catalogue if you would like one.)

For our regular meeting **at 2.30pm on Tuesday, 13th March in the Grove Building** Jenny Wilding is coming to enable us to discover the history, purpose and meaning of the very rare, and recently renovated royal coat of arms above the main Church door at St Michael's. Everyone welcome, as always.

Judith Thompson, Branch Leader, ☎: 01747 860553

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

We are eagerly awaiting our next course in March. Having done some successful advertising we are welcoming some new people along with many of our regular Dressmakers. We still have a couple of places on Tuesday mornings and always like to have a waiting list which is useful for the Wednesday evening course.

We have quite a few people for whom Dressmaking is quite new to them and they enjoy learning a new skill and making clothes for themselves or their children that fit well. We have a suppliers list for fabric and encourage recycling of fabrics that deserve new lives.

If you would like to know more we really like to encourage people to come along to one of our existing mornings or evenings to see what we do and to meet the dressmakers and they enjoy showing people their skills. Phone me, Carol, to arrange this.

Do look at our Facebook Page "Dressmaking in Mere" for photos etc. Or phone one of us on the numbers below. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Carol Lord ☎: 01747 861923 or Susanne 📠: 07788 595434
Facebook Page "**Dressmaking in Mere**"*

CJK Decorating Services

Internal and External works undertaken
Free quotes, No VAT

for help and advice please call

Chris King on 07851215682 or email, cjkdecorating@gmail.com

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (RGC) for the over 60s

Mere and District Day Centre, Lynch Close, Mere
Mondays and Fridays 10.30am to 3.00pm

From the Trustees

Looking back over the thirty years since Rosemary Goddard had the vision to set up our Day Centre for Mere and District, the charity sector has evolved and formalised, particularly in recent years. This means that we now work to a framework of quality standards, for which we are accountable to our main funders, primarily Wiltshire Council – in other words, all of us in the local community.

In outline, these standards cover:

Governance and management of the organisation; financial probity; consultation with, and involvement of, the users and the wider community; design and delivery of services and activities appropriate to the needs and capabilities of the guests; ensuring that the admissions criteria are attuned to identify those who will benefit most from the service.

Our centre manager, Sandie Hawkins, devises a comprehensive programme of activities according to the quality standards for service. The Trustees are responsible for general oversight (governance) and for financial supervision, including fundraising. Close and happy teamwork between the trustees, Sandie, Jean Rodrigues (our volunteer coordinator) and, not least, our volunteers, is the essential key to our success in maintaining these high standards.

We will be celebrating our thirtieth anniversary later this year, and the support we have had from the local community. Watch this space! *Chris Dillon Chair of trustees*

To contact the centre: Sandie Hawkins 📞: 07835 272406
🌐: www.MereDayCentre.org.uk

MERE BRIDGE CLUB

We are a small friendly club. We meet on every Thursday afternoon at 2.00pm in the Lecture Hall in the small hall at the back. We play Rubber Bridge and welcome anyone who is interested in joining us for the afternoon. We welcome beginners and more advanced players. We have tea or coffee and biscuits during a short break in the afternoon and we have a good laugh. *Janet Meadows 📞: 01747 861656*

MERE BOWLS CLUB

On Tuesday, 30th January, we held our annual dinner and presentation, which is the highlight of our social calendar and, for the first time at the George Hotel in Longbridge Deverill.

After an enjoyable meal, the following winners of Club competitions during the last season were presented with trophies and prizes by President Tom Cardoza:

John FitzGerald, Alan Inwood and Les Manwaring in the Triples cup.

Maggie Phillips and Bob Holdom in the Mixed Pairs cup.

Mary Butchers and Karen Guy in the Two Wood Pairs cup.

Don Butchers and Anne Sidford in the Open Pairs cup.

Derek Fisher in the Novice Singles cup.

John FitzGerald in both 100up and Two Wood Singles cups.

Richard Coombes in the Club Singles cup.

Meanwhile, our Green Team, headed by Phill Powell, continue their work on the rinks and surrounds in preparation for the new season, which opens on Saturday, 21st April, when everyone is welcome to come and try their hand at this challenging, but compelling sport.

For further information please contact me: *Alan Spencer* ☎: 01747 860803

MERE CROQUET & BOULE CLUB

Croquet is great fun, a game for all ages to play. We are having an Open Day on Saturday, 14th April at 2.00pm, where you can drop into the Club at the top of Steep Street in Mere, meet the members, find out more about the game and play croquet. Wine and Nibbles will be available.

Whether you are a complete novice or an experienced player, you will be welcome.

Our usual times for playing are from 2.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays from April to the end of September. No equipment is 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. We would love to see you, please come and try - you will love it.

Avril Fletcher ☎: 01747 861285

MERE SNOOKER CLUB

We have recently recruited several new members and the future of the Club is looking more promising. However, we are still in financial difficulties due to the increase in rent from the landlords. We are the oldest Club in the town and it would be sad to see it disappear.

If you are interested in what we have to offer, give me a ring or send an e-mail.

Mike Gladding, Secretary, ☎: 01747 861733
✉: hilarygladding@btinternet.com

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA

in association with
MERE TOWN COUNCIL
proudly presents

'My Cousin Rachel' (12A)

**Sam Claflin Rachel Weisz
Holliday Grainger**

From the novel by Daphne du Maurier.
A classic tale of passion, jealousy and suspicion.

**in The Lecture Hall
Friday, 2nd March
at 7.30pm**
(Doors open 7.00pm)

TICKETS £6.00

Available from the Library

For more information call Rosie Jordan-Barr ☎ 01747 861567

Visit our website at  www.moviola.org



Mere School

Reception Class

Blue class are now half way through their first year at Mere School. They have been working really hard and learning lots of new things.

This term the children have been learning all about 'People who Help Us'.

Vet

The children had a visit from the vet. The vet explained to the children how it is their job to look after all the animals.

The children were told all about how to care for their pets and what to do if they are poorly.

Police

The police also paid a visit to the class. The children learnt all about how to keep themselves safe and what to do if they get lost. Road safety was also discussed and the children now know exactly how to cross a road safely.

Fire Engine

A fire engine arrived at the school and Blue Class got the chance to look inside and see what special clothing

the fire service wear. They were also taught all about fire safety and what they should do if they ever discover a fire.

Paintings

The children have painted some amazing fire engine pictures. They thought carefully about mixing colours and the shapes that they needed.

Thanks

The children would like to thank all the people who came to talk to them this half term. They have really enjoyed all the visits and have behaved beautifully for all the adults.

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

ST MICHAEL'S CHOIR

We are delighted that Mr Graham Coatman, our new Organist and Choir Leader, is now in post. Choir practice time has been changed to Fridays from 6.30 -7.30 pm where a warm welcome is assured to all new members, all voices, all ages.

There is no audition and you are not required to read music, but you must be able to sing in tune.

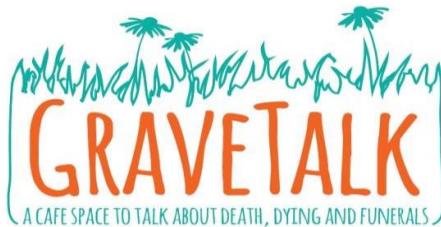
Eiluned Morgan-Nash, for St Michael's Choir ☎: 01747 228916

LENT LUNCHES

There will be three Lent Lunches this year. The first is on Friday, 2nd March at the United Reformed Church from 12.30 until 1.30 p.m. The other two will be held in the Grove Building on Fridays, 23rd and 30th March from 12.30 until 1.30 p.m.

Please come along and give your support and join us for soup and crusty bread and cheese. There will be fruit and tea or coffee to follow all for the bargain price of £4. All proceeds to Christian Aid and CAFOD (The Churches International Development Charity).

Sandra Fisher ☎: 01747 861980



Join us in the

Butt of Sherry

Wednesday, 14th March

7.00-9.00pm

A relaxed space to talk about death, dying, funerals and bereavement.

A free drink will be offered.

Contact Jane Hurd ☎: 01747 860218, Rev'd. Carol ☎: 01747 861859

LETTER FROM "CHURCHES TOGETHER" IN MERE & DISTRICT

A Blink of History

Thoughts after an impromptu picnic on Easter Monday, 2011.

A story teller came and sat on our hill. In his mind's eye he saw the friends and lovers, husbands and wives who, down the years, had sat and watched as he was doing, their joys and sorrows, tears and passions safe now in history despite his invasive imagination probing the lives out under the gabled roofs clustered about the ancient church in this green heart of England.

Climbing higher he suddenly encountered men-at-arms, sentries on the ramparts of their castle, long since gone – its warrior stones enjoying settled domesticity in the walls of the buildings below and the farms beyond.

Strange, he thought, as he looked out again, how old church towers, buttressed and spired, resemble astronauts' spacecraft reaching for the stars.

.....

Through our hopes and aspirations, in our care for one another, for our families, our homes, our surroundings and amenities we are all part of what makes Mere such a special place to live. Together we write our chapter in its long and fascinating history.

Peace be with you.

John

John Page left Wiltshire in 1969 returning in 2009 to make his first home in England since 1973. He is a retired Minister of the Church of Scotland and has worked in many parts of the UK and Europe.



IN MERE & DISTRICT

This year, Lent began on Valentine's Day: a reminder, perhaps, that, in all Church traditions, Lent is a time for renewing our love of God and of other people.

One way of doing this might be to consider being a volunteer helper for the new Alzheimer's support group starting up this month, meeting fortnightly on Friday mornings in the Grove Building. They are seeking volunteers to help with refreshments and in

other small ways. To find out more, please contact their volunteer coordinator Annie Clayton by e-mail  AnnieC@alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk or : 01225-776481.r

Three Churches Together Lent Lunches (not five, as we stated in February Mere Matters) will be held on 2nd, 23rd and 30th March (see separate article on page 28). The last Lent Lunch is on Good Friday and will follow on from our Walk of Witness up Castle Hill, leaving from The Square at 11.00am. All those unable to walk up the hill are very welcome to 'Stations of the Cross' at St Mary's RC Church at 11.30am.

There are two main Lent Study groups this year and anyone – wherever you live - is welcome to attend either course. The Mere group's subject is 'Same but Different: Reflections on Different Christian Perspectives' and although started in February, it will meet in the Small Hall of the Grove Building on Sundays in March at 6.00pm as follows:

11th March	Roman Catholic Church (Deacon Michael)
18th March	United Reformed Church (Revd Colin Marsh)

On Sunday, 4th March at 6.00pm we will share ecumenical Taize-style worship in St Michael's Church – Everyone is welcome to come.

The Upper Stour course 'Towards Wholeness' is a 5-session exploration of healing, in the Bible, today, and in the future.

There are three possible times and venues for this course, all of which started in February:

- Fridays 11.00am Church Room, Zeals
- Wednesdays 7.30pm Dovecot Barn, Kilmington)
- Thursdays 1.00am Randalls Barn, Bourton

Please contact Rev'd Graham Perryman  parishoffice@upperstour.net or : 01747 840221 for further details, or to book a place.

Everyone is also welcome (including men!) to the Women's World Day of Prayer service which takes place at 11.00am on Friday, 2nd March at the United Reformed Church, Mere (opposite the Post Office.) The first Lent Lunch will be held there after the service.

Last but not least, please be sure to keep clear Wednesdays, 16th or 23rd May from 10.00am-3.00pm for a Churches Together in Mere and District Quiet Day in the beautiful surroundings of Sedgheill Manor. Last year's Quiet Day was so popular that we've booked two dates this year so we can fit everyone in. More details next month.

Judith Thompson : 01747 860553 and *Janet Way* : 01747 860884
Joint Secretaries for CTM&D

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

MARCH 2018

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:

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

Rest Day - Saturday

✉ 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)
		6.00pm	Lent Discussion with worship in Grove Building
Each 1st Tuesday		6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each 3rd Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
Sunday	4th	10.30am	Parish Communion
Sunday	11th	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Family Service (no communion)
Sunday	18th	*10.30am	Parish Communion with Sunday Club for children
Wednesday	21st	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Palm Sunday	25th	10.30am	Communion with procession from the Square
		6.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Maundy Thursday	29th	8.00pm	Holy Communion and Vigil
Good Friday	30th	2.00pm	Last Hour Hymns, readings and prayer

* Traidcraft stall after 10.30am service

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt: (☎01747 860685)

Sunday	4th	11.00am	Rev'd M Laurie Holy Communion
	11th	11.00am	Mrs C Dyer
	18th	11.00am	Mr D Coates
	25th	11.00am	Mr M Heal

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	4th	6.00pm	Evensong
	11th	9.30am	Holy Communion
	18th	9.30pm	DIY
	25th	9.30am	Holy Communion

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer

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

DIARY DATES

MARCH 2018

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	Thur	10.00am	-	12.00noon	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		10.00am	-	11.30am	Hearing Aid Clinic	Mere Surgery
		2.00pm			Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		6.20pm			Greek Dancing	L
		7.30pm			Womens Institute	GB
2	Fri	10.00am			Alzheimer's Support Group (also 16th)	GB
		12.30pm	-	1.30pm	Lent Lunch	CC
		1.45pm			Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - every Friday)	GB
		6.00pm			Zumba (every Friday)	L
		7.30pm			Moviola/Mere Filmshows "My Cousin Rachel"	L
3	Sat	10.30am			Drop in Coffee Morning (also 10th, 17th, &	
	24th)	CC				
5	Mon	9.30am			Tiddlers & Toddlers (every Monday)	L
		10.00am			Zumba -First Level (every Monday)	L
		10.30am	-	1.00pm	Dressmaking (also Tuesdays 13, 20 & 27)	GB
		11.00am			Zumba Gold (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm			Watercolour (every Monday)	L

5	Mon	6.00pm	Beavers (also 19th & 26th)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (also 19th & 26th)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (also 19th & 26th)	GB
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.00pm	9.00pm Water Colour course (also 19th & 26th)	L
6	Tue	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
		10.00am	- Moo Music (Music & Movement for under 5s each Tuesday)	L
		11.00am	Patients Participation Group 'Open House'	L
		2.00pm	- 4.00pm 'Get On Line' Drop-in Session	Lib
		2.00pm	- 4.30pm Mad Hatters Tea Party	Fives Court
		6.00pm	- 8.00pm Life Drawing (every Tuesday)	L
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.20pm	Zumba (every Tuesday)	L
		7.30pm	Historical Society Evening Meeting	GB
		7	Wed	9.30am
10.30am	Tai-Chi (small hall - every Wednesday)			GB
11.15am	Pilates (every Wednesday)			GB
6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)			L
7.00pm	- 9.30pm Dressmaking (also 14th, 21st & 28th)			GB
7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers (every Wednesday)			RMC
5.00pm	Girl Guiding (also 15th, 22nd & 29th)			GB
8	Thur			
9	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 23rd)	GB
10	Sat	7.00pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L
12	Mon	7.30pm	MADS Meeting (Green Room)	L
13	Tue	10.30am	Historical Society Morning Talk	GB
		12.30pm	Community Lunch	George Inn
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
		7.00pm	Yoga (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		1.45pm	Friends Together Whist Drive	GB
14	Wed	7.00pm	9.00pm 'Grave Talk'	Butt of Sherry
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
16	Fri	2.00pm	March Short Walk	CP
17	Sat	10.00am	Cancer Research Spring Fayre	L
17	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
18	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Local Walk	CP
20	Tue	3.00pm	- 4.30pm Pop Up café	Lynch
21	Wed	3.00pm	- 4.30pm Tea@3	Angel Tea Rooms
		3.00pm	- 4.30pm Get On Line Drop-in Session	Angel Tea
Rooms				
22	Thur	7.30pm	MADS production 'A Mere Variety Show'	L
23	Fri	12.30pm	- 1.30pm Lent Lunch (also 30th)	GB
		7.30pm	MADS production 'A Mere Variety Show'	L
24	Sat	7.30pm	MADS production 'A Mere Variety Show'	L
28	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
30	Fri	11.00am	Walk of Witness up castle Hill	The Square

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:

WILTSHIRE DEMENTIA

ADVISER SERVICE 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 Alternate Tuesdays 2:00 - 4:00pm

COPYDATE FOR APRIL 2018 ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the March 2018 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, 12th March 2018**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send from Monday, 5th March 2018 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

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



**Teeandee
Productions**

Web Design

Promotional Videos
and Computer Services

Email: tim@teeandeeproductions.com
Tel: 07799 325214

<http://www.teeandeeproductions.com/>