

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2018

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 September at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.**

The Chairman writes:

In our July meeting we had quite a few planning applications to discuss. Our conclusion goes on to Wiltshire Council to inform it of our decision. We sometimes hear from applicants in the public session before the meeting and this can help explain the reasons behind the application. At other times, in the public session, residents bring up issues and concerns about matters in Mere. I can recall a good few times where these public statements have helped direct our attention and have led to positive changes for Mere. Sometimes, as councillors, we get an ear-bashing in the street about how this should be done or that hasn't been done. I had someone apologise to me the other day "Sorry to complain, but..." and my reply was "No need to apologise, call it informing me," and the matter discussed will be dealt with.

One such issue, raised some time ago and followed up by my pestering Wiltshire Council and eventually finding the right person to ask, was the state of white 'give way' lines in the square. I was pleased when I saw that they have now been repainted making the situation clear as to who has the right of way. Needless to say, there are more areas which need dealing with, as well as the state of road surface, and we shall persevere with trying to have these improved.



The small part of White Road which runs past the Social Club to the back of the school and the beginning of Burton Path is in a sorry state, and I have gone from one department to another to find who should maintain it. Despite a sign saying White Road is 'unadopted', so the 'highways people' will not deal with it, it is a Right of Way but the 'Right of Way people' don't resurface roads, so now I am trying to find someone in the 'housing department' as they must have made the road in the first place and, so I am told, they should maintain it.

To return to our July meeting. We heard that there is still no decision on the appeal about developing the land at Gillingham Corner. We heard from Councillor Norris about progress with the Neighbourhood Plan, which will provide a local framework for future planning applications. We now know that Mere Town will be offered new leases, on very similar terms as before, for the Castle Street and Salisbury Street Car Parks and the Public Convenience. We voted to take on the services of a solicitor and proceed with securing the leases. We have allocated a good deal of money in our budget to improving

the Public Convenience and when the leases are signed we shall be able to proceed. One matter, which prompted lively debate, was the condition of the play area at Walnut Road. We had allocated funds in the budget for the maintenance and our clerk is working with local interests to try and get the best outcome with the available funds. We are looking forward to some funding which will come as the Hill Brush development comes to completion.

The dry weather gave our groundsmen a break from grass cutting and they have turned their hand to improving the shed in the corner of the playing fields which was in need of repair. We are making a start on clearing up the old swimming pool site so that we can go to equipment installers for new quotes on making that space into a useful area for exercise equipment, sporting facilities and as a space for organised events. With reasonable quotes we hope to obtain funds from several bodies who support local initiatives for health and well-being.

As stated in the opening paragraph of the Town Council's report, our next meeting is on Monday, 3rd September – do come along and hear what local democracy is about and, perhaps, think about taking on a councillor role yourself in a couple of year's time.

For information on Town Council activities, minutes, agendas, contact numbers etc. please refer to 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, WRITES:

Summer holidays for schools will be almost over by the time of publication. This year we have enjoyed or otherwise a hot summer. In the heatwave of 1976 I was young and fit and found some nights it was difficult to breath, many did not work in the afternoon and the heat lasted to early in September. In 1976 it was dry from March to September. In that year the country was hit by a plague of ladybirds, this time around we've seen a big increase in bloodsucking horseflies - they are now at levels commonly found in Mediterranean countries I am told. I was bitten by one, I needed medical attention twice for one of the bites I received.

I, and Graham Cotton, chair of Kilmington Parish Council, and others, have had many residents from the Norton Ferris area contacting us re the blind junction when they turn North towards Frome. The latest near miss, of which many happen regularly, resulted in Mr Ploughman, a farmer, paying out of his own funds for an improved mirror, which Wiltshire Council has now removed. The existing mirror was about 20 years old. There are three working farms and a contractor at least using this junction, all turning right to Frome, because their vehicles are too large to turn left and find somewhere to turn around

within a reasonable distance. This is the peak time of the year and the vehicles that cross are both large and slow. The result of a small vehicle impacting a large vehicle in the event of an accident, I would think is high, with the probability of life changing injuries, or worse. I am extremely concerned, even frightened about what can happen, now there is no mirror. I know the law is the law and fatalities have been attributed to mirrors at junctions nationally, however in this case I think the probability of a fatality will be much higher with no mirror. When returning from the Frome direction please slow and inform others of the danger.

Dorset being one of our neighbouring counties and council, it may interest some that Christchurch Borough Council has applied for permission to appeal after its High Court bid to halt Dorset's nine councils being merged into two authorities was rejected.

We are lucky in this area that Mere, Tisbury and Wilton have retained their free public toilets. It is something I feel strongly about. We all, especially some of us when we get older, need such facilities. A study has found that more than a third of public toilets across the UK have closed in the past 20 years. According to a Freedom of Information request, it is estimated that in 1998 there were around 6,000 public conveniences run by local councils, but they have been reduced by 39% due to financial cutbacks, leaving just 3,650 facilities. The study, carried out by Domestros with the British Toilet Association, also found that 12 of the 266 councils which responded did not provide any public toilets at all.

A local person asked me this year why potholes are not ringed in yellow, I sent this request into Highways. I now am sad to see a triathlete died when her bicycle hit a pothole which hadn't been filled in because a repair team couldn't find it. Kate Vanloo was thrown into the path of a car when she rode into the four-inch deep hole, which was hidden by a puddle.

Mere is in the process of forming a local neighbourhood plan. I read with interest the following, localism may be further expanded. Residents are to be offered new powers to veto or approve plans that affect their communities, as ministers say they want to help the public sector, private businesses, charities and volunteers to work together more closely to build stronger communities. Decisions to approve housing developments, sell public assets such as community centres, or spend more on fixing potholes could be made using new forms of direct democracy. The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport said that the issues at stake and the precise decision-making methods would be up to individual authorities. "Government alone cannot solve the complex challenges facing society. Government can help to bring together the resources, policies and people who, between them, can do so," the department said. Local authorities in six areas will take part in a trial over the next 12 months.

I stated recently, after the world wide reporting of the attempted murder of Sergei Skripal and his daughter in Salisbury, that I considered Wiltshire Council's collective actions were helping the city to return to its former self. This may be so, however I now read which may

have been amplified by the subsequent Amesbury incident, that the footfall has dropped 12.5%, when nationally the drop has only been 3%. Salisbury Museum has seen a 44% decrease in visitor numbers compared to last year. Salisbury

Cathedral is down 17%. The police operation in Salisbury was so extensive that only two forces in the UK were not involved.

Wiltshire Council have now started the collection of more recyclables in the Mere area. I have had many reports of missed collections, although I must stress many households have had no problem. In view of the complaints I have had, officers have agreed to meet with me to try and resolve any future possible problems.

I mentioned in my last post, a planning application at Court Farm, Lower Woodford for the storage of electrical energy on a large scale had been presented to The Southern Area Planning Committee on which I sit. The application has been refused, however will now probably go to appeal. Regarding technologies relating to electricity generation: at a Wiltshire Council meeting I attended, I heard mentioned "mini nuclear reactor". I thought what is this, now I read in the media:- "Experts say developers of 'mini' nuclear reactors should be offered the same subsidies as those provided to offshore wind farms to help commercialise the nascent industry".



The proposal is among several contained in a report by an expert finance working group appointed by the government last year to advise on small nuclear reactor projects. "Advanced nuclear technologies provide a major opportunity to drive clean growth and could create high-skilled, well-paid jobs around the country as part of our modern industrial strategy," said energy minister Richard Harrington.

I attend many local events every month, a sad one this month was the funeral of Ian Flower. Ian died aged only 57 and I would like to thank his family for all he did and achieved over the years. He did much over the years for The Mere Carnival, The Local Red Cross, served in the local fire brigade, played in the local band in years past. He worked at The Hill Brush factory and in more recent years became self employed working for many local people in Mere, Kilmington, Zeals and elsewhere. He helped convert Mere Post Office to a "Main" model.

A more happier occasion was a retirement function for Richard Pester as Watch Manager at Mere Fire Station with his fellow fire fighters and family, no I do not mean I am pleased he has retired! Richard has served his community for 30 years, again for which I thank him. On the 26th August, a party was held at The Mere Social Club for all who know Richard. Duncan White, I understand, may become the Mere Watch Manager.

I attended The Mere Social Club's AGM, and it is all credit to the committee for their achievements. The club is in excellent financial health and has been brought up to a good standard.

The South West Area Board which has often given funds to this area has, in this financial year 2018/19, given a total budget of £84,787.00, which is half of what the board had to award in 2009/10.

A reminder again, 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.


VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP AT MERE LIBRARY

We are currently looking for extra volunteers to get involved at Mere Library. Our Community Library Volunteers help to extend the library's opening hours with two volunteer operated sessions on Mondays from 10am – 2 pm and Wednesdays from 9.30 am – 1pm. This is a great role if you enjoy meeting people of all ages and have a love of books and reading.

Our volunteers provide a friendly welcome to all visitors, and assist them with using the library services. This includes dealing with straightforward enquiries; assisting with the self-service machines; shelving the stock and helping customers to log onto the public access computers.

We are looking for volunteers who can be flexible about their availability and are able to do a minimum of two sessions per month. Volunteer sessions normally last between 2 -3 hours and are either on a Monday or Wednesday. Please see below for the library's full opening hours:

Monday	10.00am – 2.00pm (volunteer led) 2.00 – 7.00pm
Tuesday	9.30am – 5.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am – 1.00pm (volunteer led)
Thursday	9.30am – 5.00pm
Friday	9.30am – 5.00pm
Saturday	9.30am – 5.00pm

If you are interested in volunteering at Mere Library and would like further details about the Community Library Volunteer role please contact me, Jane Hunt, either by : jane.hunt@wiltshire.gov.uk or by phone on the number below.

Jane Hunt : 01225 713792

MERE SURGERY

Seasonal Vaccinations

Adult Flu Vaccination

Clinic to be held on Saturday 13 October 2018

From 0900 to 1300 hours

Flu vaccination is recommended for the following patients:-

Patients aged 65 and over Carers

Pregnant women (at any stage of pregnancy)

Patients aged 6m – 64 years at risk including the following conditions:-

Diabetes

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

Chronic Respiratory Disease Chronic Kidney Disease

Chronic Heart Disease Chronic Neurological Disease

Chronic Liver Disease Patients with a low immunity

Morbid Obesity (adults with a BMI more than or equal to 40kg/m²)

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

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

Child Flu Vaccination

Children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2018 (date of birth 1/9/2014 to 31/8/2016) are being offered routine vaccination for flu this year. The vaccination is given in the form of a nasal spray and separate clinic times for children have been set up. **Please contact the surgery to make an appointment for your child if you would like them to be vaccinated. Children aged 4-9 years will be vaccinated at school.**

Shingles Vaccination (only required if not previously vaccinated)

Patients who turn 70, 78 or 79 during the year are encouraged to make an appointment for vaccination against Shingles. If you were recalled for a shingles vaccination last year but have still not yet been vaccinated you can still attend for an appointment up until your 80th birthday.

Men ACWY Vaccination (only required if not previously vaccinated)

Patients aged 19 on 31/8/2018, or those attending University or secondary education for the first time are encouraged to attend for vaccination. This vaccine is also recommended for anyone up to the age of 25 years on the 31/8/2018 if you have not been previously vaccinated. **Please contact Reception for an appointment.**

MERE AND DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

Registered Charity No:1062328

☎: 01747 860096



Good News!

Donations

We were delighted to receive donations over the summer of £50 from Merely Women (a recent speaker asked for his fee to go to a local charity) and again from the Pearly King and Queen of Harrow for their donation of £450. We are very grateful to have such good local support. Letters of thanks have been sent.

More Drivers

Local fetes abound during the summer and for the first time we had displays at the St Michael's and Bourton events. There was a good deal of interest and as a result we've gained two potential drivers while alerting people generally to the transport needs for those visiting surgeries and hospitals. We are always looking for more drivers as demand is increasing and drivers do eventually retire! Having more drivers also means we call less frequently on peoples' time. Call the Link number if you would like to know more about offering your services.

Recent Journeys

Transport for hospital and other medical appointments has continued to be provided by our drivers who covered more than 11,000 miles in the last three months. Link drivers give their time for free but are paid 45p per mile to cover their costs. There is no set commitment as you say if you are able to do a drive. ***We always welcome new drivers so if you are interested please contact us on 01747 860096.***

While there are no set charges, we do suggest that customers make a donation to the Charity to help cover the costs. Where possible we encourage them to take advantage of Gift Aid. This increases the value of their donation by 25%.

LitFest

Finally, a reminder of the Literary Festival on Sunday, 8th to Sunday, 14th October, which we hope you will support. Proceeds from the festival are donated to the Link Scheme. This forms a major contribution to our work. It helps to fill the funding gap between contributions from our customers and the running costs of the charity. Once again there is a full and interesting programme of events. See you there?

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

WILTSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST – RIDE & STRIDE - 8 SEPTEMBER 2018.

Sponsored cycle, horse-ride or walk around Wiltshire's churches and chapels to raise money for St Michael's and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. For further information and sponsorship forms please contact *Sherry Dixon* ☎: 01747 861319.

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 recent months:

Phil Fricker, ✉: philipfricker@googlegmail.com

"Following my ancestors who were born, lived and died In Mere."

Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker, ☎: 01747 861859

LINKSCHEME QUIZ & FESTIVAL LAUNCH

Thanks go to all who supported the Link's quiz night. Thirteen teams enjoyed a great quiz led by quizmaster, Bill Pike, and his team. The music round proved very popular as did the ploughman's supper. The winners of the quiz were *Quizzical* from Shaftesbury, followed closely by three teams, *Mystified*, *Barking Mad* and *Lunar Eclipsed* who tied just two points behind the winners.

During the interval the programme for this year's Literary Festival, 8th-14th October, was launched with the distribution of the first flyers. These are available now in various outlets and outline the programme which has an eclectic mix of daytime and evening events. Full details of all events will be in the big green programme available in September and on the festival website. Your support of events will help fund our community Linkscheme as will having a go at the following writing competition.

WRITE-in-the-WEEK

A Timed flash fiction competition – Maximum 350 words excluding the title
Opens Friday 14th September Closes Saturday, 22nd September

One week to write an original story (Max.350 words) which must include the given phrase revealed on the start day on the festival website

🌐: www.merelifest.co.uk

or the Link Notice Board.

Great fun. Have a go.

Full entry details on website or in the big green programme

Adrienne Howell ☎: 01747 860475

MERE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE



Website

After a long period of inactivity due to technical problems, I'm pleased to say that the Chamber of Trade website is being reconstructed using more modern methods. The locally based Sugar Web Services ([✉: info@sugarweb.co](mailto:info@sugarweb.co)), a Chamber member, has taken over the construction and running of it. We now have our own web facilities, renting space on a London based secure data centre.

When fully operational, we will be able to offer space to other local businesses and organizations which support our aim of promoting tourism and publicizing local enterprises. In the meantime, we are preparing a **free business listing** which will be searchable when the site goes live.

Visit <http://www.merechamberoftrade.co.uk/> to register now. If you are a small or micro business, now is the time to sign up, without any obligation, and benefit from some free publicity. More information will be available towards the end of September.

Contact Email Address

We have also changed our email address to line up with the new site. It is [✉: info@merechamberoftrade.co.uk](mailto:info@merechamberoftrade.co.uk) and this is now operational.

Facebook

Our Facebook page has also been revived and is being frequently "liked". Don't think it's just for businesses; we're happy to publicize selected events which are likely to bring visitors to Mere and encourage them to spend time and money here.



Winter Programme

We are hoping to again arrange a couple of free meetings to provide useful business information or training. There will be more information on this next month.

WiBiM

The Facebook group "**Women in Business in Mere**" continues to be active providing a forum for women working from home or running small businesses. The Chamber applauds this initiative and is looking at ways of supporting them over the next few months.

If **you** are interested in helping the Chamber in any way, please contact me or Julie Cousins on 07856 700576.

A reminder that our email has changed to [✉: info@merechamberoftrade.co.uk](mailto:info@merechamberoftrade.co.uk)
Hamish Bell, President, Mere & District Chamber of Trade

MERE CARNIVAL QUIZ NIGHT

Come and join us on
Friday, 5th October for a fun evening
In the Grove Building. 7.15pm for 7.30pm start
£2.00 per person - tables of 4
Refreshments and Raffle
All funds to 2019 Mere Carnival

Carol Payne ☎: 01747 861639

DIGITAL CHAMPIONS

Digital drop-in days at Mere Library only

The free help service offered by Wiltshire Council-trained "digital champions" is being reduced in Mere starting in September. The sessions at the Angel Tea Rooms will no longer take place, but help with digital devices is still on offer at Mere Library on the first Tuesday of the month from 2.00 to 4.00pm. No one has sought help at the Angel sessions for several months, so the champions will concentrate their efforts on the library days.

The Wiltshire On-line team can help you set up and use your mobile phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer and your landline phone, and can help you get the best from these devices. Home visits can be arranged where it's more convenient. These are 1-to-1 sessions focused on your particular problem or area of interest.

If you can't make the library session, ring 0300 456 0100, and a local digital champion will ring you back to learn more about your problem or interest and arrange a meeting.

Steve Hoffman ☎: 0300 456 0100

FAIR TRADE STALLS:

As I am away in September, there will be no Fair Trade Stalls at the URC or St Michael's. I will be at Motcombe Methodist Church Coffee Morning on Friday, 14th from 10.30am-12.00noon should anyone wish to join them and am always happy to supply anyone with their usual items from home.

Watch out next month for my Christmas Sales with the exciting new catalogue items appearing soon.

Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

MERE RIVERS GROUP

Wildlife Sightings for June and July

So who could have predicted how this summer would be? And yet our water flow in the rivers and streams has remained good despite the driest summer we have experienced for some 50 years. Surely this must prove that our rivers are not Winterbournes, as has been claimed in the past, but that abstraction – which was temporarily stopped at the end of May – has a significant impact on their flow! Abstraction is due to start again in September, so let's see what impact that has!

Sightings for June were: Moorhen and 7 chicks were seen daily, Kingfisher 3 times, Eel, brown trout and the beautiful demoiselle were all seen twice. Single sightings were recorded of Great Spotted Woodpecker, Song thrush, Shrew and a kaleidoscope of Skipper Butterflies (we looked it up and that is the correct collective noun!)

Sightings for July were: Moorhen and (almost adult) chicks as well as bats and one or two hedgehogs have been seen daily, Kingfisher 6 times, Water Vole 4 times, Green Woodpecker and Eel were seen twice. Single sightings of Grey Wagtail, Brown Trout, Slow Worm, Vapourer Moth Caterpillar and a kaleidoscope of Ringlet butterflies were also recorded.

Nature Notes

Autumn is here and swallows and martins will be leaving us soon. The berries have ripened early because the weather has been so hot. These have and continue to provide a vital food source for birds and animals deprived of worms, slugs etc during our very hot summer. Please, if you can bear to, try to leave some berries on the plants when you are out picking them!!

We are really seeking to demonstrate that the greater flow of water during the cessation of abstraction has really helped our wildlife, so your sightings at this time are really more crucial than ever.

Please keep these coming to : mereriverwildlife@btinternet.com.

Lynne Bann, ☎: 01747 860174

RIVERS GROUP AND MERE MUSEUM JOINT EXHIBITION

Do go along to our popular joint exhibition 'A tale of Two Rivers' at Mere Museum in the library building. You will find out lots about our town and Mere's two rivers.

They are, sadly, threatened with very low water flows due to over abstraction. They are flowing at their natural level right now because Wessex Water are not pumping water out of the chalk while they refurbish the pumping station in Burton Field.

Allow plenty of time if you have not been before - some visitors report being absorbed for an hour. If you have already visited, try to visit again as we have added new topics and updates.
Dr Paulette McManus ☎: 01747 861524

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL 2018 IS GO!

The FSCI (Foundation for Social Change and Inclusion) is asking you to help some of Bulgaria's and Serbia's poorest people, through its Christmas Box Appeal, which it has taken over from The Trussell Trust. Rich Parsons, in Salisbury, is still in charge and oversees the deliveries and the needs!

Last year's response was simply stunning, over 11,000 boxes, and it sends clear messages to those in extreme poverty out there, that there are people who want to bless them, not use them. So, please, tell a friend, work colleagues, school chums, yoga groups, art groups, - any groups(!)- to get together and fill a box or two and bring happiness to someone who has nothing this Christmas.

Wendy Horne ☎: 01747 861712

MERE CANCER RESEARCH

A wonderfully warm and sunny day dawned for our coffee morning in July. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sainthill very kindly opened their garden for us and we provided cool drinks, coffee, tea and delicious cakes; served up on pretty china and under the canopy of trees. The lawn was set out for croquet and soon people were enjoying the stalls and all the entertainment on offer, including a talented guitarist!

We raised an amazing £365.05 for Cancer Research. Praise must go to all who helped to make it such a great morning.

Now we are looking forward to our next event, the Autumn Fair. This will be held in the Lecture Hall on the 6th October, between 10.00 am and 12 noon. All the usual stalls will be there - amongst them the delicious cakes stall, the tombola and the bric-a-brac. We hope you will come and join in with the fun.

None of these events would happen without the dedication of our helpers and supporters. So we thank you most sincerely for continuing to come along and help us raise funds to fight cancer.

If you or a member of your family wish to support our work, either by joining our committee or helping out with events, please contact:

*Harvard Dallibar ☎: 07788 138003 or ✉: las518@icloud.com
or Jill Turner ☎: 01747 860334*

CHANGES TO THE GROVE BUILDINGS

The Grove Buildings will undertake major changes throughout August to start on 1st September 2018. These changes are set out below.

1. A new keypad locking system will be installed on the main door, codes will be issued to regular users. This is mainly for insurance purposes as well as security.
2. The toilets are used by the Church for Services, Weddings and Funerals etc., these toilets will be accessible via the disabled entrance in Barton Lane. When the Grove Buildings are not in use, the doors to the main and small halls will be secured.
3. Cameras will be installed on both front and back doors, this is for insurance and security purposes.
4. Re Bookings: For all Casual Bookings of the Grove Buildings. This must be done by booking form, through the Grove Buildings Website or a booking form which can be obtained from the Grove Buildings, along with the Data Protection Form. Once this has been completed and **full payment or deposit received**, then the date will be set and the booking confirmed.
5. Re Regular bookings, It has been noted that most, if not all, regular users are not being invoiced, this will now change. All regular users will be invoiced monthly. This will help both yourselves and the Grove Buildings to keep regular accounts, but I must ask all regular bookers, although it may be difficult at times, to pay monthly in arrears.
6. It is no longer viable to pay by donation for the use of the Grove Buildings. All donations are gratefully appreciated and welcome for the Church, but the Grove Buildings has to have a levy.
7. Anything borrowed from the Grove Buildings i.e. tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery etc. must be paid for in advance.

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact Graham Ward Chairman of the Grove Buildings on  grahamward291@gmail.com

Graham Ward  : 01747 861646

HERITAGE OPEN WEEKEND AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

**This is history on your doorstep on Saturday, 15th & Sunday,
16th September 2018**

'Heritage Open Days' is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,500 organisations, 5,000 events and 40,000 volunteers. Every year in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history.

It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences. At St Michael's Church we will have historical artefacts on display, and guided tours of the tower, churchyard and nave. Refreshments will be available. For more information please contact me at the number below. *Sherry Dixon* ☎: 01747 861319

BELL RINGING

News from St Michaels Church Bell Tower

The bell ringers have been busy over the summer having rung at 6 weddings with another one at the end of September. Six ringers attend for a wedding and ring for half an hour before the bride arrives, longer if she is late!! This year all of the brides have been very obliging arriving pretty much on time. Afterwards a joyous peel rings out to greet the happy couple. In August one bride arrived just as the rope for the treble bell broke, the frayed end falling through the hole in the ceiling of the ringing room to the surprise of the ringer and the bell tolling endlessly on its way down. Luckily the bride had already entered the church and heard nothing of the dying bell. All was well when a new rope was fitted but this meant placing an order with a rope-making firm in Taunton – 52ft of rope with a red, white and blue sally costing £168 plus VAT. Luckily we had organised "Tea in the Tower" in June when 30 intrepid guests climbed the spiral stone staircase to view the bells and enjoyed tea and cake in the highest café in Mere. We raised over £60 plus a generous £40 donation to supplement our coffers.

In 1558 according to Church Wardens accounts, a new bell rope cost 2 shillings and 4 pence rising to 4 shillings in 1615.

In September there is a Heritage day, which is another chance to pay a visit to the tower to see the bell room, clock room and belfry. It is worth a visit to see all 8 of the magnificent bells, one dating back to 1480, and worth listening out for when they are rung on the second and fourth Sundays in the month for morning service, and again for evening practice on the first Wednesday of the month.

In November we are rounding up as many ringers past and present to ring for Armistice Day to commemorate the end of World War One. Bearing in mind that every tower in the country has been asked to ring at the same time we hope to have enough ringers to ring all eight bells. Do give us a call if you would like to join us.


Maggie Durkee Tower Correspondent, ☎: 01747 860163

✉: *Margaret Durkee@btopenworld.com*

SHAFTESBURY & GILLINGHAM UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE.

The Shaftesbury and Gillingham University of the Third Age, which also covers Mere and the Knoyles has been meeting in Shaftesbury since 1999. Its guiding principles are to

`promote lifelong learning through self-help interest groups covering a wide range of topics and activities as chosen by their members`. The 'Third Age' is defined by a time in your life (not necessarily chronological) where you have the opportunity to undertake learning for its own sake. There is no minimum age, but focus is on people who are no longer in full-time employment or raising a family. We provide facilities for groups of people to meet for specific interests, for example garden interest, languages or photography. We also arrange trips to places of interest and holidays both in the UK and Europe. Membership is just £10 pa and covers any interest groups joined.

We are holding an open morning in Shaftesbury Town Hall on Friday 21st September 2018 from 10.00 until 12.30, where you can find out all about U3A. Alternatively for more information view our website : <https://u3asites.org.uk/sgu3a/home>

: **roger46laidler@talktalk.net**

Roger Laidler : 01747 863447

SEPTEMBER SHORT WALK

Meet at 2.00pm on Monday, 3rd September in the Surgery Car Park for a walk of 2-3miles around the paths of Mere.

Janet Way  01747 860884

WARMINSTER AND DISTRICT FOOD BANK

A big thank you to everyone who very kindly donated to our July collection in aid of Warminster and District Food Bank. We collected a 'mighty' 175 kg and £17 in donations. The food bank has asked if we would do our next collection at the beginning of December to help them prepare the Christmas hampers they send out. They are looking for 'Christmassy' goodies and also mens and ladies toiletries. So could you please add something appropriate to your next few shops and we can make someone whose Christmas looks bleak to be a lot better. More details with dates and venues to follow.

Once again a massive thank you to all the generous people of Mere - you never fail to amaze us.

Katie : 01747 860018

MERE CARNIVAL BINGO

Friday, 7th September, 2018

Grove Building, Church Street, Mere


Doors open - 6.45pm, Eyes Down - 7.30pm

Excellent variety of quality prizes including family ticket for Emirates Spinnaker Tower, Portsmouth; Voucher for 7" decorated celebration cake, and more!

Specials, Raffle, Refreshments

Fun for all the family

Organised by Mere Carnival Committee with proceeds to Carnival Funds

Sue Jeans, For Mere Carnival Committee, : 01747 860215

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR OCTOBER 2018 ISSUE
MONDAY, 17th SEPTEMBER 2018

THE COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunch will be held at the George Inn, The Square, Mere on Tuesday 9th October 2018 at 12 noon for 12.30pm as part of Mere Literary Festival. Please add this event to your diary. The two course meal will cost £10.95, drinks not included. It is a very popular event so please ring in advance ☎: 01747 860427.

More details will be included in the Literary Festival Information Pack, or you can contact me on the number alongside.
Lindy Elliott ☎: 01747 861646



TEA@3, COMMUNITY TEA PARTY

Tea@3 will be held in the Angel Corner Tea rooms on Wednesday, 19th September at 3.00pm. All those wishing to attend should contact Paul or Marilyn on ☎: 01747 860524 and leave a message, or pop in and leave your name by Monday, 17th September, please.

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

Paul Farrow ☎: 01747 860524

MERE FILM SHOWS

"Wonderstruck"

Our first film for Autumn, and during carnival week, is an enchanting story about two deaf children set 50 years apart. Both escape to New York, one to follow the career of a silent screen goddess (Julianne Moore) and the other is pining for the father he never knew. A beautifully shot film, based on the bestselling book by Brian Selznick, who also wrote the screen play. Tickets are available from the library and, to celebrate carnival week, each ticket number will be entered into a raffle for a carnival-related prize! Further details on page 27.

Dates for your Film Diary:

Thursday, 11th October: The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society

Thursday, 15th November: Journey's End

Mere Film Shows – Distribution of Funds

Not everyone may be aware that Mere Film Shows aims to distribute funds from any profits made to local organisations. For the past couple of years there has been no distribution possible due to the very small profits made! However, we feel we are now

able to make some small donations again and would like to invite applications for these funds.

The Town Council has agreed to the distribution of these funds to organisations in the Mere parish, if you or your group, is currently fundraising or are in need of funds for a particular purpose.

We would like anyone interested to apply in writing, please, for a share of these funds, giving details of the activity and requirements. Please note that we only have a small amount available and requests for large amounts for long term projects would not be possible. Letters should be addressed to MERE FILM SHOWS c/o Mere Town Council, The Parish Office, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere, WARMINSTER, BA12 6EW and should arrive by **Friday, 7th September**. Alternatively, please send details in an e-mail to ✉: rosiejb77@gmail.com Rosie ☎: 01747 861567

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Mere Garden Festival

Saturday, 1st September, - 2.00 – 5.00pm

We're hoping you have seen the wonderful posters around the town designed by pupils of Mere School, and the winning entries proudly printed on the front of the programmes for the day. So don't miss the fun of this exciting new event combining a Garden Show open to all in the Lecture Hall, with events and a huge range of stalls selling plants, gifts and handmade items in the Grove Building. Along with the stalls will be a Bring and Buy stall, a potato weigh-in and a Gardener's Question time at 3.30pm.

It is not too late to enter the new, open categories – bring your entry form (together with your £2 fee) along to the Lecture Hall between 6.00 and 7.00pm on Friday, 31st August. Pick up your free programme from Sprout and Flower, The Angel Tea room or the Library.

Bulbs and their selection with Chelsea Flower Show

Micky Little (Avon Bulbs)

Wednesday, 12th September 7.30pm Grove Buildings

Avon Bulbs has an enviable reputation on the show circuit, winning a Gold Medal at the 2017 RHS Chelsea Flower Show, as well at every Chelsea Flower Show over the past 25 years, a tally of 30 Chelsea Gold Medals in total!

£2 entry for visitors who are very welcome.

🌐: <http://www.meregardenclub.org.uk/> Janet Way ☎: 01747 860884

FLOWER FESTIVAL - "NATURES BOUNTY"

BRADLEY HOUSE, MAIDEN BRADLEY

SEPT 22nd and 23rd 10am to 4.30pm

Evening service will be at 5.00 on Sunday Sept 23rd

Entry £4 per adult, accompanied children 12 and under free

Refreshments available - Plant Stall - Proceeds for All Saints Church

MERE THEATRE CLUB

Outing to Winchester Flower Festival

This will be on Thursday, 6th September and the coach will leave the Salisbury Street car park at 9.30am sharp! It will leave Winchester to return at 4.00pm getting you back at about 5.30pm. Any queries please phone one of the phone numbers below.

Bookings for the autumn programme have now closed, but a winter programme will be out before Christmas, so if you want to know what's on offer do join our mailing list by contacting one of the telephone numbers below.

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

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE

For the over 60s

The Day Centre for Mere and District, Lynch Close

Mondays and Fridays 10:30am – 3:00pm

What a busy couple of months we have had! Our Greek dancing sessions have been a hit with our guests, even the less able bodied of us have joined in to give it a go, with everyone enjoying the atmosphere. We had our outing to Weymouth and the sun shone whilst we enjoyed a paddle and the odd ice cream, the fish and chips were also delicious. In July we had a party to celebrate our 30th Anniversary and what an amazing time we had, thank you to all who celebrated with us and to Mere Youth Group and Seeds 4 Success for their help on the day. Later in August we had our skittles knock-out fund raiser. Thank you to all the businesses and individuals who provided us with raffle prizes and to the Co-op for the main prize hamper. During September we are looking forward to more dancing, live music, Tai Chi, Art and craft, quizzes and to finish off, a trip to Orchard Park Garden Centre.

One of our lovely washing up volunteers is leaving us this month, so we are on the lookout for someone to fill her shoes. If you think you could spare just one hour per month to wash up after lunch we would love to hear from you.

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

MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

Bishop Bill Ind will be speaking on his Reminiscences of a Bishop at our meeting on Tuesday, 11th September at 2.30pm in the Grove Building.

*Christabelle Ktitikos ☎: 01747 861065, Jenny Larder ☎: 01747861397
and Christine Marsh ☎: 01747 861212*



MERE WOMENS INSTITUTE (WI)

Who would have thought it? Our summer garden party at the Croquet Club had to be cancelled because of the intense heat and we weren't sure what shade was available there. As I write this we are having a day of very welcome rain. What will September bring weather-wise?

During July/August some of us took scones, jam and cream out to a housebound member at West Knoyle, which was very pleasant and we were also invited to a cream tea at the house of a member of a neighbouring WI.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 6th September when our speaker is Sarah Buttershaw – 'A stroll through Venice' which should be interesting whether or not you have been there. Visitors are very welcome. Grove Building 7.30pm.

Barbara Bourne ☎: 01747 863411

DRESSMAKING IN MERE

Our popular six week Dressmaking Courses are due to commence again in the small hall of the Grove Building on Tuesday, 11th September from 10.30am to 1.00pm and on Wednesday, 12th September from 7.00 to 9.30pm. At present our evening course is full, with a waiting list, but there are spaces on the morning course. We will also run another six week course later in the Autumn going through to the very beginning of December.

We will then be into our fourth year of running our dressmaking courses, and over sixty people will have taken part with an age range of 18 to over eighty. We are so delighted that we appeal to every age group, with a really good balance of ages on each course. On this course there will be at least three new people and in the main those who decide to do our courses have little, or just a little, experience.

With less shops sadly on the high street people are very keen to make their own clothes, and we do still have a wealth of suppliers of fabric. I have made it my task during the summer break to find them, always where possible to those with retail shops as well as online facilities, and they are happy to supply us with samples.

We look forward to our new year of classes, meeting new people and of course seeing the growth in expertise and confidence from those who enjoy it so much they keep coming back! Phone for details or visit us on our Facebook Page "Dressmaking in Mere".
Carol ☎ : 01747 861923 or Susanne 📱 : 07788 595434

MERE MUSEUM

Our current exhibition '**A Tale of Two Rivers**', devised and mounted by the Mere Rivers Group, has received widespread admiration, and encouraging comments in the Visitors' Book. The exhibition is updated from time to time to reflect the latest information. The next update will take place on (or near) Saturday, 1st September, so even if you have already visited the Museum to see it, do make sure you have another look.

Following this exhibition there will be a short display in November to mark the centenary of the **Armistice 1918**, and the end of the first world war. A part of this display will consist of a review of the lives of those whose names are engraved on our (recently repaired and enhanced) war memorial. We shall also show, for the first time, items newly donated to the Museum which celebrate the service of a WWI nurse from Mere.

Jenny Wilding ☎ : 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

Just a reminder that The Friends are holding another of their fund-raising quiz evenings on Friday, 28th September at 7.30pm. in the Grove Building. Keep your eyes open for notices and further details. We look forward to seeing you there!

Jenny Wilding ☎ : 01747 860908

WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA
in association with
MERE TOWN COUNCIL
proudly presents

'Wonderstruck' (PG)

**"It's not what you look at that matters, it's what
you see"**

**with Millicent Simmonds, Julianne Moore and
Oakes Fegley.**

**Two deaf children living 50 years apart run away to New
York where their fates entwine.
An enchanting mystery drama.**

in The Lecture Hall

Thursday, 13th September at 7.30pm
(Doors open 7.00pm)

TICKETS £6.00

Available from the Library

For more information call Rosie ☎ 01747 861567

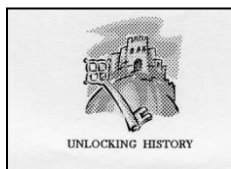
Visit our website at 🌐: www.moviola.org

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

At last, the news you have all been waiting for! Out Autumn Production will be **'Katy's Party'**, a play written by Mere's resident playwright, Adrienne Howell. Rehearsals are well under way, so it's perhaps not too early to give you the performance dates for your diaries: Thursday to Saturday, 22nd - 24th November, at 7.30pm. in the Lecture Hall, as usual.

Watch out for more details in the next issue, and news about ticket sales.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908



Mere Historical Society

Old Sarum and Amesbury

Boscombe Down Aviation Collection and Amesbury History Centre

Tuesday, 4th September 2018

For those who have booked a place on this outing, we will leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.30am and return around 4.30pm.

If you have any queries please ring Caroline Cook ☎:01747 861797

Evening and morning talks in the Grove Building resume in October

Our first talk is on Tuesday, 9th October 10.15 for 10.30am and is part of Mere Literary Festival. For our first evening talk, on 16th October at 7.30pm, we welcome back the archaeologist Mark Corney who is one of our best speakers. The subject will be Hadrian's Wall.

Don't forget to check out our web site:



: www.merehistoricalsociety.org.uk

Caroline Cook ☎: 01747 861797


1st MERE BROWNIES

"Take on the world"

The brownie programme has had a complete revamp with trendy new badges and, in addition, activities to help girls "Take on the world".

1st Mere Brownies have vacancies from September and we are inviting girls aged 7 -10 to join us and find out what we do, whilst having fun.

We meet at the Grove Buildings from 6.15 - 7.30pm on Thursdays during term time.

If you are interested, please contact Sue Luffman, Brownie Guider or Sue Jeans (Jeans Electrical, Salisbury Street) for further details using the telephone numbers below, or you can register your interest at : www.girlguiding.org.uk

*Sue Luffman, ☎ : 01747 861054, Sue Jeans ☎ : 01747 860215 and
Nicky Lawes, Brownie Leaders*



IN MERE & DISTRICT

We are already almost fully booked up with an an interesting variety of stalls for the Churches-Together-supported **ONE WORLD FAIR** which, this year wii be held at Stourton Memorial Hall, at Stourhead, from 1.00-4.00pm on **Thursday 25th October (Half-Term Week)**. If any group whose aims are similar to those of One World Week would like a stall, we'll do our best to squeeze you in. Stalls can be for giving information, fund-raising or a mixture of both (no charge). If interested, please phone to book asap. More details of the Fair next month.

URGENTLY NEEDED FOR MERE CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH.....! It seems early, but if this year's Christmas Day Lunch is to go ahead (and we've already had requests) we need to find a **chef** for the event **very soon**. If you enjoy cooking and have relevant experience (there are LOTS of willing helpers) please don't be shy about offering to take on this role. Without you, there may be no lunch provided this year for those on their own and families otherwise unable to celebrate at Christmas. **Please offer your services if you possibly can** by phoning Judy Bickestaff on 01747 860335. Making it happen will be your rich reward!

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

LETTER FROM THE CHURCHES

Rev'd Deacon Michael Hughes, of the Roman Catholic Church of St Mary's, writes:

He killed people. Then ate them. It is said he ate 72 people, including members of his own family.

His name is Belai, and you will see his story painted on the inner walls of the round church of Ura Kidane Mihret. This church is to be found in Ethiopia on the peninsula sticking out into the southern waters of Lake Tana, out of which runs the Blue Nile. The paintings are bright and lurid in detail, Belai being depicted as a chubby man, sitting cross-legged, chewing on red flesh, with assorted limbs, his next course, strewn about him.

He was a very wicked man. But one day a leper called out to him "in the name of Mary, Mother of God, give me water to drink". And Belai remembering the power of that name, did his first good deed and gave the thirsting man water. After that he was given grace to stop his wicked ways, and to live a better life. When Belai died, the devil made ready to drag him off to hell. His many huge sins were put on one side of the scales, the side that would tip him into the worst place (I think: overcrowded, hot stationary tube train, lights broken, standing among fetid bodies, never tired, never sleeping. For ever). On the other side of the scales was only the water flask he had given the leper. The scales are tipping him towards hell, when Mary, our Mother, puts out her hand so its shadow falls on the "good deeds" side of the scales, and the weight of even her shadow tips the scales back the other way so that his soul passes not into the dark, but into the joy and lightness of Heaven.

This story is a foundational story of the Ethiopian people – as that of King Arthur is for the British. Such mythic stories reveal great underlying truths.

The point of the story is that however wrong you have gone in life, it is not too late to change direction, for God wants all of us to inherit the place of JOY he has prepared for us in Heaven.

Before we die, while we are still hale and healthy, is the time to consider how we can do more good to others, and how we can draw closer to the God who made us, and loves us.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now – and at the hour of our death.

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

SEPTEMBER 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 Lynette Elliott ☎ 01747 861646

PCC Secretary: Mrs Sherry Dixon ☎ 01747 861319

✉ office@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each 1st Tuesday		6.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each 3rd Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
Sunday	2nd	10.30am	Informal Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong
Tuesday	4th	6.00pm	Start the month Holy Communion
Sunday	9th	10.30am	Parish Communion
	16th	10.30am	Heritage Service with Communion
		3.00pm	Heritage Service
Wednesday	19th	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	23rd	10.30am	Parish Communion
	30th	10.30am	Benefice Service for festival of St Michael

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	2nd	11.00am	Mrs. Catherine Dyer
	9th	11.00am	Harvest Thanksgiving Rev'd. Duncan Goldie
	16th	11.00am	Mrs. Sharon Hawkes
	23rd	11.00am	t.b.a. (See church notice board)
	30th	11.00am	Mr. Martin 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 Monday to Wednesday	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Every Thursday	10.00am	Rosary
Every Friday	9.30am	Morning Prayer
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	3.00pm	Pet Service
	9th	6.00pm	Evensong
	16th	9.30am	DIY
	23rd	9.30am	Holy Communion
	30th	9:30am	Mere Benefice Service

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER 2018

AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; CC-United Reformed Church Centre; CP-Main Car Park; GB-Grove Building; HBF-Hill Brush Factory; L-Lecture Hall; Lib-Library; Lynch-Lynch Community Centre; MSC-Mere Social Club; RMC-Railway Modellers Clubhouse; StM-St Michaels Church

1	Sat	10.30am	Drop In Coffee Morning (every Saturday)	CC
		2.00pm	5.00pm Mere Garden Festival	L & GB
3	Mon	7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Town Council Meeting	AYP
4	Tue	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Wiltshire Digital Champions "drop-in" session	Lib
		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
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.00pm	Mere Railway Modellers (every Wednesday)	RMC
6	Thurs	10.00am	Mere Footpath Group	CP
		10.00am - 11:30am	Hearing Aid Clinic	Surgery
		10.00am - 12:00pm	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		1.00pm	3.00pm Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	Castle Hill Quilters (every Thursday)	GB
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
7	Fri	10.00am	Alzheimers Support (also 21st)	GB
		1.45pm	Duplicate Bridge (2.00pm start - every Friday)	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Gold (every Friday)	L
8	Sat	6.30pm	Oasis Carnival Club Bingo	L
10	Mon	6.00pm	Beavers (every Monday)	GB

		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	9.00pm Watercolour Club (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Mere Am. Dram. Socy (MADS) Meeting (Green R.)	L
11	Tue	10.30am	Dressmaking (also 18th & 25th)	GB
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
12	Wed	11.00am	1.00pm Really Sing	L
		1.45pm	Friends Together - Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Dressmaking (also 19th & 26th)	GB
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
13	Thurs	5.00pm	Rainbows (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		7.30pm	Girl Guides (also 20th & 27th)	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Filmshows/Moviola "Wonderstruck"	L
14	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 28th)	GB
23	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
26	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		7.30pm	PennyBank Writers	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:

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

WILTSHIRE DIGITAL CHAMPIONS

"DROP-IN SESSION":

1st Tuesday:

2:00 - 4:00pm

HEALTH TRAINER

Alternate Tuesdays:

10:00am - 12:00pm

COPYDATE FOR OCTOBER 2018 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, 17th September 2018**. E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Send from Monday, 10th September 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 the late Dr Colin Anderson



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