

Mere Matters

*& so does
West Knoyle*

November 2024

Your community magazine
Including a guide to local events



AN EVENING WITH

JANE BORODALE & RICHARD NYE

HOSTED BY FELICITY WILSON



Ever wondered how you become a professional writer or composer? What does it take to get a book published or music commissioned?

Take this unique opportunity to join Jane and Richard, Mere's own Writer in Residence and Composer in Residence as they share their insights into their creative processes, professional careers and answer your questions.

ENTRANCE FREE AND DO JOIN US FOR A GLASS OF MULLED WINE!

**THURSDAY
28TH NOVEMBER**

7.00PM - 9.00PM

St Michael's Church, Church Street, Mere BA12 6DS

Read more on the The Tower Stories news page

www.thetowerstories.co.uk



FRIENDS OF
ST. MICHAEL'S
CHURCH

THE
Tower
STORIES

An evening with Jane Borodale and Richard Nye 28 November at 7.00pm in St Michael's Church

Entrance free (and enjoy a glass of mulled wine.) Jane and Richard will be working with The Tower Stories in Mere until July 2025 as Writer in Residence and Composer in Residence.

Jane, who lives in Somerset is a successful published writer of historical fiction with her primary interest being in the history of place and the ordinary lives of the past <https://www.janeborodale.co.uk>

Richard, who lives in Dorset has had multiple pieces of music commissioned, performed, published and broadcast <https://richardnye.info>

Whilst in Residence, Jane is researching and writing new fiction that interprets and brings alive the medieval 124 ft Tower of St Michael's. Richard is researching, composing and workshopping music that will create an Anthem for Mere. Their work will be debuted in Mere in June 2025.

Join us on **Thursday November 28th**, hosted by Felicity Wilson as they share their fascinating insights into their creative processes, careers and answer your questions.

Star of Bethlehem By Bruce Munro

For Christmas 2024 the artist Bruce Munro, has kindly donated his creation "Star of Bethlehem" to be exhibited in St Michael's Church, Mere in Wiltshire. This is part of The Tower Stories community programme which also marks the recent restoration of St Michael's Church tower.

This piece has only been exhibited once before in 2014. It was originally commissioned by Salisbury Cathedral. Bruce's star of Bethlehem is a literal and visual abstraction of the text from the New Testament, Matthew 2:1-12, telling the story of the wise men following a star to find baby Jesus, the Messiah, translated into Morse code and communicated through a series of dots and dashes, or short and longer pulses of light.

This animation of radiating lines of light will be projected on to the nave floor, in

front of the rood screen of St Michael's and grows to its fullest extent in 2 mins 20 sec, the light flows over the floor bathing all around it in light. The biblical text scrolls along each point of the star.

Bruce Munro, who lives in Kilmington is best known for immersive large-scale light-based installations inspired largely by his interest in shared human experience. Munro produces both monumental, temporary experiential artworks as well as intimate story- pieces.

The Star of Bethlehem will be exhibited at St Michael's from **December 6th – January 5th**. There is no charge for entry. The Church is open every day between 9.00am until nightfall. On Sundays' viewing is extended until 8.00pm.

For more information please go to www.thetowerstories.co.uk

BRUCE MUNRO
**STAR OF
BETHLEHEM**

St Michael's Church, Church Street, Mere BA12 6DS

DECEMBER 6TH – JANUARY 5TH
2024 – 2025

A LIGHT
INSTALLATION



ENTRANCE FREE

OPEN MON – SAT 9.00AM – UNTIL NIGHTFALL

SUNDAYS 1.00PM – 8.00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
www.thetowerstories.co.uk



FRIENDS OF
ST. MICHAEL'S
CHURCH

THE
Tower
STORIES

We will remember them



Mere Art Group

This topical contribution for November was drawn by David Aslett, using graphite pencils on paper. This stunning image is some 3 feet long in size.

Helge Brock helgewallenbrock@gmail.com

**HOT OFF
THE
PRESS**

Merely Women

The planned meeting for November 8th is unfortunately CANCELLED due to the recently announced closure of the Grove Building.

Jean Eyles jseyles2@aol.com

Thinking of Advertising in Mere Matters?

To find out the costs or to book an advert, please contact Ann-Marie Long directly by email or phone. Media4MM@outlook.com 07833-686742



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Mere Town Council

The new adventure trail in the playground at Castle Hill Lane will now be open. Now, we will be setting our eyes on improving the larger play area on the recreation ground. This has many users and we shall be seeking their opinions on how best to provide for youngsters and their parents. Our project coordinator and councillors have visited other play areas to garner ideas. We want to make improvements that will make the recreation ground more amenable to all users. I would hope that 2025 will see a new and popular revision to this important feature of Mere.

The Mere Literary Festival was, again, a successful event for the people of Mere and brought visitors into town. Wiltshire provide some funding for the purpose of making Mere attractive to visitors and we discussed plans for the coming two years at the October council meeting. One aspect of this will be our ensuring that what happens here in Mere is published on a website called 'Explore Wiltshire Events'. 'Mere Matters' gives you and me detailed information about what is happening in our town which will now be publicised to a much wider audience. We shall allocate some of the funding towards improving the town dressing and to commemorating noteworthy residents with blue plaques.

We have taken another step forward to providing EV charging spaces in Salisbury Street Car Park with the signing of the licence agreement. In conversation with the provider of the equipment, once this paperwork is finalised, it will not be long before this will be available to electric vehicle users in Mere and we intend having favourable tariffs for Mere residents.

We shall be looking at how the Public Conveniences can be improved and whether we can provide a small community hub there as well. This will be an expensive matter and we are likely to have to use a government loan to realise our plans – you will hear more about this as the plans develop.

I was pleased to attend, like many councillors, the AGM of Seeds4Success. This is always a pleasure, seeing and hearing from the young people of the area and those who work with them. This is a really marvellous asset for Mere and I will thank them for their combined efforts. Well done Seeds4Success!

I was disappointed to report to the council that we are no further forward with communication or action from the Local Highways Improvement Group. We have important matters, such as the safety of pedestrians at Edgebridge and the safety of all at Hazzards Hill, where our plans are at a standstill.

Do come along to our next council meeting on the **4th November at 7pm**, in the **Andy Young Pavilion** and see local government in action. In the same week, on the **9th** do come along to the fireworks event provided by the **Friends of Mere School**. This is a




very popular event and I would suggest that you walk to it as the roads around the school were jam packed last year.

I hope to see you there for lots of 'oohs and aahs'.

John Jordan, Chair, Mere Town Council

for information on Town Council activities, minutes, agendas etc.

lindseywood@merewilts.org 860701  merewilts.org

Wiltshire Councillor ~ George Jeans Writes

Wiltshire Council has been named as the seventh best council in England in the latest IMPOWER Index, an independent measure of how efficiently councils deliver core services in relation to their budgets.

The County Councils Network (CCN) warned that county and rural communities face a 'developer free for all' with their areas left at the mercy of speculative development under the government's proposals to reform the planning system. In the CCN's response to the government's consultation on its revised National Planning Policy Framework, the network warns that the proposal to re-introduce a 'five-year land supply' weakens Local Plans, with councils fearing they will be at the mercy of unsuitable and speculative development.

I sit on the Strategic Planning committee and can report that a site for over 60 houses in a village on the outskirts of Trowbridge suffered as a result of the above in my opinion. The planning officer informed us their local plan had no weight against the above tilted balance (My interpretation) and the application was carried by one vote. All the work the village had put into their neighbourhood plan say where they wanted housing was largely disregarded.

At its Full Council meeting Tuesday 15 October, Wiltshire Council confirmed that the Wiltshire Local Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State before the end of the year. The Local Plan now agreed at Full Council outlines the vision and framework for housing, infrastructure and employment land growth to 2038. Once adopted, it will become the key document against which all planning applications in Wiltshire are assessed, making it the most significant place-shaping tool for the county. The above "tilted balance" will possibly impact on it.

OfSTED and CQC announce an Inspection of Local Area arrangements for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) in Wiltshire

OfSTED and CQC will look at Wiltshire Council data, documents and case files to assess how well we Wiltshire are working with children, young people, parents and carers.



During the first week, Wiltshire Council were extremely busy gathering and sharing their data and documentation with OfSTED and reviewing cases of children and young people that OfSTED selects.

The National Trust will be hosting its Christmas Lighting festivities again this year. Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) for High Street, Stourton with Gasper commencing 28th November 2024, for the Public Christmas event will be in force.

Penny Fennon gave September rainfall for Salisbury Street as 31cm with 4 days the 5th, 6th, 26th and 29th September being the wettest with 4cm of rain.

The rainfall is increasing now that summer has come to an end and autumn and winter storms have begun, it is essential that you are prepared in case of flooding. If your area is at risk of river flooding you should sign up for Environment Agency flood warnings. You should always know what to do in case of flooding. You can also view the latest flood alerts and warnings as a list on an interactive map on the internet. The map not only shows river levels; it also maps groundwater levels against historical highs.

Wiltshire empty 60,000 gullies each year, with many emptied on a scheduled basis. Gullies on A and B roads are cleaned out each year, while those on lesser roads are visited over a two-year programme. Wiltshire have also identified around 5,000 high-risk gullies that receive an annual visit. If you or a member of your community sees a blocked



gully, the best way to report is using **MyWilts**, which I can do for you in my division should you not be able to. Wiltshire have three high-pressure jetting machines that are deployed reactively to deal with reports from communities and town and parish councils, while another three tankers operate to a scheduled cleaning programme.

From 1st October, Wiltshire Council will be offering coffee pod recycling at its household recycling centres (HRCs) in partnership with Podback. Aluminium and plastic coffee pods, used in pod system coffee machines, should be collected separately and taken to HRCs on residents' next trip and deposited in the separate plastic and aluminium Podback recycling bins. Plastic and aluminium pods need to be collected separately, as they are recycled at different facilities. All the pods collected by Podback are recycled in the UK. They are shredded to remove the coffee, then the plastic and aluminium are used to create new products, including packaging, car components and building products. The coffee grounds will be treated by anaerobic digestion to create renewable energy (biogas) and soil improver.

Andy Brown, Deputy Chief Executive & Corporate Director Resources, has accepted the post of Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director Finance & Corporate Services

(Section 151 Officer) at Surrey County Council (this is subject to full council ratification). He will be leaving Wiltshire Council council on 11 October.

Every month I publicise the fact Wiltshire Council is recruiting foster carers, (children are waiting) with a range of flexible roles on offer including full time, short break or emergency care. To find out more about fostering in Wiltshire, people can visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/fostering or contact the team at fostering@wiltshire.gov.uk, I believe you can also call 0800 169 6321 or text the word Foster to 60002.

George Jeans 07710 441599 george.jeans@wiltshire.gov.uk

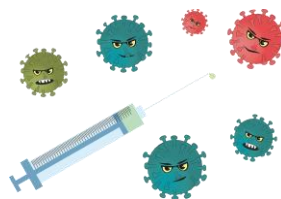


Mere Surgery - Flu and COVID Clinics

Please find details of the Surgery's vaccination programme below

The Clinics will be held at **Mere Surgery**

The following ARE entitled to the vaccinations:



Anyone aged over 65 Carers & Pregnant women

Any adult with following conditions:

COPD

Chronic heart disease

Chronic kidney or liver disease Chronic neurological disease i.e. motor neurone

Parkinson's Learning disability

Diabetes BMI greater than 40

Weakened immune system due to chemotherapy or auto immune disorders

Anyone with a mobile phone registered with the surgery to accept text messages will be sent a text message which will contain a unique link to book an appointment.

If you need to contact the surgery to make an appointment, please wait until you have been contacted with an invitation to book an appointment.

Children's Flu Clinics

Information regarding flu clinics will be available at a later date.

IF YOU NOT WISH TO HAVE EITHER A FLU VACCINATION OR COVID VACCINATION THIS YEAR, PLEASE LET THE SURGERY KNOW OR RESPOND VIA TEXT WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE INVITATION.

Please bear in mind we are reliant on the vaccines arriving as planned, so please check our website for any updates.

Mere Toddlers Foodbank:



Trolley collection is on **Sunday the 1st December** outside the **Co-op** from **10 am- 12 noon** . Please consider donating, as Christmas will be a very tough for many families again this year. Any **long-life** items, or little Christmas food treats, would be most welcome.



We are collecting all non-perishable food items, pet food, and hygiene products. At this time of year, these food boxes are very much needed and appreciated. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday the 1st December.

As always, thank you Mere for your unstinting support

Anne Rich 0741-3512023 arich4@icloud.com

Mere Gardening Club.

Thank you to all our members who attended our last meeting in October, especially as the heating in the Grove Building was not working! The meeting took the form of an "Open Forum" evening; a lively discussion took place about members' successes and failures throughout the growing season.



Our next meeting takes place on **Wednesday 13th November** in the Grove Building (hopefully with heating). The speaker is **Dr Francis Burroughes** and his talk is entitled "**A Victorian Head Gardener**". Francis is a renowned after dinner speaker so members are in for a treat. Our meeting starts at 7pm with refreshments, and the speaker will begin his talk at 7.30pm.

We still have plenty of daffodil bulbs remaining for our members to grow on for judging at the April 2025 meeting.

Would all members please note that the December meeting has been brought forward from the **11th December** and will now take place on Wednesday 4th December at 7pm.

Les Manwaring Chair 861941 lesmanwaring@yahoo.com

The Friends of Mere Museum

Friends of Mere Museum present: 'The Witches of Selwood'

After the trick or treating activities of Halloween, we are pleased to have Andrew Pickering coming to Mere to give a highly informative talk on the 'Witches of Selwood'. This will be at 7pm on Tuesday 26th November in the Grove Building. Tickets will be £5 (including light refreshments). Payment on the door by cash or card. You can reserve tickets online at: <https://forms.gle/6zvLK3qK77nPcycG6> or leave a message with our secretary – contact below.

Andrew Pickering is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and will have his book available "The Witches of Selwood: Witchcraft Belief and Accusation in Seventeenth-Century Somerset".

Rosie Jordan-Barr



Wiltshire Wellbeing
Cost-of-living information and support
wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living

Wiltshire Council

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Mere Amateur Dramatic Society (MADS)

Excitement is mounting in **MADS** as we continue to rehearse apace to bring to you all our wonderful pantomime **Alice In Blunderland**. This takes place in Mere Lecture Hall this month on **Thursday 28th, Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm** with a matinee performance on the **Saturday at 2.30pm**. Tickets at £10 for adults and £3 for children are available now from The Library (but not on Monday mornings and Wednesday mornings), Sprout & Flower and Angel Tea Rooms, or by telephoning 01747 861257 or 07539329798, or by e-mailing pennyallen@hotmail.co.uk to reserve tickets. But don't leave it too late, tickets are selling fast – *Oh yes they are* - so come and join Alice at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and see who can rescue her from the clutches of the very naughty Queen of Hearts! We look forward to seeing you there – *Oh yes we do*.

Jenny Wilding 860908 jenny@flaxmill.org.uk

Mere Theatre Club

As always we need to plan ahead to get tickets for interesting productions. So by the time you read this you will probably have the programme for January to March 2025. Please check your junk box in case it's gone astray!

And, as always, if you have any queries, would like to know more about us, or join us, contact details are below.

Madelaine Morris 07481-555101 madsmorris@gmail.com

House of Opportunity Christmas Box Appeal 2024

Last year the House of Opportunity distributed 7204 Christmas boxes to rural communities, orphanages, children's kindergartens and homes for senior citizens in Bulgaria.

Thank you to those in Mere who donated a Christmas box in 2023, 77 were collected.

Thank you once again to Shirley Thomas and friends for the amazing knitted blankets and to Jackie at Bramley Hill for the beautiful children's hats and mittens.

If you would like to donate a Christmas box for this year's appeal, leaflets are available at the post office or St Michaels Church Mere. Alternatively, leaflets are available to view or print on [House of Opportunity.org/ Christmas box](http://HouseofOpportunity.org/Christmasbox)

Please take your Christmas box to St Michaels Church or Little Myrtle, The Fields by **November 17th**. If you would like your box picked up, please call

Shelley Hunt 07810-216833 or 228590

Mere Day Centre

Have you seen our new leaflets? We are a friendly bunch of people over the age of 60 that meet up once or twice a week. We have a varied programme of activities and enjoy a hot two course lunch that is provided by The Walnut Tree and delivered to us in The Community Room at Lynch Close.

Not sure if our day centre is for you?

Come along for a free taster session on a Monday or Friday from

10:30am to 12:00pm. Pre-booking essential

Please contact Sandie Hawkins the Centre Manager for further information or to book a place: 07835 272406 or email: manager@meredaycentre.org.uk

Sandie Hawkins 07835-272406

Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Friday the **22nd November 2024** is the centenary of the establishment of the Mere Lecture Hall Trust founded in 1924.

To mark this auspicious occasion the Trust will be having an open evening at the Mere Lecture Hall on **Friday 22nd November** from **6pm to 9pm** and invite anyone who would like to, to come and find out what goes on in the Lecture Hall and how the Trust is run.

There will be an exhibition of events past and present that have gone on in the hall along with many historical documents relating to the hall plus displays and information pertaining to the current users of the hall.

The exhibition will also be open on **Saturday 23rd November from 10am to 5pm.**

All are welcome to come and join us and enjoy some refreshments along with a glass of wine!

Chris Wood Treasurer to the Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Mere Jelly

Are you a local business owner, freelancer, creative or home-worker? Whether you're looking for an opportunity to step away from your usual workspace or you'd like an additional opportunity to connect with others, the Mere Jelly offers a dedicated morning each month to achieve just that. Enjoy the chance

to share ideas, tackle challenges or simply have some accountability working alongside others. We meet at The Brush & Broom at Hillbrush on the last Wednesday of the month, from 9am until 12 noon. Come for the whole morning, or just drop in for a quick chat, we'd love to see you.

Jenni Bell 07956-869699

Mere School

We were delighted to welcome Gillingham Imperial Silver Band to Mere School at the end of last term. A small group of brass players delivered a short programme of brass music to the whole school. This ensemble included an ex-pupil of Mere School and Miss Chapman, our year 4 teacher.



Mere no longer has a brass band but brass music used to be a feature of Mere in the past. In addition to the Mere Town Band, Mere had a youth band – the Mere Manor Youth Band led by Adrienne Howell. Adrienne was honoured for her tireless work with brass music and especially youth brass with the presentation of the British Empire Medal in 2019.

Gillingham Imperial Silver Band was formed in 1928 and regularly performs

in the community. A Gillingham Imperial Silver Academy is slowly growing where children and adults can join their education programme.

Green Class will take part in a series of Brass Workshops run by the band later this term which the children are very excited about.

We do have a small group of children learning a brass instrument in school and we are thrilled to be expanding the wide range of musical opportunities we continue to offer to our children.



Catriona Williamson

Julia Barnes Portrait comes to Mere.

One of only two known portraits of Julia Barnes has been kindly donated to Mere Museum by the William Barnes Society. William Barnes, the renowned Dorset dialogue poet, began his career as a schoolmaster in the room above The Market House, where the Clock Tower is today. After his marriage to Julia, they ran a boarding school together in The Chantry for 8 years between 1827-1835. The portrait is signed on the back by Barnes' grandson Col. Barnes.

The Friends of Mere Museum are delighted to add this rare portrait to their collection of William Barnes archives in the Museum.



Mere Rivers Group Meeting with Wessex Water & The Environment Agency

On Friday 11th October I walked parts of our Shreen and the Ashfield rivers with Ian Sheppard, Mere Rivers Group (MRG) Chairman, Ian Colley, Hydrogeologist of Wessex Water (WW), and Clair Ivey and Jon Gilling of the Environment Agency (EA).

Ian and I knew Ian Colley well from 2011 when MRG formed to protest about the rivers drying up due to Wessex Water pumping water from Burton Field for export elsewhere in that very dry summer. We had got to know Jon in recent years as he was invited to attend the annual meeting the MRG have with WW to discuss the development of the Stream Support project which WW devised to ensure that the rivers flow as they should in all seasons. He ensures that this project conforms in practice to the requirements of the Ofwat- the industry licence

regulating body- while coping with the vagaries of the climate. The Environment Agency have developed a Water Resources Integrated Environment Planning Team to ensure sustainable water use within UK rivers, balancing the needs of abstractors, like Wessex Water, and their public water supply with the environment. Clair is the new team leader for this planning team and Jon is part of the team. The purpose of the meeting, from the WW point of view, was to show the EA and MRG where

the Stream Support discharge locations are on the Shreen and the Ashfield while they were active. The Ashfield has had pumped water discharged into it when flow is low for some years. The Shreen flow has only been supplemented when needed this year. The purpose of the meeting from the EA perspective was to introduce Clair to the Stream Support Issue, especially where it had very recently been installed on the Shreen, and to inform her of the work that had been done historically on the issue by MRG, Ian Colley and Jon and their colleagues. Ian Sheppard and I took an overview and witness role.



We met at the weir near the Salisbury Street bridge where Ian Sheppard and I explained that MRG were concerned to protect the amenity and aesthetic value of both streams for the people of Mere

and to uphold their nature as chalk streams. The source of both rivers is just on the other side of the A303 so we moved up along Riverside looking at the care taken by the riparian owners. Then just above Riverside we looked at the muddy outflow from a deep ditch which carries run off from the farming land to the north of the A303 into the Shreen. We then moved to the point where the source water from Manor Pond is piped under the A303 and saw that at that

point, it was clear and fit for fishes to live in. Originally MRG had thought that the muddy water must come from the A303 traffic but I noticed on an OS map that a brook serving the farm land had been diverted under it to come out behind the allotments and hence into the Shreen as just described. We all then drove to the other side of the A303 and observed the discharge locations for the Shreen and the Ashfield Stream Support eventually parking up near Burton. We walked along the Ashfield to White Bridge, with Ian Colley pointing out the depth of water in the Mill Pond and Ian and I pointing out the location of the WW Pumping Station.

We had had a lot of recent rain and after the walk Ian Colley was to turn off the Stream Support as it was not needed. He can read the volume of natural flows at the Shreen Weir and the Ashfield sluice from the computer recordings at those points by subtracting the input volume of the Stream Support discharges supplied from the Pumping Station. Though it was not strictly needed that day the walk had demonstrated that Stream Support worked. This summer was not as challenging enough to let us predict future Steam Support rates so monitoring the water environment of the rivers will continue.

Paulette McManus

Castle Hill Quilters

On 3rd October 41 quilts made by members of Castle Hill Quilters was handed over to Project Linus co-ordinator Sarah O'Reilly. Our Linus quilts have so far been sent to NSPCC, Great Western Hospital, Homestart and Womens Refuge. Three quilts for teenage boys have gone to Julia's House, a children's hospice.

Project Linus is run by volunteers; they organise fund raising events in the UK. They liaise and distribute quilts and blankets to local hospitals, foster careers, special schools, children's hospices, women's refuge and many other places where support is given to children "in need of a hug"



Coral Pickles coral.pickles@virginmedia.com

Heather Stone: DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE

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Heather: 07874 079 913

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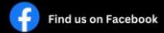
MERE FOREST CHARITIES - Assistance Available

The charities exist to support those persons resident in the Parishes of Mere and Zeals who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress.

Currently supporting a number of individuals with an annual grant before Christmas, applied for in October. Applications for assistance are welcome at any time during the year. For further details and application form please write and enclose an AS stamped addressed envelope to:

9 Clements Lane, Mere. BA12 6DF

Mereforest@gmail.com



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Stay connected with @merewiltshire on Instagram

Did you know that Mere has its own Instagram account?

@merewiltshire shares its own pictures and videos, as well as content from others which may be of interest to followers. This includes a permanent link to the latest online issue of Mere Matters (hosted on the town council website), information about local events and businesses, and more. It's a place to celebrate everything that is magic about Mere.

Don't worry if you're new to social media—it's easy to join.

How to find us:

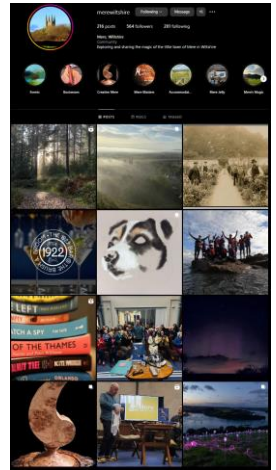
Download the Instagram app on your phone or tablet (search "Instagram" in the app store - Apple or Play Store - Android).

Create a free account with your email or phone number.

Search for **@merewiltshire** in the search bar, and click "Follow."

Need help? Just ask a friend or family member to help you get started, or get in touch with me and I'll be happy to help.

Rachael Hansford rachael_hansford@yahoo.co.uk



Harvest Service @ St Michael the Archangel

The first Sunday in October being the 6th, saw a Harvest Service at St Michael the Archangel Church in Mere.

A small Drama was played out as part of the service called 'Seeds of the Harvest', a hungry dummy bird which can be seen in



a photograph attached, was threatening to eat the seed that was planted not in the best protected and nourishing ground. The drama received applause which in decades past, probably would not have happened. Children had their

own area and during the second hymn collected donations to Mere Food Bank. Coffee was served after the service which only lasted less than 40 minutes. A new Vicar the Rev'd Michael Molano is coming to Mere. Every effort is being made at the present to embrace all people, the building as I have said before is "the Notre-Dame of Mere". The beautiful interior features a 15th century Par-close screen, carved Jacobean pews, alabaster tablet from 1375 and Medieval glass in the South Chapel that attracts visitors from afar.



Text & photos from George Jeans

Diary Dates (Recurring events are first shown in Bold then in *Blue*).

Venue Key for Diary :

AYP - Andy Young Pavilion

CP - Main (Salisbury St) Car Park

Drs - Surgery

GB - Grove Building

L - Lecture Hall

Lib - Library

MSC - Social Club

RMC - Castle St Car Park

StM - St Michaels Church

URC - United Ref Church

VH - Visit Hillbrush

WT - Walnut Tree Inn

1	Fri	09:00	Walking Zumba	L
		13:45	Duplicate Bridge (14:00 start. every Fri)	GB
2	Sat	09:00	Food Bank (every Sat)	L
		10:30	Coffee Morning (every Sat)	URC
		14:30	Croquet and Boules – (every Sat)	Steep Street
3	Sun	13:00	Mere Walking Group (Laidler & Wilson)	CP
		14:30	Croquet and Boules – (every Sunday)	Steep Street
4	Mon	09:30	Tiddlers and Toddlers (every Mon)	L
		18:00	Yoga (every Mon)	L
		19:00	Slimming World (every Mon)	L
		18:00	Scouting (every Mon)	GB
5	Tues	08:00	Foot Clinic (every Tues)	GB
		09:30	Little Angels	GB
		18:20	Zumba (every Tues)	L
		19:30	MADS (every Tues)	L
6	Weds	09:30	Tai-Chi (every Weds)	GB
		10:00	Get Wiltshire Walking Group – Starter Walks (every Weds)	CP
		14:00	Fitness & Friendship	GB
		14:00	Pilates (every Weds)	L
		18:30	Karate (every Weds)	L
<i>Railway Modellers</i>				
7	Thurs	10:00	Art Group (every Thurs)	GB
		10:00	Hearing Aid Clinic @ United Reformed Church	URC
		10:30	Harmony for Health (every Thurs)	L
		11:00	Rhyme Time (every Thurs)	Lib
		14:00	Quilters (every Thurs)	GB
		14:00	Rubber Bridge (every Thurs)	L
		17:00	Girlguiding (every Thurs)	GB
		18:00	Yoga (every Thurs)	L
19:30	Shreen Harmony (every Thurs)	URC		
8	Fri	10:00	Merely Women CANCELLED	GB
<i>Dup Bridge</i>				
9	Sat	<i>Croquet and Boules</i>		
10	Sun	<i>Croquet and Boules</i>		
11	Mon	Scouting, Tiddlers and Toddlers , Slimming World , Yoga		

12	Tues	14:00	Mothers Union	GB
		19:30	Historical Society	GB
			<i>Little Angels, Zumba</i>	
13	Weds	10:45	NHS Diabetes Prevention	GB
		19:30	Gardening Club	GB
			<i>Get Wiltshire Walking Group, Pilates, Karate, Tai-Chi, Railway Modellers</i>	
14	Thurs	19:30	Ukulele	Butt of Sherry
			<i>Rhyme Time, Art, Quilters, Guides, Bridge, Shreen Harmony, Yoga, Harmony FH</i>	
15	Fri		<i>Dup Bridge</i>	
16	Sat		CREATIVE MERE Grove Building AND Lecture Hall	
			<i>Coffee Morning, Croquet and Boules</i>	
17	Sun		CREATIVE MERE Grove Building AND Lecture Hall	
			<i>Croquet and Boule</i>	
18	Mon		<i>Scouting, Tiddlers and Toddlers, Slimming World, Yoga</i>	
19	Tues	08:00	Foot Clinic	GB
			<i>Little Angels, Zumba</i>	
20	Weds	19:00	Merekits Women's Institute	GB
		14:00	Fitness & Friendship	GB
			<i>Get Wiltshire Walking Group, Pilates, Karate, Tai-Chi, Railway Modellers</i>	
21	Thurs	14:00	Mere Walking Group (J Way)	CP
			<i>Rhyme Time, Art, Quilters, Guides, Bridge, Shreen Harmony, Yoga, Harmony FH</i>	
22	Fri	10:00	Merely Women	GB
			<i>Dup Bridge</i>	
23	Sat		<i>Coffee Morning & Fair Trade Stall, Croquet and Boules, Food Bank</i>	
24	Sun		Fair Trade after morning service	StM
			<i>Croquet and Boules</i>	
25	Mon	10:30	Historical Society	GB
			<i>Scouting, Tiddlers and Toddlers, Slimming World, Yoga</i>	
26	Tues	19:00	FOMM 'The Witches of Selwood'	GB
			<i>Little Angels, Zumba</i>	
27	Weds	am	Jelly Group	VH
		14:30	Pennybank Writers	L
			<i>Get Wiltshire Walking Group, Pilates, Karate, Tai-Chi, Railway Modellers</i>	
28	Thurs		<i>Rhyme Time, Art, Quilters, Guides, Bridge, Shreen Harmony, Yoga, Harmony FH</i>	
29	Fri		<i>Dup Bridge</i>	
30	Sat		<i>Croquet and Boules</i>	

Times, events and venues shown cannot be guaranteed as being correct
Any events shown in Red are unconfirmed

Mere Historical Society

There are two talks to look forward to this month. The first is by **Graham Dunlop** on “**The Cockleshell Heroes**”, the story (if you missed the film) of the most foolhardy and bonkers raid on occupied France (possibly) of the Second World War. The talk will be, as usual, in the Grove Building on **Tuesday 12th November at 7.30 p.m.**

This is to be followed by **Claire Dixon**, speaking on “**Dorset Museum and Art Gallery**”, of which she is the Executive Director. Please note that this is a *morning* talk, at **10.30 a.m.**, on **Monday 25th November** i.e. a change from the usual Tuesday routine.)

We welcome both current members, and non-members (for whom a charge of £3 is payable on the door). All our talks are held in the Grove Building.

Peter Landymore, Chair Tel: 228819



Almost all of us have unwanted, broken cables clogging up our drawers, or have considered binning that flimsy cable when it broke. That's thousands of kilograms of precious copper going to waste, that could be recycled into anything from lifesaving hospital equipment to electric vehicles.

Join the millions taking one small action to make a big difference during E-Waste Day (Monday 14 October). Gather up your old cables - and any other old electricals you find in your drawer of doom! - and recycle them this International E-Waste Day.

Simply take them to your local household recycling centre and recycle them in the electricals container or through small electricals kerbside collection service.

Seeds for Success



Parts of Wiltshire now have little or no youth provision. Since about 10 years ago, when all the youth leaders from Wiltshire Council ceased to operate, youth provision ceased in many rural areas of Wiltshire, Jaki Farrell with others, headed up Seeds for Success in Mere, covering all the way through to Wilton. Jaki and her team have done exceptionally well, obtaining an income of over £200K, enabling 280 children and young people in a range of development youth work opportunities. Wiltshire Community Foundation is working with others to try and improve youth work coverage in Wiltshire.

Emily Kelly, in the photo, is addressing the many present at the AGM, with many young people in attendance and making presentations.



Mentors help life changing outcomes for young people, and has significant benefits for their friends, families and communities. New mentors are being sought

Anyone with a passion to improve the lives of young people can be a great mentor.

Lee Cherry, Mentoring & Support Manager lee@Seeds4success.org.uk 07570-819140

Mere Mortals Petanque Club



Now the clocks have changed, evening play has stopped. Floodlights are out of our budget range at the moment but it would be nice and they are on our wish list. However, unless it is raining, Mere Mortals continue to hone their boule throwing skills on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30pm and on Saturday mornings from 10.30am. A new member paid up last month (he plays bowls in the summer) but juniors are free and their number has increased to five.

Colin Senneck 706008 colin2423@sky.com

Fair Trade Stalls

Please note that, owing to my involvement with Creative Mere, this month's stalls will be held on the 4th weekend of the month rather than the usual 3rd.

23rd November: URC Coffee Morning

24th November: after the morning service at St Michael's

Make a date for your diaries: **December 5th** - Christmas pop-up shop at the Angel Tea Rooms

Janet Way 860884 jwaywitsend@gmail.com

Merekits - Women's Institute

At our October meeting we took to the floor and had another Line dancing session, ably guided by the lovely Sara, which allowed us to build on our skills learnt in a previous session back in 2023; we had lots of fun and hilarity throughout the evening. We also heard about the skills (as well as the fun and friendship) involved in **Walking Netball**; we are keen to establish a local group so please let us know if you might be interested by using the contact details below.

Our next meeting will be on November 20th when we will be trying out the art of sugar craft and having a go at making some festive flowers in time for putting on the Christmas cake; please do come along and join us.

Merekits WI meet on the **third Wednesday** of the month in the Grove Building from 7pm to 9pm. We have a varied programme of events throughout the year including talks, demonstrations as well as many activities outside of meetings such as walks; meals out; book club; craft group; as well as trips to the local theatres and places of interest. New ladies are always welcome to come along to any meeting to find out more; it allows an opportunity to meet people and make new friends locally and there's always something going for you to participate in as much or as little as you would like.

Verena Cooper 07971-790256 verenacooper2@gmail.com

Creative Mere

Come and support all the local artists and crafts folk at this unique event. Watch them demonstrate their skills and maybe buy a special gift for someone from their work.

Brochures are available from local businesses and the library or can be downloaded from:

<https://bit.ly/4dOvCSj>

Creative Mere
A Focus on Crafts in Mere

Demonstrations, Exhibition and Sales

Refreshments available 16th - 17th Nov 2024
Sat 10.30 - 5.00 Sun 10.30 - 3.30

Grove Building, BA12 6DS
Mere Lecture Hall, BA12 6HF

Free Entry

Mere Brownies

Mere Brownies were given a Fun Halloween painting by Cllr Aubrey Coleman who is a member of **Mere Art Group**.

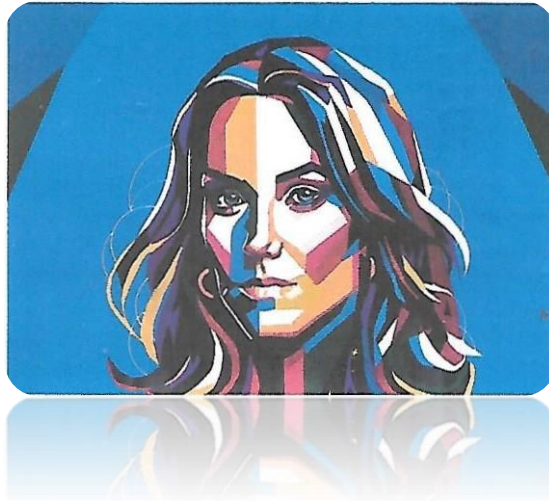
The picture was raffled for a £1 a strip, already the tickets are selling well, Mere 1st Brownies will get a helping hand for Hallowe'en. Mere Girlguiding composes Rainbows, Brownies and Guides who number over 40, which is a heathy number. They come not just from Mere but From Zeals and further away.



Picture by Tor "Sparkle Owl". Text by George Jeans Mere

Aubrey Coleman Backs a Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you for your support in purchasing tickets for the raffle of the **Catherine, Princess of Wales** painting which I did and donated to the coffee morning in September. The painting raffle raised **£328** which was more than my target figure. The painting was won by **Charles Farris - Candles** and will go on the wall in their new administration offices in Mere. Overall, the morning raised **£660** - an excellent result for the organisation.



Thank one again for all your Support. Aubrey Colman



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Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Friday the **22nd November 2024** is the centenary of the establishment of the Mere Lecture Hall Trust founded in 1924.

To mark this auspicious occasion the Trust will be having an open evening at the Mere Lecture Hall on **Friday 22nd November** from 6pm to 9pm and invite anyone who would like to, to come and find out what goes on in the Lecture Hall and how the Trust is run.

There will be an exhibition of events past and present that have gone on in the hall along with many historical documents relating to the hall plus displays and information pertaining to the current users of the hall.

The exhibition will also be open on **Saturday 23rd November** from 10am to 5pm.

All are welcome to come and join us and enjoy some refreshments along with a glass of wine!

Chris Wood Treasurer to the Mere Lecture Hall Trust

Mere Bowls Club

Big news of the month is that Mere Bowls Club won the Westbrook League Harold Ford Cup. It was played against Downton Bowls Club and Mere were winners 38 shots to 23.



Don Butchers 860775 don.butchers@btinternet.com

Mere Museum

Please do visit the current Tower Stories exhibition. There are some amazing photos taken by Steve Hawkins to record the restoration of the tower and pinnacles. I will also be adding to the other cabinets as more items come to hand.

Don't forget, if you have any photos of Mere, it's history, people events etc and you would like to donate them to the museum we would love to include them in our collection.

Rose Heesom, Hon. Curator 07791-559674 meremuseum@btinternet.com



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Website: www.meredentistry.co.uk Mere Dental Practice, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere. BA12 6EW

Copy date for **December/January** issue

Closing deadline is: **16:00hrs on Thursday 21st November**

Email contributions are preferred, to the Editor, Richard Jefferies 863425
editor@merematters.co.uk or deliver to 16 Underhill, Mere, BA12 6LU.

Please be sure to state your name and a contact telephone number to ensure inclusion.

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From Times Gone By!

Salisbury, Nov. 5 1823 - Owing to the immense quantity of rain and snow which fell on Thursday night and Friday morning, the river Avon was swollen to a height unprecedented for nearly 50 years. All the bridges, with the exception of Little Durnford bridge, have been overflowed; Cottages have been washed away in various places; and horned cattle, sheep, and pigs, have suffered in the general devastation ... On the great western roads, trees, and limbs of trees, obstructed the passage of the

coaches, and some remained, for hours embedded in snow. At Stourhead great injury was done to the plantations, and the gardens; and two considerable flocks of sheep were dug out of the snow between 4 and 5 feet deep. The road at Willoughby Hedge, between Hindon and Mere, was impassable for two days, until passage was cut through the snow 8 feet deep.

Salisbury & Wilts Journal, 6 November 1823

Inquests held at Bradford

At West Knoyle, on the 1st of November 1843, on Thomas Gray, aged 42, and George Light, aged 25. These, with a third man and a boy, were sent by Mr. Butt of Pertwood, to Mere, with a waggon laden with barley. After unloading, they took up cider tackle of about three tons. From the evidence of the boy, who was the son of Gray, it appears they visited one or two public houses, but were not intoxicated; and on their return they were descending a hill towards Willoughby-hedge Gate at a smart trot, the two deceased men and the boy riding in the waggon, and the third man running the side holding the trace: when he stumbled and

fell, and one or both near wheels passing over him, fractured his thigh bone and otherwise injured him. Gray observing this man lying on the ground, attempted to get out of the waggon, but fell on his head. Light also shortly after in getting out, fell to the ground, and both near wheels passed over his abdomen. Both expired in a few minutes. From the evidence of Mr. Rumsey, surgeon of Mere, it appears that the cause of death in Gray was concussion of the brain, and in Light the rupture of some of the viscera of the abdomen. Verdict in both cases - Accidentally killed.

Devizes and Wilts Gazette, 9 November 1843

Martyn Beardsley

Ukes at The Butt of Sherry

Our next session is on Thursday 10th October at 7.30pm at The Butt of Sherry.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month for an informal evening of strumming and singing. We play a wide range of popular songs and welcome all abilities. If you don't have a ukulele, but

would like to come along you would be most welcome.



We do have a ukulele for you to play. An evening of fun, laughter and song is guaranteed.

Maggie Holmes maggieholmes101@gmail.com



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Mere Social Club

And it's November already and (dare I say it?) --only 7 weeks until Christmas!!!

Our Christmas draw this year is now open. We are raising money to install a defibrillator at the club, so come along and take part. There will be lots of great prizes and it only costs £1 a go.

Live music this month will be provided by **Georgie Girl** and this takes place on **Saturday 30th November from 8.30 pm**. till late.

We welcome members and non members so come and join us

Elaine Laurence, club steward. elainelaurence57@gmail.com

Mere Museum

Please do visit the current Tower Stories exhibition. There are some amazing photos taken by Steve Hawkins to record the restoration of the tower and pinnacles. I will also be adding to the other cabinets as more items come to hand.

Don't forget, if you have any photos of Mere, it's history, people events etc and you would like to donate them to the museum we would love to include them in our collection.

Rose Heesom, Hon. Curator 07791-559674 meremuseum@btinternet.com

Mothers Union

The Mother's Union decided because of the lack of heating in the Grove Building not to meet last month and we do apologize to our Speaker, Antonia Chetwynd and members but on an extremely wet rather cool day hopefully it was the right decision. Antonia has kindly agreed to come to our **May Meeting** so we will look forward to that.

Our next meeting will be held in The Grove Building on **12th November** at 2.30pm. We will be welcoming The Reverend Dr Graham Southgate, Rector of Upper Stour with Maiden Bradley. He will be talking about visiting the Holy Land. He is relatively new to the area and we look forward to meeting him. We will then have tea and biscuits.

On **November 16th** we will be providing the refreshments including sandwiches, sausage rolls, homemade cake throughout the day and homemade soup at lunch time at very affordable prices for **CREATIVE MERE**. We do hope to see many of you then whilst enjoying the many crafts on display.

Vicky Goodfellow 840443 or Carol Lord 685429.



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The Garden Café

Situated within The Club at Holbrook Manor & Spa, The Garden Café is an ideal place to relax with family and friends whilst enjoying a selection of drinks, barista coffees, home baked cakes and freshly prepared light deli bites.

On warmer days you can sit outside on the café terrace which overlooks the Manor gardens.

Traditional afternoon tea is also available.



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Festival of Bells

At St Michael the Archangel Church, Mere.

Saturday, November 30th ~ 10.30 am ~ 4.00 pm

View the Bells decorated by Local Organisations

Peal of Bells from the Tower, Handbell Ringing

Opportunity to Chime the Bells

Sunday, December 1st ~ 2.00pm – 4.00pm

View the Bells decorated by Local Organisations

PennyBank Writers

PennyBank Writers look forward to meeting visitors to their stall at

Creative Mere (16th/17th Nov.)

Members have been busy editing and proof-reading contributions to *A Mere Miscellany* – a booklet of the group's work produced for this biennial event.

Do come and chat to your local writers and see what they can offer; you may even find yourself putting pen to paper!

On the following Friday PennyBank members will be entertaining Merely Women with readings chosen for the run-up to Christmas.

Notice Board

There is now a notice board at Lawrences, Old Hollow. To avoid that hefty fine, community posters – with a contact number on reverse, please - may be left in the porch or postbox and will be displayed if space allows.

Adrienne Howell 860475 howellatmere@aol.com

Can you Look out for other people?

There are lots of simple, practical things we can do to look after each other over the winter period.

Encourage the older people you know to look after their health – one of the easiest ways to do this is to make sure they've had their free flu jab and coronavirus booster vaccine.

Try to make time for relatives, friends and neighbours. Darker nights and cold weather can make it harder for people to get out and about and we can all end up feeling lonely or out of sorts. Calling for a chat, popping in for a cuppa or even sending a card in the post can really help let someone know you're thinking about them.

When it's wet or icy outside, it's easier to slip. You could help your neighbours get out and about safely by helping them keep their paths and driveways clear and salting their steps and slopes.

What can you Do?

Self Help for Winter

Severe cold weather can be dangerous, especially for the very young, very old or those with chronic diseases. You may find the **Keep Warm, Keep Well leaflets on the GOV.UK** website useful.

Protecting your home

Minimise the risk of flood damage. Are your roof gutters especially the down-pipes clear from blockage? Check road gullies as well. Have a store of sandbags if you property is likely to flood.



Safe travel

We know the Highways Agency does all it can to look after us. Have someone check your car before winter really sets in. Always carry coats, gloves and extra warm clothing, perhaps a blanket along with hot drink and some food if you are embarking on a long journey. Do make sure you plan your journey. Carry shovel.

Snow and ice

Make sure you have a broom and shovel to hand just in case. If you are healthy and able please help by clearing snow to help everyone else. **High winds**

When high winds are forecast, remember that everyday items left outside can become 'missiles' and can cause damage and danger to people. Put trampolines and garden furniture away **Contd.....**



or strap them tight to something sturdy. Before it gets windy, it's also worth checking for loose tiles, slates and lead flashing on your roof, and removing dead branches from old trees to make sure you avoid accidents.

Mere Walking Groups

Short Walk: Meet on Thursday 21st November at 2p.m. in the surgery car park for a walk around the hidden paths of Mere.

Janet Way 860884

Sunday Nov 3rd, Mere Walking Group, a walk of approx. 4 miles, around Shaftesbury, meet at Salisbury Street Car Park at **1pm**, to share cars to Shaftesbury.

Roger Laidler 07749 230894

"Get Wiltshire Walking" **every Wednesday**, a short one hour flat walk for those people who wish to become more active or are recovering from surgery, illness or injury. The walks finish with a visit to The Angel Tea Rooms. Meet by the surgery in the car park at 10am.

Dave & Wendy Drewett 07508 340105


All ages are welcome to join in all of these walks

Mere & District Link Scheme

We remain busy with 115 trips in September including 38 trips to Salisbury District Hospital and 12 to RUH Bath.

Please call 01747 860096 to book a driver or to volunteer as a Link driver. As a charity we do not charge for trips but ask for a donation. Please remember that our co-ordinators work in their own homes – we do not have an office - so please keep calls to 9-5 Monday to Friday and only use the 01747 860096 number.

With the Christmas and New Year holidays fast approaching we are happy to confirm that the Link will continue to take people to medical appointments over the holiday period. However, please note that our phone will not be "manned" on 25, 26, 27 December 2024 and 1 and 2 January 2025. If you have a medical appointment between these dates please let us know by Friday 20 December, if at all possible, to give us the best chance of getting you a driver.

John FitzGerald Chair 860096  m.org.uk

A message from Michael Molano, Mere's new vicar

I am The Revd. Michael Molano, and I am delighted to say I have been appointed as Priest in Charge, or 'Vicar', of Mere and West Knoyle.



I am married to Caroline and we have three children together- Lucia, Isaac and Daniel. For the last 3 years I have ministered on the South Coast of Central Cornwall, where I have been blessed to work with 12 different churches, most recently in Par, Treverbyn and in Charlestown, where we lived. We have greatly enjoyed the mixture of traditional, busy Parish ministry- wonderful liturgical services and pastoral care on the one hand, with occasional spearfishing and snorkelling trips seeking spider crab, lobster and bass, swimming with seals and cuttlefish and surfing with our three children on the North Coast on the other. My wife Caroline and myself were raised in rural North Wiltshire, and I have spent much time on Salisbury Plain and in Bovington, Dorset (before being called

into ministry within the Church of England), whilst serving in the Household Cavalry Regiment. Before this I was greatly privileged to serve the Late Queen Elizabeth II on mounted ceremonial duties, with the Life Guards. Earlier work history has included air traffic control, historic building renovation and wildlife management and game conservation.



I am passionate about nature, the English countryside and preserving the best of our traditions, especially beautiful church music. We are thrilled to be coming home to Wiltshire, to be able to get to know and to care for the Parishioners of Mere and West Knoyle and we look forward to finding out how our churches can best serve the wonderful communities thriving in this precious corner of England. We are really looking forward to meeting everyone!

The Revd. Michael Molano

Shreen Harmony

Our Christmas Concert will be held as usual at The Grove on the evening of **Saturday 21st December.**

Sandra Fisher delfisher@btopenworld.com

Church Contact and Service Details

The Parish Church St Michael's the Archangel:

Priest in Charge: Vacancy
 Churchwardens: Mr Kit Stallard 07803-086161
 Mr Richard Wilson 07966-244373
 Admin Secretary: administrator@stmichaelsmere.org.uk

3 rd	Sun	08:00 10:30 16.00	BCP Communion Informal Worship – All Saints Sunday All Souls Service – Remembering Loved Ones
10 th	Sun	10:45	Remembrance Sunday – meet at clock tower for 10.45 - followed by service in church
17 th	Sun	10.30	Parish Communion
19 th	Tues	10.30	Roman Catholic Mass
24 th	Sun	10.30	Parish Communion
26 th	Tues	19.00	Licensing Service of Reverend Michael Molano
NB In Nov, Dec, Jan & Feb the 8am service will be on the first Sunday of the month ONLY			

West Knoyle Parish Church St Mary the Virgin:

Priest in Charge: Vacancy
 Churchwardens: Mrs Jill Randall 830534 Mr Colin Seaford 830263

3 rd	Sun	09:30	DIY Service
10 th	Sun	09.30	Remembrance Service
17 th	Sun	09:30	Communion
24 th	Sun	09:30	Communion

The United Reformed Church

Minister: Vacancy
 Mere Contact: Elaine Laurence 07403-845711 elainelaurence57@gmail.com

3 rd	Sun	11:00	Rev. James Hepburn
10 th	Sun	11:00	Remembrance service at St. Michael's
17 th	Sun	11:00	Rev. Peter Clark (Holy Communion)
24 th	Sun	11:00	Rev. Colin Marsh

The Roman Catholic Church: St Mary Queen of Peace.

St Mary's has been closed and weekend Masses are now at SS Luke and Teresa, South Street, Wincanton BA9 9DH.

Parish Office: 01963-34408

hope.stlukeswincanton@outlook.com

Mass at St Michael the Archangel usually on the third Tuesday of each month at 10.30am but please check with John FitzGerald



Coffee morning at Visit Hillbrush on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am.

John FitzGerald 860867

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 merewilts.org

Mere Library

Monday: 10:00 – 14:00* and 14:00 – 19:00
 Tuesday: 09:30 – 17:00
 Wednesday: 10:00 – 14:00*
 Thursday: 09:30 – 17:00
 Friday: 09:30 – 17:00
 Saturday: 09:30 – 13:00

* Volunteer operated opening hours.

'Craft and Chat' Sessions at Mere Library are moving from Friday to Tuesday Mornings 10.30 -12.00 as from Tuesday the 3rd of September.

Bring Along your Knitting, Crochet or other Craft projects to the library and meet other Friendly, Creative People.

For more Information, call 01747 860546

Sally-Ann, Mere Senior Library Assistant

Booking Meeting Venues

Grove Building:	admin@grovebuildingmere.org.uk	07714-718625
Lecture Hall:	Sally Johnson	861063
URC Church Hall:	Mrs E Laurence	07403-845711

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Salisbury Street,
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