

# Mere Matters

*& so does  
West Knoyle*

September 2024

Your community magazine  
Including a guide to local events

IN AID OF



**THE WILTSHIRE  
BOBBY VAN TRUST**

Registered charity 115370

By kind permission of our  
hosts, Mr & Mrs John Robins

# BAG A BARGAIN



NEARLY NEW  
DESIGNER  
CLOTHES SALE

**Deverill Storage**  
*c/o Manor Farm, Longbridge  
Deverill, Warminster BA12 7DF*

4th September, 2pm to 6pm, £6 entry

5th September, 1pm to 4pm, free entry

## EXCLUSIVE EARLY ENTRY

Plus fashion and make-up masterclass with Milly Churchill, Jennifer Morisetti and Karen Lockyer.

Strictly limited tickets £25 and £20

Refreshments  
available to  
purchase

[wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events](http://wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events)

## Editorial

Mere Matters continues to be managed by volunteers and is a publication we hope to keep free to all. Unless we secure more revenue by way of increased advertising or from donations, this is going to have to change.

Our advertising fees are very competitive and we do not want to increase our charges.

**All charities please note!**

**Discounted rates for Registered Charities are now 25% reduction.**

Regrettably we now have to adopt a policy that if you are raising money for a particular cause and wish to advertise, the space will be chargeable.

In a bid to be fully transparent, the following is our advertising pricing structure:

### **Mere Matters – Advertising Space Options.**

Code	Space	Height	Width	1 month	5 months	10 months
A	Full page	200mm	140mm	£100	£400	£600
B	Half page	100mm	140mm	£50	£200	£300
C	Quarter page (Landscape)	50mm	140mm	£25	£100	£150
D	Block (Landscape)	50mm	70mm	£12	£48	£72

All registered charities -25% off prices shown.

If you wish to pay by BACS. Please use:  
A/C. Name: Mere Matters Sort Code: 30-93-45 A/C. No: 00600262

It may be worth noting that our expenditure is in the order of some £800 monthly

Richard Jefferies: ☎ 863425 [Editor@merematters.co.uk](mailto:Editor@merematters.co.uk)

### **Thinking of Advertising in Mere Matters?**

To find out the costs or to book an advert, please contact **The Editor** directly by phone or email. [editor@merematters.co.uk](mailto:editor@merematters.co.uk) ☎ 863425



## THE WILTSHIRE BOBBY VAN TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1153790

### Exclusive tips from fashion experts at Wiltshire Bobby Van's sustainable fashion event

THE Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust's latest sustainable fashion event this month, featuring nearly new designer clothes and jewellery, is one with a difference – there will be three fashion and make-up experts on hand offering advice.

The Bag A Bargain event, at Deverill Storage, at Manor Farm, Longbridge Deverill, is open from 2pm to 6pm on September 4 and 1pm to 4pm on September 5.

Milly Churchill, Jennifer Morisetti and Karen Lockyer will be running masterclasses, which are only available to anyone who buys early bird tickets. The tickets, which also allows entrance to the sale four hours before it opens, are strictly limited in number.

Milly, author of *Designing Your Style*, Jennifer, founder of sustainable fashion event Defashion Dorset, and Karen, an international make-up artist and owner of specialist make-up experience company Graceful Disgraceful, will also be offering 15-minute one-to-one consultations, for just £10, where they will accompany clients around the sale to dispense expert advice as they shop.

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust Director Jennie Shaw said: "The sale is an opportunity to add some sparkle to your wardrobe, with rail after rail exquisite nearly new designer clothes and jewellery. And as ever, all proceeds from the event will go towards the running costs of the Wiltshire Bobby Van and also Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service.

"We'd like to say a huge thanks to John Robins for allowing us to use the venue, our fashion experts and all our volunteers."

Exclusive entry on **September 4, from 10am to 2pm, is £25** and general entry from **2pm is £6**.

Exclusive entry on **September 5, from 10am to 1pm, is £20** and general entry from **1pm to 4pm, is free**. Tickets can be booked at [wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events](http://wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events). Find out more about the work of the charity at [wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk](http://wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk).



## Mere Town Council

While we do not usually have a Town Council meeting in August, the day-to-day work of the council goes on. Where important matters need dealing with then some of these are delegated to myself and our clerk, or we poll councillors by post. Several planning matters have arisen this summer and we have responded. I was asked, the other day, if I or the Town Council could report another resident to the Wiltshire Planning Enforcement team with regard to something they felt a neighbour should not be able to do. My reply has to be that the town council decided some years ago not to take on Enforcement complaints for residents so that they could remain anonymous. Certainly, if the Town Council decides that there is an infringement of planning conditions then we would ask Wiltshire Council follow it up – but we have not the resources, nor the expertise take on requests on behalf of residents. However, we have recently been informed by Wiltshire Council that enforcement reports DO remain anonymous and this is confirmed on their website. If you feel that a planning breach has taken place, please contact Wiltshire Council's Enforcement Team – here is a link to the relevant page on their website:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1074/Report-a-matter-to-Planning-Enforcement>

My time, this past weekend, was largely devoted to AIM – Activities In Mere. All sorts of activities for over-50s were held across the Town. My thanks to those people who provided the expertise to lead sessions from Axe-Throwing to Zumba. Over 500 participants in 23 activities over the three days was inspiring and it would seem that it will lead to new groups taking up activities on a permanent basis. Something of this scale does not happen on its own and a second big thank you goes to the council team and volunteers and donors who made it happen. I didn't make the Zumba but the axe throwing was great fun. I do appreciate that I had said that I would be jiving on Saturday but I was worn out by then, whereas, many people attended more than half of the activities and Angela Williams managed 16 of the 23!

I find it heartening to see our community engaged with such enthusiasm and I know that the next step is to plan what to do next and to try to get even more residents taking part - watch this space!

The next meeting of the town council is on the 2nd September at Duchy Manor – do come along, watch democracy in action and do consider taking an active role.

*John Jordan, Chair, Mere Town Council*

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## Report from Town Clerk

Over the next few weeks, the Town Council will be considering making its response to the new government's Consultation on the proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – the consultation runs from Tuesday, 30th July until Tuesday, 24th September – here is the link to the consultation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system/proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system>

The National Planning Policy Framework acts as the rulebook for planning in England and plays a key role in guiding what gets built where. The proposed changes will introduce mandatory housing targets for each planning authority. The housing target for Wiltshire under the current framework requires delivery of 1917 houses per annum. Under the proposed framework it will require delivery of 3476 houses per annum - a percentage increase of 81%. This means an extra 23,385 houses will need to be built in the 15-year Local Plan period to 2038.

Most of these extra homes will need to be provided in the rural areas rather than the urban areas.

Wiltshire Council held an hour-long webinar on 14th August for people to find out more about the Government's proposed changes to the NPPF and how it is likely to affect Wiltshire. You can view the webinar on Wiltshire Council's YouTube channel – here is a link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_MLFP7-Ex90](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_MLFP7-Ex90)

We would urge all residents with an interest in the future of planning developments in Wiltshire and, more particularly in south-west Wiltshire, to find out more and respond to the consultation.

*for information on Town Council activities, minutes, agendas etc.*  
[lindseywood@merewilts.org](mailto:lindseywood@merewilts.org) 📞 860701 🌐 [merewilts.org](http://merewilts.org)

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### **Croquet and Boules Club**

This year has proven to be extremely positive for the club as we welcomed many people who came to try their hand at croquet throughout the Open Sessions, the Activities in Mere, (AIM), weekend and at our regular free Taster Sessions offered every weekend. If you enjoyed playing croquet at any of these sessions then do come back and play again. Your support is needed to ensure the continuation of the club which has been active in Mere since 2006. Club members play every Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 14.30 hours so come along for a Taster Session any weekend this September before our playing season draws to a close. Equipment and tuition is provided by the club.

Jill Beadle [jill49jim@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jill49jim@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Wiltshire Councillor ~ George Jeans Writes

I attended all but one of the 23 AIM (Activities in Mere), many people were present over 3 days, it was an absolutely great event. I also attended Mere Proms at St Michael's Church on July 13th, it was truly a fantastic event. On other dates there was the excellent Stourton Flower and Produce Show. Mr Rose made a 17th/18th century iron candlestick, so nice to see local iron workers creations and the flowers. Then there was the Zeals show. I attended Stourton and Kilmington Home Guard Club Fete and a fund raiser at Street Farm. I have attended most if not all local Town and Parish meetings. There are so many other functions it is impossible to get to them all.

There is at present two planning development consultations underway, which you can participate in. One is regarding but not limited to, a possible 81% increase over existing projections of housing numbers for Wiltshire which the Mere Town Council has publicised this elsewhere in Mere Matters

The second consultation is, Regulation 19 consultation, Tuesday 20 August - Friday 4 October 2024 re the draft Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document. The consultation will be an opportunity to make representations on the draft Plan before it is submitted for independent Examination in 2025. To enable you to find out more about the Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document and ask questions, Wiltshire Council are holding five engagement events at different locations around the county and one online engagement event. You can just turn up at the in-person drop-in events. If you wish to attend the online event, you must sign up beforehand. You can sign up for the webinar on Tuesday 3 September, 6pm-7.30pm,

Wiltshire Council has issued a £1,000 fly-tipping fixed penalty notice (FPN) to a Zeals resident following an investigation by Environmental Enforcement Officers. The fly-tipped mattress was reported to the council in May 2024 by a member of the public, who witnessed it being dumped in a layby off Bells Lane in Zeals. This witness received a reward under the council's We're Targeting Fly-tippers campaign.

On 17 July, Wiltshire's volunteer Tree Wardens visited Stourhead for a guided tour of the grounds from the estate management team to learn more about how they look after the trees at this internationally important National Trust location.

I sit on the Police and Crime Panel of Wiltshire Council, therefore the following is of interest to me and may be to you. The percentage of crime that were solved in the 2023-24 financial year by Wiltshire Police has been requested by a councillor. The OPCC have come back with the following:

Further action taken (FAT) rates reflects specific action the police have taken to progress justice e.g., a charge, caution, out of court disposal. This covers all crime (42,000+) From May 23-24 annual further action taken levels are at 16.5%. This is up 3.% from last year. The current figure for May is 17.9% which is extremely high. We examine specific crime types to understand further and make improvements, for example rape and serious sexual offences. The majority of crime types are seeing improving FAT levels, with a few stable. Wiltshire Police have significantly improved

performance in the last year and continue to do so. Wiltshire are now performing very well compared with other similar forces and nationally.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Action Fund Grants support voluntary groups to deliver activities in line with priorities 2, 3 and 4 of the Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Plan 2022-25. Grants are up to £5,000 for one year and can be used to fund activities which will address the following priorities: 1. Reduce violence and serious harm 2. Tackle crimes that matter most to local communities 3. Improve the experience of victims and deliver justice

Wiltshire Council launched a brand-new web app to help both residents and visitors to Wiltshire find events and activities near them, all year round. Explore Wiltshire Events enables people to search for events based on location, category, date and available amenities.

Wiltshire Council is investing £380,000 in new car park machines throughout the county and the installation of these new machines will start in car parks in Marlborough. The new payment machines will give customers the choice of paying for their parking using cash or contactless with a card or mobile device. People can also continue to pay using the MiPermit app or by text. The new machines are compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and all locations have been reviewed in line with the Department for Transport Inclusive Mobility guidance, with ramps installed where appropriate and ensuring the machines are positioned to allow easier access for all users.

I have the following items if you have Community use for them, for short term free loan If you have any use at any local community function for a small free standing amp and microphone, or a buzz wire and stand that the user tries to get wand around without making a buzz, I have both for free borrowing, insurance not included.

Penny Fennon gave July rainfall for Salisbury Street as 23.5cm with the 6th May being the wettest with 7cm of rain. From 05/07 to 09/07 19cm fell. Pam Baldock gave July rainfall for Lordsmead as 99.5mm. Wettest day July 5th 37mm.

Wiltshire are still short of placements for foster children. Wiltshire will provide with ongoing support and training. Fostering with your local council of Wiltshire means all money goes into fostering. Wiltshire Council payments to foster carers reflect the importance Wiltshire Council place on fostering.

For more information go to Fostering Home - Fostering with Wiltshire Council email [fostering@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@wiltshire.gov.uk), call 0800 169 6321 or text the word Foster to 60002.

George Jeans  07710 441599 [george.jeans@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:george.jeans@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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**Fun for over 50s.**

Activities in Mere. 23 different activities took place in Mere from Friday the 9th to Sunday 11th. Weather was good, very many people tried various activities. The organized activities were Tai Chi, Activity Plus, Hand bells, Archery, Axe throwing, Bowls, Climbing, Jive dance, Fencing, Frisbee Golf, Fitness by Design, Karate, Petanque, Pilates, Snooker, Table Tennis, Tennis, Zumba, Jeffering (running some then walking some), Walking, Outdoor chess and Yoga. All were free thanks to initially being partly funded by the Wiltshire Towns Program then other sponsors came on board. Roger Pipe from Mere Town Council brought it all together with the help of the council. It was truly a memorable weekend in the summer of 2024.



**Mere Pharmacy**  
We can help you with 7 common conditions

- **Sinusitis**  
(adults and children aged 12+)
- **Sore throat**  
(adults and children aged 5+)
- **Earache**  
(Children aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite**  
(adults and children aged 1+)
- **Impetigo**  
(adults and children aged 1+)
- **Shingles**  
(adults aged 18+)
- **Urinary tract infection**  
(women, aged 16 to 64 years)



**Visit your  
Pharmacy First!**

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### Dr David Longbourne MBE, May 1927 to March 2024.

David served Mere over 5 decades. He was excellent at music and attended Winchester when young and became a Naval Doctor before coming to Mere as Doctor in the 1960s. David supported St Michael's Church and was very much involved in researching the history of Mere, publishing a well-respected local history book titled 'The Book of Mere'.

David was honoured with the MBE for creating the award-winning Mere Museum which was founded in 1970. He started as curator in 1984 and remained in post for 22 years.



A very well attended remembrance service was held at St Michael's Church on Wednesday 10th July. The weather was kind and a wake was held in the wonderful garden of Dr Longbourne's house, The Old Rectory at Church Street, Mere.

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### Mere Proms concert hits the right note for celebration!



On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July The Friends of Mere Church hosted a Proms concert for the Mere community to celebrate the completed restoration of St Michael's wonderful medieval church tower.

Over 400 people crowded into the Churchyard to listen to the 26 players of The Shrewton Silver Band play classics from the film *Brassed Off* as well as movie themes and all the well-loved songs from the Last Night of the Proms.

In August 2023 the National Lottery Heritage Fund awarded The Friends of St Michael's Church £247,000 to undertake two programmes of work. The first was to restore the church pinnacles, the gilded pennants and the face of the church clock. The second, to undertake a series of practical and creative events to involve and enrich the Mere community through its heritage. These are known as **The Tower Stories**. The Proms in Mere was the first Tower Stories event which will continue through until June 2025.

As well as the enormous generosity of the national lottery players, Mere is also indebted to the generosity of the Garfield Weston Foundation, The Fudge Trust, The Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust and donations from the Friends of St Michael's church.



## The Friends of St Michael's Church present:

A **Jazz Duo** in Mere on Sunday 29th September starting at 5.30pm in St Michael's Church with Helen Porter on piano and Karen Wimhurst on Clarinet

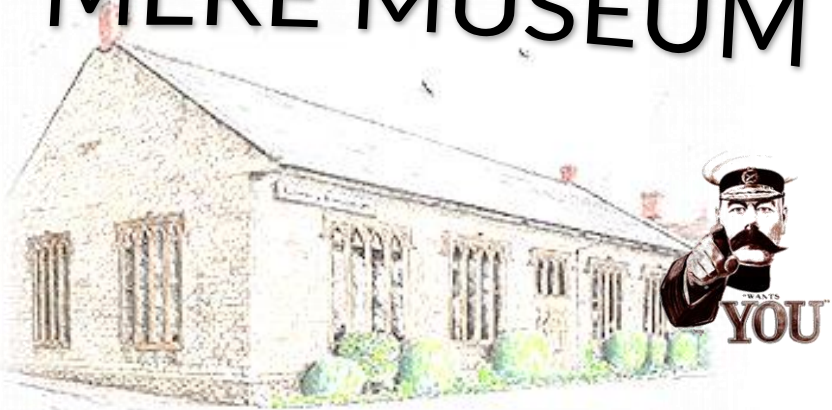
We'd love for you to join us whether you're a new or 'old' resident of Mere!  
Tickets are £12 available at Sprout and Flower or can be reserved by emailing [margaretdurkee5@gmail.com](mailto:margaretdurkee5@gmail.com)



Helen & Karen are also running a **Singing workshop** on the same day between 2.30 – 4.00pm

For more information about the workshop please email [karen@karenwimhurst.co.uk](mailto:karen@karenwimhurst.co.uk)

# MERE MUSEUM



- **Having a clear out?**

*Although Mere Museum has over 8000 artefacts already, it is always keen to receive more if related to Mere, its businesses, events and residents. Please consider donating suitable items from any era up to the present day to the Museum. Contact the Curator to check what to do: [meremuseum@btinternet.com](mailto:meremuseum@btinternet.com)*

- **How about a visit!**

*The Museum is open during library hours and exhibitions change regularly.*

- **How about getting involved in the fundraising!**

*Friends of Mere Museum is always keen to welcome more members and committee members.*

Details on the website [www.meremuseum.co.uk](http://www.meremuseum.co.uk) or contact Rosie Jordan-Barr 861567

## Mere Merekits (WI)

We must start with apologies to the regular readers of Mere Matters for omitting our news in the summer edition of this magazine – and we had so much to tell!!

We celebrated our first birthday at our June meeting when past members, as well as friends and special guests were invited to join us. It was great fun, made extra special by the chocolate cake made by one of the member's husband! We had the opportunity to reflect on all that we had achieved in the first year as well as celebrate with cocktails, music, entertainment and party games.

Our subsequent meeting was on the 17th of July where we had a speaker talking to us about "The Wiltshire Highwaymen" which was very informative and entertaining. Our August meeting followed this in the form of an introduction to the game of Pétanque (kindly and expertly guided by Colin Senneck). We also enjoyed an 'al fresco' bring and share picnic and were involved in a chocolate tasting session of new lines of luxury chocolate supporting the Fair Trade Charity, led by Janet Way.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 18th September when we shall be entertained by the Wiltshire Bat group with a talk and the opportunity to go out into Mere to find bats using bat detectors. Please do join us for what promises to be a fun and interesting evening.

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 and various activities both in and outside of meetings. 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](mailto:verenacooper2@gmail.com)



Do you know someone affected by domestic abuse?

# What would you do?

Weekdays call **01225 775276**

Out of hours and weekends call **01225 712880**

Emergencies call **999**



Wiltshire and Swindon  
**pcc**

**SWA**

WILTSHIRE  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP

**FEAR FREE** BREAKING THE CYCLE OF ABUSE

**Wiltshire Council**

## Mere School – Officially a Sing Wiltshire School

Mere School has been awarded Sing School status by Wiltshire Music Connect.

Sing Wiltshire schools are those that place value on singing and the many benefits it brings to children and that offer a broad and high-quality provision, enabling the whole school community to develop a love of singing together.

Mere School was able to demonstrate the Sing Wiltshire principles. The judging panel enjoyed reading about how our school choir has been learning to sing as an ensemble in different languages and have been enjoying such a huge range of musical genres. They were impressed by the year 5 song writing project with IF Opera.

Twenty nine schools in Wiltshire have been successful in securing Sing Wiltshire status and will be celebrating with us.

We are very proud of our music provision at Mere School. Our children are involved in a whole range of different musical experiences from individual instrumental tuition to Christmas performances to recorder and choir clubs. We are looking forward to working with the ‘Musician in Residence’ for the Mere Tower stories’ project.

Well done to Mrs Jennings who leads our music in school.



*Catriona Williamson*

## The “Pharmaceutigirls” raising money for The Stars Appeal

We would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone who came into the pharmacy and donated money and wished us luck on the walk.

All the money has now been counted and I am pleased to say we raised an incredible **£811** for The Stars Appeal.



### Mere Jelly

Attending a Mere Jelly networking event can be a game-changer for those who are self-employed or work from home. It's a fantastic opportunity to break out of isolation, meet like-minded professionals, and share ideas in a relaxed, informal setting. At our Jelly, you can collaborate, gain fresh perspectives, and even find potential partners or clients.

Plus, it's a great way to stay motivated and inspired by being part of a supportive community. Don't miss out on the chance to expand your network and grow both personally and professionally!

We meet on the last Wednesday of the month at the Brush and Broom Cafe at Hillbrush from 9 until noon.

Jenni Bell  07956 869699


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### Mere Theatre Club

As the non-existent summer slips away, we hope for brighter things come the autumn!

We're off to a jazz musical in October and an interesting drama in November.

The winter programme will be out before the end of the year, so if you fancy an outing, driven door to door, why not join us? Still only £6 per household per year. Contact details below.

Madelaine Morris  861833 [madsmorris@gmail.com](mailto:madsmorris@gmail.com)

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### Fair Trade in Mere

The WI kindly volunteered, at their August meeting, to trial some new chocolate flavours from a Fair Trade Group 'Made in Africa', MIA. The chocolate is sourced from Madagascar and Ghana, both large cocoa producers but the difference is that it is not only grown there but also processed, packed and distributed in-country meaning greater benefits for all the families involved. Watch this space for when the most popular flavours become available on my stalls. This month they are on **September 21st** at the URC coffee morning and after the 10.30 service in St Michael's Church. Both of these are in Fair Trade Fortnight so please support me by buying something and help the small holders and craft people to a sustainable life.

Janet Way 860884

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**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	Sun	14:30	<b>Croquet and Boules-</b> (every Sunday)	Steep Street
2	Mon	09:30	<b>Tiddlers and Toddlers</b> (every Mon)	L
		18:00	<b>Yoga</b> (every Mon)	L
		19:00	<b>Slimming World</b> (Book with Sally) (every Mon)	L
3	Tues	08:00	Foot Clinic	GB
		18:20	<b>Zumba</b> (every Tues)	L
4	Weds	10:00	<b>Get Wiltshire Walking Group - Starter Walks</b> (every Weds)	CP
		10:45	NHS Diabetes Prevention	GB
		14:00	<b>Pilates</b> (every Weds)	L
		18:30	<b>Karate</b> (every Weds)	L
			<i>Railway Modellers</i>	
5	Thurs	10:00	<b>Art Group</b> (every Thurs)	GB
		10:00	Hearing Aid Clinic @ United Reformed Church	URC
		11:00	<b>Rhyme Time</b> (every Thurs)	Lib
		14:00	<b>Rubber Bridge</b> (every Thurs)	L
		17:00	<b>Girlguiding</b> (every Thurs)	GB
		14:00	<b>Quilters</b> (every Thurs)	GB
		19:30	<b>Shreen Harmony</b> (every Thurs)	URC
6	Fri	09:00	<b>Walking Zumba</b>	L
		13:45	<b>Duplicate Bridge</b> (14:00 start. every Fri)	GB
			<i>Dup Bridge</i>	
7	Sat	09:00	<b>Food Bank</b> (every Sat)	L
		10:30	<b>Coffee Morning</b> (every Sat)	URC
		14:30	<b>Croquet and Boules-</b> (every Sat)	Steep Street
8	Sun	14:30	<b>Croquet and Boules-</b> (every Sunday)	Steep Street
9	Mon	18:00	<b>Scouting</b> (every Mon)	GB
			<i>Tiddlers and Toddlers, Slimming World, Yoga</i>	
10	Tues	14:00	Mothers Union	GB
		14:00	Fitness & Friendship	GB
			<i>Zumba</i>	
11	Weds	09:30	<b>Tai-Chi</b> (every Weds)	GB
		14:00	Fitness & Friendship	GB
		19:30	Gardening Club	GB
			<i>Get Wiltshire Walking Group, Pilates, Karate, Tai-Chi, Railway Modellers</i>	
12	Thurs	19:30	Ukulele	Butt of Sherry
			<i>Rhyme Time, Art, Quilters, Bridge, Guiding, Shreen Harmony</i>	
13	Fri	10:00	Merely Women	GB
			<i>Dup Bridge</i>	
14	Sat		<i>Croquet and Boules</i>	

15	Sun	14:00	Mere Walking Group (Laidler & Wilson) <i>Croquet and Boules</i>	CP
16	Mon	14:00	Mere Walking Group (J Way) <i>Scouting, Tiddlers and Toddlers, Slimming World, Yoga</i>	CP
17	Tues	08:00 09:30	Foot Clinic Little Angels (every Tues) <i>Little Angels, Zumba</i>	GB GB
18	Weds	19:00	Merekits Women's Institute <i>Get Wiltshire Walking Group, Pilates, Karate, Tai-Chi, Railway Modellers</i>	GB
19	Thurs		<i>Rhyme Time, Art, Quilters, Bridge, Guiding, Shreen Harmony</i>	
20	Fri		<i>Dup Bridge</i>	
21	Sat		<i>Coffee Morning and Fair Trade Stall, Croquet and Boules</i>	
22	Sun		Fair Trade after morning service <i>Croquet and Boule</i>	StM
23	Mon		<i>Scouting, Tiddlers and Toddlers, Slimming World, Yoga</i>	
24	Tues		<i>Little Angels, Zumba</i>	
25	Weds	am 14:00	Jelly Group Fitness & Friendship <i>Get Wiltshire Walking Group, Pilates, Karate, Tai-Chi, Railway Modellers</i>	VH GB
26	Thurs		<i>Rhyme Time, Art, Quilters, Bridge, Guiding, Shreen Harmony</i>	
27	Fri	10:00 09:00	Merely Women Walking Zumba <i>Dup Bridge</i>	GB L
28	Sat		<i>Coffee Morning, Croquet and Boules, Food Bank</i>	
29	Sun		<i>Croquet and Boules</i>	
30	Mon		<i>Scouting, Tiddlers and Toddlers, Slimming World, Yoga</i>	

*Times, events and venues shown cannot be guaranteed as being correct*

*Any events shown in Red are unconfirmed*

Copy date for **October** issue

Closing deadline is: **16:00hrs on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

Email contributions are preferred, to the Editor, Richard Jefferies ☎ 863425  
[editor@merematters.co.uk](mailto: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.

## **Register for Priority Services**

Disruption to essential services like electricity can sometimes happen and it affects our everyday lives. For some, a power cut can be worrying or difficult.

Most of the companies who keep the lights on, TVs running, and homes and businesses heated throughout the year can offer extra advice and support for when there is an interruption to the power supply.

### **What is the PSR and who is eligible?**

The Priority Services Register is a free UK-wide service which provides extra advice and support, including when there's an interruption to your electricity, gas or water supply. You are eligible for free PSR services if you:

- Use medical equipment reliant on electricity or water.
- Are blind or partially sighted.
- Are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Are of pensionable age.
- Have a disability.
- Live with children under five.
- Have a chronic illness.
- Have anxiety, depression or any mental health condition.
- Loss or impairment of smell.
- Need documents translated into another format or language.
- Temporarily need extra support.
- Everyone has different needs. Contact your distributor to discuss your requirements.

Register at: [www.thepsr.co.uk](http://www.thepsr.co.uk)

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## Mere Walking Groups

*Roger Laidler has kindly coordinated all the walks into this one article – Many thanks. Ed*

- **Sunday Sept 15<sup>th</sup>**, Mere Walking Group, a walk of approx. 4 miles, meet at Salisbury Street Car Park at 2pm. Roger Laidler 07749 230894
- **Monday Sept 16<sup>th</sup>**, Mere Short Walking Group, a walk of about 3 miles around the lanes and paths of Mere and learn about some of its fascinating history as we go. Meet in the Salisbury Street Car Park at 2pm, and refresh yourself with a cuppa and indulge in one of Paul's delicious cakes at the Angel Tea Rooms afterwards. Janet Way 860884
- **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. Wendy Drewett 07508 340105

*All ages are welcome to join in all of these walks.*

## Solar Together

Following the success of the previous schemes in 2022 and 2023, Wiltshire Council has launched a third solar together scheme with Swindon Borough Council and independent group-buying experts, iChoosr.

Solar Together is a group buying initiative where residents can club together to get the best prices for solar panels and installation as well as battery storage and EV chargers from trusted providers.

The process is straightforward with dedicated support throughout and residents can expect to make a 10-25% saving against the market average.

The previous schemes have delivered 1,110 installations, totalling more than 10,660 solar panels and resulting in over £11 million invested by residents into the green economy. All of the schemes combined are also estimated to lead to a reduction of 22,000 tonnes of CO2 over the 25-year guaranteed lifetime of the solar panels installed.

The scheme is a great way to reach the climate goals for the county and for residents to save money on their energy bills, and even sell excess energy back to the national grid.

You can register your interest with no obligation to accept the deal that if offered to you. Find out more and register your interest at <https://solartogether.co.uk/wiltshire>



## Grove Building Projection and Sound Improvements



I'm delighted to say that the Grove Building has been granted £5000 from the South West Wiltshire Area Board (SWWAB) as a contribution towards much needed improvement of our projection and so und arrangements. This is part of the "All Together" initiative supporting community activities in Wiltshire and puts Grove Building in line with other village halls in the County. I've been ably supported by Richard Jefferies and Rosie Jordan-Barr in achieving this success.

For some time we have been considering how to modernise and improve the facilities in Grove Building. Increasingly, organizations hiring the building require technical arrangements which our current equipment is incapable of meeting. Our Trustees (the St Michael's PCC) have agreed a plan to upgrade the projection and sound facilities. We will be able to show slides and films in high definition, and to reproduce music and speech with clarity for both the direct audience and those using the loop hearing aid system. Being able to show films in Mere over the winter is a positive boost to local entertainment opportunities.

The overall cost will be £13,000, including VAT. Along with the £5000 from SWWAB (helped by our Wiltshire Councillor) we are providing £3000 from Grove Building reserves accumulated over several years. Once again Mere Town Council have shown their commitment to improving facilities in the Town and we thank them for a contribution of £500. We are now close enough to our target to proceed to final selection of a supplier which will be made in the next few weeks.

We thank the several groups who use the Grove Building who have already contributed to achieving our target amount and look forward to other contributions to complete the funding. A full list of contributors will be presented when the project is complete.

*Hamish Bell 07714718625*

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## Mere & District Link Scheme

Suzanne J Wiltshire from Maiden Bradley, one of our passengers has provided the following thoughts on the Link Scheme. *“In recent years both George and I have had to be referred to both Salisbury and Southampton hospitals. The Link Scheme ladies are very friendly and efficient and all the drivers are kind, sympathetic and friendly making the journey to hospital as pleasant as possible at what can be a very anxious time. Thank you to all the Link team for all the wonderful work you do from two of your most appreciative passengers.”*

We remained busy over the summer with 99 trips in June and 127 in July making this the busiest month so far in 2024. We are now averaging 107 trips per month this year. As ever, Salisbury District Hospital was the busiest destination with 37 trips.

A big thanks to Mary and Nigel Wilson for hosting the volunteers lunch in their beautiful garden on Saturday 17 August. This is a small way of saying thank you to all our volunteers who give so much of their time to the Link Scheme.

If you want to use the Link, please call 01747 860096 to book a driver once you have an appointment.

John FitzGerald Chair 📞 860096 🌐 [merelink.org.uk](https://merelink.org.uk)

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## Mere Snooker Club

We had two good days during the AIM weekend and lots of visitors and hopefully some more people wanting to join the club.

New cushions have been fitted on one of the tables and soon we will have some new heaters largely due to very generous grant funding from the Lecture Hall Trust, Salisbury District Area Board, and the Nadder Community Benefit Fund. We are very grateful to them all as we need more eco/energy efficient heating and we couldn't have afforded them without the grants. We hope that now you will all be encouraged to play snooker in the winter months.

Thankyou to everyone helping to support the club.

Mike Durkee, Chairman 📞 860163 or [mdurkee51@gmail.com](mailto:mdurkee51@gmail.com)

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## The Tower Stories

Felicity Wilson (Chair of the Friends) and Elaine Stallard met up with Jane Borodale (Writer in Residence) and Richard Nye (Composer in Residence) on Friday 16th August to discuss plans for their future work in Mere. They start officially on September 2nd and the good news is they have cleared their diaries and are raring to go! More info when we have it.

*Elaine Stallard*



**Public Consultation on proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to extend the 30mph speed limit along Shaftesbury Road:**

Mere Town Council has requested, through Wiltshire Council's Local Highways & Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) process, that the 30mph speed limit currently in place on the C59 Shaftesbury Road, Mere be extended to cover the section of road currently subject to a 40mph speed limit to ensure that there is a consistent speed limit in place along the road.

An independent speed limit assessment arranged through the South West Wiltshire LHFIG considered the introduction a 30mph speed limit to be appropriate for the length of road in question when assessed against the criteria for introducing a 30mph speed limit detailed on DfT Circular 1/13 Setting Local Speed Limits.

The Traffic Regulation Order currently being consulted upon proposes the extension of the 30mph speed limit to cover the length of the C59 Shaftesbury Road currently subject to a 40mph speed limit.

Deposit copies of the Order, plans and Statement of the Council's Reasons for proposing to make the Order may be inspected at the offices of Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge during normal office hours. Details of the proposed scheme may be seen at Mere Library, Barton Lane BA12 6JA during the hours of 10am to 7pm Monday, 9.30am to 5pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am to 2pm Wednesday and 9.30am to 1pm Saturday until 23rd September 2024. Details of the proposed scheme may be seen at Mere Town Council offices, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere BA12 6EW during the hours of 10 am to 3 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays. Documents can also be viewed online at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/troconsultations>

Comments on the proposal together with the reasons for which they are made should be sent in writing to reach the Sustainable Transport Group, by email to [TrafficOrderConsultations@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:TrafficOrderConsultations@wiltshire.gov.uk) or via the website by 23rd September 2024 quoting reference LJB/TRO/MERE30.

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## LETTER FROM THE CHURCHES

Instead of a normal 'Letter from the Churches' we are very happy to be able to announce, that after three very long years, at last a new Vicar (technically 'Priest-in-Charge') has been appointed to serve in the Churches of St Michael's Mere and St Mary's West Knoyle. He has sent the following by way of introduction:

*I am The Revd. Michael Molano, and I am delighted to say I am to be the new Vicar of Mere and West Knoyle.*

*For the last 3 years I have ministered on the South Coast of Cornwall, where we have enjoyed the mixture of traditional, busy Parish ministry on one hand alongside occasional spearfishing trips seeking spidercrabs, lobster and bass, and surfing with our three children on the North Coast.*

*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 joining the church) whilst serving in the Household Cavalry. Before that my 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 Mere and West Knoyle and 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!*

We don't yet know the date when our new 'Vicar' will be able to move here and start work and ministry among us, but we're very much hoping that it will be before Christmas. Meanwhile, we will be keeping him and his wife Caroline and family in our prayers as they prepare for this new chapter in their lives, and in the life of our Church and community.

*Judith Thompson, (retired priest at St Michael's Church, Mere) 860553*

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## Ukes at The Butt of Sherry

Our next session is on Thursday 12th Sept 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.

You can check out our Facebook page 'Ukes at The Butt' for our song list. Or for more information contact [maggieholmes101@gmail.com](mailto:maggieholmes101@gmail.com)

Maggie Holmes [maggieholmes101@gmail.com](mailto:maggieholmes101@gmail.com)

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## Sophie Miller is off to Zanzibar- July 2025

I am aiming to fundraise the money I need for my trip to help children in Zanzibar and I'm organising various fundraising events to ensure I reach my target. On **September 28th**, I am organising a **Bingo Afternoon in the Mere Lecture Hall**.

I will be participating in this international volunteering with a group from Gillingham School. Gillingham School has a link with partner schools in Zanzibar through the charity **African Adventures** which is an award-winning social enterprise who support a number of schools across Ghana, Kenya and Zanzibar, running a variety of initiatives to help to provide long-term sustainable development for the communities they work in. If you would like to read more about the great work they do, please check out their website at:

<http://www.africanadventures.co.uk/>



I decided to sign up as a volunteer on the trip because I would love the opportunity to help children with less opportunities and access to education and basic necessities than myself. I feel that from this trip I will gain a better knowledge and understanding of the world, and it will be a great first step into my early adulthood.

As part of my trip, I will be supporting the teaching of basic English and Maths to children, coaching of sports and building work, which could include moulding bricks, building, and painting new classrooms, toilet blocks, perimeter fences, etc..., all of which is much needed infrastructure for these schools.

Many thanks,

*Sophie Miller.*

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## Mere Social Club

The club Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday **4th September** at 7pm. This meeting is open to club members only and you will be asked to show your membership card to gain entrance. The club will be open to everyone following the conclusion of the meeting.

Our first event of the month will be the **Mere Autumn Fair and Family Fun Day** which Louise Padfield runs in support of the Stars Neonatal Unit at Salisbury hospital. This takes place on **Saturday 7th September** from 11am onwards.

Carnival season is once again upon us, so we would like to say Good Luck to everyone taking part...Enjoy yourselves! The Social Club will be open throughout the evening of **Carnival Night (September 14th)** and Stuart will be performing from 8.30 -11.45pm.

Mere and District Skittles League begins this month and we wish all our home teams success. If you would like to know more about skittles (or anything else) please drop in and have a chat. Games are usually played on a Monday and Thursday.

Live music this month will feature the band Groove Rush, a Bournemouth based rock band. This will be held on **Saturday 28th September** from 8.30pm. Members and non-members are welcome. Come in and enjoy the night.

*Elaine Laurence, club steward. [elainelaurence57@gmail.com](mailto:elainelaurence57@gmail.com)*

### Mere Art Group

Attendance at The Grove has continued at good levels - a good sign for :

**THE ART EXHIBITION IN THE GROVE BUILDING,  
7th SEPTEMBER.**

**FREE ENTRY - 10am till 4pm - REFRESHMENTS. -  
SEE YOU THERE!!!!!!!**

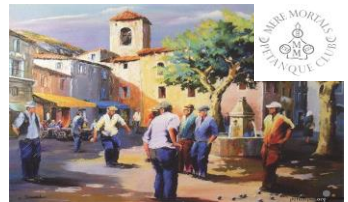
September's eye-catching work-of-art was done by **Sonia Knight** with acrylic paint.



*Helge Brock [helgewallenbrock@gmail.com](mailto:helgewallenbrock@gmail.com)*

### Mere Mortals Petanque Club

Mere Mortals PC have had a successful league season, finishing runners up to Tisbury. 50 folk visited the terrain during the AIM weekend and the WI and the Youth Club have recently enjoyed evenings playing boule at the old pool site. All abilities welcome to join us



*Colin Senneck ☎ 706008 [colin2423@sky.com](mailto:colin2423@sky.com)*

### Murder at Heathcliffe Manor

Friday 5th July MADS (Mere Amateur Dramatic Society) put on Murder at Heathcliffe Manor. Mrs Withering, Em Fatale are seen with Inspector Denaux

Over 50 people in attendance at the Grove Building, a great evening for all except Lord Heathcliffe who was murdered. Who did it we asked and eventually found it was Professor Peacock .

Ploughman's supper consumed by many. Raffle proceeds went to Mere Brownies.



*Picture and text George Jeans Mere*

## 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](mailto:administrator@stmichaelsmere.org.uk)

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	08:00 10:30	BCP Communion Informal Worship and Baptism
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	08:00 10:30	BCP Communion Parish Communion
10 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	10.30	Roman Catholic Mass
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	08.00 10.30	BCP Communion Parish Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	08:00 10:30	BCP Communion Parish Communion
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	08:00 10:30	BCP Communion Patronal Festival Benefice Service: Canon Anna Macham

### **West Knoyle Parish Church St Mary the Virgin:**

Priest in Charge: Vacancy

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

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	09:30	DIY Service
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	09:30	Communion
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	09:30	Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	09:30	Matins
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	10.30	Mere Patronal Festival: Benefice Service

### **The United Reformed Church**

Minister - Vacancy

Mere Contact: Elaine Laurence ☎ 0740 3845711 [elainelaurence57@gmail.com](mailto:elainelaurence57@gmail.com)

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	11:00	TBC
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	11:00	TBC
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	11:00	TBC
22 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	11:00	TBC
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	11:00	TBC

**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](mailto:hope.stlukeswincanton@outlook.com)

**Mass at St Michael the Archangel on Tuesday 10 September (Only) will be at 10.30am**

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.

Contacts: 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](http://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:	<a href="mailto:admin@grovebuildingmere.org.uk">admin@grovebuildingmere.org.uk</a>	 0771 471 8625
Lecture Hall:	Sally Johnson	 861063
URC Church Hall:	Mrs E Laurence	 07403 845711

### Mere Gardening Club.

Back in July I gave a talk and demonstration on how to prepare your garden produce for exhibitions. Club members also bought along their petunia plants for judging by the club. The winner was Kath Harrison so congratulations to her.

Last month we had our Summer Garden Party in the lovely garden of Johnnie and Georgie Moore at The Grange in Water Street. The weather was in our favour and a good evening was had by all who attended. Our huge thanks to our host who looked after us for the evening.

Our meeting on 11th September in the Grove Building will be our MEMBERS only club show. Please bring along your exhibits to the hall between 16.30 and 18.00. The judges for the evening will be David Shergold on vegetables and flowers and Elaine Noble on cookery.

The hall will re-open at 19.00 where you will be able to view the exhibits and see the results. Refreshments will be served as usual.

Finally members, please bring along your potato bags for the weigh-in. Just a reminder, please put your bag somewhere to dry out before bringing it to the Hall as we do not want a lot of soggy compost. Hopefully you are looking forward to the evening where we can have some fun and banter.

Our membership is nearly at capacity so if you would like to become a member I suggest you join up quickly. It is only £10 per year which entitles you to all our events plus 10% off purchases at Plantworld and special offers from Castle Gardens, Sherborne.

Let's hope we can enjoy some autumn sunshine in our gardens.

*Les Manwaring Chair* 📞 861941 [lesmanwaring@yahoo.com](mailto:lesmanwaring@yahoo.com)

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### CineClub Mere update

Momentum continues to build for the establishment of a CineClub Mere, the new independent community cinema club that a group of enthusiasts and founder members has been working on over the last few months to establish.

"We have had almost 150 local people register their interest and I'm pleased to say we have now finalised the membership format and will be formally launching in the autumn" says Rosie Jordan-Barr who co-chairs the steering group.

The club's programme will include movie-themed social events, as well as film screenings in the Grove Building where technical upgrades to the audio-visual equipment will benefit not just CineClub Mere but all the other local clubs and societies which use the Grove and its facilities.

Anyone interested in joining CineClub Mere who has not already registered their interest, and who would like to be added to the contact list, can email for further details

*Rosie Jordan-Barr* [rjordanbarr@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rjordanbarr@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Tiddles & Toddlers

It's the start of a new academic year and we're getting ready for another term of fun at **Mere Tiddlers & Toddlers**.

We are a welcoming, Stay and Play Group, run by parents, for parents (and carers) and their children aged 0-5 years old. You can find us at the Lecture Hall every Monday from 9:30-11:30 during term time. Each session includes playtime, a craft/sensory activity, a story, singing, parachute play and a snack.



Our first session back is **Monday 9th September**. We look forward to welcoming you back for a hot drink and a chat!

*We are run by volunteers and would love some extra support, whether it is preparing the snack, reading a story (whilst we pack away the toys), or having a chat and checking in with the parents and children. If you are interested in volunteering to help out you can contact.*

Jen Ritter07739898997 [meretiddlersandtoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:meretiddlersandtoddlers@gmail.com).

A colorful flyer for 'Tiddlers and Toddlers Stay &amp; Play Group'. The flyer has a light blue background with various colored shapes containing text and illustrations. At the top left, a dark blue banner says 'Tiddlers and Toddlers Stay &amp; Play Group'. To the right is a logo with a rainbow and the text 'TIDDLERS &amp; TODDLERS MERE'. Below the banner is a yellow circle with three children holding hands and the text 'Mere Lecture Hall'. To the right is a green arrow pointing right with 'Term time only Mondays 9:30-11:30'. Below that is a red starburst shape with 'Snack, tea, coffee and cake/biscuit included'. At the bottom left, a purple banner says 'Join us for play, craft, singing, story and a chat'. At the bottom right is an illustration of a teddy bear and toys. At the very bottom, a dark blue banner says 'Follow us on Facebook for more info @meretiddlersandtoddlers or contact Jen on 07739 898997'.

## Mere Bowls Club

It's a busy part of the year at Mere Bowls Club as we had to postpone so many matches in the spring due to bad weather and we have been playing 3, sometimes 4, matches per week.

Our internal Club competitions have been going on apace. On 29th June we held the 3-wood mixed pairs which was won by Chris Coombs and Marie Wright, with Richard Coombs and George Savage as runners up. On 27th July there was the 2-wood pairs which was won by John Fitzgerald and Shaun Tealey with John Marks and Jon Wright as runners up.

Les Manwaring, Don Butchers and Alan Isgrove have been playing for Wiltshire and on August 10th were with a team that beat Berkshire.

We were delighted to take part in the AIM (Activities in Mere) initiative run very successfully by Mere Town Council, we had nearly 30 participants at the Bowls Green and several were interested in joining.

We had two teams playing at the Westbrook League Gala Day at Alderbury on Sunday 18th August of which the team of Les, Marie and Shaun managed to reach the finals out of 19 teams, but sadly they lost in the final 8-6.



We have reached the final of the Westbrook League, Harold Ford Cup which will be played on 23rd August at Salisbury.

We are organising a 60's/70's dance at the **Grove Building on Friday 13th September**, music by **'The Rebbels'**, a local band of which our bowls club member Ron Heesom is the drummer. Tickets are available at the library at £10 each which includes a buffet supper and there will be a licensed bar.

We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested, please contact Don Butchers, our secretary [don.butchers@btinternet.com](mailto:don.butchers@btinternet.com) or by phone on 860775

We meet for 'Roll-ups' (practices) at the bowls club; Springfield Road, Mere, opposite the junior school, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30pm or Saturdays at 3pm so come along and you are welcome to try bowls.



Jon Wright [jon252@btinternet.com](mailto:jon252@btinternet.com)

# Mere Bowls Club

Recreating the  
fabulous sounds of  
the 60's and the 70's



# THE REBBELS



**Includes  
buffet  
supper!**

[www.therebells.co.uk](http://www.therebells.co.uk)

**Tickets, £10**  
**Available In advance**  
**from**  
**Mere Library**

**13th September**  
**Grove Building Mere**  
**(arrive 7 to 7.30pm)**

*Fancy dress (60s & 70s) **GREAT***

*- but not a 'must'.* **Licensed bar**





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