

# MERE MATTERS AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE AND  
GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



**NOVEMBER 2009**

## **MERE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council meets every month. Whilst it is not a public meeting, members of the public are welcome to come and listen. The Council members are working on YOUR behalf to sustain and improve the quality of life and the environment that we enjoy in the parish - come and hear what they are doing for you! You will be permitted to raise questions in a public session before the meeting starts. The next meeting will be on **Monday, 2nd November 2009** at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion.

### **The Chairman writes**

As winter approaches I am aware that the A303 will be closed in mid November for night traffic, and I am afraid map reading and sat navs are going to cause havoc in West Knoyle, Wet Lane and Pettridge Lane with people looking for short cuts. According to the website, there will be total closure for 5 weeks in Feb and March: Mayhem! Gillingham is bad enough now without the A303 traffic travelling through it. For years the Highway Agency has talked about Chaddenwick Hill and done nothing in view of widening it. If they had, we would not have this chaos that is about to descend upon us. The only consolation is that perhaps some people may stop for a cuppa in Mere and take in our beautiful countryside and, you never know, I might even get a drink for pulling somebody out of my ditch at Wet Lane. You have to look at the bright side!

At the October meeting, the Parish Clerk confirmed that the audit of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2009 had been concluded successfully and with no issues of concern. A copy of the Annual Return is available for inspection on the Parish Council noticeboard (outside the Lecture Hall) and copies can be inspected at the Parish Council office.

For information on Parish Council activities, minutes, agendas, contact numbers etc., please refer to the Mere website: [www.merewilts.org](http://www.merewilts.org); e-mail the parish clerk at: [lindseywood@merewilts.org](mailto:lindseywood@merewilts.org) or ☎ 01747 860701

*Eric Mitchell, Chairman, Mere Parish Council*

## **GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES**

Development planning meetings can be interesting, the last Southern Planning meeting was indeed interesting and at one point amusing. One of the committee, Councillor Christopher Devine, announced he was unable to take part in one application because the applicant had assaulted him while he was canvassing at election time. He went on to explain the applicant had been arrested for the offence and as a Councillor he did not know whether to declare a financial or personal interest, however he thought it was best he left the room while the application was decided!

Swiftly moving on, a grant of £3.2m has been secured from the Government to build affordable housing in Wiltshire. A second bid for more homes in Trowbridge is being considered.

**I am concerned about possible charges to be made for using Mere's Car Parks. The doctor's surgery is in the main car park, and these charges would impact on all of us. I question whether Wiltshire Council have costed the profitability for small towns like Mere? The Environment Select Committee will be considering car parking at its meeting on 12th January 2010. The public can attend.**

The Council's Cabinet was told at its meeting on 20th October that the council's finances are set to be within budget by the end of the year and there are healthy reserves of £16.4m. At this meeting the Cabinet was expected to decide on the Council's key priorities for the next four years.

The corporate plan, which will be finally adopted in February 2010, identifies opportunities and challenges for 2010-14 and beyond. Nine potential priorities are being proposed. These are based on what residents say are important to them, their families and their communities. These priorities include roads and pavements, activities for teenagers and affordable decent homes.

These are reflected in the proposed priorities which are:

- Supporting vulnerable people and families
- Increasing the potential of young people
- Local voice, local choice
- Improving roads and pavements
- Supporting the local economy
- Meeting housing needs
- Reducing our environmental impact
- Achieving savings, efficiency and value for money
- Customer focus and improved access to services

Wiltshire Council is asking local people their views on the future development of the county and how the council should address issues such as providing housing, employment growth and building a prosperous and attractive county through careful planning. A major consultation exercise begins on 30th October 2009 and will run through until 31st December 2009. It will include exhibitions across the county, including one relevant to Mere, which will be staged in the Warminster Assembly Rooms on 10th November 2009 from 1.00 to 7.00pm.

Wiltshire Council is to reduce significantly the number of buildings it owns and uses as part of an innovative new scheme to transform ways of working. The council currently has around 95 administrative offices, but is proposing to reduce that number to four main hubs - Monkton Park in Chippenham; County Hall in Trowbridge; Bourne Hill in Salisbury and Browfort in Devizes - by 2012. The rationalisation will save £85.1m over the next 25 years and remove a large maintenance backlog.

Progress is being made on identifying alternatives to landfill. Wiltshire Council is working in partnership with Swindon Borough Council to identify cost effective and sustainable ways to dispose of the county's rubbish. The two councils are now investigating developing a "waste for energy" plan.

And lastly, do not forget we have a Children's Centre at Springfield Road, Mere. There will be 30 in Wiltshire in total and they are there to support young children and their families. To try and explain simply what a children's centre is, it is a government initiative set up as one body after the legacy of multi-agencies failing to identify major problems in families in the past that led to the death of a child.

## **MERE – A TALE OF TWO CULTURES?**

Wiltshire Council has produced a snap-shot profile of the area covered by Mere Matters. It makes for some interesting reading and may help us decide our local priorities. Relative to other areas in Wiltshire, Mere has an older population:

- the lowest percentages of population aged under 16 or under retirement age.
- the highest percentage of population over retirement age.

Wiltshire has one of the lowest crime rates in the country and Mere is one of the safest places in Wiltshire. We have:

- the third lowest rate of crime for criminal damage, theft, violence and vehicle offences but are average for other crime such as burglary and drugs.

In terms of quality of life for people of working age, we do well on unemployment but badly for disability; and housing is more expensive:

- the third lowest percentage claiming job-seekers allowance.
- average for income support.
- the second highest percentage claiming disability allowances.
- 20% above average house prices (£270k).

According to the figures, our greatest weakness appears to be the well-being of our children:

- we are in the bottom 10% for child well-being (which includes material well-being, health and disability, education, crime, housing, environment and children in need).

But for older people Mere appears to be an idyllic place to live:

- highest percentage satisfied with their local area as a place to live.
- highest percentage saying they are informed about how they can get involved in local decision making, and the second highest agreeing that they can influence decision making.

A copy of the full report can be obtained from the following Wiltshire Council web link:  
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/thewiltshireassembly.htm>

*David Stokes* 📞 01747 860741

## GRANT AGREED FOR MERE YOUTH SCHEME

South West Wiltshire Area Board has approved a grant of £5,000 to the Mere development centre for young people to assist funding the Leisure Credits Scheme.

Young people in the Mere area undertake work in the community at weekends and in the holidays earning themselves leisure credits which can then be redeemed on fun outings organised by staff and volunteers from the development centres. The decision was taken at the last meeting of the area board on 16th September.

For the past couple of years the young people have helped Mere Parish Council clear Long Hill of the trees and scrub that have grown in the past two decades. They have helped build footpaths and steps and also gained certification in strimming, fencing and tree felling with hand tools, enabling them to access employment or training opportunities.

Parish councils generously help fund the leisure credits scheme along with grants from the Wiltshire Young People's Opportunity Fund, but this does not cover all the costs of this popular scheme which include training courses for the youth as well as the earned leisure activities, hence the application for funding from the area board.

Jaki Farrell, Wiltshire Council Youth Development Co-Ordinator, said: "We are always on the lookout for work we can do for all the parishes in the area. In fact, we are going to help Donhead St. Andrew soon with removing a holly bush blocking a footpath."

On behalf of the area board, chairman Cllr Bridget Wayman praised the work carried out by the young people and thanked Jaki for her hard work and dedication. "I know that Jaki is an incredibly hard-working youth worker and we are pleased and proud to have her in our area". For more information, contact:

*Wiltshire Council communications team* ☎ 01225 713114/5/6.

## MERE POLICE NEWS



I will start again this month with details of another recent incident which occurred in the early hours of the morning in one of our local villages. It again highlights the need for extra vigilance in reporting any suspicious activity.

A report was received via a member of our community that two males were seen acting suspiciously near to some parked vehicles. The police were contacted and a unit attended the area where it was discovered that a vehicle had been broken into and attempts had been made by the thieves to steal it.

An area search was conducted by the officers and a male offender was subsequently located and detained on suspicion of committing various vehicle related offences.

Please indulge us and report any suspicious persons or vehicles that you see.

We do rely on you all to be our eyes and ears within the community and please keep up the good work. Together we can keep our villages safer places to live.

Just to re-iterate, we are still attending Mere Library on Monday's or Wednesday's between 11.00am & 1.00pm. If you would like to meet us then please call in for a chat.

The specific dates for this contact point are listed on the Mere NPT website which you can access electronically via our website [www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk) Please select 'policing in your area', then click on the blue map ('county division') and then select 'Mere' from the neighbourhood policing list. This will then take you to our website where you can access our local priorities, consultation dates & locations and team information.

Jake & I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their recent support at the Mere & Tisbury village carnivals (19/09/09 & 26/09/09). Both events were blessed with fine weather and if you were there, you will know that it was a great community event enjoyed by all. The photographs of Mere carnival (courtesy of Trevor Lucas) are now available to be viewed and enjoyed on our NPT slideshow on the Internet, (access via the link: <http://merewilts.org/police/ss/police.html>)

I would like to add that Jake & I are also currently covering neighbourhood policing within the Tisbury area with assistance from PC 2358 Martin Emery from Warminster.

If you have a local issue which you need to discuss then please feel free to contact any of us. Please remember that we have a mobile phone, local landline, individual and NPT email accounts, confidential drop off post boxes (located at Mere and East Knoyle Post Offices) and a Fax machine. We are also contactable through the main Wiltshire Police contact line, just ask for either the Tisbury or Mere offices on 746817 or 749817.

Kind regards from your local policing team – Richard, Jake & Martin. (Mere & Tisbury NPT). *Richard Salter, Community Beat Manager, Police Constable 1312*

*e-mail: [richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)*

*Jake Noble, Police Community Support Officer*

*e-mail: [jacob.noble@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jacob.noble@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)*

*☎: 0845 408 7000 ext 746815/749817*

*☎ 01747 861737 (Direct Dial **not** 24 hours)*

*☎ 07980 701606 (mobile- not 24 hours), Fax: 01747 860013*

## **A303 LATEST**

You may recall that in the July/August edition I drew your attention to the petition on the No 10 Downing Street Website asking the Government to dual the A303 trunk road throughout. The Government has now responded to the petition as follow:

“Thank you for your e-petition. The Government is committed to improving the safety and reliability of the strategic road network. Dualling the remaining single carriageway sections of the A303 would involve a number of expensive schemes however, and these cannot be afforded within existing budgets for transport schemes in the South West, given competing priorities for investment in the transport infrastructure to support economic growth in the south west’s major cities and towns.

The Government has accepted the advice from the Region that £40m should be invested (in the period to 2018/19) in the A303/A30/A358 corridor to improve the reliability and resilience of the route. The Highways Agency has already begun a study to consider what smaller-scale, more affordable local measures may be introduced within this broad indicative timescale to secure a satisfactory service for traffic using the A303. This could range from modest improvements to junction layouts to measures such as adding climbing lanes”.

Perhaps because only 561 people signed the petition, the Government showed little interest in taking any positive action.

May I remind you that the Highways Agency’s contractors will be starting Phase 2 of the A303 Willoughby Hedge to Mere carriageway renewal and major maintenance scheme for five weeks during the week commencing 16th November 2009. This entails preparation work for the widening, continued drainage works, signage and safety fencing. For this period, the A303 will be closed overnight from 10.00pm until 6.00am nightly and traffic diverted. *Editor*

## **MERE SURGERY**

### **Swine Flu Vaccination Programme**

We now have a confirmed date for the delivery of the Swine Flu Vaccinations.

**BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTED CRITERIA FOR VACCINATIONS WE HAVE DECIDED TO ASK PATIENTS TO PLEASE BOOK AN APPOINTMENT FOR ONE OF THE SPECIAL CLINICS RATHER THAN HOLDING AN OPEN SESSION.**

Current information is that one vaccination will be sufficient for the majority of patients although some will require two vaccinations at three week intervals. Patients will be advised which category they fall into when they attend for their first appointment.

The surgery will receive a restricted supply of vaccinations and request that **ONLY THE PATIENTS WHO FALL INTO ONE OF THE CATEGORIES BELOW CONTACT US FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO BE VACCINATED.**

Priority will be given to the risk categories in the order listed below:

1. **Individuals aged between six months and 65 years** with a diagnosis of chronic respiratory disease, asthma (that requires continuous or repeated use of medication), chronic heart disease, chronic renal disease, chronic liver disease, chronic neurological disease (stroke or TIA), diabetes, immunosuppression or individuals who are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person.
2. All pregnant women.
3. Any individual who has contact with a person who is immunocompromised.
4. Individuals aged 65 and over WHO FALL WITHIN THE ABOVE AT RISK CATEGORIES.

**Patients aged above 65 who do not have a chronic disease as listed above do not need to be vaccinated at this time.**

If you fall within one of the risk categories PLEASE CONTACT THE SURGERY TO MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW.

You will be asked when you make your appointment to confirm which "at risk" category you fall into and your name will be checked against our clinical system.

At this time we are unable to vaccinate any patient who does not fit the above criteria.

Appointment sessions will be held on the following days weekly from the 11th November until the 18th December inclusively:-

**Wednesday afternoons - 4.00 – 6.00pm**

**Friday mornings 10.00am – 12.00pm**

**(Delivery dates may be delayed by 2 weeks, we are therefore booking patients into clinics from the 25th November and earlier clinics will be opened if deliveries are received before this date.)**

It will be difficult for us to vaccinate patients outside of these clinic times so we would appreciate your help in keeping to these dates if at all possible.

If you are unsure whether you should be vaccinated or not, we will have special telephone sessions for the Practice Nurse to contact you to discuss the vaccination process.

Please contact the surgery to ask for this phone back service if required.

*Drs Price, McBride, Halsey and Andrews  
21st October 2009*

# MERE DENTAL PRACTICE



The practice currently has **NHS appointments** available to anyone.

The practice at present has two Dentists:

**Mr Stephen Sherrard**

**Ms Jacqueline Barnes**

..and one Dental Hygienist:

**Ms Wendy Hester (Mondays only)**

## **Contact Details: -**

Mere Dental Practice

Duchy Manor, Springfield Road

Mere, Wiltshire, BA12 6EW

☎: 01747 860365

Tuesday 8.45am – 7.00pm (Both Dentists cover evening appts.)

Normal hours (9.00am – 5.30pm on Mon, Wed, Thurs & Friday.

The practice is sited in the school grounds, first building on your left when you go through the school gates.

## MERE DENTAL PRACTICE NEWS

The latest new from the practice is that a practice inspection was completed on 6th October 2009 by the NHS Dental Board and passed with very high clinical governance standards. Practice inspections take place every three years as part of the NHS contract. This is the big one for us and all our staff are very pleased that we passed with high standards and it's now over until the next one in three years time!



The practice is supporting Mouth Cancer Month and will be selling blue ribbons to help raise public awareness of the campaign. For more information visit the following Internet website: [www.mouthcancer.org](http://www.mouthcancer.org)

*Francine Sherrard, Practice Manager*

## **WEATHER REPORT.**

September was certainly a dry month. We only had 31.5mms (1.24ins) of rain, 20mms (0.79ins) of which fell on the 2nd. Last year we had 80mms (3.15ins). We had no rain after the 7th. From the 9th to the 12th it was very sunny and quite warm. On the whole, whilst it was often windy, the month was sunny with a few days overcast but mild.

Up to the 10th October we had 35mms (1.38ins) and it has been dry until the 18th. We had a few days with a light drizzle/mist, which only left an immeasurable trace. Generally, the days have been misty in the mornings, sunny later and quite mild with cold nights.

*Peter Durkee*

## **LIP READING**

COULD YOU SAY THAT AGAIN PLEASE? How many times a day do you have to say that? Whether you have a long-standing hearing problem or have recently been diagnosed please read on.

We are very fortunate in Mere to have a lip-reading class; this is held in the Footprints Centre at Mere School on Friday mornings from 10.15am - 12.15pm. We are a small, friendly group with an excellent tutor, who makes learning fun. Lip-reading is not a 'quick-fix' solution but you can learn so much to help with your hearing difficulties.

We have room for some new members so if you are interested please contact Liz Messer by e-mail - [iibsign@nuttJeberry.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:iibsign@nuttJeberry.fsnet.co.uk) or by telephone.

*Liz Messer ☎ 01258817200*

## **MERE CARNIVAL**

Following on from last month's brief carnival report (which was due to the next day deadline for Mere Matters), the Carnival Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and support, not just in Carnival Week but throughout the year in producing this years Carnival. A special thank you to the following people for their help during Carnival Week:

- Ron Cake for the Treasure Hunt around Mere.
- Henry for being the caller at the successful bingo evening.
- Gladys Pope for organising and running a fun quiz evening
- Mark and Sam Cassidy, The Walnut Tree Inn, for a hugely successful and enjoyable race night.

On Carnival Day itself, there are many people who volunteer their services freely. A big thank you goes to all the marshals and judges, many of whom come from other local towns to help. Also the street collectors who are mainly from local organisations like Mere Football Club whose members collected £227, Mere Swimming Club, local firemen and the Carnival Committee.

The cost and work involved in staging Mere carnival are increasing. Members of the Carnival Committee deal with health and safety, insurance, public safety, policy and procedures, etc all on a voluntary basis in between the demands of their everyday lives.

The need to encourage carnival entrants grows each year; hence we have to pay appearance money to carnival clubs and entries to ensure we get as many floats, walking entrants, marching bands etc, as possible. They do not pay to enter Mere Carnival as many people believe. This year's Mere Carnival cost over £4,500 to run. The street collection during the afternoon and evening processions (which was down by £200 this year) along with the fundraising throughout the year raised over £6,000. This is enough to cover this year's costs but leaves little to give to local charities as in previous years and to invest in next year's Carnival.

As the committee of volunteers battles on to ensure the survival of the carnival, the biggest fear is that increasing costs will bring about an end to this fun event. So if you see a fundraising event for the carnival then please support it if you can. We realise that times are hard for everyone but a few extra attendees at an event or the sale of extra raffles tickets can make a difference. The committee are always looking for new ideas for fundraising so any suggestions are welcome, or if you can spare a couple of hours each month to help with carnival this would be appreciated. For more information, contact details are below.

So although Mere Carnival has only just passed for this year the committee is already working hard in raising funds for next year – so please support Mere Carnival.

*Deborah Merx, Mere Carnival Committee ☎ 07771 774054*

## **MERE LITERARY FESTIVAL**

The Linkscheme and its Lit. Fest. Group send a big "Thank You" to all who helped or supported our 2009 Literary Festival. The weather was kind and it was a very happy week with the community supporting its community charity.

A fuller account will appear in next month's issue as the festival finishes just as Mere Matters goes to press and there are still a lot of loose ends to tie up.

*Adrienne Howell & The Lit. Fest. Group*

## **MERE SHORT WALKS**

The Short Walk this month will take place on Wednesday 11th November. Meet as usual at 2.00pm in the Salisbury Street Car Park. 2/3miles around Mere's footpaths followed by tea in The Angel Cafe afterwards!

The Short Walk for December month will take place on Monday 7th December. Meet as usual at 2.00 in the Salisbury Street Car Park. 2/3miles around Mere's footpaths followed by tea in The Angel Cafe afterwards! *Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884*



## **MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE**

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 2nd December 2009

at Indigo Blue Restaurant

Salisbury Street Mere

7.00 for 7.30 pm

All businesses welcome

Please come along to support the Chamber

**WE NEED YOU!**

After the AGM we will hold a social event at Indigo Blue and enjoy their wonderful food

*Julie Cousins ☎ 01747 860352*

**BRASS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**GILLINGHAM IMPERIAL SILVER BAND**  
**Presents**

**A CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC**

**AT MERE LECTURE HALL**  
**ON SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER STARTING AT 3.00PM**

**THERE WILL BE A RETIRING COLLECTION**

*Last chance to book a place on a one day WEA course*

## **The Life and Work of Edward Hopper**

Tutor Paul Chapman

Saturday 7th November 2009

10am - 4pm

At Footprints

Duchy Manor Site Mere

Fee £17.50

Please contact Natalie Hooper at Footprints to reserve a place

☎ 01747 861108

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WEA Course in Spring 2010

## **Industrial Archeology in South West England**

6 sessions starting on 28th January 2010

Maggie Durkee ☎ 01747 860163

## **THE COMMUNITY BUFFET**

**at The Old Ship Hotel, Mere**

**on Tuesday 10th November 2009**

**from 12.00noon onwards**

Menu: Roast Turkey, Roast Beef, Nut Roast followed by Italian Christmas Pudding or Cheesecake. This 2 course meal will be £8.99, NOT including drinks.

**The Old Ship requests that you ring with your choice of menu by 8th November ☎ 01747 860258, so book now!**

Your support for the October Community Lunch was overwhelming. Ray and all the wonderful team at the Old Ship worked so hard to make it successful.

The arrival of a new chef with lots of ideas offers an exciting future for our Old Ship. So the plan is that we will have a Community lunch on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from October to March. If you have any friends or neighbours who are on their own or new to the area bring them along, the atmosphere is great with live music and everyone determined to enjoy themselves. See you there!

Lindy Elliot ☎ 01747 861646

You are invited to the second grand

## FAIR TRADE

### Pudding Mix

Stir the pudding and  
Make a wish

Buy your pudding ingredients while  
You enjoy a Fair Trade Cuppa and  
Browse for alternative gifts and  
Traidcraft Christmas Cards

Everyone welcome

Friday 13th November 9.00am-4.00pm and 7.00-9.00pm

Saturday 14th November 9.00am-2.00pm

@

'Wits End', North Road, Mere

*Janet Way* ☎ 01747 860884

## MERE FILM SHOWS

The stars of this month's film are both Oscar winners and were both Oscar nominated for their performance in 'Doubt' (15), to be shown on Friday 6th November. It is a strong story of an iron-gloved principal of a school in the Bronx determined at all costs to have her way against a reforming and popular priest.

Meryl Streep and Philip Seymour Hoffman head an excellent cast, two of which were also Oscar nominated as supporting actors in this film. The critics were full of praise for this film and for the performances of the principals.

**Next month's film:** 'Last Chance Harvey' starring Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson on Thursday 3rd December. *Mary White* ☎ 01747 861257

**REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE COMBINED  
DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010 ISSUE  
MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER**

## MERE THEATRE CLUB

We have been thrilled at the response to Mere's new Theatre Club. We now have over 40 members, but would be delighted to welcome more. Any ideas or suggestions would also be gratefully received. We will soon be putting together a range of suggestions for winter visits to concerts, plays, opera's etc., for the membership to vote on, from which we can draw up a short list. If you would like to have your say, do join us.

*Madelaine Morris* ☎ 01747 861833

## MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Fresh from the renewed critical acclaim for its repeat performance of Adrienne Howell's plays 'Handles' and 'The Annotator' (Woolstore Festival runaway successes back in May) during the Literary Festival, the company is now rehearsing with unbounding energy for its Autumn Production. It's a comedy-drama this year, entitled *An Honourable Woman*, translated from the Spanish and adapted for the English stage by our very own Mal Mallett.

Performances from Thursday to Saturday, **19th – 21st November, at 7.30 p.m.** in the Lecture Hall. Tickets are on sale NOW at Mere Information Point and are selling fast at £5 and £3 (children) for Thursday, and £6 and £3 on Friday and Saturday. The production features one debut 'performance' which is not to be missed!

*Jenny Wilding* ☎ 01747 860908

## MERE GARDENING CLUB

### Pruning

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 11th November 2009, at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings when a Castle Gardens Speaker will be talking about Pruning.

All you ever wanted to know about pruning trees and shrubs! This will be a practical demonstration by one of the excellent Castle Gardens speakers, and there will be ample opportunity to ask questions. The speaker will be bringing plants for sale, and past experience is that these are always good quality and interesting, so don't miss the opportunity of adding to your gardens. Visitors welcome.

Next summer we will be working with the Rosemary Goddard Centre to put on an Open Gardens event. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy some of the many delightful gardens in Mere, so have your diaries for 2010 ready for the date!

*Caroline Cook* ☎ 01747 861797

## **MOTHERS' UNION & OPEN MEMBER'S GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th November at 2.30pm in the Grove Buildings. The speaker will be The Mothers Union Chaplain, The Rev'd Nicholas Leigh Hunt and his subject will be "Renewal and Mission".

Tribute money will be due at this meeting, please, and there will be a "Bring & Buy" stall for the Grove Buildings Fund.

On the 14th November, we shall be running the cake stall at the Christmas Charities Fair in the Grove Buildings. Donations of cakes would be appreciated. Thank you.

*Thelma Ings ☎ 01747 860262*

## **MERE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Our monthly meetings return once more to the Grove Buildings. We next meet on Thursday, 5th November 2009 at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings when Mrs S Howe will speak on Hysterical History.

Guests and new members, as always are very welcome.

*Jean Rees ☎ 01747 860392*

## **CASTLE HILL QUILTERS**

The new patchwork and quilting group met on Wednesday 7th October, and again on Wednesday 21st October in the Grove Buildings.

The committee were delighted with the response and numbers attending and very much enjoyed the visit from Country Threads from Bath at their meeting on 21st October with tempting fabrics, books and notions available for members to purchase. They were also delighted with the many books obtained by the library for members to borrow.

Further meetings will be held on Wednesday 4th and 18th November and also by popular demand we are meeting on Thursday 12th November, at the same time of 2.00 to 5.00pm.

There are already plans for the group to make a charity quilt to be raffled in Mere, so sewing machines and needles are to be busy over the winter months.

If you are interested in joining a very friendly group and a genuine interest in patchwork and quilting, please get in touch with either Carol Lord ☎ 01747 861923 or Jean Daw ☎ 01747 860997. This is not just for the ladies, one of the first to join our group was a keen, newly retired gentleman. We look forward to seeing just what can be produced over the next few months.

*Carol Lord ☎ 01747 861923*

# R S P C A WITH CATS PROTECTION SALE

Saturday, 7th November

Lecture Halls 10.30am – 12.30pm

RSPCA Draw tickets will be on sale outside Jean Young's garage on Saturday 31st October.  
*Pete & Sue Howell ☎ 01747 860623*



## MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### The Mildenhall Treasure John Gadd

The Mildenhall Treasure is believed to have been buried in the 4th century, and includes some of the finest surviving examples of Roman silversmithing.

However, there is a mystery connected with the treasure. John Gadd has spent over 20 years probing the archives and questioning relatives of the prime participants in the original dig. With valued help from others who were intrigued with the machinations, he has made up his own archive on Mildenhall, which is now safe in the British Museum. He will be talking about his research illustrating his talk with slides.

***Tuesday 10th November at 7.30pm in the Grove Buildings  
£2 entry for non members, who are very welcome.***

*Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797*

## CANCER RESEARCH UK

I would like to offer a very big THANK YOU to all those people who kindly participated, and to the staff of The George Hotel who staged the All Day Breakfast on Saturday, 26th September in aid of the charity.

Altogether, our efforts raised a total of £203.90 for Cancer Research UK.

*Roy Sims ☎ 01747 863328*

## FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

The Friends of Fives Court have launched a mega-appeal in aid of a garden transformation project. The plans are to change a dull and at present unused area of the garden into a paved area with raised beds to make tending easy for Residents, and a greenhouse. The area will also provide a home for the water feature for which we have already raised the money. So from now onwards, and for as long as it takes, all the money we raise will be dedicated to this project. Our target is £6000, though it makes us tremble even just to type it! However it is heart-warming to acknowledge that we have already received two substantial donations which get us off the ground. You will next see us in fund-raising mode at the annual Charities Fair on 14th November. We hope to see you there! *Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

## ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (RGC) Mere and District Day Centre, Lynch Close

### 10.30am to 3.00pm on Mondays & 10.30am to 4.00pm on Fridays

Exciting things are happening at the Rosemary Goddard Centre. Did you see us in the Carnival in September? We get everywhere, game for everything and anything; maturing is about having time to have fun.

More recently we have held activities and invited people to join us. Everyone who has come to these events have said how much they had enjoyed them and asked if could they come again, so check at the Library and the notice board outside Waltons to see what is going on at the RGC. You may be interested on 9th November at 11.00am to hear Michael Welch talking about Tools for Africa, or on 16th November at 1.30pm to enjoy 'A Funny Thing Happened to Me on the Way to Church' with John Day, or on 23rd November at 11.00am you may like to listen to the fascinating story of John Clancy's life as a Butler. All these talks are informal, interesting, and interactive.

If you are over 60 years old why not give yourself a break - come and relax with us at the Community Rooms, Lynch Close, Mere and just have a jolly good time. Carers may enjoy a respite day out too and are very welcome. We look forward to seeing you at one or all of the above events. For more details ring **Lynette (Organiser) ☎ 01747 861646**.

We would be grateful for any small items in good condition for our gift stall at the Charities Fair on 14th November. Please contact **Pat Gear ☎ 01747 860320** if you have anything you would like to donate. Don't forget to look out for our Quiz at the Fair.

This is advance notice of our Open Gardens event next summer, which will be a joint venture with Mere Gardening Club and a great opportunity to enjoy some of the many

delightful gardens in Mere. We haven't finalised the date yet, but will do so as soon as we can, so have your diaries for 2010 ready!

Many thanks to everybody who sponsored Judith and David's Two Moors Trail walk raising a magnificent £851. We are very grateful to you all for your support. Finally, new volunteers are always welcome as we can never have enough help.

*Caroline Cook, Secretary ☎ 01747 861797*

## MERE MUSEUM

Lots of news from the Museum this month! First, a new exhibition, *Made by Hand; an Exhibition of Local Crafts* will open to the public on Tuesday 3rd November. The exhibition will feature the work of a number of local craftsmen and women, some of which will be available for sale after the exhibition. The exhibition will run until the end of December 2009.

Then, in the afternoon of **Saturday 14th November starting at 2.00pm**, there will be a very special Museum event, involving children from Mere School and the Treehouse Theatre Company. This will be part of the launch of a delightful book written specially for children by Win Richardson about Mere Castle, called *A Hill, a Boy, a King and a Castle*, which has been beautifully illustrated by Tamsin Guy, a teacher at Mere School.

All the children at the school have made pictures about the castle, and a selection of the best will be on display in the Museum. The very best picture will be reproduced inside the back cover of the book.

Entry to the event is by free ticket, obtainable at Mere School, but please note that only 30 children can take part. The book will be on sale for £3 a copy – a good idea for a Christmas present maybe? Watch out for posters!

*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

## FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

Friends are reminded that their preview of the new exhibition *Made by Hand* (for details see the Museum entry above) will be held on **Monday 2nd November at 6.30 p.m.** We hope that a good number of the exhibitors will join us and so you will have the perfect opportunity to talk to them about their work.

Our next fund-raising event will be a talk by **Robin Yapp** entitled *How Wine Came to Mere*. Robin will talk about the founding of the business with his brother Michael in 1968 and about how it has grown and developed since then. It will take place on **Tuesday 1st December at 7.30pm in The Grove Buildings**. Yapp Wines will be available for purchase by the glass. Tickets are on sale at the Mere Information Point at £3 (excluding drinks). Do come, and bring a friend or two!

*Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908*

**WILTSHIRE MOVIOLA**  
in association with  
**MERE PARISH COUNCIL**  
proudly presents

# **DOUBT (15)**

**Meryl Streep Philip Seymour Hoffman**

**There is no evidence. There are no witnesses.  
But for one, there is no doubt.**

Trying to modernise St. Nicholas school in the Bronx, charismatic Father Flynn (Hoffman) crosses swords with the iron-gloved principal Sister Aloysius (Streep). When one of the nuns shares her concern that Flynn may be paying unhealthy attention to a young male student, Sister Aloysius embarks on a determined crusade to destroy him.

**In the Lecture Hall**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November, at 7.30pm**

*(Doors open 7.00pm)*

**TICKETS £5.00**

**Available from the Tourist Information Office  
(in the Library)**

*For more information call Mary White on 01747 861257  
Visit our website at [www.moviola.org](http://www.moviola.org)*

## **SHAFTESBURY & GILLINGHAM UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (SGU3A) MARKS TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

A very special meeting took place on 1st October to mark SGU3A's tenth anniversary. Back in 1999, the U3A movement was keen to expand into the north of the county at Shaftesbury. An advert placed in the Blackmore Vale Magazine encouraging those interested to attend a meeting on 10th August 1999 in the British Legion Hall proved there was great interest. More chairs were needed before the meeting could start!

A steering committee was set up and meetings were held where new members could sign up for activity groups for which leaders had come forward. Set up as Shaftesbury U3A it is now a far cry from those early days, with the branch being re-named Shaftesbury & Gillingham U3A and a present membership of just over 550 including a good number from Mere

The present committee decided to celebrate the 10th anniversary at the October AGM. One of the early ideas was an anniversary book. A small sub committee of members whose professional skills could produce one set to work and during the AGM, after many groups had displayed their activities for everyone to see, the book was produced with a flourish. Including articles by members from all the activity groups, it is colourfully illustrated with photographs and by detailed illuminated letters drawn by member Elizabeth Hazelwood. It is finished with covers designed by member Ron Homes. There then followed entertainment by the Singing Group, French for Fun group, the Literature Group and the Luncheon Club. Members went home with a copy of the anniversary book and a piece of birthday cake decorated with the SGU3A logo that had been baked by one of the members.

We are very proud of our first ten years, and we look forward to the next decade in this third age of our lives, with both eagerness and anticipation, ready to meet and cope with the many changes that undoubtedly lie ahead of us. For further information, please go to: [www.sgu3a.org.uk](http://www.sgu3a.org.uk)

*Mary Muir, Publicity Officer SGU3A*

## **MERE CROQUET CLUB**

By the time this is published we will almost certainly, albeit reluctantly, have finished playing for this season. It has been a thoroughly enjoyable year, in spite of the barbecue summer that never was. It has seen the club settle down to be an established part of the local community.

There is now a solid core of enthusiastic members and their friendly welcoming attitude is principally responsible for the success of the venture.

Without the unstinting support given to us by Mere Parish Council, we would never have got off the ground. We are most grateful to them for their backing.

During the summer, we entertained the Lytes Cary Croquet Club in Mere, followed by a return visit to their beautiful venue. Both occasions were great fun and were thoroughly enjoyable. We plan to repeat the exercise next year.

Our AGM will be held in the New Year, the date, etc. will be publicised nearer the time. Prior to that there will be a social gathering during the first few weeks of 2010. This will be well advertised and is an occasion when potential new members will be warmly welcomed, do watch out for the announcements.

In the meantime should you have any queries pleas do not hesitate to get in touch with me.  
*Rex Roberts* ☎ 01747 860873.

## **MERE BOWLS CLUB**

The Club ended the Season with the President's team beating the Captain's and Mere were Runners Up in the Westbrook League.

The 2 Woods Pairs was won by David Howell & Karen Guy, Runners Up - Janet Howell & Peter Gear.

The 2 Woods Singles was won by Maureen McCormack, Runner Up David Howell.

The Annual Dinner is on Thursday, 19th November at The Walnut Tree Inn, Mere, and the AGM will be held on Thursday, 10th December at 7.00pm in the Small Lecture Hall, Mere.

Full details from : *Teresa Read* ☎ 01747 860586

## **TISBURY & DISTRICT SPORTS CENTRE**

A facility provided by Wiltshire Council,  
where everybody matters

### **Christmas Holiday Programme 2009**

Our Children's Christmas Holiday Programme 2009, will take place from Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd December. With a variety of activities to suit all ages, we will do our best to work off all their excess energy leading up to Christmas.

Our programme will be as follows:

- Monday – Art & Craft and Football Tournament (am), Gladiators (pm)
- Tuesday – Team Games (am), Christmas Roller Disco (pm)
- Wednesday – Wii Madness and Racquet Sports (am), Christmas Party (pm)

All activities will be £1 per child, apart from the Christmas Party, which will be £3 per child. Booking for all activities is strongly recommended to avoid disappointment.

The Centre will then be closed from Christmas Eve, Thursday 24th December 2009 until we re-open for normal opening hours on Saturday 2nd January 2010.

For further details concerning any of the above, a copy of our programme, or information about the wide range of activities which take place at the Centre, please contact Reception ☎ 01747 871141, or e-mail us at: [tisbury@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:tisbury@wiltshire.gov.uk), or visit the website at: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk). *Debbie Stevens, Duty Manager*

## **MERE TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

### ***WANTED!!!***

Mere Town Youth Football Club (MTYFC) needs coaches/managers for the under 7s, 8s and 9s football teams. Are you a retired footballer or a player with a passion for the game, willing to train and have fun with the next 'Beckhams or Rooneys'?

F.A. Coaching Courses are available and C.R.B. checks carried out. If you just want to help out with training, why not come along of Friday evenings between 6.00pm and 7.00pm at Duchy Manor playing fields. Or, contact either Neil Francis ☎ 01747 860750 or Peter Gatehouse ☎ 01747 861507.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Quiz and congratulations to the winners, "Underdowners", Adrienne Howell, June and Doug Hewett and Bill Pike. We hope you all enjoyed the evening. *Neil Francis, Chairman ☎ 01747 860750*

## **MERE SCHOOL**

### **October 2009**

We have had a busy few weeks!

One Friday in October, a lot of certificates were awarded by the library for reading some books over the holiday. Little medals were also given out. You could read for as long or as little as you liked in the holidays, but we must remember to KEEP ON READING!

We interviewed Archie Hill and Maya Empson about their trip to Montacute. Archie said: "I enjoyed the trip. I learnt more things, like they put blood under the bed to stop the bed bugs biting. I also learnt that Montecute House is gigantic." Maya said: "I enjoyed the trip loads. There was a long hall at the top of the house where the ladies exercised by walking up and down. My favourite part was the kitchen and I liked the pudding houses."

On 1st October it was Roman day in red class. They did loads of fun activities and when Zach and Bailey were interviewed, they said their favourite thing was chariot racing. Red class also held replicas of some Roman guns and they signalled in Latin. They dressed up as Gladiators.

At our special person to lunch event, the food was lovely and all the children enjoyed talking to their parents. There were good manners and there wasn't any shouting. It was a lovely sunny day and I can't wait until next time.

We had a football presentation during one of our assemblies. The best thing about it was that lots of children got trophies.

Mr Marshall has been organising tag rugby club. We have been preparing for a match at Gillingham Primary School to get us going for a tournament shortly.

An author called Sue Ashby, came into purple class. A lot of her books have been published. Oliver Aldridge thought it was fun when she introduced herself. We wrote a poem about some animals and Michael Whitmore thought this was the best part. Jake Empson thought the best bit was when we used pictures to make up a story.

On 8th October year 4 visited the 'Steam Museum' in Swindon. They had a great time and couldn't stop laughing when Mr Knapp, Miss French and Mrs Loxton got locked up because they forgot their IDENTITY CARDS! Green class enjoyed going under the train, running about and exploring.

*Charlie Hill, Hannah Scaife, Bryony Adams, Jack Harvey, George Cassidy, Eliza Howell, Evie Sutton Fay, William Thorpe, George Peirce, Connor Cheeseman, Oliver Aldridge, Jake Empson & Michael Whitmore*

## **THE SUDAN CHURCH APPEAL.**

Contributions of stamps and Post Cards have been falling off, especially Post Cards. I would like more please, the need is urgent.

The Sudan Church needs to raise more money for building new churches and schools in Southern Sudan.

*Peter Durkee ☎ 01747 860363*

## **AFTERNOON GET TOGETHER**

On Wednesday, 25th November at 2.30pm in the School room at the Methodist Church we will hear tales from Kenya from Violet Culliford. Guaranteed a good afternoon, do join us.

*Mary Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370*

## **GROVE BUILDINGS RESTORATION FUND**

The Results of the '100' Club Draw for October 2009, drawn after the Harvest Thanksgiving service in St Michael's Church on 4th October by Mrs Angela McDonald was:

1st Prize (£20) - No. 172 Mrs Carol Brewer  
2nd Prize (£15) - No. 149 Mrs Gilly Gristwood  
3rd Prize (£10) - No. 98 Mr Ken Toms  
4th Prize (£5) - No. 9 Generously Returned

*Valerie Ransley* 📞 01747 860964

## **THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CHARITIES FAIR**

Will be held this year in the

Newly refurbished

### **GROVE BUILDINGS**

On Saturday 14th November

From 10.00am to 12.00noon

**Don't miss this opportunity to buy your stocking fillers**

**Or win a fabulous raffle prize**

## **HAVE YOU GOT A LOT OF BOTTLES?**

IF SO PLEASE DONATE SOME

## **TO THE CHRISTMAS CHARITIES FAIR**

**Please contact:**

Peter Knapp 01747 860142, Isabel Howell 01747 860297

Peter Platt-Higgins 01747 860809

**By Wednesday 11th November**

## **THE REV'D TIM HEATON, CUTATE OF THE PARISH OF UPPER STOUR, WRITES**

### **When the voices fall silent**

Harry Patch, who died in July aged 111, was the last surviving British Army veteran of the First World War. He served in The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and was badly wounded at the third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele). Just a week before he died another veteran of the Western Front, Henry Allingham, was also called into God's kingdom. At 113 he was the oldest living man in the world.

Henry, who served in the Royal Naval Air Service, spent the last years of his life as something of a celebrity, making frequent public appearances to tell his story so that it might live on as a legacy to ensure we never forget. But, shortly before his death he said this of his wartime service: "I wanted to forget it! And I did forget it. It's only by the merest fluke I was discovered, and I didn't like it. It's fair to say that any man that's really seen war wanted to forget it. He didn't want the memory, and most of them did just that, successfully."

That must surely be the sentiment of all who have seen the horror of war, whether fighting the Germans in Flanders, the Japanese in Burma or the Taliban in Helmand Province. But, we must never forget *them*. Harry's and Henry's voices have now been silenced, and there are just three known remaining survivors of the Great War – one Briton, one Canadian and one American.

Their voices, too, will soon be silenced, and it is only by our remembrance of them that their stories will be kept alive. And their story is God's story: our God is the God who participates in human history; God meets us in history and speaks to us as one who has been involved in history.

So as we commemorate the moment when the guns fell silent, let us remember the voices that have fallen silent – the dead of all wars and the survivors who are now passing away – as well as the maimed and the broken and those who are facing danger this day. Please join us if you can at the War Memorial by the clock tower in the Square on Sunday, 8th November for an act of remembrance at 10.45am followed by a service in St Michaels Church. "They may forget, yet will I not forget thee" (Isaiah 49.15).

## **Mere Bell Tower**

On Saturday 14th November Bell Ringers from Mere will be having a fund raising stall at the Charities Fair in the Grove Building starting at 10.00am.

There will be a raffle and bric a brac for sale.

Please come and support us.

Donations for the stall will be gratefully accepted.

Please ring Sue Birch ☎ 01747 861703

If you are interested in finding out more about bell ringing in Mere or fancy having a go please talk to someone on the stall.

## **ST MICHAELS' HARVEST FESTIVAL**

I would like to thank everyone who so generously contributed to our harvest collection of tinned and dried food for the Trussell Trust. For those of you who are not aware of the work of the Trussell Trust, it has now set up 50 food banks around the UK to provide food parcels for needy families. Our local one in Salisbury was delighted to receive our contribution of 165Kg, or 26 stones, of food, which was a thirty per cent increase on our last year's donation.

It was great to have contributions from so many groups within Mere; the uniformed organisations, Barn Buddies and Messy Church all made contributions, together with everyone else who joined us for our Harvest Festival in October. To you all – "Thank you."

Unfortunately, the work of The Trussell Trust is needed all year round, and not just at harvest. With this in mind we are going to have a collection box at St Michaels throughout the year to make continuing contributions, and would ask especially for donations to be brought to the Family Service on the first Sunday of each month. If you cannot make the service, but would like to contribute, please just leave your donation in the church. Over the next two months we would welcome donations of Christmas related, non-perishable, foods; such as mince pies, tinned ham, chocolates, Christmas cake or Christmas puddings. Any other contributions are of course welcome.

As well as food banks in the UK, the Trussell Trust also supports families suffering from extreme poverty in Bulgaria. Last year it sent over 3,700 Christmas Boxes - some of the recipients had never received a Christmas gift before. Leaflets explaining the appeal for 2009 are on the notice board at St Michaels, or if you would like more details please contact me.

Everyone involved with St Michaels and the Trussell Trust are most grateful for the fantastic way that the people of Mere are supporting these initiatives, thank you.

*Tim Merrell, Churchwarden ☎ 01747 860195*

## **TRUSSELL TRUST CHRISTMAS BOXES**

This year, St Michael's Church is going to try to support The Trussell Trust's Christmas Box Appeal. Boxes are taken to Bulgaria and given to people experiencing extreme poverty - some of whom will have never received a Christmas gift before.

What to do?

1. Find an old shoe box. Separately wrap bottom of box and lid in festive paper.
2. Decide who box will go to - adult or child, male or female.
3. Fill with appropriate unwrapped gifts. Include in box £2 to cover transportation costs.

4. Deliver to St Michael's on Sunday 22nd November when boxes will be received and blessed during the 10.30am morning service, or before.

Leaflets explaining more about the appeal will be found in the Post Office and in St Michael's Church.

More details are available from me or Mrs Pat Isom 📞 01747 861776.

*Rev'd Paul Barnes 📞 01747 863313*

Church of St Michael, The Archangel

## Season of Remembrance

### Sunday 1st November 6pm

All Souls Service of Commemoration for Departed loved ones; A quiet, meditative, service during which there will be the opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of departed loved ones. If you would like the name of your loved one read out during the service please contact Rev'd. Paul Barnes  
☎ 01747 863313

### Sunday 8th November

We gather around the memorial by the Clock Tower at 10.45 am for an Act of Remembrance before proceeding to St Michael's church for a short service.

For other services see Church Services below.

## CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

### NOVEMBER 2009

The Parish Church, St Michael, The Archangel (☎ 01747 863313)

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Wednesday		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
		4.30pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday	1st	10.30am	NO service at St Michaels, but a Benefice Service at Maiden Bradley
		6.00pm	All Souls. Service of Commemoration of the Departed
Wednesday	4th	6.00pm	"Start the month" Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday		8th	10.45am Act of Remembrance by the war memorial in the Square followed by a Remembrance service at St Michaels

Sunday	15th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	22nd	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	29th	10.30am	Choral Matins

### **The United Reformed Church**

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

Sunday	1st	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham
	8th	10.45am	United Remembrance-The Square
	15th	11.00am	Rev'd Morris Munns
	22nd	11.00am	Rev'd Peter Poulter Anniversary + Holy Communion
	29th	11.00am	Martin Heal

### **The Methodist Church (☎ 01747 823777)**

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin: (☎ 01747 861370)

Sunday	1st	6.00pm	Rev'd Ros Hollingsworth Holy Communion
	8th	6.00pm	Rev'd Helen Caine
Sunday	15th	6.00pm	Rev'd Ros Hollingsworth
	22nd	6.00pm	Local Arrangement
	29th	6.00pm	Mr Ken Harvey

### **The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's. (☎ Warminster 01985 212329 – Fr. Bede Rowe)**

**Mere Contacts: Teresa Read ☎ 01747 860289 or**

**Winn Richardson ☎ 01747 861004**

<b>Every Friday</b>	10.00am	Mass
<b>Every Sunday</b>	11.30am	Mass

On the 1st Sunday of the month - there will be Coffee after Mass together with the sale of Fairtrade produce.

### **West Knoyle Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin (☎ 01747 830534)**

Sunday	1st	10.30am	NO service at St Marys, but a Benefice Service at Maiden Bradley
	8th	9.25am	Remembrance Service

Sunday	15th	9.25am	Matins
	22nd	9.25am	Holy Communion (CW1 trad)
	29th	10.30am	NO service at St Marys, but. Matins at St Michaels Church in Mere

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer  
CW1 indicates Common Worship Order 1 (trad - Indicates traditional language)

## DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER 2009

**AYP-Andy Young Pavilion; BSF-Barrow Street Farm; CC-United Reformed Church Centre; CP-Main Car Park; DMS-Duchy Manor School; GB-Grove Buildings; L-Lecture Hall; Lib-Library; Lynch-Lynch Community Centre; MH-Methodist Church Hall; MSC Mere Social Club; YC-Youth Centre**

2	Mon	9.00am	Tiddlers and Toddlers (Every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Beavers (every Monday)	YC
		6.30pm	Friends of Mere Museum Preview	Library
		6.45pm	Cubs (every Monday)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (every Monday)	YC
		7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		7.30pm	Parish Council	AYP
3	Tue	2.00pm	Womens Institute Games Afternoon	GB
4	Wed	9.30am	Tai Chi (every Wednesday)	GB
		2.00pm	Quilters Group (and 18th)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (also 11th and 25th)	L
5	Thur	9.00am	Tiddlers and Toddlers (Every Thursday)	L
		10.00am	Art Group (every Thursday)	MH
		2.00pm	Line Dancing Club (every Thursday)	MSC
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		7.00pm	1st Mere Guides	L
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (every Thursday)	MH
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
6	Fri	6.30pm	Barn Buddies (every Friday)	BSF
		7.30pm	Mere Film shows/Moviola (Doubt)	L
7	Sat	10.00am	WEA Course	Footprints
		10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning	CC
		10.30am	RSPCA/Cats Protection Sale	L
9	Mon	8.00pm	MADS Meeting in Drama Room	L
10	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		12.00pm	Community Buffet	The Old Ship
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB

10	Tue	7.30pm	Mere Historical Society	GB
11	Wed	2.00pm	Whist Drive	GB
		2.00pm	Mere Short Walk	CP
		7.15pm	URC Church Meeting	CC
		7.30pm	Gardening Club	GB
12	Thur	5.00pm	Rainbows (also 19th and 26th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (also 19th and 26th)	GB
		7.30pm	Guides (also 19th and 26th)	GB
13	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (and 27th)	GB
14	Sat	10.00am	Christmas Charities Fair	GB
		10.00am	"Children in Need" Keyboard Music, Vera Stickley	L
		10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning	CC
19	Thur	7.30pm	MADS Play "An Honourable Woman"	L
20	Fri	7.30pm	MADS Play "An Honourable Woman"	L
21	Sat	10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning, + Traidcraft stall	CC
		7.30pm	MADS Play "An Honourable Woman"	L
24	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
25	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
		2.30pm	Afternoon Get Together	MH
28	Sat	10.00am	Leaping Frogs Christmas Craft Fair	L
		10.30am	'Drop In' Coffee Morning + RGC Bric a Brac	CC



## Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Climate Friendly Tisbury present the film *THE AGE OF STUPID* on Wednesday 4th November at 7.30pm in the Victoria Hall, Tisbury

The Age of Stupid is a film by Fanny Armstrong, director of *McLibel*, and John Battsek, producer of *One Day in September*. The film is a drama-documentary - animation hybrid, which stars Pete Postlethwaite as an old man living in the devastated world of 2055, watching archive footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?

It is a film that we should all see and in thinking of our descendants it makes us ask the question: "What we are you doing to protect their future?"

The film was shown at the Arts Centre in Salisbury, where they had to turn people away because it created so much interest. Doors open at 7.00pm. Tickets £5 from Kate Good Pottery (closed Monday) High Street Tisbury, or from Mary James.

Mary James ☎ 01747 870 446.

## **BOOKING MEETING HALLS IN MERE**

To Book the Lecture Halls: ☎ Ann Read 01747 861486  
To Book the Grove Buildings: ☎ Isabel Howell 01747 860297

## **MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY**

THE FOLLOWING CLINICS/ADVICE CENTRES ARE HELD ON A REGULAR BASIS

CITIZENS' ADVICE:           Tuesdays: 10.30am to 4.00pm  
Private Appointments ☎ 01722 327222

REGISTRAR                        By appointment only  
OF BIRTHS                        Thursdays: 9.30am to 11.30am  
& DEATHS:                        For appointments ☎ 01985 213435

# **COPY DATE FOR COMBINED DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010 ISSUE**

Material for this issue should be sent to Graham Avory, Little Tawny, Pettridge Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6DG (☎ 01747 860439) or alternatively handed in at The Information Office, The Library, Mere (in an envelope marked 'MERE MATTERS') before 4.00 pm on **MONDAY, 16th NOVEMBER 2009**. Would contributors please add their name and a contact telephone number.

E-mailed contributions will be most welcome, but if you are new to this easy method of contribution, please telephone the Editor for details.

**ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:**

**Mrs Jane Kennedy**

**e-mail: [jane.kennedy@homecall.co.uk](mailto:jane.kennedy@homecall.co.uk)**

**☎ : 01985 844740**

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