

MERE MATTERS

AND SO DOES WEST KNOYLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
INCLUDING A GUIDE TO LOCAL EVENTS



JULY / AUGUST 2013

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, 1st July 2013** at 7.30pm in the Andy Young Pavilion. There will be no meeting in August.

The Chairman writes:

The Parish Council has now settled into its new term and we were pleased to welcome our new PCSO, Peter Tscherniawsky, at our June meeting. Peter has assured us of his intentions to be an "on the beat" officer and I am sure some of you will have already seen him around the town. He is very amenable and approachable and I am certain he is going to be a great asset to Mere.

You may have noticed that the sign for the 43rd Wessex memorial has been removed from the approach to Castle Hill. It will be replaced soon by a new sign, thanks to a private donation, and in good time for the annual service taking place this year on Sunday, 14th July.

Sport continues to thrive in Mere and I must congratulate the men's football team in winning their league. The cricket season is in full swing with teams covering a wide range of age groups. Home matches are held on the ground by The Andy Young Pavilion. I have recently attended a meeting which showed plans for the proposed skateboard park and it was gratifying to see so many youngsters there. There is a little way to go yet in regard to funding, refining the details and logistics, but hopefully this can all be achieved fairly soon. There is also, in place, a buoyant and enthusiastic force, striving to repair the swimming pool. So let's wish them well with that.

Coming up, hopefully before the next meeting, the Council will be meeting with Wiltshire Highways Officers, in connection with the proposed development of the Woodlands Road site, and we shall be making a decision soon about the use of the old band hut building in the Castle Street car park.

I was pleased to be at a well-attended Fete at St. Michael's, in the sunshine. Let us hope that the recent good weather is not our sole allocation of summer this year! Thank you to everyone involved in providing, the very much admired, flowers around Mere. Should you wish to make a donation, do contact our clerk.

**Richard Robbins - Trained Gardener - 25 years
experience. All aspects of Garden Care Undertaken
01373 473008 Mobile 0751 0130 083**



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

Lesley Traves, Chairman, Mere Parish Council

Floral Enhancements

The Parish Clerk would like to report that once again, the Parish Council will be keeping up appearances by planting the tubs around the town to give impressive floral displays. Last year we were very grateful to the various sponsors (business and members of the public – see below) who helped to make these floral displays possible. The scheme was a great success. There are 14 tubs within the town and they are planted twice a year for summer/autumn displays and winter/spring displays. Mr. Clive Hazzard has graciously agreed to replant the tubs again this year, and I should point out that this is done at cost price and at no profit to him. We thank him for this generous offer. We also thank the willing volunteers who water the tubs.

We estimate the cost of planting each tub is £40 per year and once again, we are looking for sponsors and we would be grateful to any business or members of the public who would like to sponsor a tub. We will publish a list of all sponsors in a future edition of Mere Matters. If you would like to help with Mere's floral enhancements, please contact:

Mrs. Lindsey Wood, Parish Clerk, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road, Mere ☎ 01747 860701

We would like to thank the following, who sponsored the tubs last year:

Jack, Chloe, Isabel, Eleanor, Connor, Bryony, Tye & Olly; Bruce & Ann Leece; Peter & Sue Breeze; Roy Sims in memory of Ann (Millie) Sims; Jane Hurd; Dr. David Longbourne; Mrs. Rosemary Price; Mrs. Isabel Howell; Mr. & Mrs. L. Stanton; Yapp Brothers; The Hill Brush Company; F. J. Chalke & Son and Jeans.

GEORGE JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR, MERE DIVISION, WRITES

The South West Area Board was held on the 5th June at South Newton Village Hall. Jose Green was elected Chairman and I was elected Vice-Chairman. I mentioned last month, The Southwest Area Board awarded grants for some fingerpost direction signs in our area to be refurbished, these have or are being refurbished at present. The Area Board has now agreed a sum that should allow for another application per parish this year. The Parishes of Mere, Stourton, Zeals and West Knoyle need apply if they wish to take up the offer for this year. Community Area grants, which I have encouraged community groups to take up over the years, now have to be applied for via the Internet. Stephen Harris the Community Area manager will help with applications. His e-mail

address is: stephen.harris@wiltshire.gov.uk. Grants will be aimed mainly at a capital project this time as opposed to revenue for maintaining a service.

Balfour Beatty Street Scene is now responsible for all Wiltshire Councils highway maintenance. As before, contact Clarence ☎ 0800 232323 or out of hours ☎ 01722 413834. The Area Boards and Parish and Town Councils have a co-ordinator, which should be an improvement; I and the local councils now have this one point of contact. The contract, which deals with key services such as highway maintenance, grass cutting, litter collection and street lighting, will now come into operation. Note litter collection is contracted out by Wiltshire Council, unlike the household waste collection. On a lighter note regarding Highways, I have been told the highway signs near Bramley House in Mere, which show elderly people crossing the road, may have to be removed because it could be argued, the display of such signs is 'age discrimination'!

I mentioned last month those of you requiring a local authority stamp on a document should please contact me as I can now confirm I have a Wiltshire Stamp.

The old band hut in Castle Street car park, which I helped get transferred to Mere Parish Council, has created much interest from local community groups. The Mere area has a wide range of activities from sports to leisure.

Mere is fortunate to have a new PCSO, Peter Tscherniawsky. I have found him very helpful. The police performance figures for Mere show continuing good news, with detection of crime improving. There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour and criminal damage, but it is hoped with the arrival of our new PCSO, anti-social behaviour will decrease.

Major changes have been announced regarding Wiltshire Council housing. A Housing Board and Focus Groups are to be formed. This is in addition to the present Tenants Panel and Scrutiny. A designated person can be approached after eight weeks from the start of a complaints procedure; the designated person can be a Councillor or an MP. Welfare of tenants will be reformed, including making available the services of a financial inclusion officer. Two million pounds of extra money, which has been achieved from good interest rates, will be used to build more houses. Just four contracts have been awarded, rather than many small ones for services to property. This is a good idea on the face of it, less and more effective administration. However, I am not sure it is good for local communities, where there are many self employed who could do the work.

Wiltshire Council has improved its safeguarding of children services. All Wiltshire councillors have had to have additional training. Wiltshire Council has a Safeguarding department for all ages. If you have any concerns please contact them.

Anti-Dog fowling posters that were effectively distributed by Alan Mead and printed by me, had my phone number printed incorrectly, my business number is ☎ 01747 860215.

Wiltshire Council is reviewing the "Taxi Buzz" bus, Connect2Wiltshire service, see separate article that follows. The cost of the service is high in relation to the number of passengers carried, and is well in excess of the Council's maximum subsidy guideline of £3.50 per passenger trip set out in the 'Guidelines for funding of supported services'. However, a number of ways have been identified of reducing the cost to the council while retaining a service which it is hoped will continue to meet the needs of the majority of users.

To remind you again, A Diamond Jubilee DVD to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee in the Mere Area, is on sale in Waltons of Mere, priced at £4.99, a present with a difference perhaps. All proceeds will go to The Link Scheme.

PROPOSED CHANGES

To the Mere Area Connect 2 Wiltshire Taxibuzz service -

Wiltshire Council is reviewing this vehicle, mainly due to cost and lack of use. I am sure the residents of Mere and the surrounding area would strongly disagree with this view. The councils' findings are due to be completed on Friday, 2nd August, and any help or suggestions or ideas you may have will be very gratefully received.

Please send them to: The head of Service Passenger Transport, Ian White, ✉ ian.white@wiltshire.gov.uk or ☎ (direct line) 01225 713322

Thank you for your support.

Roy Sims, Transport Representative for Mere, ☎ 01747 863328
✉ roy.sims@btinternet.com

POLICE NEWS

Police and Crime Commissioner Launches £1 Million Innovation Fund



The Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, Angus Macpherson, has launched a £1 million Innovation Fund. The Commissioner is looking to fund community and voluntary initiatives throughout Wiltshire and Swindon which will help towards achieving his six main priorities as set out in his Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner's six main priorities, working with communities as partners, are to: A) Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. B) Protect the most vulnerable in society. C) Put victims and witnesses first. D) Reduce offending and re-offending. E) Drive up standards of customer service. F) Ensure unfailing and timely response to calls for assistance.

This fund is about supporting innovative new ideas which will make a lasting difference to community safety, and I'm particularly interested in projects that help to break cycles of crime and antisocial behaviour, including supporting repeat Offenders.

The funding will be awarded in three tranches as follows: A) £400,000 by 31 July 2013 in respect of applications received by 15 July 2013. B) £300,000 by 30 November 2013 in respect of applications received by 15 November 2013 and C) £300,000 by 31 March 2014 in respect of applications received by 15 March 2014.

Any organisation with aims and activities that meet the criteria can apply for funding. Any funds not awarded in one tranche will be 'rolled-over' to the next funding tranche.

The £1 million Innovation Fund is being funded from the Office of the PCC reserves. The Commissioner will consult with an advisory panel, made up of representatives from Wiltshire Police, Wiltshire Council, Swindon Borough Council and The Community Foundation for Wiltshire and Swindon, before deciding which applications to fund.

For more information, including a leaflet and an application form that can be downloaded, visit: www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk

If you have any other questions about the fund, please call the Police and Crime Commissioner's office on ☎ 01380 734022

New PCSO for Mere

Peter Tscherniawsky is the new Police Community Support Officer for Mere, he is an experienced officer having served previously at Trowbridge Town Centre for 6 years. Peter likes to patrol on foot and you will no doubt be seeing him in your street. He has lots of experience at dealing robustly with Anti-Social behaviour and with neighbourhood issues. Most of his consultation will be done whilst he is out and about, providing a visible presence and reassuring the public. If you want to speak to him in a formal setting 'Drop-ins' are regularly held in Mere and surrounding villages. The July 'Drop-in' for Mere is on Thursday, 25th from 3.30-4.30pm in the Library.

Peter is eager to forge links with the community and will actively be looking to start new 'neighbourhood watches' or rejuvenate old ones. His current priorities are Dog Fouling and Parking Issues in Mere centre. Peter is looking forward to working in the Mere Neighbourhood Policing Team with Beat Manager PC Richard Salter to provide a safe and secure place for our public.

Break-ins to sheds and out houses

Nearby villages have been targeted recently with bikes, batteries, drills and garden equipment being stolen overnight. Keep everything locked up. Be alert, if you see anything suspicious call police, and be a good neighbour and let other residents know. Take down vehicles indexes of people acting suspiciously and notify us using the 101 number for non emergency or 999 for emergency.

Mere Neighbours

The latest issue of the Mere Neighbours neighbourhood watch Newsletter is now available on its website at: www.mereneighbours.co.uk

PC Richard Salter and PCSO Peter Tscherniawsky ☎ 101 (24hrs)

✉ richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk or

✉ peter.tscherniawsky@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

For matters relating to 'MereNeighbours' only:

Richard Jefferies ☎ 01747 863425 ✉ rajefferies@btinternet.com

STAYING SAFE IN YOUR HOME



Part 3 Keeping out strangers

When opening the door to a caller do you **lock, stop, chain and check**? Ensure you **lock** any other external doors before going to open your front door especially if you are not expecting someone.

Do **stop** and think if you are expecting someone. Have you made an appointment – check your diary. Put **the chain** on the door and look through your door spy hole or through a window to check if it is the person you are expecting. **Check** them out. Make sure the person at the door is who they say they are. Do not be deceived by uniforms.

Remember Water, Gas and Electric do not cold call and if you are expecting one of the services for a repair or meter reading you can arrange an agreed time. They will give you the name of the person who will visit and you can have a pre-arranged password, which they have to give before entry.

If someone else wants to come into your home, ask for ID and ring their office. Do not take the number from the identity card they show you, but look it up in the phone directory.

Make sure you keep the chain on the door while you check out who they are. If you are in any doubt – lock them out. If you are concerned about who is calling and you feel unsafe ring the police.

Remember **Lock – Stop – Chain- Check**

Wiltshire Good Neighbours helps you to access the services you need to live a safe, comfortable and independent life. If you think we can help you give me a call.

Ann-Marie Dean, Local Coordinator, ☎ 07557 922023

Merrell's Mobile Foot Health Clinic.

For the professional treatment of: Corns • Callus/Hard Skin • Nail Trimming • Fungal & Thickened Nails • Athletes Foot • In growing toenails • Qualified to treat diabetics and those taking Warfarin and steroids • Massage given to make your feet feel fitter in the comfort of your own home. **Contact Mary on 07809 738237**



Community Tea Party

Wednesday, 17th July
From 2.30pm to 4.30 pm



Wiltshire Good Neighbours and Paul Farrow would like to invite you to the first community tea party at the Angel Corner Tearooms. Come and meet old friends or make new ones over a cup of tea and cake.

Paul is offering a special rate on the day of £3.00 for tea and cake. If you would like to attend the tea party please contact local coordinators Ann-Marie Dean ☎07557 922023 or Emma Curtis ☎07557 922026 no later than the morning of Monday, 15th July.

Ann-Marie Dean, Local Coordinator, ☎ 07557 922023

MERE SURGERY

For Out Of Hours Medical Advice, Phone 111

From mid-February this year the means of accessing medical care and health advice when the surgery is closed has changed. NHS 111 has replaced the Out of Hours medical triage service and NHS Direct.

In order to speak to a Health Adviser or nurse or doctor, all patients should phone 111.

In a medical emergency patients should still phone 999

The drive behind this new government initiative is to improve efficiency and effectiveness of health care advice for patients out of normal surgery working hours and to complement GP services in hours.

Another important driver is to reduce the number of unnecessary 999 ambulance calls, with an alternative number for patients to phone if they do not have a medical emergency.

The service is still in its very early days and some of our patients have experienced long delays in getting through to an adviser on the phone, and have at times been frustrated by the prolonged process of questioning that is required before receiving advice.

The providers of this brand new service are well aware of the current difficulties patients are experiencing and are working hard at improvements. A lot has been achieved already.

The Surgery would like to ask you to be patient during these teething troubles and to rest assured that phoning 111 is the correct way of accessing medical care and health advice when the surgery is closed.

Please do let us know if you experience any particular difficulties so that we can feed this back to the providers of the service. They want your comments!

Ceri Moore, Practice Manager, ☎01747 860001

WEATHER REPORT

May was generally sunny with cold winds. The rainfall was 69mms (2.72ins), but last year it was just 39mms (1.54ins). We had 23mms (0.91ins) on the 14th and most of the rest fell from the 23rd to the 30th.

June started drier with no rain until the 10th. Up to the 16th we had 10mms (0.39ins). On several days we had small showers which only registered a trace. On the evening of the 10th a hot air balloon sailed over Mere. I wonder how many of us saw it? The first week was hot and then it was mostly over cast and cooler. *Peter Durkee* ☎ 01747 860363



Mere Dental Practice

*The practice has Dentists - Stephen Sherrard & Christopher Davies
and Dental Therapists Wendy Hester & Jay Lonsdale*

*Contact Details: - Mere Dental Practice, Duchy Manor, Springfield Road,
Wiltshire, BA12 6EW, ☎ 01747 860365,*

E-mail: meredental@btconnect.com, Website: meredentistry.co.uk,

*Opening hours: - Monday – Thursday 8.45am – 5.30pm, Tuesday
8.45am – 7pm & Friday 8.45am -5pm*



*The practice is sited in the grounds of Mere Primary School, first building
on your left when you go through the school*

MERE LIP-READING GROUP

The members of the group would like to thank all those who visited our stall at the Church Fete (in glorious sunshine!), both young and old, either just to chat and hear about us or read and take away our literature. It was very encouraging! Hearing loss is not just for the old! We meet in the small room at the Grove Buildings 10.15am - 12.15 on Tuesdays (apart from school holidays) when we have a lot of laughs as well as learning. The dates can always be found in 'diary dates' at the back of Mere Matters.

Please feel free to 'drop in' at any time for a taster session. ✉
elizabeth.ian.messer@gmail.com *Liz Messer, ☎ 01300 34850*

43rd (WESSEX) DIVISION MEMORIAL SERVICE

The annual 43rd (Wessex) Division Memorial service and Parade will take place on Sunday, 14th July 2013.

The Parade will step off from the Salisbury Street car park at 2.30pm and proceed to the area below Castle Hill for a Drumhead Service.

The service is in memory of the men of 43rd (Wessex) Division who gave their lives in Europe 1944/45. Anyone wishing to join the parade will be most welcome.

*Tony Coombes, Secretary
Devonshire & Dorset Regiment Assn., Gillingham Branch*

CHURCH FETE "THANK YOU"

On 8th, June we were blessed with a dry, warm and sunny day to hold the Annual Church Fete. Despite a blustery wind the gazebos stayed up and stallholders were able to display a broad range of goods for sale.

It seemed as if the whole of Mere had turned out to enjoy an afternoon in the sun, such a vast number of people filled the churchyard.

They were able to enjoy music from the Black Bear Band and Shreen Harmony, and sit on the grass to marvel at the display of obedience, training and tricks from Stephen Harrison and his gundogs, Poppy and Daisy. There were demonstrations of crafts inside the church; spinning, lacemaking and quilting. The Castle Hill Quilters put on a colourful display of beautiful hand-made quilts, local artists exhibited their paintings and the children of Mere demonstrated their skills in photography: "All Creatures Large & Small!". The winners of that competition are shown elsewhere in this edition.

The Quiz on the theme of pop stars and groups was won by Mrs Daphne Riddick (and her grandchildren!) and if you want to check your own answers, there's a list in the church porch.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way: stallholders, tea makers, gazebo erectors, demonstrators and everyone who came and spent their money! The final result has raised the great sum of £4,500 for St Michael's Church. Thank you all very much.

Jean, Ann, Pat, Carol and Jill (2013 Fete Organisers) ☎ 01747 863498

CHURCH FETE - YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION

Thank you to all the competitors who submitted photographs of "Animals and other Creatures" for the Fete Competition and Display. There was such a high standard of entry that the judges (Rose Cox and Chris Tuck) had considerable difficulty in selecting

the winners and great fun arranging the display of young talent, held in St Michael's Church for the week following the Fete. Thank you also to Margaret Lawson Smith who prepared all the Certificates and artwork for the display.

The winners were:

- Under 11 yrs: 1st Joanna Ford, 2nd James Russell, 3rd Angelica Duffin. Seth Parsons, Joshua Carr and George Rich were also highly commended.
- 11-15 years: 1st Jobey Parsons, 2nd Cerys Bain, 3rd Megan Russell. Felicity Howden, Madeline Howden and Edward Ford, were also highly commended.

Many congratulations to all the above, and congratulations and better luck to ALL competitors, keep taking pictures and discovering the joy of photography!

Rose Cox LRPS ☎ 01747 861604

MERE RESIDENTS IN THE FLOW!

A joint trial between Wessex Water and the residents of Mere will be going ahead this summer to monitor watercourses in the small Wiltshire town.

Mere Rivers Group agreed to carry out the trial last year to see how much abstraction affects flows and whether residents can help by reducing water use. However, the wet summer in 2012 meant it couldn't take place, but now equipment to monitor the flow of streams in Mere has been installed to measure the effects of abstracting water for public supply and the trial is now set to get underway.

The gauges have been installed on the Shreen and the Ashfield Water following consultation with local residents and other organisations. Temporary fences are in place at the sites of where gauges have been installed.

At the moment up to 9MLs of groundwater a day can be abstracted from Mere, with roughly half being transferred to supply drinking water to people in the local area towards Yeovil.

During the trial, Wessex Water will attempt to replace the water that is usually moved to the Yeovil area with water from other sources so all of the abstracted water from the Mere source can be used locally. The rivers group will then encourage residents dependent on that local supply to save water to see how much the abstraction can be reduced by the public.

Ian Sheppard, of the Mere Rivers Group, which is made up of representatives from the local community, local councils, the Environment Agency and the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, said: "We are pleased this trial is going ahead and hope we can find out more about the effects of abstraction on the flows. Hopefully the results will show if anything needs to be done to maintain healthy river flows in the area and how much our local residents can affect the rivers in their area."

Fiona Bowles, Wessex Water's environmental investigations manager, said local residents had welcomed the trial. She added: "We are committed to protecting the local environment and through the trial we hope to find out if we need to be doing more to protect the river flows. We are hoping for a dry summer so the results will be as conclusive as possible."

The results will be published online at www.wessexwater.co.uk/mere.

Felicity Crump, Wessex Water, ☎ 0845 6003600

MERE & DISTRICT LINKSCHEME

Requests for Transport - ☎ 01747 860096

Important Announcement

As you must all know by now, Molly Burden no longer has any official dealings with the Linkscheme (that's not to say she is still held dear in our hearts and offers us very good advice). The Linkscheme number ☎ 01747 860096 still goes into her home and she diverts it to the weekly co-ordinator.

So that this responsibility can be shouldered by someone else, BT will have to close the line for up to 5 days. BT cannot confirm the dates this will happen. I am doing my best for it to be in July or August. If at any time you find ☎ 01747 860096 unobtainable, the alternative temporary number is ☎ 01747863441.

We hope that when the change happens it will be short, not too difficult and does not cause too much inconvenience to you all.

Thank you for your patience and I hope normal service will be maintained as far as possible. Trust me, there is no other way of doing this.

Barbara Thomas, M&DLS Secretary

MERE MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

Report

The organisers of the exhibition would like to thank all those who supported and helped with this worthwhile event. Favourable words were received from the 250 who attended. Amongst these were leaders of large railway modelling groups from Avon & Somerset, Dorset, and Wiltshire areas who were most generous with their comments. The icing on the cake was that a third of the people attending were under the age of 20. Subsequently, it would appear that the youth of Mere & District have voted with their feet for Railway Modelling. This is outstanding, and is unlikely to be repeated elsewhere in the UK for some considerable time.

Finally, Brainwave should receive a four figure donation as a result of everybody's efforts and generosity.

Tom Snook, for West Wilts Gauge 'O' Group, ☎ 01747 861977

LINKSCHEME LITERARY FESTIVAL COMPETITION AND PROGRAMME LAUNCH

There's still time to enter the MLF Poetry Competition. Both adults and young people have a chance to win cash prizes but a reminder that entries close on **Friday, 12th July**, so put that poem in the post or deliver by hand to MLF, Lawrences, Old Hollow, Mere, BA12 6EG.

This year's festival programme promises an interesting week – opening with comedian Paul Kerensa and closing with the poetry competition awards when the judges, Rose Flint, Gerry Hansom and John Page, announce the winners. Featured authors during the week include Tarquin Olivier (son of Sir Laurence) Chris McCully, Damien Lewis, RR Gordon and Gillian Cross.

The 2013 programme officially launches its first flyers on July 26th and 27th with a double bill of great value. The popular Quiz Night and a Community Lunch BBQ. Tickets for each event are only £5 (inc. food).Details overleaf.

As always, the competition and festival are raising funds to support the local Linkscheme. *Adrienne Howell & Lit.Fest.Group* ☎ 01747 860475

LAUNCH & LUNCH

A double bill to launch the 2013 Mere Literary Festival
Raising funds for Mere & District LinkScheme



??? Quiz night ???

Friday, 26th July at the Grove Building, 7.00 for 7.30p.m.
Teams of 4 (max) @ £5 per person to include ploughman's buffet
Book on ☎ 01747 861969 or turn up on the night

Community bbq and entertainment

Saturday, 27th July at the Old Ship Inn, 1.00 – 7.00pm
John Cockles Goodtime Jazz Band * Stalls * Mr.Brown's Sweets
Choice of BBQ item & Trimmings
Hot Pork Rolls/Burgers/Hot Dogs /Children's Menu
4.00pm Open Mic Session–Show us what you can do!
Tickets (inc.food item) £5 Children (under 16) £3
Available from The Old Ship ☎ 01747 863388, * L. Elliott ☎ 01747 861646
OR ON THE DOOR

CARNIVAL DATES FOR 2013

Mere Carnival this year is on Saturday, 14th September. The children's parade is at 3.00pm and evening parade at 7.30pm.

The associated activities are the Carnival Bingo on Friday 6th September, the Carnival Quiz on Tuesday, 10th September and the Carnival Filmshow on a date to be advised.

Carol Payne ☎ 01747 861639

JULY SHORT WALK

This will take place on Thursday, 18th July but will be rather different from usual. We will meet at 10.30am and walk to the Red Lion at Kilmington for lunch. The route can be either over White Sheet Hill or across the (flat) fields depending on your needs. People are welcome to join us for lunch, but I need to have numbers beforehand, so please phone to book a place.

There will be no walk in August.

Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884

MERE LECTURE HALL MANAGER NEEDED!

The Mere Lecture Hall Trust is looking for a Manager to take over the running of the Mere Lecture Hall. This would include taking and organising the bookings, working with the caretaker to ensure that the hall is a safe environment, open, clean and ready for each session.

If you would like to support the use of the Hall then please send an e-mail by Sunday, 14th **July** to **HallManager@MereLectureHall.org.uk** with your name and address. You will then be sent more details of the role and invited to discuss the opportunity further.

The Lecture Hall is part of the Mere Lecture Hall Trust, which is an independent Christian Trust that was established in 1924 to promote the spiritual, moral, educational and social welfare of the inhabitants of the town of Mere and the surrounding area. It is a registered charity (number 202620) and the Hall Manager would report to the Trustees who are also available to provide support, guidance and assistance as appropriate. *Trevor Lucas, Secretary to the Trust, ☎ 01747 860859*



MERE AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE



Mere and District will be hosting more events this year, which we hope will be of interest to you. We are planning a combination of business meetings and

social networking evenings for the autumn and will be confirming details in future editions, so watch this space! This will be an opportunity to find out more about the Chamber and its work and will also provide the chance to meet other local business people.

The Chamber is also able to organise training courses, and if you have any training needs please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you to all those who attended the launch of **Project Sunrise Mere** at the Grove Building in May, and we hope that this gave you an insight into some of the objectives that the Chamber would like to achieve. The project is now underway. If you would like to find out more or are interested in helping, please contact Julie Cousins on ☎ 07856 700576 or Hamish Bell (telephone number below).

Date of next Chamber Committee Meeting

This will be held at the Mere Social Club at 7.30pm on **Wednesday, 3rd July 2013.**

Hamish Bell, President, Mere and District Chamber of Trade, ☎ 01747 861717

MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING

Saturday, 27th July, at St Michael's Church

The ISL Music Group from the City of London will be performing a concert of solo light classical and contemporary music starting at 7.30 pm. Founded in 2008, the group includes one professional violinist and a number of amateur soloists, several of whom are enjoying the regeneration of their performance skills.

The professional violinist is Litsa Tunnah, a finalist in the 2002 BBC Young Musician of the Year competition, who made her concert debut at age 12 and has since performed throughout Europe and on radio. The other performers in Mere will be Jane Gilbert (flute), Daniel Wellings (counter-tenor), Peter Sturgess (baritone), Roger Flaxman (saxophone) and Patrick Webb (piano). The programme will include music by Bach, Paganini, Sibelius, Scott Joplin, Proust, Gluck, Vaughan Williams, Handel, Brahms, Schubert, Keel, Woodforde-Finden and others.

REMEMBER! COPY DATE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE

MONDAY, 12th AUGUST

Concert-goers will enjoy a glass of wine and canapés during the interval. Entrance is free, but donations will be collected at the end of the concert for The Friends of St Michael's and the Stradivari Trust – Litsa Tunnah Violin Fund.

Patricia Stephenson, for Friends of St Michael ☎ 01747 860278

SHREEN HARMONY

If you enjoyed Shreen Harmony's performances at Mere Fete and St Michael's Church in June, then there is another chance to hear them perform songs from their 2013 Summer programme at Stourhead House (National Trust) on Saturday, 13th July.

Relax in the cafe courtyard and listen to the choir sing between 10.30am and 12.00noon. Hopefully, the weather will be nice!

This will be Shreen Harmony's last performance before their summer break.

To find out more about the choir take a look at their website: www.shreenharmony.co.uk, or find them on **facebook**.

Jane Edwards ☎ 01985 840065



BRAINWAVE

The calendar tells us it's summer, so we just have to wait for the weather to get up to date. We have noticed how the weather affects our customers and one delightful sunny day recently brought in a host of happy people looking to buy something to match their uplifted mood. One senior gentleman bought a bright yellow shirt which clearly wasn't his usual choice of attire! So, don't forget to visit Brainwave - not only for summer clothes but also for picnic equipment, extra drinking glasses for impromptu garden parties, sunhats and umbrellas. Yes, we have something for every occasion at our shop. Right now, we are well into promoting our 'Glastonbury' collection. This coincides with the Glastonbury festival and offers a range of exotic attire that would appeal to anyone lucky enough to have bagged a ticket for the great event. Alternatively, something from our shop could help you create your own mini-Glastonbury right here in sunny Mere.

After last month's edition of Mere Matters, we have received a few enquiries from potential volunteers, but more are still needed, please! Each volunteer session lasts from 9.30am until 1.00pm or 1.00 until 4.30pm. We are particularly thin on the ground for help on Thursdays, so please consider giving some of your valuable time to this very worthy cause and helping to make a difference in the lives of severely brain-damaged children and their families.

For further information about Brainwave, please call the shop during business hours ☎ 01747 863432.

FRIENDS OF FIVES COURT

We would like to remind you that The Friends' famous **Autumn Fair** will take place on **Saturday, 7th September**. Please put the date in your diaries and look out for details nearer the time. As always we shall be very glad of donations of things to sell, and if you are jam- or chutney-making this summer, please save a jar for us!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

12 Hour Dance-A-Thon

Friends of Fives and staff of Fives Court will be holding a 12 hour Dance-a-thon on Saturday, 27th July to raise funds for the 5K for FIVES appeal. Some of the staff are being sponsored to dance non-stop for up to 12 hours. Starting at 9.00am and finishing at 9.00pm. Come to the Grove Building, Mere, to support us (or join us for a dance) there will be refreshments and other stalls to visit from 10:30am – 2.00pm. Please come and support our dancers and help us reach our goal. For further details or to join us please contact Sam Dean, Activities Co-ordinator, Fives Court ☎ 01747 860707 or ✉ s.dean@osjct.co.uk

ROSEMARY GODDARD CENTRE (RGC)

**The Day Centre for Mere and District, Lynch Close, Mere
Mondays and Fridays 10.30am - 3.00pm**

We would like to say a huge Thank You to all the local organisations and individuals who contributed to our skittles fundraiser, whether you donated a raffle prize, helped on the evening or turned up on the night to play. I would also like to thank John Marks for the initial idea and organising effort he put into the event, and to Jean Rodriguez and Pat Gear for providing the delicious ploughmans supper which we all enjoyed. We managed to raise £153 for the day centre and a great evening was had by all. Congratulations to Alistair Miller for winning the tournament and taking home the trophy!

We will be holding our AGM on Monday, 15th July at 2:00pm at the centre in the community room, Lynch Close and all are welcome to attend. Our website address is: www.MereDayCentre.org.uk.
Sandie Hawkins ☎ 07835 272406

COULD YOU HELP, PLEASE?

Is there a pensioner (or younger person) who would be willing to accompany me to the Country Market (formerly WI Market) in Wincanton on Friday mornings, leaving Mere at 8.30am, returning by 12.00noon? Please get in touch with me at Magpie Cottage, Castle Hill Lane, Mere.
Di Potter ☎ 01747 860454



Lions Club of Gillingham, Mere & Shaftesbury

We meet at Gillingham Town Hall twice a month

New members are always welcome

Please contact us on 0845 833 7521

MERE GARDENING CLUB

Salisbury's Parks and Gardens

This is the title of Reg Williams talk on Wednesday, 10th July at 7.30pm in the Grove Building. Reg Williams moved to Salisbury in 1988 to look after the parks in the City and surrounding area for the then Salisbury District Council. Since 2009 he has been the City Clerk for Salisbury City Council, probably the largest Parish Council in the country. Reg will be talking about the work that goes into looking after all the parks and associated activities within a City such as Salisbury, supported by slides.

Summer Party

This will be held at Waterford House, Castle Street on Wednesday, 7th August at 6.30pm, with James Roberts, a willow weaving demonstration and raffle of an obelisk.

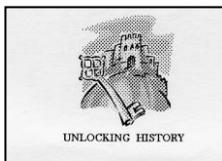
Annual Show

This will be held on Saturday, 7th September at 2.30pm in the Lecture Hall, with admission at 50p (includes tea/coffee and biscuit), children under 10 years free. Have you planned your entries? Nearly all categories are open to all. Why not join in the fun!

Are you planning on brightening up your home with a hanging basket? If so, why not enter your basket, tub or window box into our show and maybe win a cup! As last year these will be judged from photographs when your basket is at its prime. Just telephone Chris Tuck ☎ 01747 860314 to arrange a suitable time, or Ann Carpenter ☎ 01747 861365 between 9th and 23rd August.

All Clubs and Societies are also invited to take part by producing a floral display to advertise their activities and how about entering your photos (especially the budding photographers who entered the Church Fete competition!), art work, handicrafts or Home Produce? There is something for everyone.

Schedules and entry forms are available from Janet or Sprout and Flowers. Entry forms should be delivered to Wits End, North Road, by 8.00pm on Wednesday, 4th September.
Janet Way ☎ 01747 860884



MERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winchester and the College

Thursday, 11th July 2013

Winchester College, founded in 1382 by Bishop Wykeham, has the longest unbroken history of any English school. Our guided tour will take us around the college's medieval heart. After our tour you will be free to explore the ancient centre of Winchester.

We leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.00am and return by 5.00-5.30pm

Cost: MHS Members £15, non-members £17 per person
includes tour of Winchester College

Somerset Hunky Punks

Tuesday, 3rd September

Somerset churches are famous for their beauty and many interesting features which include Hunky Punks, (the grotesque carvings on the outside of the church which were carved as decoration to balance the gargoyles), and delightful bench ends often depicting rural occupations. Our guide will be Jill Cooper (Blue Badge) whose tour of the Somerset Levels last year so many of you enjoyed. We'll stop in Taunton where there is a good choice of places to eat or picnic, and finish at Cothelstone for our included tea.

We leave Salisbury Street Car Park at 9.30am and return by 6.0pm

Cost: MHS Members £20, non-members £22 per person
includes tour, and tea with cake

Booking forms and details for both outings are available at Mere library.

Caroline Cook ☎ 01747 861797

MERE FILM SHOWS

As our current season has now come to a close, I must thank everyone for supporting the film shows, the small profits from which go back into organisations in the community. At the time of writing we have not yet had the new film list for the new season but we are very much hoping there will be some excellent films for you to enjoy.

Our new season will start with a film for Carnival Week in September so look out for the posters around town in mid-August when tickets will be on sale as usual in the Library.

In the meantime have a lovely summer and let's hope the sun shines upon us as it should!

Mary White ☎ 01747 861257



MERE MUSEUM

The current exhibition of photographs of Mere by residents, '**Mere Vistas**' will continue through the summer. It's the perfect exhibition to take visitors to: it provides ideas for summer strolls or, for the less energetic, lots of glimpses of Mere without too much walking!

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

FRIENDS OF MERE MUSEUM

While not wanting to wish 'summer' away, the Friends would like to give advance notice that on **Friday, 20th September**, Lieutenant General Sir David Leakey will give a talk about his present job, that of Black Rod, which he has held since 2010. David is also well known to many in Mere for his dazzling performance in the recent local version of 'Call My Bluff!'. Watch for details in the September issue of Mere Matters, and for posters, but do put the date in your diary now.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (MADS)

It's dreadful to be thinking about autumn when we haven't even started summer yet, but needs must when the devil drives! Following a successful play-reading in June, Adrienne Howell's play 'Sing Nowell' is now cast, and while it would be unrealistic to claim that lines are being learned, preliminary meetings of cast and crew are certainly scheduled and the show is, in a manner of speaking, on the road. Have a lovely summer, when (if) it comes.

Jenny Wilding ☎ 01747 860908

MERE THEATRE CLUB

Discussions are under way for the autumn programme, including looking at some theatres we haven't visited before. So if you want a copy of our autumn mailing, now is the time to join our ever expanding membership. Hope to see you soon.



MERE WOMENS INSTITUTE

Sometimes people think that music is difficult and complicated but David Andrews, our guest speaker in June, showed that it can be very simple and we can be easily fooled. He explained that most popular music is made up of the middle range of 28 notes. Did you realise that 'White Cliffs of Dover' are the same cords as 'Somewhere over the Rainbow' and that 'Silent Nigh't is the same as the 'Liver Birds', just a different tempo. A very enjoyable evening was had by all, but I don't think that you will be hearing a Mere WI choir just yet.

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on Thursday, 4th July in the Grove Building. We will be having a talk entitled 'Book Early at Pontins' by Graham Harding. He worked for Pontins, so now is your chance to hear all about holiday camps from behind the scenes. Hidi Hi Campers !

On Saturday, 13th July we are holding a coffee morning between 10.00am and 12.00noon in the Grove Building. So why not pop in for a cup of tea or coffee with a delicious homemade scone, a browse and a chat with friends and help us raise funds for Mere WI.

The August meeting is our annual garden meeting to be held on the 1st of the month. Another chance for refreshment and a chat. Please give me a call if you would like more information.
Janet Fisher ☎ 01747 861323



Drop In

COFFEE MORNING

in the **Grove Buildings**, on **Saturday, 13th July**

from 10.00am to 12.00noon.

Refreshments Produce & Knickknacks RAFFLE

Proceeds for W.I. funds



MOTHERS' UNION AND OPEN MEMBERS' GROUP

One of the fascinating stalls at last years One World Fair, *Practical Action*' was right next to ours, and prompted us to book **Rodney Veazey**, to come and talk to us about their unique approach to improve the lives of poor communities with few resources. He will be our speaker at our meeting on **Tuesday, 9th July at 2.30pm** in the Grove Building . As always visitors are welcome to join us for the afternoon.

On Friday, 9th August, which is Mary Sumner Day when we celebrate MU's founder, we have a very special event when our new banner and plaque given in memory of Mary Chalke will be dedicated in St Michael's Church **at 2.30pm**. This will be followed **at 3.00pm** by **CREAM TEAS** in the Grove Building, with a **Cakes and Produce** Bring and Buy Stall. Whether or not you are an MU member, you are very welcome to come along for the service or the tea, or both! *Judith Thompson*, ☎ 01747 860553

MERE BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls season is well and truly up and running and we are over a third of the way through our arranged matches. Our internal Club Singles competitions continue to be run to schedule, and we have completed half of our multi-player tournaments. These in-house competitions will culminate in the finals weekend on the 21st/22nd September.

At the end of June we travel to Horsell, near Woking in Surrey, for a game against the former club of John Fitzgerald, one of our newer members. It is always a joy to play matches with the previous clubs of new members as it extends our circle of interest and we inevitably make many new friends. It is hoped that next year Horsell will travel to Mere for the return match.

Our social evenings continue to be a success with more and more members and their partners making the effort to come along and enjoy themselves. So why not come along; try bowling and maybe join the club. You too can then make new friends and enjoy the improved social life that membership can bring.

For any information regarding the club or the sport of Bowls, please contact Alan Inwood: ☎ 01985 844215, Jeff Vigers: ✉ jeffcarolvigers@hotmail.co.uk, ☎ 01747 860976 or me, Don Butchers: ✉ don.butchers@btinternet.com.

Don Butchers, Club Secretary, ☎ 01747 860775

MERE CROQUET & BOULE CLUB

Flaming June it is not, but undeterred the season has got off to a good and well attended start. The green is looking in great shape, thanks to our noble volunteer green keepers who do such a wonderful job. It has been good to welcome some new members this year. Several dates involving meetings with other clubs are in the pipeline as well as our own annual 'everybody welcome' BBQ. Details will be circulated nearer the date.

The long awaited semi-permanent large gazebo is now in place, this not only provides the additional shelter needed but gives cover for the Table Tennis players. To our relief it sturdily withstood all that the gale force winds threw at it!

Saturday and Sunday afternoons remain our most popular playing days. If you fancy trying either Croquet or Boule, do come along, you will be made very welcome. For any enquiries, please call me. *Rex Roberts ☎ 01747 860873*

BARN BUDDIES

I am pleased to let you all know that Barn Buddies has been awarded a Community Chest grant by house-builders Taylor Wimpey. My thanks to all of you who kindly nominated us. This will enable us to update the facilities in the barn and also get some new equipment.

The Barn Buddies will continue to meet each Friday evening from 6.30 until 8.00pm throughout the summer. If you have a child who will start school year two in September why not come along one evening and see what we do. We meet at Barrow Street Farm, BA12 6AB.

Further details from me or e-mail: timmerrell@btinternet.com or call on the following telephone number. *Tim Merrell ☎ 01747 860195*

MERE CHILDRENS CENTRE

At last some hot weather to get out and about in, it is so nice to enjoy some outdoor activities. As usual we have been having a busy time at the Centre enjoying Arts and Crafts, Messy Play and cooking activities.

We extend a warm welcome to Mel, our new Support Worker, who will be with us two days a week.

On Monday mornings we now have a drop in group for **Mums and Babes**; this was originally held in Zeals but now we are delighted that they are using our centre to continue with their baby and toddler play, using our wide range of educational toys.

Stay and Play, at 9.15am on Wednesdays is growing in strength! We have planted some carrots and peas which are basking in the sunshine on our kitchen windowsill all ready to go into our new vegetable beds now they have been set up. We also have sunflowers beginning to germinate so we can see whose grows the tallest!

On the first Thursday of the month Mere Pre-school join us for **Cooking Fun**. To celebrate National Breadmaking week in May, we made some yummy rolls for the children to take home with them - it was so hot, that the rolls left to rise on the sunny windowsill doubled in size in only 20 minutes. Sadly we have had to discontinue our group in East Knoyle but we are instead running Saturday out and about events in Knoyles, Hindon and Semley to try and reach more families in our area – look out for our Out and About posters! On the third Thursday we join up with Tiddlers and Toddlers group for some Crafty or Arty activities.

On Friday afternoons at 1.30pm, **Mere Babes** have been exploring and investigating through a variety of mediums from bouncing bubbles to Messy Play with spaghetti – if you can't remember doing that one, it is planned for this six week set of sessions, so come along! Babies learn through exploration and we like to provide lots of opportunities for them to have fun.

Don't forget that we have a wonderful and exciting **Sensory Room** for which you can ring and book an individual session with your child.

Coming up at the end of July we have our **Fun Day on Wednesday, 31st July**, which is from 10.00am – 12.00noon and is free for anyone with a child under 5 - older brothers and sisters welcome. Don't be late because Mere Down Falconry are very kindly coming at 10.00am to do an excellent display with their beautiful birds. This is a real treat for us all, a rare occasion to get up close to these remarkable birds and maybe even get to stroke one.

For further enquiries about any of our groups, to book the Sensory Room or speak to our outreach Worker, Lizzie Moran, please ring on the number below.

Jane Smith, Support Worker ☎ 01747 861108

MERE SCHOOL REPORTS



STOP PRESS!
Look on our website for
latest news and pictures:
www.mereschool.co.uk

Visit to Hurdcott House

Year 6 spent a very interesting day at Hurdcott House near Dinton. They learnt all about running a country estate and had the chance to watch river fishing, working dogs (which were a real favourite), a falconry display, a farrier at work plus many other agricultural activities and displays. The Estate was very welcoming and worked hard to make sure that the activities were interesting and varied. Everyone had such a fantastic time.

Thinking about the future

Primary School life is drawing to a close for the children in Purple Class. This is a time of many mixed emotions and they are spending time celebrating their time at Mere School by rehearsing a performance of the musical 'Oliver' with Mrs Williamson, getting ready for a leavers assembly and having fun at a leavers evening involving food and rounders. They have also been preparing to move on to Gillingham School. Mr Clarke has visited to explain all about the Year 7 induction day which is in July.

Plas Pencelli

Red Class (Year 5) spent the week before half term in the Brecon Beacons at the outdoor activity centre at Plas Pencelli. Everyone had a really great time caving, canoeing and climbing – with many other fun activities which usually involved getting wet! It was an action packed week and something that everyone will remember for a long time to come.

Life Saving Activities

Mere School has been very lucky to have had some very informative visits. Wiltshire Fire & Rescue spent time with Years 2 & 6 helping the children to spot, and deal with fire dangers in the home; our Mere Police Community Officer talked to us about Anti-social Behaviour and Cyber Bullying and Year 6 completed a First Aid course which was run by a qualified Trainer. Year 6 will also be taking part in Wiltshire Junior Good Citizen in July. We all feel a lot safer and ready to deal with unexpected events.

REV'D HELEN CAINES, METHODIST MINISTER, WRITES:

Churches hit the headlines for all the wrong reasons. So I was delighted recently to see one of the campaigns churches have been involved in, making the news in the way they intended. I would like to keep the conversation going on this topic too.

“Poverty, Truth and Lies” was a report published by the Methodist, Baptist and United Reformed Churches’ Joint Public Issues Team. Its purpose was to highlight truths about poverty in this country, measured against the lies or myths that are often perpetuated, including among churchgoers. The report seeks to contribute to the debate about welfare, in the public spending review.

In 1753, John Wesley, founder of the Methodist societies, later to become the Methodist Church, wrote, “*So wickedly, devilishly false is that common objection, “they are poor, only because they are idle.”*” The sad truth is that even today, the general public and church congregations alike are willing to believe that the key factors driving poverty in the UK are the personal failings of the poor – especially idleness. For example, the report demonstrates that child poverty is more prevalent among in-work households, than those out of work. Many parents are juggling several low-paid jobs, to make ends meet. Most professionals working with children and families would attest this too. In the report it is just one instance where truth is set against the myths we have all heard and read, about “the undeserving”.

It may be you think this is a topic too controversial for a local magazine. However I make no apology for drawing your attention to the fight for justice, which I believe was central to the good news in Jesus’ manifesto. (see Luke’s gospel chapter 4 verses 16 – 21)

Mere Matters does not have the space to cover the whole campaign, but those interested can read about it on the Internet at: jointpublicissues-news.org.uk If you share the concerns about the plight of the poorest people in our country, then you may wish to contact the decision-makers. Those with power and influence should be kept aware that the welfare of the most vulnerable people is of utmost importance to a sizeable body in the country, including many Christians.

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Mere has many attractive and historic buildings, one of which is the Parish Church of St Michael the Archangel. It is important for us to maintain and refurbish this beautiful Church and its furnishings for future generations. The Friends of St Michael the Archangel was formed in 1976 to foster interest in this and to help to provide funds for it.

If you appreciate this wonderful building, even if you do not worship there, have you considered becoming a life member of the Friends of St Michael's? Friends receive annual newsletters and are invited to events held several times each year. Individual Life Membership still costs only £30 and pink application forms can be obtained in the Church, from Mere Library or by contacting the Membership Secretary, Jean Eyles on the telephone number below.

Jean Eyles ☎ 01747 863450

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Café Worship

Coffee at 10.30 a.m. and worship at 11.0 a.m. - an informal pause in the day - join us in the Methodist School Room on Wednesday 24th July.

Mary Siderfin ☎ 01747 861370



Everyone is invited to a
STRAWBERRY TEA

in Aid of Suchana, with special guests, Kirsty and Rahul,

founders & organisers of Suchana

on Tuesday, 16th July from 2.30pm

at Wits End, North Road

(Janet Way's house) ☎ 01747 860884

CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE

JULY 2013

The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:

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

✉ carolw953@aol.com

Churchwardens:

Mrs Jean Knapp ☎ 01747 860142

Mrs Elizabeth Howden ☎ 01747 863424

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Monday		9.15am	Morning Prayer
Each Tuesday		9.15am	Morning Prayer
Each Wednesday		9.15am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Thursday	The Rev'd Carol Wilson Barker is not available		
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
		4.30pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday	3rd	6.00pm	“Start the Month” Communion (BCP)
Sunday	7th	9.15am	Matins (BCP)
		10.30am	Teddy Bear service with Communion
		6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)
Sunday	14th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		10.30am	Children’s Sunday Club in Church
	21st	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
		6.00pm	Evening Praise
	28th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)

The United Reformed Church

Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt, ☎ 01747 860685

Sunday	7th	11.00am	Mr Martin Heal
	14th	11.00am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp
Sunday	21st	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Sivyour Holy Communion
	28th	11.00am	Rev'd Hazel Barkham

The Methodist Church (☎ Gillingham 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin, ☎ 01747 861370

Sunday	7th	6.00pm	Rev'd Helen Caines
	14th	6.00pm	Mrs Coral Ryalls
	21st	6.00pm	United Service at Gillingham
	28th	6.00pm	Rev'd Helen Caines Holy Communion

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary’s. (☎ Warminster 01985 212329 – Fr. Tom Smith)

Mere Contacts: Teresa Read ☎ 01747 860289 or Margaret Thompson ☎ 01747 860291

Every Friday		10.00am	Mass
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Every Sunday 5.00pm Mass
 On the 4th Sunday of the month - there will be tea and cakes after Mass together with the sale of Fairtrade produce.

West Knoyle Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin ☎ 01747 830534

Sunday	7th	9.15am	DIY
	14th	9.15am	Holy Communion
	21st	9.15am	Matins
	28th	9.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662
 CW1 indicates Common Worship Order 1 (trad. Indicates traditional language)

**CHURCH SERVICES IN MERE AND WEST KNOYLE
 AUGUST 2013**

**The Parish Church, St Michael the Archangel:
 Priest in Charge: Rev'd Carol Wilson-Barker ☎ 01747 861859,
 ✉ carolw953@aol.com**

**Churchwardens:
 Mrs Jean Knapp ☎ 01747 860142
 Mrs Elizabeth Howden ☎ 01747 863424**

Each Sunday		8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Monday		9.15am	Morning Prayer
Each Tuesday		9.15am	Morning Prayer
Each Wednesday		9.15am	Morning Prayer
		10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Each Thursday	The Rev'd Carol Wilson Barker is not available		
Each Friday		8.00am	Holy Communion (CW1)
		4.30pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday	4th	10.30am	Family Communion
Wednesday	7th	6.00pm	"Start the Month" Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday	11th	10.30am	Benefice Service at West Knoyle – Patronal service for St Marys
Sunday	18th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)
	25th	10.30am	Parish Communion (CW1)

**The United Reformed Church
 Mere Contact: Mrs E Burfitt: ☎ 01747 860685)**

Sunday	4th	11.00am	Rev'd Margaret Laurie
	11th	11.00am	Rev'd Elizabeth Kemp Holy Communion

Sunday	18th	11.00am	Rev'd Stella Sivour
	25th	11.00am	Mr Peter Kershaw

The Methodist Church (☎ Gillingham 01747 823777)

Mere Contact: Mrs M Siderfin, ☎ 01747 861370

Sunday	4th	6.00pm	Rev'd John Page
	11th	6.00pm	Mr Ken Alcock
	18th	6.00pm	Rev'd Gordon Elford
			Holy Communion and Healing Service
	25th	6.00pm	Mr & Mrs Rawlins

The Roman Catholic Church, St Mary's. (☎ Warminster 01985 212329 – Fr. Tom Smith)

Mere Contacts: Teresa Read ☎ 01747 860289 or Margaret Thompson ☎ 01747 860291

Every Friday	10.00am	Mass
Every Sunday	5.00pm	Mass

On the 4th Sunday of the month - there will be tea and cakes after Mass together with the sale of Fairtrade produce.

West Knoyle Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin: ☎ 01747 830534

Sunday	4th	9.15am	DIY
	11th	10,30pm	Benefice Service. Patronal Festival, St Mary the Virgin, West Knoyle
	18th	9.15am	DIY
	25th	9.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)

Note: BCP indicates Book of Common Prayer 1662

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

DIARY DATES

JULY 2013

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; RGC-Rosemary Goddard Centre; MSC Mere Social Club; YC-Youth Centre

1	Mon	9.30am	Tiddlers & Toddlers (every Monday)	L
		10.00am	Chair based Zumba (every Monday)	L
		1.00pm	Yoga (every Monday)	L
		2.00pm	Pilates (also 8th, 15th & 22nd)	GB

1	Mon	7.00pm	Slimming World (every Monday)	L
		6.00pm	Beavers (also 8th & 15th)	GB
		6.45pm	Cubs (also 8th & 15th)	GB
		7.00pm	Scouts (also 8th & 15th)	GB
		7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	AYP
2	Tue	10.15am - 12.15pm	Lip Reading Class	GB
		6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Toner (every Tuesday)	L
3	Wed	11.00am	Pilates (also 10th, 17th & 24th)	GB
		9.30am	Tai Chi (every Wednesday)	GB
		10.30am	Tai Chi – small hall (every Wednesday)	GB
		6.00pm	Karate (every Wednesday)	L
		7.30pm	MDCT Committee Meeting	MSC
4	Thurs	10.00am - 12.00noon	Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
		9.30 am	Tiddlers & Toddlers every Thursday)	L
		2.00pm	Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
		7.30pm	Womens Institute	GB
		7.30pm	Shreen Harmony (every Thursday)	CC
5	Fri	10.30am	St Michaels “Coffee Drop-in” Morning	GB
		6.00pm	Zumba Dancing (every Friday)	L
		6.30pm	Barn Buddies (every Friday)	BSF
6	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
		7.00pm	Oasis Club Bingo	L
8	Mon	7.30pm	MADS Meeting (Green Room)	L
9	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
		2.30pm	Mothers Union	GB
10	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together Whist Drive	GB
		7.30pm	Mere Gardening Club	GB
11	Thur	5.00pm	Rainbows (also 18th & 25th)	GB
		6.15pm	Brownies (also 18th & 25th)	GB
		7.30pm	Guides (also 18th & 25th)	GB
12	Fri	10.00am	Merely Women (also 26th)	GB
13	Sat	10.00am - 12.00noon	Womens Institute Coffee Morning	GB
		10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
14	Sun	2.30pm	43rd (Wessex) Division Memorial service	CP
15	Mon	2.00pm	Rosemary Goddard Centre AGM	Lynch
16	Tue	2.30pm	Suchana Strawberry Tea	Wits End, North Road
17	Wed	2.30pm - 4.30pm	Community Tea Party	Angel Cafe
		7.30pm	Church Meeting	CC
		7.30pm	Julian meeting (upstairs room)	GB
18	Thur	10.30am	Mere Short Walk	CP
20	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
21	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
23	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
24	Wed	10.30pm	Café Worship	MH

24	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
26	Fri	7.00pm	Linkscheme Quiz Night	GB
27	Sat	10.00am - 10.30am	2.30pm Fives Court 'Dance-a-Thon' Sales Stalls	GB
		1.00pm - 7.00pm	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
		7.30pm	Community BBQ	Old Ship Inn
			ISL Music Group Concert	St Michaels

AUGUST 2013

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; PWC Prince of Wales Club RGC-Rosemary Goddard Centre; MSC Mere Social Club; YC-Youth Centre

1	Thur	10.00am - 2.00pm	12.00noon Mere Art Group (every Thursday)	GB
			Bridge Club (every Thursday)	L
2	Fri	10.30am - 6.00pm	St Michaels "First Friday" Coffee Drop in	GB
		6.30pm	Zumba Dancing (every Friday)	L
			Barn Buddies (every Friday)	BSF
3	Sat	10.30am - 7.00pm	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
			Oasis Club Bingo	L
5	Mon	10.00am - 1.00pm	Chair based Zumba (every Monday)	L
		7.00pm	Yoga (every Monday)	L
			Slimming World (every Monday)	L
6	Tues	6.00pm - 6.00pm	Pilates (every Tuesday)	GB
		6.30pm	Zumba Toner (every Tuesday)	L
			Gardening Club Summer Party	Waterford House
7	Wed	11.00am - 6.00pm	Pilates (Every Wednesday)	GB
			Karate (every Wednesday)	L
9	Fri	2.30pm	Mothers Union Dedication Service	St Michaels
10	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC
12	Mon	2.00pm	Pilates	GB
13	Tue	9.00am	Foot Care Clinic	L
17	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning (CC
18	Sun	2.00pm	Mere Footpath Group Walk	CP
19	Mon	2.00pm	Pilates	GB
21	Wed	7.30pm	Julian Meeting	GB
24	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning + Traidcraft stall	CC
28	Wed	1.45pm	Friends Together	GB
31	Sat	10.30am	Drop in Coffee Morning	CC

BOOKING MEETING HALLS IN MERE

Grove Building:	Richard Jefferies	☎ 01747 863425
Lecture Hall:	Ann Read	☎ 01747 861486
Methodist Church Schoolroom	Mary Siderfin	☎ 01747 861370

MERE INFORMATION

For full information on the businesses, organisations, societies, attractions and activities in Mere, together with current and back numbers of Mere Matters, please visit Mere's own website; www.merewilts.org

MERE INFORMATION POINT, THE LIBRARY

The following Clinics/Advice Centres are held on a regular basis

CITIZENS' ADVICE: Tuesdays: 10.00am to 3.30pm

*REGISTRAR **By appointment only***

OF BIRTHS Thursdays: 9.30 to 11.30am

& DEATHS: For appointments ☎ 01225 713007

HEALTH MATTERS

ADVICE Tuesdays: 1.30 to 4.30pm

CREDIT UNION 1st & 3rd Saturdays 10.00 – 11.00am

COPY DATE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE

Editorial contributions for the September 2013 issue should be sent to Graham Avory, Little Tawny, Pettridge Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6DG (☎: 01747 860439) or alternatively handed in at The Information Office, The Library, Mere (in an envelope marked 'MERE MATTERS') by 4.00 pm on **MONDAY, 12th August.2013**.

E-mailed contributions will be most welcome. Please send to: **merematters@inbox.com** from Monday, 5th August 2013 onwards.

Would ALL contributors, however they provide copy, please add their name and a contact telephone number.

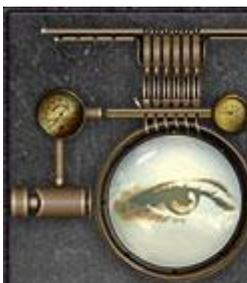
ALL ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES to:

Mrs Jane Kennedy

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☎: **01985 844740**

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