

MERTON MONTHLY

SEPTEMBER 2010

You can also view the Merton Monthly at www.mertondevon.com

The Clinton Hall

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The Clinton Hall

WHAT'S ON DIARY – further info in newsletter

Monday 6 Sept	- Torridge District Council Meeting, Clinton Hall, 6.30pm – All welcome
Tuesday 7 Sept	- Coffee Morning, Clinton Hall, 9am – 11.30am
Saturday 11 Sept	- Malt Scoop Quiz, 8.15pm
Tuesday 21 Sept	- Parish Council Meeting, Clinton Hall 7.30pm
Friday 8 October	- Harvest Supper, Clinton Hall
Thursday 28 Oct	- Merton History Project, Clinton Hall, 7.30pm
Thursday 18 Nov	- Return of JOHNNY COWLING



COFFEE MORNING AT THE CLINTON HALL

Tuesday 7 September, 9.00am to 11.30am

Come and find out the summer holiday news!

All Saints Church - Clergy: Rev. Martin Warren, Tel.: 01409 281424

Services for September

5 September	6.30pm -	Methodist Service
12 September	10.00am -	Village Service – this is a service taken by people from the village. All welcome. Please note earlier start time
19 September	9.30am -	Holy Communion
26 September	11.00am -	Family Communion

Saturday 11th September is Devon Historic Churches Fund Day

The idea is to visit as many churches in the group as you can and spend some time in prayer at each church.

Martin Warren will be visiting each church. His itinerary is below and you are very welcome to join him as and when along the way.

8.00am Shebbear
8.40am Buckland Filleigh
9.15am Sheepwash
10.15 Petrockstowe
11.00am Huish
11.45am Merton
12.45pm Peters Marland
1.45pm Langtree (the Methodist Chapel as the church is closed for repairs)
2.45pm Newton St. Petrock.

At the end of the afternoon, there will be cream teas available at Newton St Petrock just 200 yards from the church. The day is planned as a fund-raiser for the Devon Historic Churches fund. All monies raised are split 50:50 between the Fund and the church of your choice.

Sponsorship & Donation forms (and stickers for those taking part) are available from Pat Chappell, All Saints, Langtree 01805 601733 - the forms have all the details and instructions on them. There will also be a quiz on the day - as a bit of fun.

To summarise: the day is planned as a fund-raiser; a prayerful time; a bit of fun and a time when we can all get together as members of the Torridge team of churches.

Please contact Pat (01805 601733) to request your sponsorship form; quiz sheet/s; order a cream tea, ask about anything that isn't clear.

The Harvest Supper will be held on Friday 8th October in the Clinton Hall.

Our Harvest Service will also include a re-dedication of the bells and we are delighted to announce that Bishop Bob will be with us. This service will take place on Sunday 10th October, at the earlier time of 10.30am.

The Christmas Tree Festival will take place again this year on the weekend before the Carol Service, which will be held on Monday 20th December at 7pm.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Come and join Pat and Mary at **Ashgrove House, Clarks Lane** on **Saturday 18th September** between **10am and 12 noon** and be part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Delicious homemade cakes, good company and a Raffle too.



SUMMER PARTY IN MEMORY OF L/CPL DANE ELSON IN AID OF HELP FOR HEROES. **Saturday 21st August 2010.**

I would like to say a big 'Thank you' to everyone who supported my 'Summer Party' in Memory of my cousin, Dane Elson in aid of 'Help for Heroes'.

The night was a fantastic success, and everyone danced the night away to 'The Alchemists', who were absolutely brilliant. And guests tucked into a delicious buffet by Gill Wickett. I am completely overwhelmed with the support from my family, friends and the people around me.

An emotional but home hitting speech was given by a volunteer named Wendy who is working for 'Help for Heroes'. She reminded everyone why we were all there and how the money raised from the evening will help towards the servicemen and women who have fought and are still fighting for our country.

A total of £2,555.69 was raised from ticket sales, raffle, silent auction and donations.

Once again, thank you to everyone who came along, gave donations or raffle and silent auction lots. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Kate Elston

(photos can be seen on the Merton web page)

Help For Heroes Summer Party

What a fantastic evening it was. Many congratulations to Kate Elston on an extremely successful evening. The hall was full of laughter, dancing and plenty of drinking on Saturday 21st August!! There was a band, buffet, bar, draw and silent auction which was absolutely fantastic. There was a fantastic amount of people and I am sure that everyone there on the night are of the same opinion and would like to join me in congratulating Kate, her family and friends who helped her make this a successful event for Help for Heroes. Well Done.
Tracey Laughton

The Bells are Ringing!!

I am sure that you have all heard the bells are finally ringing. It's been a long, long time, but we are there and the word is spreading across the county and even across the country that they are!!!

We have already had two visiting teams and our local ringers come to the tower. On Saturday 28th August we have a visiting team from the Exeter area and another team is due to visit in October.

The response has been good, although comments have been made about the ropes; as they have not been used for over 20 years they feel a little stretchy which is a challenge for a few!! Every time a team visit they give a donation so this money is now being saved for new ropes which are approximately £1000, so it may take a while to get them, but in the meantime the bells are ringing!!

Chris Laughton

Torrige District Council

The first ever Full Council meeting in a Torrige Parish Council is to be held at Merton in the Clinton Hall at 6.30pm on Monday 6th September. These meetings are held traditionally at Bideford Town Hall, this one will be the first of several in a Parish. If you have an interest in what goes on, who sets your council tax, who organises your waste collection, who arranges the grass cutting of public areas, who investigates Food Health and Safety issues, who pays for recycling in the District, who deals with benefit claims, who deals with planning applications, who charges entrance to the Burrows, who manages Westward Ho! beach, who picks up the litter, who manages the Burton Art Gallery, who checks the play equipment and many other District duties then do come along and see how your District Council hold their formal meetings. Chaired by Cllr Mrs Margaret Brown. Do you have praise or criticism for something we have done? Well members of the public have the right to speak for 3 minutes max, up to 5 speakers, near the beginning of the meeting; your intention to speak must be requested before the meeting. Phone Judy Phillips on 01237 428789 or e-mail Judy.Phillips@torridge.gov.uk or speak to an officer or me before the meeting - first come basis. If you do not wish to attend or to speak then you still have me as your District Councillor, of course, to raise questions with.

Philip Collins 603656 or 603443

Aerobics

Andrea is on holiday from Aerobics for the first couple of weeks in September, but will be back to get everyone in to shape for the Festive season on Monday 20th September. In the meantime why not make use of the hall's other facilities - tennis, badminton, table tennis and the fitness equipment. We hope to have a date shortly for another fitness induction session.

Dog Fouling

Two different areas have been mentioned this month and both are near the dog fouling bins!! Grange Lane and the wide piece of grass from the Garage to Clinton Gardens entrance, please be responsible and clear up after your dogs.

Skittles Night at the Clinton Hall

Saturday October 23rd

7pm

Due to the outstanding success and fun had at last years skittles fundraiser in aid of North Devon Diabetes Group it was decided to make it an annual event.

Teams of six with at least two ladies

£2 per person or £12 per team

Families Welcome

Prize Draw

Bar

Prizes for the winning teams

If you would like to enter a team please call/text

Michelle or Colin

Tel: 01805-603158 / Mob: 07853-033312

Next **Quiz at The Malt Scoop**, in aid of Devon Air Ambulance, will be on
Saturday 11 September starting at **8.15pm**
Draw prizes always welcome

Winners for 150 Club for July

£40 – M. Cottle; £10 – A. Woolcott; £5 – R. Down; £5 – D. Murch; £5 – B. Bolt



Petrockstowe Table Top sale

On 4th September there will be a table top sale in the Baxter Hall between 1pm and 4pm. Pay £5 to run your own table or bring your items to the hall on the morning between 10am and 11am for us to sell on the main table. If you wish to run your own table the £5 will go to the charity of your choice from The Devon Air Ambulance, Cancer Research or Children in Need. Any money raised from the items on the main table will also go to the chosen charity.

Tea and coffee available. There will also be a tombola stall.

*For more information or you are interested in running your own table please call
Pip Mahoney, 01837 811 702*

Merton Parish Council held a meeting in the Clinton Hall on Wednesday 11th August 2010. Items discussed were the Land Registry application for the Square and a planning application for a garden shed at Bowden Park, which was approved. A couple of owners have already purchased their parking permits to park overnight in the square; it is hoped others who regularly park overnight will do the same. It was also brought to the Council's notice that a couple of dog owners are allowing their dogs to foul on public land. This has been reported to the animal welfare officer. It is an offence to allow your dog to foul in public and a hefty fine can be enforced. Dog owners must be responsible; it is dangerous to health and very unsociable to allow your dog to foul in public places. It was acknowledged that the majority of dog owners do pick up after their dogs. The next Parish Council meeting will be **Tuesday 21 September at 7.30 p.m.** when it is hoped Leigh Ricks from Clinton Devon Estate will attend to discuss issues which arose from the Parish Plan. Everyone welcome to attend. Please note the earlier start.

Wendy Askew

Friends of all Saints and Bell Fund

By the time this edition is published we hope to have enjoyed another successful Flower Festival. Many of you will already have heard the wonderful sound of the bells ringing. We are pleased they have now been signed off as fit to ring. Any team who would like to ring them can contact the Bell Captain Chris Laughton on 01805 603658. There has been interest from some people wishing to learn to ring. It is hoped to have some training soon; again if you are interested in learning contact Chris for more details. Thank you to everyone for the continued support of the fundraising. We have many more things to raise money for in the church so watch out for more details. We welcome new faces in the church so do come along and see us there.

Wendy Askew

Merton History Project

The first meeting of this new group will be held on Thursday 28th October in the Clinton Hall at 7.30pm; all interested in local village history welcome for a cup of tea and a chat about further research and visits to places of interest. If you want to come just pop down the hall on the night or if unable to but still keen for other evenings/events then call me 603443 work 603656 home.

Philip Collins



(The Future Generation) Youth Group Update - On Friday 13th August we went to The Big Sheep and Battlefield Live! 14 youngsters (and adults!) enjoyed the indoor play area, the twister ride and other attractions at the Big Sheep before battling it out for supremacy at Battlefield Live. The "camo" team beat the "swot" team after several hard fought missions. An excellent time was had by all with several

requesting a return in the future.

We braved the weather at Petrockstowe Village Fete on Saturday 21st August with our Sweet Tombola and Face Painting. Fund raising is a vital part of our organisation to enable us to continue taking the youth of the area out to places like the Big Sheep and subsidising the cost to make it affordable to all.

At the time of writing the trip to Becky Falls is likely to be cancelled because of the weather.

The next meeting will be Friday 3rd September. If the weather is good we will meet at the Rec Ground between 7 and 9pm for a games evening. If the weather is not good enough we will be at Baxter Hall at the same time. If you want to check the location on the day, call Fiona on 01837 811749 in the afternoon. There will not be a meeting on Friday 17th September as all leaders have other commitments.

We will meet on 1st and 15th October and details will be sent out shortly.

Arrangements are being made for the Christmas Panto trip to Aladdin in Barnstaple. This will be open to members and non-members of TFG. If you attend with parents or guardians, no consent form will be required but these will be supplied for those attending unsupervised. Please see the separate information about this trip and reply ASAP.

The Youth Group is open to anyone living in the Clinton Ward (Buckland Filleigh, Huish, Little Torrington, Merton, Peters Marland and Petrockstowe) who is in Year 7 or above at school. For more information or if you have any queries, please contact Fiona on tfgyouth@gmail.com or 01837 811749.

Rainbow Pre-school

From September we will be opening on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings, in the Clinton Hall as before. Our busy Toddler session will still continue on a Friday too. We return from our summer break on the 6th September. You can contact the Pre-school on 01805 603119 or call Julie on 01805 603620. **Julie Bromhead**

The Clinton School

We raised a massive £3,000 at the Vintage Rally & Summer Fayre held in July. This money will help towards school trips, theatre productions and any equipment needed.

We will be collecting Morrisons 'Let's Grow' vouchers again this year. The promotion will commence on 6th September and finish on 31st October. We would greatly appreciate these vouchers which we can use to order gardening equipment. There will be a voucher collection box provided in the entrance to school. **Jo Craker**

Merton Post Office and Shop

Foreign Currency available to order, 0% commission.

Euro's on demand service Travel Insurance House Insurance
Car Insurance Home Insurance Mobile Phone Top-ups

Devon Air Ambulance Lottery

Newspapers and Magazines can be ordered

Dry Cleaning Service and hire of Carpet Cleaning Machine

Join our Gift Voucher Saving Scheme **Stamps!**

Flowers can be ordered **Greetings Cards** *Boxes of Chocolates*

Need to withdraw CASH from your bank account? We may be able to help.

All this and more from your Village Post Office and Shop

Tel 01805 603200.



Saturday 4 September	Merton North Devon v Wrey Arms
Saturday 4 September	Merton Kingsley v Bude
Saturday 18 September	Merton North Devon v Equalizers
Sat or Sun 25 or 26 Sept	Merton North Devon v Woolsery Res
Sunday 26 September	Merton Kingsley v Hartland
Sunday 3 October	Merton North Devon v Ilfracombe 3rds
Saturday 9 October	Merton Kingsley v Lewdown
Saturday 23 October	Merton Kingsley v Holsworthy – Hutching Cup 1 st round
Sunday 31 October	Merton Kingsley v Week St Mary
Thursday 4 November	Merton Kingsley v Holsworthy
Saturday 13 November	Merton North Devon v Sporting Barum
Saturday 13 November	Merton Kingsley v Kilkhampton
Saturday 27 November	Merton North Devon v AFC Anchor
Satu 4 December	Merton Kingsley v Bridgerule
Saturday 8 January 2011	Merton Kingsley v North Petherwin
Saturday 15 January	Merton North Devon v Woolacombe/Mortehoe
Saturday 22 January	Merton Kingsley v Lifton
Saturday 29 January	Merton North Devon v Lynton/Lynmouth
Saturday 19 February	Merton North Devon v Braunton 3rds
Saturday 26 February	Merton Kingsley v Morwenstow
Saturday 5 March	Merton North Devon v Clovelly
Saturday 5 March	Merton Kingsley v Stratton
Saturday 19 March	Merton North Devon v Landkey Town
Saturday 19 March	Merton Kingsley v Bradworthy
Saturday 9 April	Merton North Devon v Buckland Brewer
Saturday 23 April	Merton Kingsley v Black Torrington
Saturday 30 April	Merton North Devon v Putford

YOUR AUTHORITY NEEDS YOUR THOUGHTS

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority is committed to consulting with the communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly in a meaningful way.

The current economic and political climate mean difficult decisions will be have to be made about policing and the communities voice in these high level considerations is important. Over the next twelve months we will be changing our methods of face to face engagement and in Devon that will enable us to hear your views on significant high level policing issues such as target setting, budget setting, and use of resources.

The Police Authority recently undertook a review of its open public meeting model of engagement: Police Authority Liaison Meetings which are currently used as one tool of hearing the voices of local communities across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This review showed that issues being discussed were mainly local operational issues. Whilst important these are the remit of the Constabulary and not issues the Police Authority can directly influence.

Councillor Mike Hicks, Chair of the Authority's Community Engagement Committee said of the review: "It was clear to the Committee that time and effort was being spent, on the part of the Police Authority and communities, talking about issues that the Authority could not influence. Whilst these issues are important we [the Authority] are keen to hear what members of the public think about the high level policing challenges currently being faced".

Across Devon (including Torbay) there will be no Police Authority Liaison Meetings for the next twelve months. Instead the resources will be used to host three conferences (one in central Devon, one in North Devon and one in Torbay) which will provide an opportunity for community members to debate key issues with Members of the Police Authority, senior officers from the Constabulary and representatives from their local authority. This forum will enable members of the community to consider challenges facing the Authority and its partners currently, ask questions relating to these, and have their input to debates.

Local concerns and issues are best directed to neighbourhood policing teams. Information neighbourhood policing teams can be found at <http://neighbourhoodpolicing.devon-cornwall.police.uk> or by calling 08452 777444 (24hours non-emergency).

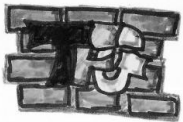
Members of the community interested in receiving more information about the Devon and Torbay conferences should contact the Police Authority office via email polauth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk or calling 01392 268333 (please note this number cannot deal with enquires for the police which should be directed to the local rate number 08452 777444).



Congratulationto Johanna Ranson and James Ogden
on their engagement !!!

If you would like to include anything in the Merton Monthly, please let Tracey Laughton have copy by the 20th of the month or send direct to the editor, Trevor Higton at The Old Vineyard, Merton or by email – jtt@downeshouse.freeserve.co.uk
Entries received after the 20th of the month may be refused. All articles or advertisements submitted for publication should be supplied with a name and contact number.

We would love to have contributions from the village – recipes, holiday stories, gardening tips, birthday/anniversary greetings, congratulations, etc.



THEATRE TRIP - ALADDIN - 17TH DECEMBER

TFG Youth Group is planning a trip to see Aladdin at the Queens Theatre, Barnstaple on Friday 17th December for the 7pm performance. We want to open this up to all living within the Clinton Ward and hire a 52 seater coach for the outing. Arrangements will be made for pick up/drop off at each village location. The cost to members of TFG is £5 and all other seats will be £13. If you would like to come along, please complete the tear off slip below and return with a deposit of £5 per person by Sunday 10th October 2010 to TFG Youth Group, c/o Rose Farm, Petrockstowe, Okehampton, EX20 3HQ. If you have any queries or questions, you can contact Fiona on tfgyouth@gmail.com or 01837 811749.

Please reserve me seats at £13 each and ... seats for a TFG member at £5 each.

I enclose £..... as a deposit (cheques made payable to TFG Youth Group)

Name

Address

Contact Number

E-mail address