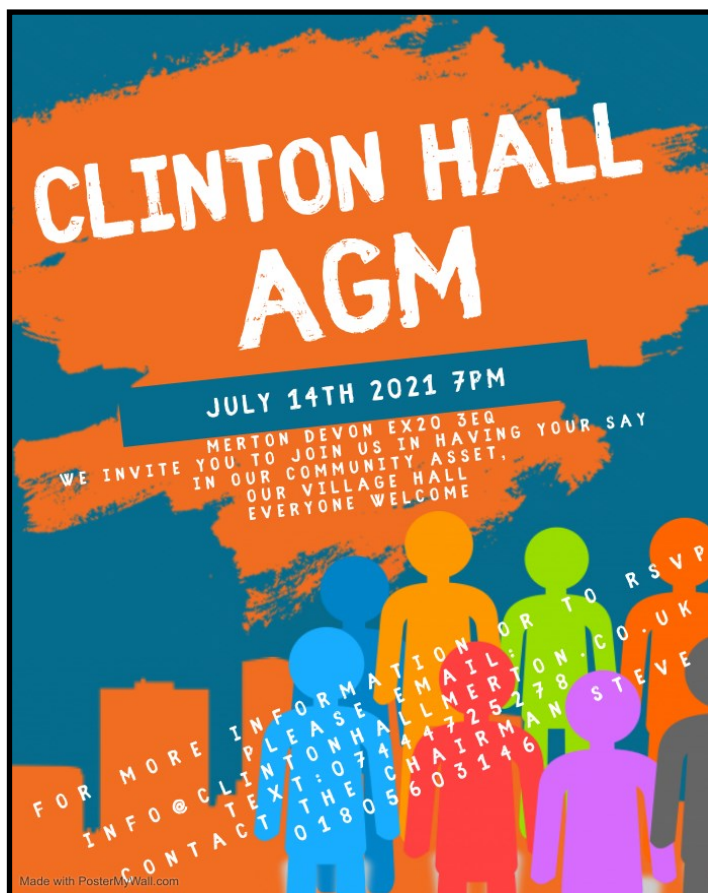


Merton Monthly

July 2021

{Also available at www.mertonmonthly.com}

Please send articles to dave.folland@btinternet.com by the 15th of July for inclusion in the August issue.



A message from the Editor

Hi,

Hopefully we will be out of lockdown by the middle of this month and events can start happening again, don't forget if you are planning an event please let me know so I can let people know, not everyone has access to the internet or Facebook.

As always, any other suggestions are welcomed.

Don't forget the Clinton Hall AGM, 14th July, details above.

As always, if you have any items to include, please either e-mail me, dave.folland@btinternet.com or drop it in my letterbox at Laburnum Cottage, Merton, halfway between the Post Office and Pub.

For up to date information check the Merton Village Facebook page, Clinton Hall Facebook page, or have a look at www.mertondevon.com

Until next month

Dave.



MERTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Following on from my last report in May 2020, yes!! that's right

MAY 2020! it is looking increasingly unlikely that we will be reforming this year.

However, we are still here and raring to go just as soon as we are permitted and are still looking to recruit new members.

Please contact Jeanie on 01805 601125 or Julie on 01805 603405

for more details.

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for July

Black Bag collection Thursday: 8th July & 22th July

Green Waste collection Friday: 15th July & 29th July

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday

Check the TDC calendar at: [Torridge District Council](#)

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

June 2021

£20-00 Sandra Bunn

£10-00 David Craker

Merton Monthly e-mail notification.

Do you prefer to get your Merton Monthly delivered or would you like an email version?

If you would like to continue having it delivered then that's great but, if an email version is your choice, please send an e-mail to dave.folland@btinternet.com Thanks for your support.

All Saints Church



Team Rector: Revd Martin Warren, tel: 01409-281424

Team Vicar: Revd Susannah Metz, tel: 01837-810621

Methodist Minister: Rev Liz Singleton, tel: 01837-52302

Dear Friends,

What's the prayer for patience: 'Lord, give me patience – and give it right now!'

We are having to learn a bit of patience right now. The end of Covid restrictions was in sight – and now we have to wait a bit longer. June 21st turned into July 19th. Suddenly we had to rethink our plans once again. What adjustments have to be made for a wedding? What party has to be delayed for a few weeks? And we still can't sing in church!

Oh well. Patience is never easy, is it? Remember waiting for a birthday to come when you were young. It took for ever. It never seemed to get there. And then suddenly, here it was. The waiting was over.

Our society is not very good at waiting. We want everything now. We have instant coffee, instant credit; we give up so quickly when slimming regimes don't have instant effects; we are fickle in our political choices when parties don't immediately produce the goods they so readily promised.

We have had to learn to wait: holidays have been put off, visits have not been able to happen, in many cases treatment has been delayed. It has not been easy. And now again we are having to wait.

Patience is one of the fruit of the Spirit of God – which tells us that it is not one of our natural tendencies. It is a gift from God. And what a gift it is. Life never does run smoothly. How much better it is to face it with a calm outlook rather than a frustrated and irritated attitude. That approach doesn't do us any good, let alone anyone else.

So if you need patience today – and who of us doesn't? – then do ask for it. But maybe not in the words of the prayer we started with.

Yours in peace and patience,

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints' Church

For now we are having a service in the various church buildings around the area roughly once a month. So if you want to come to a physical service, feel free to go to a nearby village if there isn't one here. We are able to sing again – but outside. (And the birds join in.)

Or use the Online Service – that's there every week – or join on the phone.

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

Phone 0330-606-0403

Access code 251417

Services at All Saints (and other church buildings.)

4 th July	6.30pm	Peters Marland
11 th July	11.00am	Langtree
18 th July	9.30am	Merton
25 th July	9.00am	Huish
	11.00am	Petrockstowe

Sunday Worship Online

11.00am

www.torridgeteamchurches.org.uk

(or, of course, any other time of your choosing.)

Special occasions:

July 11th

Once again a focus on the sea

Tim Horner.

It is with sadness we let you know that one of Merton's great champions for many years, Tim Horner died of cancer at his home in Keynsham aged 68 on 27th May after a few months illness.

Tim moved to Merton with Debby and the girls in 1983 and recently retired to Keynsham, near Bath, close to Abi and Jessica.

Tim was enthusiastically involved and a key member in many local things: school governor, Dolton Twinning, the Downs cider group, the Clinton Hall as well as Chair of the Parish Council for many years. Not only did he commit, but he threw himself selflessly into it all for the benefit of our community. Deeply ensconced in village life, he would often involve others as well. Those that worked with and knew him well would, after being asked to do something that Tim thought needed doing, say "we've been 'Hornered' again!" There can surely never have been a stronger advocate for village life than Tim. We missed him when he left Merton and now we mourn his early departure from this world. Our thoughts and prayers are with Debby, Kirsten, Abi and Jessica.

A memorial fundraising page has been set up in his memory for Dorothy House Hospice. Their nurses provided outstanding care and support for Tim and his family allowing him to remain at home. If you would like to donate please follow the link below:

<https://timhorner.muchloved.com>

We are very sad to hear that Tim Horner has passed away.

He worked very hard for the village and the Twinning with France and Germany.

We convey our sympathy to Debby and their family at this difficult time.

Betty & Les Salmon

I would like to extend my condolences to all the family and friends of Christine Wickett.

When we lose a loved one here on earth, we gain an angel in heaven that watches over us. My most sincere condolences to you.

Dave Folland

Remember the deadline. 15th July to be included in the August edition.

Church Annual Meeting

Despite lock-down, life still goes on. We may not have been able to meet easily, but still annual accounts need to be made. Not surprisingly 2020 was a bit of a strange year – but still the bills came in, and we had some big ones as well. We are hugely grateful for those who have made donations (sometimes instead of what would previously have put in collections). That has made a big difference to our shortfall of just over £2500 in 2020. Those donations will appear in the 2021 accounts. But it didn't totally overcome the shortfall.

For the information of everyone, a summary of the accounts for 2020 presented at the annual meeting are here. Please do ask if you would like to see the full accounts or have any queries.

Income		Expenditure	
Collections	290.79	Electricity	632.57
Donations	2014.76	Common Fund	1464.00
Fees	523.00	Team Expenses	302.00
Interest	13.06	Church Running Costs	
		Fire Extinguishers	138.72
Total	2847.61	Lightning Conductor	54.00
		Inspection	
		Architects Inspection	1076.64
		Electrical Inspection	495.00
		Insurance	1207.02
		Income Expenses	5.07
		Total	5375.02
Balance as of 31/12/20	£5170.69	Balance on the year	(£2527.41) deficit

A fantastic walk, not to be missed

14 MILE SPONSORED WALK **SUNDAY 26 SEPT 2021**

Exmoor & Ramble

IN MEMORY OF IVAN HUXTABLE

MEETING AT BRENDON TWO GATES, STARTING FROM 10.00–11.00 DEPENDING ON SOCIAL DISTANCING

A beautiful 14-mile sponsored ramble on Exmoor. Opportunities to see wildlife and learn more about the history of the area

To book a place please contact us on 01271 347232 or email fundraising@northdevonhospice.org.uk

Raising money for

KINDLY SPONSORED BY **gth** Greenslade Taylor Hunt

North Devon Hospice
being there for all the family
registered charity number 286554

Join us for this breathtaking event with magnificent views

This popular Exmoor Ramble will be an exhilarating and truly memorable event. Choice of 6 or 14 miles in memory of Ivan Huxtable, renowned local wildlife walker, is on 26th September 2021, in aid of the North Devon Hospice and the hospital charity, Over and Above.

Car Parking is available on a field at Brendon Two Gates. **Please note it is essential you wear suitable clothing and stout footwear, and be prepared for all weathers.**

Depending on social distancing in place at the time, the organisers will be in touch with your dedicated times to start. We envisage all walkers will be departing between 10am and 11am.

The Widdon Fryer will be with us for those who have worked up an appetite.

Entry and closing date

To take part, simply complete the entry form. We will then send you a map and directions for the event.

Donation and/or sponsorship

We ask each participant to raise funds either by donation or sponsorship. Please bring your completed sponsor form with you on the day to be signed.

Cheques should be made payable to North Devon Hospice, and sent to The Fundraising Team, North Devon Hospice, Deer Park, Newport, Barnstaple, EX32 0HU

Merton and Huish Wildlife Group



Another quiet month for the wildlife group whilst we await the full lifting of restrictions and the better weather for our summer events. In the meantime, we have been focused on our wildlife area which is situated outside Merton Village Hall next to the school. This area contains a selection of fruit trees and we have seeded it with wildflower mix. The aim is to increase plant species diversity which will in turn provide food and shelter for a wider range of animal species including butterflies and moths. Improving habitat work can be slow but we have already seen excellent progress in the number of species found and the school children have been enjoying bug spotting in the longer sward. Our plans are to cut the edge and a path through the area so that there are different sward lengths and increased edge habitat which is beneficial for wildlife. In addition, we are organising some signage to provide more information about the area and its importance. Please get in touch with us on Facebook if you would like more information or wish to join the group.

Our focus flowers for July are Yellow Rattle and Red Clover. These flowers are loved by insect pollinators such as bumblebees and hoverflies. They are a beautiful addition to any wildlife friendly garden! Yellow rattle is particularly important in meadow restoration work as it inhibits the growth of grasses which then gives other wildflowers more chance to grow.

Can you spot these flowers in our wildlife area?



Yellow Rattle



Red Clover

Merton Monthly Advertising.

Advertising is available in the Merton Monthly.

For further details please contact: - The Clinton Hall, e-mail:

[-info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk](mailto:info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk)

We look forward to welcoming advertisers old and new to our newsletter.

Freecycle/ For Sale

Any items for sale, or just looking for a new home, just let me know.

dave.folland@btinternet.com

Or drop a note in my letterbox at :

Laburnum Cottage, halfway between the Pub and the Garage.

Grazing available

Having only three pet sheep left now, we have about 2 acres of grazing available and also another 2 – 3 acres ish available soon.

Please contact.

Carol and Mel Gale,

Rose Cottage,

Lower Langham,

Tel: 01805 804575

Remember the deadline. 15th July to be included in the August edition.

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Summertime Opening Hours

Monday closed all day

Tuesday 12pm – 10.30pm

Wednesday 12pm – 10.30pm

Thursday 5pm – 10.30pm

Friday 12pm – 12am*

Saturday 12pm – 12am*

Sunday 12pm – 10pm

*depending on customer flow, hours may change

Food available daily 12pm–2pm & 6pm–8.30pm (takeaway available)

Tea & fresh coffee also available daily

Now serving Cream Teas daily £4.95 per person

**Fish & Chips or Pie & Chips, eat in or takeaway
every Friday (lunchtime or evening)**

(Fish is freshly prepared and cooked to order so please place your order no
later than 12 noon on a Thursday)

B&B rooms

I have two beautiful, recently decorated B&B rooms, so if you have family or
friends wishing to come and visit you but you've no room, then give me a call
and I can sort a competitive rate for you.

Local ingredients are used for our cooked breakfast.

Games

Pool table & Skittle Alley and a selection of board games available.

Beer Garden (at rear) – plenty of seating and a beautiful view to watch
the sun set



Well-behaved dogs welcome



Little Otters Pre-School, Merton



Opening times: Term time

Monday - Thursday 8-45am – 3-30pm

We aim to provide a safe and stimulating pre-school environment and to work within a framework, which ensures equality of opportunity for all children and families.

We believe that early years' education is much more than teaching sounds, colours, numbers and letters. It is about developing strong, curious and confident children. Our aim is to make learning fun and for children to enjoy learning as they start their journey in life.

Your child is entitled to 15 hours, funded, the term after they are 3 years old. We are also able to provide 2gether funding for 2 year olds.

For more Information please contact the school on 01805 603357 or email admin@clinton.devon.sch.uk

Little Otters Parent & Toddler Group

Fun and stimulating activities for children aged 0-5 Years.

Activities available vary from messy play, story/singing sessions, small world play and much more!!

A chance for Parents/Carers to have a catch up while your children play in a safe environment.

A healthy snack & drink will be provided for the children & tea/coffee & biscuits for the adults.

Where - Merton Pre-School

When - Every Friday, 9am - 11.30am

Contact the school on 01805 603357

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~ **Peter Bright** ~

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