

Merton Monthly

August 2021

{Also available at www.mertonmonthly.com}

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



VOLUNTEERS
TO HELP WITH RUNNING
THE VILLAGE HALL CAFE

CALLING ALL BAKERS, TEA/COFFEE MAKERS OR GENERAL HELPERS

DATES/TIME TO BE CONFIRMED

VOLUNTEERS TO CONTACT HALL 01805603300 OR EMAIL
INFO@CLINTONHALLMERTON.CO.UK



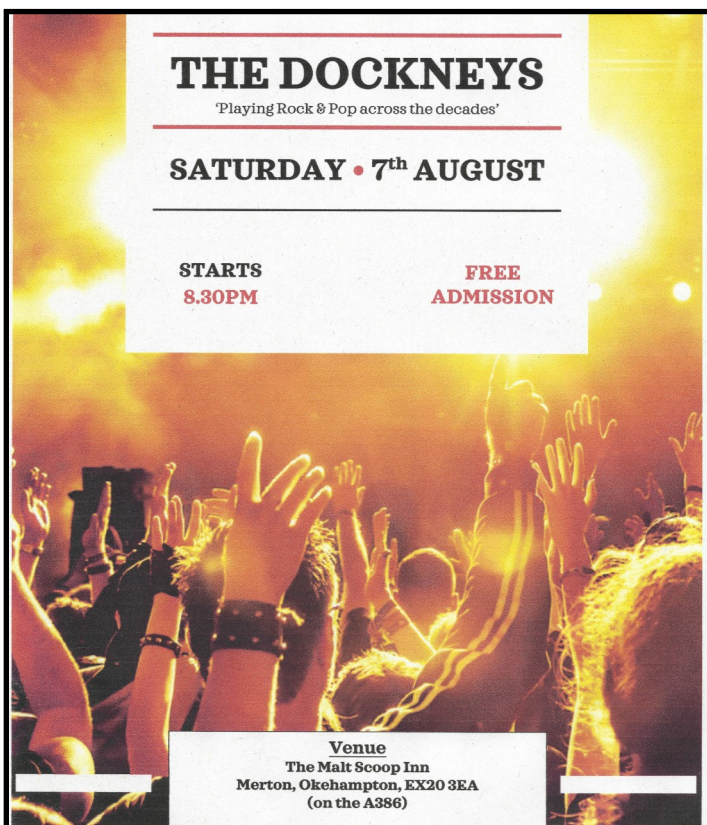
CLINTON VILLAGE HALL

WE ARE HIRING

PART-TIME BOOKINGS
SECRETARY/CO-ORDINATOR
CLOSING DATE 16TH AUGUST
INTERVIEWS COMMENCING 23rd
AUGUST

6-10 HOURS PER WEEK @ £10 P/H
MONDAY & FRIDAYS
HOURS/DAYS TO BE FLEXIBLE/NEGOTIABLE
MAY INCLUDE OCCASIONAL WEEKENDS

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW
APPLY NOW
mishstacey76@hotmail.com (Chair)
INFO@CLINTONHALLMERTON.CO.UK
01805603300



THE DOCKNEYS
'Playing Rock & Pop across the decades'

SATURDAY • 7th AUGUST

STARTS
8.30PM

FREE
ADMISSION

Venue
The Malt Scoop Inn
Merton, Okehampton, EX20 3EA
(on the A386)



WARHORSE 10km

War Horse 10 will take place on Sunday 19th September in Iddesleigh Village at 11am.

Entry is £17 to include a t shirt, all money raised will be going to The North Devon Hospice

The race starts and finishes in the beautiful village of Iddesleigh and will include some private land, this is a scenic run, 90% of which will be on the road.

For more info and how to enter see our Facebook page
War Horse 10

Or contact **01805 804347**



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 August

Black Bag collection Thursday: 5th August & 19th August

Green Waste collection Friday: 12th August & 26th August

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday

Check the TDC calendar at: [Torridge District Council](https://www.torridge.gov.uk/)

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

July 2021

£20-00 Karl Windsor

£10-00 Ian Windsor



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,

Some of you know by now that in the last couple of months we have adopted a crow – or possibly a crow has adopted us! There were strong winds towards the end of May, and we discovered four birds on a track. Three of them were dead, but one was just still alive. As one does, we took it upon ourselves to see if we could nurture it back to life, having had very little success in the past with robins and sparrows and other small birds. But a bigger bird seemed to have a bit more fight in it.

Amazingly he strengthened. It was quite something shovelling food down this big open gullet. You could just about see his (her?) stomach. In due course he began to leave his little nest by the radiator. He was not going to live indoors though, so as soon as he began to fly, out he went, living in the garage to start with. Now he disappears off for much of the day, but still comes back for food. He's getting the neighbours trained too!

It is a wonderful connection with nature. We are part of it. I love it when he eyes us up. I wonder what he is thinking? We are part of nature, and nature is part of us. And we care because we love.

A friend of ours is a marine biologist. But she is also something of a crafts person. She was a milliner previously. Penny worked with her at one stage making hats. Now she is combining the scientific side of her life with the artistic. Currently she is making scarfs with drawings of sea creatures. She says, 'I want people to love the sea.' Not just to understand it, or even to care for it – but to love it. That's when we will make a difference.

We are entering the harvest season: Lammas starts it at the beginning of August. It is a chance for us to reconnect with creation – to love again the world around us. I am reminded of those famous words from John's Gospel in the Bible: 'God so loved the world.' Not just you and me, not just human beings – but the whole world. Don't just use it, don't just care it like some aged and fragile relative – but love it. And not just the sea, but the land too and all its creatures. Walk hidden away lanes, look up at amazing trees, search the rock pools, watch the soaring birds – and even come and meet our crow!

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.

From the Registers

Wedding: *Congratulations!*

24th July Niall Heeney/ Beth Nancekivell

Funeral: Our prayers for those bereaved.

29th June Christine Wickett

Services at All Saints (and other church buildings.)

1st August 9.30am Peters Marland

8th August 11.00am Petrockstowe Chapel

15th August 9.30am Merton

22nd August 9.00am Huish

11.00am Petrockstowe

29th August 11.00am Haddipport, Buckland
Filleigh (followed by bring and share lunch)

Please bring a chair.

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

Phone 0330-606-0403

Access code 251417

Merton and Petrockstowe Heritage Group

Dear Members,

Summer is upon us and it looks as though the regulations will soon be relaxed although we must still be mindful. With school holidays the lovely countryside around us is going to be extremely busy.

After talking to the Chairman and Treasurer we feel it's time to get the Group off the ground again so in September we hope to hold our first talk in the Chapel meeting room at Petrockstowe.

The first date is Friday Sept. 17th at 7.30 p.m. when I hope we will have a speaker from the Landmark Trust who own several properties of interest locally including Winsford Hospital at Hallwill. This has to be confirmed.

On October 15th Lis Shakespear will talk about her new book *The Song of the Skylark*, a very interesting read which deals with apprentices as young as nine being sent to work on farms in the Buckland Brewer area in the 1840's. Liz's research is always excellent.

On November 19th Janet Few will give a presentation on Women's Occupations through the years. Janet's talks are always informative and enjoyable.

Meetings start at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome. It will be good to catch up with friends we haven't seen in a while

Ann Luxton 01837 810728—annluxton@hotmail.co.uk

Merton F C

With the new season just a few weeks after finishing the last season, fixtures so far: -

Saturday August 7th	Torrington	A	7-00
Wednesday August 18th	Barnstaple Town	A	7-30
	T B A Hatherleigh		

With Thanks

Thank you so much to those who planted the Square order, it looks a treat, looking forward to its development.

So hope Christine Wickett died peacefully. The stroke must have been so frustrating for her, and yet she was such a stoical lady, always accepting whatever life brought. She put so much into the Friendship Club over the years, 'netting' people in, in the hope "they might start coming to Church one day" she often told me over a cuppa. My condolences to all her family. We can be sure she is now with her Saviour.

For the few who may remember the Grists at Petrockstow back in the 60's/70's ~ our Minister for many years, Bob died some 30 years ago, his wife, Nancie last year just before covid, Praise our God, at 91 years. The family were able to a graveside service with 7 people at the time. They are now planning a Thanksgiving Service for the life of this remarkable woman, on 7th August {a Saturday} at 1-00pm. It will be held at the Church in Woodbury, {outside Exeter} with the wake at The Maltsters, opposite. Numbers subject to rules at the time. The family invite anyone who would like to join them, if they have memories of their time here.

Christine Wright

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

A message from the Editor

Hi,

It is nice to see some activities beginning at last, hopefully more will soon happen.

I would like to wish Doreen a speedy recovery from her recent fall and stay in hospital.

As always, any other suggestions are welcomed.

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.

Sunday Worship Online

11.00am

www.torridgeteamchurches.org.uk

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

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



After the disruption of the past 18 months we are planning to return to a more regular schedule of wildlife walks and talks. We will ease back into things with a walk around Meeth Quarry Nature Reserve on the morning of Sunday 15th August. Meet at the reserve car park at 10.30 if you would like to join us.

The group are hoping to attract new members, particularly amongst the younger generations. If you would like to get involved, have ideas for places to visit or talks or would like to learn more about our local wildlife then please get in touch via the Facebook group.

The wildlife area adjacent to the school continues to provide a haven for insects and small mammals. Recently Jan and Jerry from the group spent some time removing broad-leaved docks from the area to give space for less vigorous species to grow. Docks do an amazing job of improving soil quality and are important for various insect species, but can become quite invasive. Removing docks in early summer prevents them from setting seed. In September we plan to carry out some more work in the wildlife area at the hall; watch this space for more information.

This month's wildflowers to look out for are Knapweed and Bird's-foot Trefoil. These used to be common in hay meadows across the country but are now more often found in hedgerows and wild gardens. Both are long-flowering species, providing nectar from June to August. Bird's-foot trefoil is the food plant of one of our local rarities, the Wood White butterfly.



Knapweed with a Marmalade hoverfly



Bird's-foot Trefoil with a Crab Spider and Bumblebee

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.

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

The Malt Scoop Inn

Pub, Restaurant & Bed & Breakfast

For any enquiries call 01805 603924

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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