

Merton Monthly

September 2021

{Also available at www.mertonmonthly.com}

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



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**

CLINTON HALL IDEAS NEEDED !

Do you have a group you'd like to start or an idea for an event at the hall. Then please contact info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk
01805603300

ALWAYS LOOK ON THE
BRIGHT SIDE!



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



MERTON SKITTLES NIGHT



Saturday 18th September
7pm

The Clinton Hall, Merton, EX20 3EQ

Have you ever fancied trying out a new sport?

Would you love an excuse to have a night out once a week through the winter?

Want to meet new people and join a super friendly team?

Or just fancy throwing a few balls and playing a few rubs on a Saturday night?

Join the Merton Skittles Team for a pre-season knock about at the village hall, food and drinks available.

For more information contact Colin Humphries on 07980 501 419



MERTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

AT LAST!!

We are having a roll-up on **14th October** from **7 p.m.**
until 9 p.m.

We are still looking to recruit new members.

Please come to the Clinton Hall for an
introductory session. We will supply equipment, just bring
yourself!

If you prefer, contact Jeanie on 01805 601125 or Julie
on 01805 603405 for more details.

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for September

Black Bag collection Thursday: Sat 3rd Sept & 16th Sept & 30th Sept

Green Waste collection Friday: 9th Sept & 23rd Sept

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday except **Saturday 4th September**

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

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

July 2021

£20-00 Charlie Roberts

£10-00 Richard Gooding

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,

I drove to church a few weeks ago on Sunday morning to the news that the Taliban were at the gates of Kabul. So suddenly they had taken control of region after region, and now the capital was about to fall into their hands. It has been an extraordinary rapid collapse of what the US, UK and many others have worked for over the last 20 years. It seems to have caught everyone by surprise including our governments. All of a sudden that world is not as it was.

Equally the events in Plymouth have come out of the blue. This just doesn't happen in our part of the world. Thank God, it doesn't very often at all – but now it has. Those caught up in the events will never be the same again. All of a sudden the world is not as it was.

Life is incredibly fragile at times. We think we are walking on firm ground. Everything seems to be fine – and then something happens, and the ice cracks. Something totally unexpected, something we could never have planned for. It could be a flood, redundancy, a relationship collapse, a bank going bust or so much else. The veneer of life is shown to be very thin indeed.

It is why we are called to walk by faith, and not by sight. While we may make reasonable judgements based on what we can see, we can never see the full picture. We can never be sure. The experience of Christians is that God invites us to put our trust in him through Jesus, to put our hand in his, and walk with him. And the wonderful thing is that as we do, then Jesus assures us that we will be safe with him, whatever happens. What peace of mind that brings in an uncertain world.

Not a peace that induces complacency, but a peace that sets us free to live and act in the freedom of God's love.

Peace and blessing to you in this very strange world.

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints (and other church buildings.)

4 th September	9.30am	Peters Marland
11 th September	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel
18 th September	9.30am	Merton
25 th September	9.00am	Huish
	11.00am	Petrockstowe

Sunday Worship Online

11.00am

www.torridgeteamchurches.org.uk

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

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

Advance Notice:

Harvest Celebration

Book the evening of Saturday October 9th.

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



Fixtures:

Saturday 4 th September	Appledore	H	14-30
Saturday 11 th September	Park Rangers	TBA	
Saturday 18 th September	Woolsery	H	14-30
Saturday 25 th September	Kingsley Wizards	A	14-30
Saturday 2 nd October	Hartland	A	14-30
Saturday 9 th October	Putford	A	14-30
Saturday 16 th October	South Molton	H	14-30
Saturday 23 rd October	Woolsery	A	14-30
Saturday 30 th October	Lynton	A	14-30

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

A message from the Editor

Hi,

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

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.

My condolences to Andy and all the family of Doreen Tolley who passed away on Sunday 22nd August at NDDH. The Funeral will be held at All Saints Church Merton on Tuesday 7th September at 2-00pm.

I will miss the phone calls, asking for help when after pressing the wrong button on the remote control there was no tv available, especially when 'Midsomer Murders' or ; 'Vera' would soon be starting, also the chats and cups of tea. RIP Doreen.

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



In the past year, Merton and Huish Wildlife Group have received funding from the National Lottery 25 Year celebration fund. We had hoped to hold a community event jointly with the Clinton School however, Covid restrictions made this too difficult. Instead, we have carried out smaller work parties to enhance the wildlife area in the school grounds and to create new wild-flower-rich borders. Assisted by school volunteers and staff, the wildlife group have made the pond more accessible for pond dipping and outdoor education, planted native woodland bulbs and sown mixtures of native wildflower seeds. We used some of the funding to purchase equipment to enable the school and community to carry out future works for the benefit of wildlife both in the school grounds and in the adjacent Graham Heaman memorial orchard. We are hoping to hold an event in September to complete the project and encourage more people to find out about the local wildlife.

This August saw Merton and Huish Wildlife Group visit the Devon Wildlife Trust nature reserve at Meeth for a drizzly but enjoyable walk. We saw bumblebees, damselflies, dragonflies and Great Crested Grebes as well as a variety of flowering grassland plants. This reserve is full of interesting creatures and is so large there is always something new to find!

Looking ahead, we have our AGM in October and in November we will be planting some fruit bushes in the school and wildlife area. Fruit blossom is a fantastic source of nectar for insects early in the year when hover-flies and bumblebees start to emerge. We're excited to add to the variety of species in the wildlife area.

We welcome new members so get in touch *via* Facebook for more details!



We are organising a community event at the Town Hall which will be held on Tues Nov 02.

We are working in partnership with TTVS, WDCVS, Transitions, Navigate and Wisermoney. The event will provide a super networking opportunity for Charities, Community Groups, local clubs and organisations who provide community services to the Torrington area.

Who should book a stall? - We'd like to encourage any group or organisation that feels it will benefit from networking with likeminded bodies and wants to raise its awareness in the local community to book a stall. By that we mean get in touch and we'll reserve a space for you which will include a standard 'Town Hall' trestle table and you can bring your own banners and displays to set up your 'stall'

Is there a theme? - Health and Wellbeing is the theme, we want to raise awareness of all the fab resources available to the good people of Torrington.

What are the benefits of attending? - These are local events for local people, you will be able to meet likeminded people and we will be promoting the event in a way that attracts the good people of Torrington so you will have an opportunity to meet potential new volunteers, members, trustees and service users.

Will it be fun? - You bet. We want to attract people to the event and have already booked RHS Rosemoor who will be presenting their own version of Gardeners Question Time. We will provide free refreshments and live music as well as other attractions. We will then promote the event through social media newspapers and so forth.

Is it Free? Yes, your attendance as a stallholder will be much appreciated and there is no charge.

Martin Rawle

Community Developer

Torrington 100 079391 54436 www.torrington100.co.uk

Remember the deadline. 15th September to be included in the October 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

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.

D

W

Decorating



Painting & Decorating Specialists
Interior * Exterior * Commercial * Domestic
Also guttering and down pipe cleaning
Merton Mill, Merton

DIAMOND THE CUTTING EDGE IN PROFESSIONAL CARPET, CURTAIN & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Domestic & Commercial

- Deep Hot Water Extraction Cleaning
 - Deodorising Treatments
 - Dust Mite Removal
 - Leather Cleaning
 - Stain Protection
 - Stain Removal
- Other treatments Available on request
- Call us now for a
FREE ESTIMATE

OUR PRICES ARE HARDER THAN A DIAMOND TO BEAT

Call Mike on Holsworthy
01409 254816 or 07855 275088

BUCKLAND ACCOUNTS SERVICES

Farm and Rural Business Bookkeeping

Accounts / VAT Bookkeeping – MTD VAT ready
Cashflows/Budgets

Payroll

Tim Cartwright MAAT FIAGSA

Haddipport
Buckland Filleigh
bucklandaccounts@gmail.com

07971 118964

GRASCOTT FIREWOOD



Quality Seasoned Firewood

£95: Single Load
£180: Double Load
£260: Triple Load

Delivery charges may apply

Tel: 01409 281393

E-mail: info@grascottfirewood.co.uk

~ Peter Bright ~ THATCHER

Wheat Reed – Water Reed
Tel. 01837 810148 (Petrockstowe)

POUND-WISE BOOKKEEPING SERVICE

Tanglewood, Merton, Okehampton, EX20 3EA

01805 603405/07970 541448

julie@pound-wisebookkeeping.co.uk

FOR THE SMALL TO MEDIUM SIZED BUSINESS

- ✓ Accounts
- ✓ VAT
- ✓ Tax Returns
- ✓ Payroll

