

Merton Monthly

February 2022

{Also available at www.mertonmonthly.com}

Please send articles to dave.folland@btinternet.com by the 15th of February for inclusion in the March issues.

The Clinton Hall presents



Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Planning Party 5th Feb at 2pm

**Bringing the community together to plan for
2nd-5th June 2022**

**Come along at 2pm to start the ideas rolling!
All ages & all ideas welcome**

**Ideas welcome before or on the day
info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk 01805603300
facebook/Messenger or in the letterbox
Bar, Hot Drinks and snacks open from 2pm**

**All relevant Covid rules will apply
Thank you for your co-operation**



A message from the Editor

Hi,

Welcome to the first issue of 2022.

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 Garage 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.

Malt Scoop Inn

Referring to the advert on page 6 for the Valentine's day meal, booking is essential. Please contact the Malt Scoop on 01805 603 924 to book your seat.

It is a set time, so please arrive for 7-00pm, you will be greeted with a free glass of Prosecco and then eat at 7-30.

See **page 6** for the full advert, menu and pricing.

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

January 2022

£20-00 Archie Palmer

£10-00 Brian Harris

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for February

Black Bag collection Thursday: 3rd February & 17th February

Green Waste collection Friday: 10th February & 24th February

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday

Check the TDC calendar at: Torridge District Council

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 Chris Jackson, tel: 01837-52302

Dear Friends,

‘On Sunday 6th Feb, Elizabeth II will have been Queen for 70 years. None of us will see such an event ever again. And most have never known anyone else as head of our country. It is an extraordinary occasion – and one to celebrate. In European history, only Louis XIV of France lies ahead at 72 years. Sobhuza II of Eswatini (formally Swaziland) at 82 years may be a step too far!

There will be celebrations in June – it’s a 4 day Bank Holiday week-end. All the traditional Jubilee events will be there: street parties, bonfires, civic services, etc, etc. We are looking at a pudding/ cake competition. But maybe now is an opportunity for a more reflective note – it is not easy to have national celebrations in February!

The Queen has been a tireless exponent of service. From the days of World War 2 (while her father was still King), to still performing duties well into her 90s and in the midst of this Covid crisis, she has never held back unless she has really had to. It would have been so easy to have called it a day after the death of Prince Philip, but still she has continued as she can.

Nobody pretends that is easy. The shenanigans around Prince Andrew at the moment must be so painful. But always she has looked outwards. Not for her the trappings of power, but the attitude of service. Her model has been the Servant King, Jesus.

At the heart of all that she is and all she has done is her faith and knowledge of God with her. She has expressed that on many occasions, not least in this last Christmas’ message. Over 70 years, it has served her well - and she has served us all well.

As we mark this moment, you may like to use this prayer, compiled originally for the Diamond Jubilee, 10 years ago:

God of time and eternity, whose Son reigns as servant, not master; we give you thanks and praise that you have blessed this Nation, the Realms and Territories with Elizabeth, our beloved and glorious Queen. In this year of Jubilee, grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God and in devoted service to her lands and peoples, and those of the Commonwealth, now and all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing be with you,

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints (and other church buildings.)

6 th February (Communion)	9.30am	Peters Marland
13 th February	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel
20 th February (ship)	9.30am	Merton (Morning Wor-
27 th February	9.00am	Huish (Communion)

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

Phone 0330-606-0403

Access code 251417



MERTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

We are now up and running again, meeting every Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Although we are not able to enter any competitions at the moment, we do compete against each other in order to “keep our hand in”.

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.

We look forward to seeing you!



Merton F C



Fixtures:

February

Wednesday 2 nd	Bideford	A	19-00
Saturday 5 th	S.A.S	A	14-30
Saturday 12 th	Appledore	A	14-30
Saturday 19 th	Lynton	A	14-30
Saturday 26 th	Lynton	H	14-30

March

Saturday 5 th	S.A.S	H	14-30
Saturday 12 th	Putford	A	14-30

April

Saturday 2 nd	Barum Utd	H	14-30
Saturday 23 rd	Fremington	H	14-30

Results:

Due to postponements only one game was played in December

Merton	0	Kingsley Wizards	4
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Every Thursday 10 to 12

Cuppa & Chat

The Clinton Hall



Info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk
01805 603 300

All proceeds for the hall upkeep/maintenance

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Remember the deadline. 15th February to be included in the March edition.

Valentines 2022
Saturday 12th February

Roasted Pepper & Tomato Soup
Scallops Pan-fried with Ginger & Lemon Grass Risotto
Garlic & Stilton Mushrooms on Sourdough Toast

Fillet Steak with Anna Potatoes, Port & Mushroom Sauce
Chicken Hassle back with Spinach, Tomato & Mozzarella, Balsamic
Vinegar, Basil & Garlic
Mushroom Wellington with a Spinach & Cream Sauce
Cod Fillet on Toast with Leeks, Cockles & Laver bread

Chocolate & Raspberry Torte
Orange Posset with Shortbread
Vanilla Panna cotta with Strawberry Coulis

Tea or Coffee

2 Course - £24-95

3 Course - £29-95



News from Rotary Club of Torrington

Senior RYLA applications open now!

Senior Rotary Youth Leadership Award (for those aged 18-30) is taking place this July. It's a week-long residential course on Dartmoor, delivered by professionals to develop confident, positive leadership and team-building skills and so increase employment prospects. The Eden Project and Imerys are just 2 of the larger organisations who are involved. Applications are open now for one place which Torrington Rotary is funding - see our website <https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=1069> or email Linda Facey ian.facey@hotmail.com for details. Other places may be available for those individuals or companies wishing to pay the £725 course fee. Applications close 15 March.

Meanwhile, our Rotary Youth team unfortunately has had to reduce our activity over the past two years due to COVID, with many of the Youth Competitions cancelled due to lock-downs. However, the alliance with Great Torrington School is still strong and we have managed to provide some limited support. Since last Summer, a Rotarian has been helping as a volunteer Learning Support Assistant, bringing on certain pupils who have fallen behind due to the COVID distractions. We have added further books to the Library and are about to re-launch the Young Chef competition.

Rotary also hopes to promote our Young Photographer competition in the wider community shortly – watch out for more details - plus further competitions in 2022/3, including the Youth Leadership Award for 16-18 year olds.

If you'd like more information about Rotary and our Torrington club, or you'd like to come along to one of our dinners at Torrington Golf Club, please contact us- new members of all age groups are welcome and you don't have to reside in Torrington. Likewise, if you know of a local need that we might help with, please let us know.

Email secretary@torrington.rotary1175.org

Species of the Month

February — Frogs and Spawn

Conservation Communities - Torrington to Hatherleigh

Help build up a picture of the wildlife in our area by telling

Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (www.dbrc.org.uk) about the species you have seen.



Frog or Toad

- Smooth skin
- A dark 'mask' behind the eye
- Long back legs, with dark bands
- Hops and jump
- Lays spawn in jelly-like clumps in shallow puddles or ponds. Spawn expands after it is laid and floats, forming a large mat of merged clumps.

- Olive-brown, warty skin
- Copper eyes
- Short back legs
- Walks rather than hops
- Lays its spawn in long strings around aquatic plants, with two rows of eggs per string. They breed in large, deep ponds.

You might think it's still a bit cold for frogs and toads, but frogspawn starts appearing in February. In fact, where it's been mild here in Devon, you may have even spotted some in January! Frogs and toads can be hard to spot as adults, so getting records of spawn is a great way of knowing where they are.

Did you know?

One clump of frogspawn can contain up to 2000 eggs but only one in 50 eggs will mature into an adult.

Did you know? It takes 3 years for frogs to reach full size

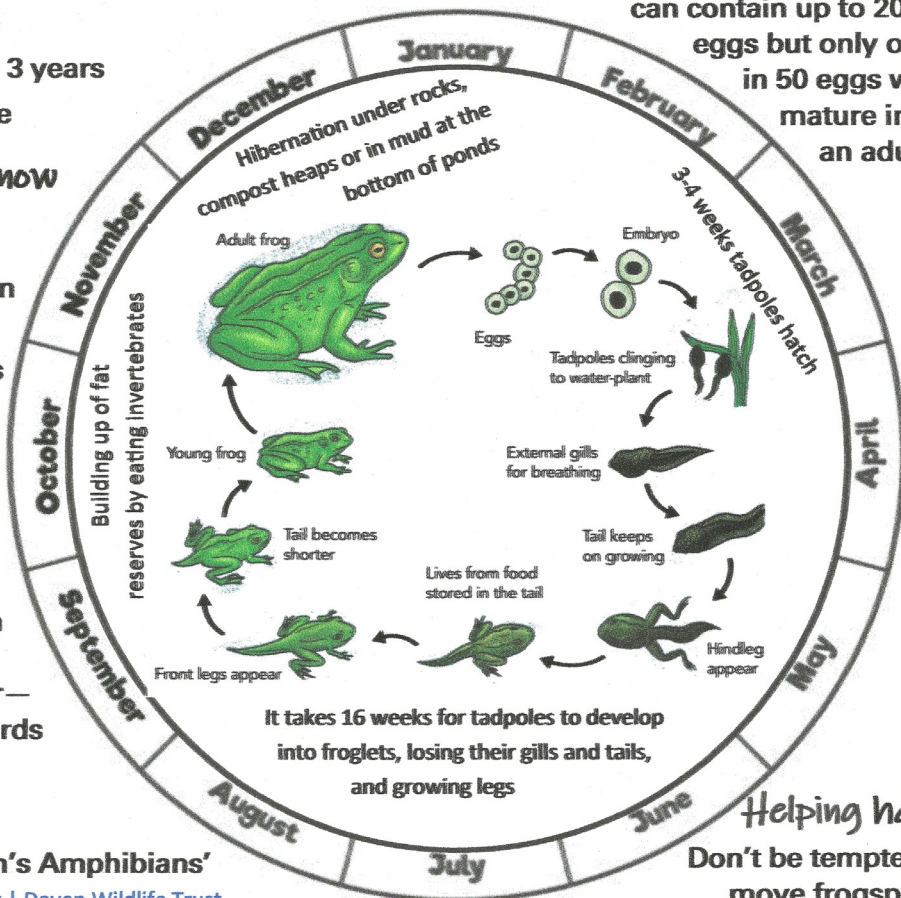
Why DBRC need to know about amphibians in

this area: The common frog is not necessarily common - in many areas they have disappeared due to agricultural pesticides, draining of wetland habitats and filling-in of small ponds. DBRC has very few records of amphibians in this area but we suspect there are a good number—help us to put these records right.

To find out more:

Watch 'Identifying Devon's Amphibians'

[Conservation Communities Project | Devon Wildlife Trust](http://www.dbrc.org.uk)



Helping hand:

Don't be tempted to move frogspawn between ponds. This risks spreading disease.

Remember the deadline. 15th February to be included in the March edition.

The Malt Scoop Inn

Essential Shop



Yorkshire tea, Tea Bags (20 bags) ~ £1
Carton of long-life semi-skimmed milk ~ £1
Small bag of sugar ~ 65P

Tins

Heinz tomato soup ~ £1 per tin
Spaghetti hoops with sausages ~ £1 per tin
Branston baked beans ~ 75p per tin

Dairy Produce

Unsalted Butter ~ £1.75
(6) Free Range Eggs ~ £1 (if possible bring an egg box)

Other Sundries

Toilet Rolls (4) £1.50
Kitchen Rolls (2) £1

Snacks

Selection of Crisps available ~ £1
Selection of chocolate available ~ £1
Peanuts (salted or roasted) ~ £1
Pork scratchings ~ £1

Frozen Items

Unsmoked back Bacon (6 rashers) ~ £1.70
Breakfast Sausages (6) ~ £2

Alcohol

A selection of White, red and rose wine available ~ £12 per bottle
(Please contact us for our selection of crisps chocolate and wines)

This is just a small amount of stock to start. I am happy to hear of any suggestions you may have on what you and others in the village will find useful to have stocked here at the pub.

Opening hours

Monday - closed, Tuesday & Wednesday 12pm til 10.30pm, Thursday 3pm til 10.30pm, Friday & Saturday 12pm til 12am and Sunday 12pm til 8pm

The Malt Scoop Inn

Pub, Restaurant & Bed & Breakfast

For any enquiries call 01805 603924

Opening Hours

Monday closed all day

Tuesday 3pm – 10.30pm*

Wednesday 12pm – 10.30pm*

Thursday 3pm – 10.30pm*

Friday 12pm – 12am*

Saturday 12pm – 12am*

Sunday 12pm – 8pm*

*depending on customer flow, hours may change

Food served daily

(takeaway available on anything on the menu)

Tea & fresh coffee also available daily

Now serving Cream Teas & Savoury Cheese Scone Teas available during open hours at £4.95 per person

Fish & Chips or Pie & Chips, eat in or takeaway available every Friday

(Fish is freshly prepared and cooked to order so please place your order no later than 6pm 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



Well-behaved dogs welcome



Website www.themaltscoop.co.uk / facebook @themaltscoopinn

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

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