

Merton Monthly

March 2022

{Produced by the Village Hall }

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

BIG breakfast

2022



Join us for a delicious
breakfast

raising vital funds for North Devon Hospice

The Clinton Hall, Merton

Sunday 20th March

9am – 11.30am

To reserve a table and time
please call 01805 603300

£7 per person

or small appetites £5



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: 01837-5230



No information this month due to Storm Eunice!

A message from the Editor

Hi,

Some good ideas coming in for the upcoming Jubilee celebrations, it will be nice to see the village coming together to celebrate this event.

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.

Jubilee contributions...

Seventy years is a very long time to be "Queen", but what happened in and around Merton during those years?

As part of the special celebrations to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, I would like to organise a "History of Merton in pictures and words 1952-2022".

I envisage large display boards, with stories and photos, all round the main space in Clinton Hall, starting with 1952 and finishing with 2022. All Merton villagers are invited to contribute to this display.

We start with people like "Bunny", who was born in the village and still lives next door to the house where he was born. What are his memories of his childhood here, how different was life then compared with now, does he have photos to illustrate this, etc.

We finish with people who moved in more recently, like us. When did they move here, what attracted them to the village life, where did they move from, what are their hopes for the future of Merton.

You can either do this yourself by writing down what you would not mind sharing with others on an A4 sheet, including pictures if you have any. Or you can write down some information or meet up with me somewhere and let me put your story together for your approval.

The success of this display depends on your co-operation, and I hope that many of you will rise to the challenge so we end up with an interesting and worthwhile exhibition!

You can leave finished entries (please put your name and contact details on the back) in my gold letterbox at Moorview, Clarkes Lane, email me on connie1_coleman@hotmail.com or for more information ring me on 603318.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Connie Coleman

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for March

Black Bag collection Thursday: 3rd March & 17th March & 31st March

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

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday

Check the TDC calendar at: Torridge District Council

News from Clinton Hall

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



Merton Platinum Jubilee 2022

The Merton Jubilee Planning Group have met recently, and we have some great fund-raising events planned leading up to the main Jubilee June weekend.

Save the Dates -

Saturday 26th March 2022 - A Right Royal Quiz Night

A bumper blue-blooded quiz with categories to suit all, prizes, a raffle, music and more.
The bar will be open. Held at The Clinton Hall, 7:30pm until close.

Saturday 23rd April 2022 - The Platinum Cup Horse Racing Night

All the thrill of the races including a Ladies Day theme, Royal enclosure, Nose Bag treats, Big screen races and more, so roll up and place your bets for a top night of fun.
The bar will be open. Held at The Clinton Hall, 7:30pm until close.

Tickets and details for these events will be on sale soon – for details follow us on

Facebook – @mertonjubilee2022

Watch out for poster updates in the village.

To contact the Jubilee Planning Group email – mertonjubilee@outlook.com

Or call Neil Littleales (Chair) on 01805 603344



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 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.



Merton F C



Fixtures:

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:

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

February 2022

£20-00 Dan Welch

£10-00 Sally Winsor



Step Into Swingtime

Ever wanted to learn to dance?

A six-week beginners course starts at The Clinton Hall, Merton on

Friday 18th March 2022 7:30pm – 9:30pm

Introducing swing style dancing from the era of Big Bands and great sounds.

Bring a partner, a friend or come along and find new friends.

Each week includes a one-hour dance lesson followed by music to let you practice and socialise.

Cost - £5 per person/week

Bar open. Tea and Coffee also available.

Plenty of parking, spacious and airy hall (Covid compliant)

Got a question? Just message or call.

Neil or Kerry on 07722 321838

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

THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

"Plant a Tree for the Jubilee"

For more details please click the link, or type it into your web browser.

<https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

Upcoming Events:

Reversing Species Declines in Devon – Clinton Hall, Merton

An evening talk with Sam Bridgewater of Clinton Devon Estates, Wednesday 9th March, 7pm

Why are species in Devon in decline? How can this be reversed?

Find out at this talk with Dr Sam Bridgewater.

[To help us manage numbers we are encouraging pre-booking via this link to Eventbrite](#) (alternatively email: jpullin@devonwildlifetrust.org)

Mammals of Devon – Dolton Village Hall

A talk by Eleanor Knott from DBRC, Wednesday 23rd March, 7.30pm

There's no need to book for this talk, please arrive in time for a 7.30pm start - Dolton Village Hall (South Street, Dolton, Winkleigh, EX19 8QS).



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.**

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

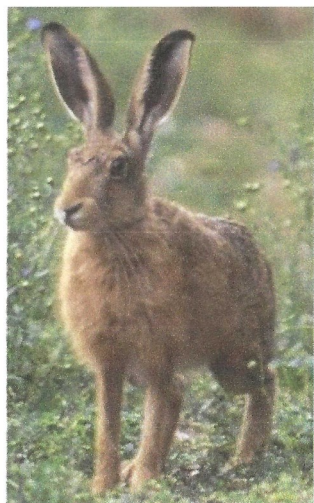
March — Brown Hare



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.



Hares and Rabbits

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golden brow fur • Average 50cm in length and 4kg • Long ears with black tips • Runs at high speed, when frightened they lower their tails • Solitary or live in small groups • Lives out in the open, hiding in vegetation or shallow depressions known as forms • Babies (leverets) are born above ground, fully furred, eyes open and ready to run! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey fur • Average 40cm in length and 2.5kg • Ears proportionally shorter than hares • When frightened, they expose a white underside of their tail • Live in large social groups • Live in warrens, a network of tunnels or burrows they dig into the soil • Young (kittens) are born underground, blind and naked |
|---|---|

To find out more:

Watch Meadow Mammals video at

[Conservation Communities Project](#) | [Devon Wildlife Trust](#)

First introduced to Britain in Roman times, the brown hare is considered naturalised. It is a different species to the indigenous mountain hare, which isn't found in Devon.

They live in grassland and woodland edges, eating vegetation, the bark of young trees and arable crops.

Seen at dawn or dusk, out in the open fields. Hares are most easily spotted in spring when it's the breeding season and males seek out females. During his time they can be seen "boxing". If a male is chasing a female too much, in his attempt to mate, she might turn around and try to fend him off.

Did you know?

- Hares can reach speeds of 45mph
- The female leaves the leverets all day, only returning at sunset to feed them. This reduces the risk of predation, particularly by foxes.

Why DBRC are asking for reports of hare sightings:

DBRC has very few records of hares in the Conservation Communities area, especially over the last 10 years—is this because they are no longer here?

It is thought that nationally their numbers are declining. We know that hares are quite rare in Devon as it is a county that favours pasture over arable crops.

They have little legal protection and are classed as game animals. They are listed as a species of principal conservation importance, under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006).



Remember the deadline. 15th March to be included in the April 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.

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