

Merton Monthly

April 2022

{ Produced by the Village Hall }

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

THE JUBILEE COMMITTEE PRESENTS

The Platinum Cup Horse Racing Night

**All the thrill of the races including -
Ladies Day Theme, Royal Enclosure, Nose
Bag Treats, Big Screen Races and more.....**



**7.30pm
23rd APRIL
2022**

PRICES FROM £5 | BAR OPEN | CHILDREN FREE ENTRY

**Essential Booking for your "Nosebag" of treats £5
VIP Enclosure £10 per entry incl glass of Prosecco**

To Book your enclosure (Seat)

**AT THE CLINTON HALL, MERTON, EX20 3EQ
EMAIL: MERTONJUBILEE@OUTLOOK.COM OR
CALL: 01805603344**

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

Dear Friends,

The events happening in Ukraine have horrified us all. Probably just like those before us in 1939 and before that in 1914, we have thought 'How could this happen in our time?' We thought our civilization had outgrown such barbaric ways, that warfare on this scale was a thing of the past.

And yet.... We discover we are not quite such sophisticated creatures after all. Evil and violence and hatred are all too real. And the tragedy is that, whatever the outcome, there will be wounds – and not just physical – that will last for decades not just in Ukraine, but across the world.

We are approaching Easter. And Easter takes the evil and sinfulness of this world seriously. God doesn't gloss over it, but deals with it. It's what the cross of Jesus is all about. Firstly it is that, through Jesus, God enters into the suffering that the evil and sin throws up. He doesn't simply throw up his hands in horror, tell us it's all our own fault and leave us to it. He comes to be with us in it all. To see so many gathering in Kyiv Cathedral – it gives them the huge strength and courage the Ukrainians have shown. To be aware of the huge outpouring of care and help for those fleeing is a testimony to the love of God among us.

But too the cross of Jesus is about dealing with the evil and sinfulness as well. Jesus confronts all that would destroy, even death itself, and comes through. For Jesus to simply die is to say that the bombs and the horror have the last say. But the resurrection of Jesus is to know that they will not. There is always hope, there is always life.

Which is why we seek to do things to help. It is why so much is given in material goods and in money to support the people of Ukraine. It is why people are willing to share their homes with those who have lost theirs. The sharing of our homes will not be for everyone, but it will for some. There are various groups helping co-ordinate the offers being made and those who need it. The church in Devon is one such, working with Citizens UK. Do go to The Diocese of Exeter's website for more information (www.exeter.anglican.org), or talk with us here. If there are a number of us here, it would be good to link together for support.

Easter recognizes what is at times the horror of the world we are part of. But then it offers us hope in the face of that reality.

Peace be with you,

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints' Church

3 rd April	9.30am	Peters Marland (Communion)
5 th April (Tues)	2.00pm	School Easter Service
10 th April	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel
15th April	2.00pm	Good Friday Prayers
16th April (Sat)	3.00pm	Easter Family Celebration
17 th April	9.30am	Petrockstowe Chapel
24th April	9.00am	Huish (Communion)

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

Ring 0330-606-0403. (

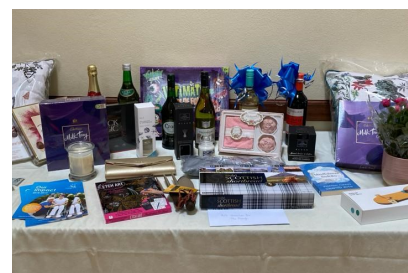
You will be asked for an access code: 251417)

News from Clinton Hall



£522-10 was raised and will be match funded pound for pound by Michelle Stacey's employer TT Barnstaple. Total raised £1044-20. Thank you to all that came and enjoyed a big breakfast

Thank you to Sandford's Bakery who supplied the bread and also to B & N Farm Foods for the lovely meat order.



A message from the Editor

Hi,

Well done for the great support of the Big Breakfast.

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.

Merton Vintage & Classic Vehicle 'Rally Around'

**Social Gathering & Fundraising for
THE NORTH DEVON HOSPICE
& DEVON AIR AMBULANCE**



ENTRANCE BY DONATIONS PLEASE.

Vintage & Classic Cars, Tractors, Motorbikes, Commercials &
Engines ... Steam Engines & Minitures ... Rolls Royce & Vintage
Bus Rides ... Steam Engine Trailer Rides ... Bouncy Castle ...
Live 'Bug' Experience ... 'Wonderstruck' Science Workshops ...
Dutch Street Organ ... Craft & Local Produce Stalls ...
Hog Roast, Sausage/Bacon Rolls or Pasty, quench your thirst at
the Bar or Tea/Coffee, Hockings Ice Cream or Tea & Cake.

SUNDAY 1ST MAY 2022 11^{AM} - 5^{PM}
"A LOVELY DAY OUT FOR EVERYONE"

PLEASE NOTE - Regrettably the Rally site is now a 'NO DOG AREA' with the
exception of Guide/Assistance Dogs.

At The Clinton Hall, Merton (EX20 3EQ) on the A386.





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!

**Join me, Tyler on a sponsored bike ride
Along the Tarka Trail from
Petrockstowe to Meeth and back again**

**RAISING FUNDS FOR THE
MERTON'S JUBILEE WEEKEND**

**MEET AT 10AM
ON THE 02.05.22
EMAIL OR CALL
FOR A SPONSOR FORM
OR TO ASK ANY QUESTIONS
MERTONJUBILEE@OUTLOOK.COM
OR
CALL 01805603158**



T-dog

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.

In last month's Merton Monthly I wrote about my idea as to how we, as a community, could come together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

A committee was set up and they are organising all sorts of different events, but I would like to see how the population of Merton fared. Some people were born in the village before 1952 and still live here now, others, like myself, only moved here much more recently.

So, Bunny who has lived here since 1946, has very different memories of Merton than me, who was born in Holland, moved to Brackley in Northants in 1972 and finally to Merton in 2020.

My aim is to get as many households as possible to write down their memories of the journey that led them to Merton, some photos for illustration, some funny or profound details, only as much as you feel comfortable to share.

If you can put this on an A4 sheet of paper and scan in some photos, all the better, If you have trouble doing that, I can help you put the story together, type it out for you and scan any photos you have. The sample on the left is the story of me and my family, but yours could be very different.

Any space in between the stories, I can fill up with extra photos, as there seem to be quite a few of those!

Anyway, please think about taking part in this, as the success will depend on your cooperation!

Connie Coleman



Appledore and Saunton Sands, visiting relatives in Fremington.

Having been on holiday to Devon for many years, we decided that we wanted to move that way permanently. Unfortunately, that decision coincided with Covid rearing its ugly head and by spring 2020 restrictions were in full force. Surprisingly, estate agents were still able to do business! Brackley (where we lived) to Barnstaple is a four hour drive and over-night stays would not be allowed. Having sorted six potential places in Devon online, we set off at six in the morning so we could view our first property at 10 am and finished the last one by 6 pm, arriving back home, utterly exhausted, by 10.30 pm. We did, however, manage to find our home: " Moorview", Clarke's Lane, MERTON!

We moved in September 2020 and have had our work cut out ever since.

Moorview, a former malthouse, built in the late 1700s, converted into a two storey dwelling with an upstairs living room: a large house, but needing a lot of TLC.

We have found everyone in the village very friendly, the locals as well as the more recent residents and feel that we made the right move when we chose Merton.

My one regret is the closure of the village shop and post office. However, weekly coffee mornings and a regular pop-up café, as well as different activities in the hall have all started up again, so the future looks bright!



Connie and Melanie



Lucy



Roger

Table Tennis



Anyone for Table tennis?

Is anyone in the village interested in playing table tennis? It is great for honing the reflexes even if you have not played for years. There are unused tables at the Clinton Hall and the hall is available during the daytime. The cost for a two hour session would be just under £20 shared between the group. If anyone is interested please let me know if you would prefer an afternoon or morning session and any days to avoid.

Please contact Kate Ripley

ripley.kate@gmail.com

01837 811527





Merton F C



Fixtures:

April

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

Results:

S.A.S	2	Merton	2
Appledore	5	Merton	0
Merton	6	S.A.S	6
Putford	5	Merton	1

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

March 2022

£20-00 Keith Wharton

£10-00 Chris Williams

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for April

Black Bag collection Thursday: 14th April & 28th April

Green Waste collection Friday: 7th April & Friday 22nd April

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday except Saturday 16th & Saturday 23rd

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

Remember the deadline. 15th April to be included in the May 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/>

From the Family of Les Salmon.

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death of our beloved husband and dad, Les Salmon, who was sadly taken from us on Sunday 20th March 2022.

His funeral will take place at East Devon Crematorium on 22nd April at 11.30am.

Thank you for all the cards and caring thoughts shown at a difficult time for us all.



Torrington Rotary Collection for Ukraine

The community in Torrington and the surrounding area showed tremendous generosity in responding to Rotary's Ukraine appeal and street collection at the town's Craft and Food Fair on 6th March, donating a total of more than £1100. As a Charity our Club can claim a further 25% through the Gift Aid Small Donation scheme for the bulk of these donations, as a result the total collection amounts to £1367.57.

The sum will be channelled through the Devon and Cornwall Rotary Ukraine Appeal Fund, both to UK's Disasters Emergency Committee— the partnership of 15 leading charities which are mobilised to send humanitarian aid where it is needed most in the Ukraine crisis and to Rotary Clubs in the countries in the vicinity of Ukraine handling humanitarian aid to the refugees. This will ensure that your money will go promptly and directly to where it is needed most.

Thank you, again, Torrington and our surrounding villages, for your generosity.

Keeley Allin

President Rotary Club of Torrington

Email secretary@torrington.rotary1175.org



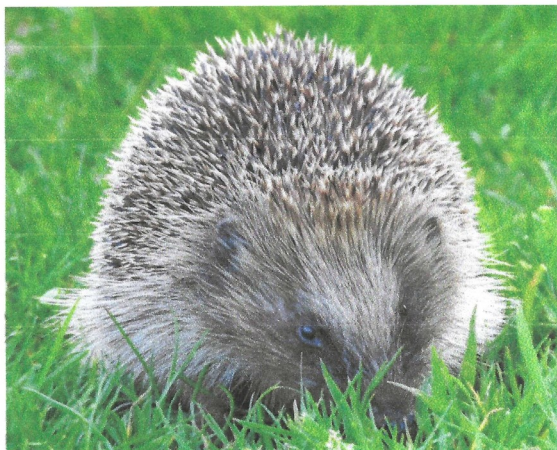
Species of the Month

April — Hedgehogs

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.



Hedgehogs are one of our most distinctive mammals. They are generally nocturnal, spending the daytime resting somewhere safe.

Hedgehogs can live for up to 7 years and can be found in a variety of habitats, including suburban gardens, woodland, farmland and parks.

They are known for eating slugs and snails but this only makes up 5% of their diet. They prefer to eat; beetles, earwigs, earthworms and caterpillars.

Did you know?

- The 5,000 spines that cover the hedgehogs back are 2-3 cm long and made of keratin, the same stuff as our hair.
- Hedgehogs have relatively poor eyesight and rely on their sense of smell and hearing to get around and find food.

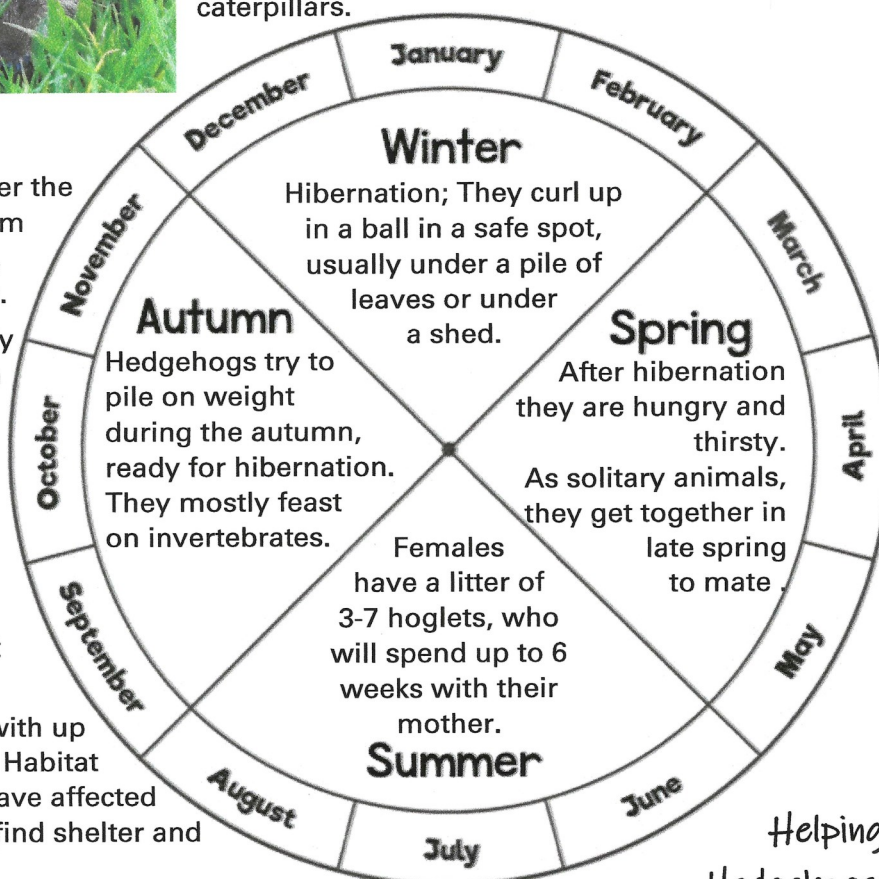
Why DBRC need to know about hedgehogs

in this area: Over the last 20 years, hedgehogs have suffered a serious decline, with up to a 50% loss in rural areas. Habitat loss and use of pesticides have affected the ability of hedgehogs to find shelter and food.

The majority of DBRCs hedgehog records are from the 1980s, we would like to get an up to date picture of the hedgehog numbers, please tell us if you have seen one.

To find out more: watch the Hedgehog Talk

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



Helping Hedgehogs:

Ensure your garden is hedgehog friendly by creating small gaps in fences and providing shelter for them. By encouraging invertebrates, you will be helping hogs too.

To find out what you can do, visit DWT's Help the Hog page: <https://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/take-action/garden-wildlife/help-hog>

Remember the deadline. 15th April to be included in the May 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 Rooms
01805 603924

www.themaltscoop.co.uk

or facebook @themaltscoopinn



Opening Hours

Monday – closed all day

Tuesday & Wednesday 12pm – 10.30pm

Thursday 3pm – 10.30pm

Friday & Saturday 12pm – 12am

Sunday 12pm – 6pm

Food served daily until 8.30pm Tuesday to Saturday & 3pm Sunday



Hatherleigh Bowling Club

Welcome to Hatherleigh Bowling Club. The club is a small friendly lawn bowls club, which is owned and maintained by its members. We have a six rink well maintained green and a spacious clubhouse with changing rooms and a bar. We play a full programme of friendly and competition matches from April to September. In the winter, our clubhouse enables us to play short mat bowls with 2 rinks (mats).

Why not give it a go! Come along on a Monday evening from 5.00pm to 7.00pm and try for it yourself. New members are always welcome, from beginners to experienced players, ladies or gentlemen, young or old. We have a supply of bowls suitable for all and all you need is a pair of flat soled shoes or trainers.

For more information contact: Roger White 01409 231418

Dave Brown 01837 680131 or Sheila Johnson 01837 54391

For Short Mat Bowls please contact: Rob Calam 01409 231859

Hatherleigh Bowling Club, Bowling Green Lane, Hatherleigh, Devon. EX20 3HB

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

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~ Peter Bright ~ THATCHER

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Are you able to volunteer some time for the Merton Vintage and Classic Vehicle Rally Around ?
at The Clinton Hall & Playing Field on **Sunday 1 May 2022.**

If you are able to help please complete the form below and return it to mertonrallyaround@gmail.com,
pass to any Merton Monck Committee member, or pop it in to Taw and Torridge Coach Depot,
Grange Lane, Merton, EX20 3ED.

When we have compiled the rota's we will contact you with time etc.

We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- Setting up the day before
- Donations of cakes to sell slices of
- Marshalling
- In the kitchen/marquee selling/serving pasties, cakes, teas and coffees
- Clearing tables
- Washing up
- Rubbish collecting
- Selling draw tickets
- On the gate with donation buckets
- Clearing up after

Name/s _____

Contact email _____ Telephone _____

Happy to do: _____

Preferred time if possible (rally is open from 11 am – 5 pm) _____

If you would like to make and donate a cake please can you give us an idea of what you will make and let us know if you are happy to deliver it on Saturday afternoon to the Clinton Hall, Merton or if you would like us to collect it from you.

_____ Us to collect YES/NO

Many thanks. Merton Monck Committee - Tracey, Yvonne, Tony, Linda (Merton), Helen and Emma (Petrockstowe)