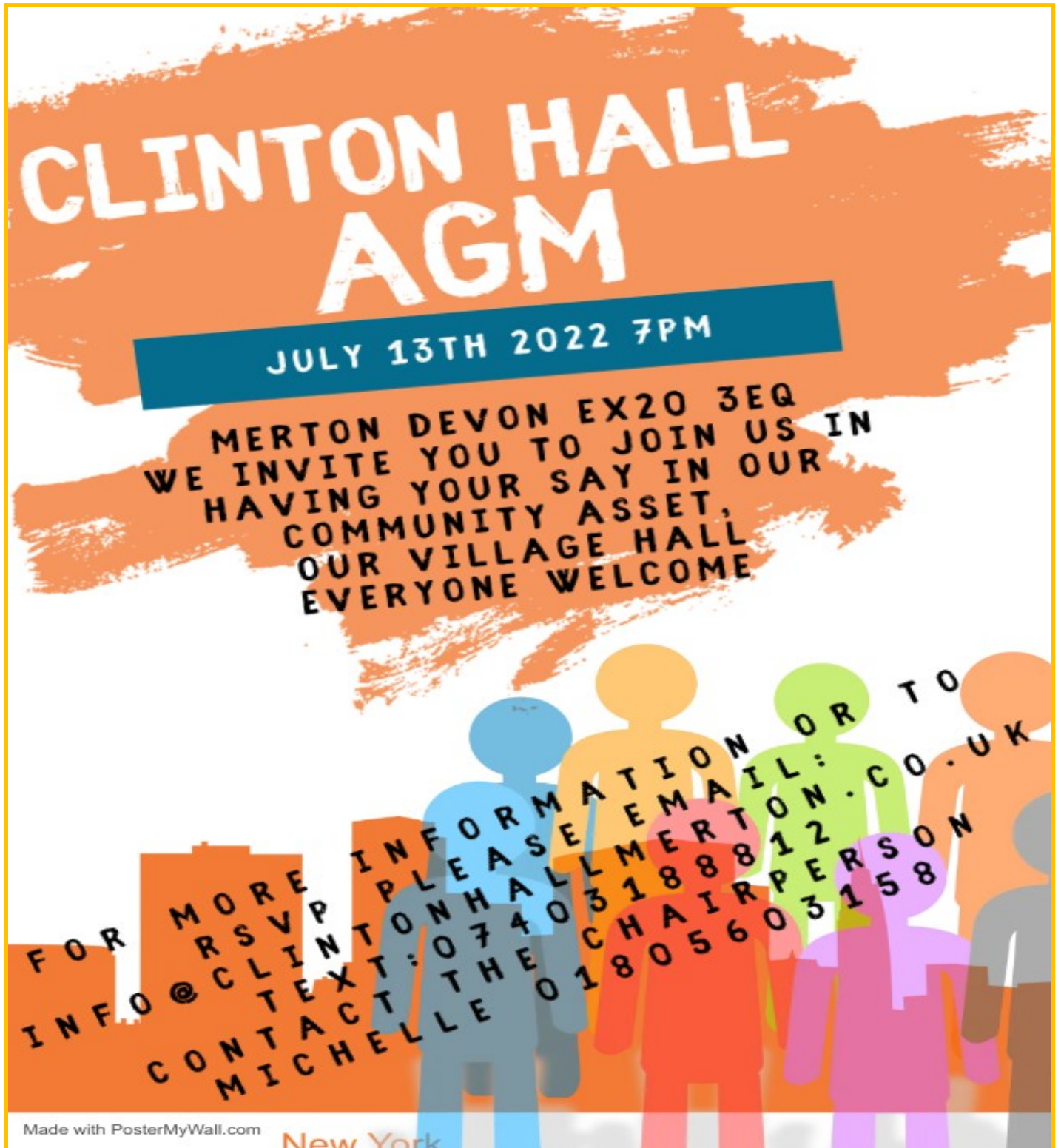


Merton Monthly

July 2022

{ Produced by the Village Hall }

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



Upcoming Event:

Friday 1st July, Hog Roast & Games evening at the Clinton Hall at 6-00pm. More details page 3

All Saints Church



Team Rector: Revd Martin Warren, tel: 01409-281424

Methodist Minister: Rev Chris Jackson, tel: 01837-5230



Dear Friends,

It is just a month ago since the Thanksgiving Service for Susannah. With all the Jubilee celebrations since then, it is hard to remember, that it was actually only a few weeks ago. Thank you to everyone who came out on that occasion, helped it to happen and was part of the day. It was a truly special happening, and so much part of the communities here.

It was great that there was an American presence through some long-standing friends, even if her family couldn't get here – Americans don't get as much holiday as we do! It linked us across the Atlantic, and back into earlier parts of her life. Susannah may have called North Devon home in the end, but there was a considerable journey before that.

Susannah's life was reflected in all its variety. There was the wonderfully serious, and then the crazily absurd. Probably there was revelation for us all at some point or other. Which says how diverse we all are, both as individuals one from another, and in our individual lives. Human beings are endlessly varied and endlessly fascinating. Everybody has a different story to tell, and each one is unique.

And that's the way God made us, and that's the way he loves us. There'll be parts that are wonderfully glorious, there will be other parts that desperately need healing and restoring. There'll be parts we are proud to share, and others that we hide even from those closest to us. The extraordinary thing is that God loves us in all our variety and loves us in all brokenness.

The temptation is always to think – and try to make – others like 'me'. This is the way it should be, this is how you should be, how you should behave, believe, etc. It would be so much easier if we were all the same – wouldn't it? Actually, I'm not sure. And it certainly wouldn't be as much fun!

Susannah was one of a kind. There won't be another. She wouldn't let people mould into a particular shape – not even the Bishop; maybe especially not the Bishop! But actually, so are you one of a kind, so am I, so is each one of us. The mould is broken. There won't be another. So rejoice in that uniqueness that is each of us, that uniqueness that God has made us to be, and in his love seeks to restore us to be.

Peace and blessing to us all,

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints' Church

3 rd July	9.30am	Peters Marland (Communion)
	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel
10 th July	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel
17 th July	2.00pm	Baptism
24 th July	9.00am	Huish (Communion)
31 st July	tba	

Service by Phone Sundays at 4pm

Ring 0330-606-0403. (You will be asked for an access code: 251417)

School Leavers' Service: Tues 19th July, 2.00pm

Any welcome

News from Clinton Hall

Every Thursday 10 to 2

*Cuppa,
Chat &
Create*

The Clinton Hall

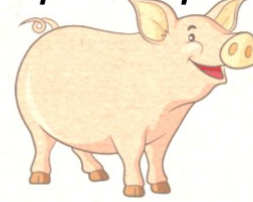


Info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk
01805 603 300

All proceeds for the hall upkeep/maintenance

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Friday 1st July at 6pm



CLINTON HALL
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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/>

A message from the Editor

Hi,

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 SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

We are a small but friendly bunch. As with most clubs, we suffered greatly from the lock-downs over the past two years. Unfortunately, the current number of members no longer enable us to play in the leagues. We would dearly like to build up our membership again, but in the meantime we will continue with our social evening roll-ups on a fortnightly basis. Our schedule for the rest of the summer will be:

Thursday 7th July 2022

Thursday 21st July 2022

Thursday 4th August 2022

Thursday 18th August 2022

Thursday 1st September 2022

If you wish to try out the sport, or just come to watch, 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!

A Big Thank you

You helped to raise £88 pounds for the Clinton Primary School by donating to our Bags2school fundraiser!

Summer Fair

Please join us for our Summer Fair on Tuesday 12 July @ 3.30pm

Cakes, toy swop shop, splat the rat and much more!

The Clinton School PTFA

FREE TO A GOOD HOME PAIR OF HERMANN'S TORTOISES



COMPLETE WITH HOUSE AND HEAT LAMP

Please contact Bunny or Julie Stacey on

01805 603 405

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for July

Black Bag collection Thursday: 5th July & 21st July

Green Waste collection Thursday: 14th July & 28th July

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday.

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

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

June 2022

£20-00 Mary Ford

£10-00 Collette



Rotary Club of Torrington.

In July we welcome our new President, Jenny Staines, who takes over from Keeley Allin. Keeley is our youngest-ever president, and did a sterling job leading us through a challenging year, when we lost and gained members, re-started our dinner meetings after the pandemic and tried to fundraise for local and overseas charities.

Jenny, who has been president of our club before, has a number of events in her diary including our participation in the North Devon Show and supporting the 'Families in Grief' charity football & fun day organized by Hatherleigh Rotary Club on 14 August - see <http://www.familiesingrief.org> for more details. David Nainby will take over from Jenny as President from Nov 2022-Feb 2023, followed by Andy Hill from March-June 2023.

During the last 12 months our club has supported our Torrington community by providing-

- New defibrillator at Tarka Trail (by Cycle Hire at Puffing Billy)
- Donation to Torrington Golf Club to continue their defibrillator
- New armchairs for Torrington Library
- Funding a local lad to attend Senior Rotary Youth Leadership event on Dartmoor in July
- Funding for a local lass to attend and represent Torrington at the Scout World Jamboree in Korea
- Funding for pannier market hanging baskets and plants in Sidney House garden
- New printer for Town Hall office
- Funding for building works for Men's Shed relocation
- Provision of 3 huge hampers of 'Thank You' gifts to our Torrington NHS staff
- Funding for North Devon Children's Holiday Foundation
- Funding for international charities 'Send a Cow', 'Gofisch', and a Ugandan school
- Support and donations (over £2500) for Ukraine refugees
- Donation to Appledore Book Festival Schools' Programme
- Donations to Shelterbox and 'End Polio Now' projects

As you can see, Torrington Rotary is an active group wanting to support good causes here and overseas.... If you'd like more information about us, or are considering joining, please see our website <https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=1069> or contact Rotarian David Large david@ashley-manor.co.uk

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.

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

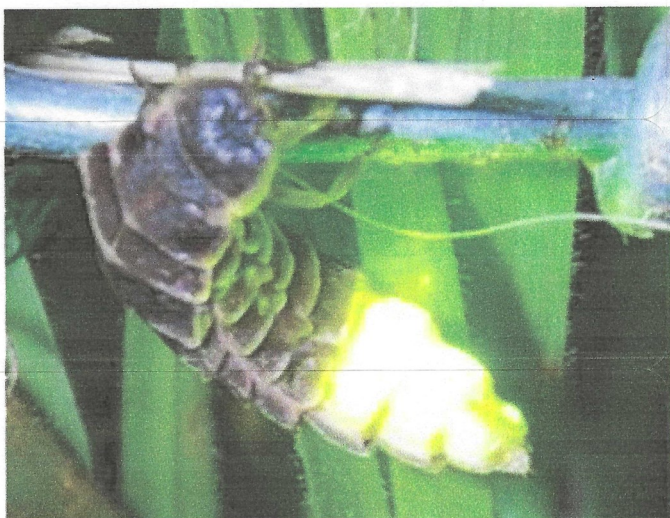
Species of the Month

July — Glow-Worm

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.



Female glow-worm (photo: S.Ellery)

Females are larger than the males and look like the larvae. They have no wings. After mating, a female will stop glowing. She will soon lay her eggs, then die.

Did you know?

- A glow-worm only lives as an adult for 2-3 weeks
- Males can glow too, but it's very rare.
- They feed on small slugs and snails.

Where to look: You can see them glowing between June and August, look just after it gets dark—they glow for a few hours.

They prefer open grassland or heaths, but can be found in gardens, railway embankments, cliffs and open woodland rides. You will see them at several of DWTs nature reserves, including Meeth Quarry.

They are often found as larvae, look in fields with a diverse species of grasses and plants.

If you do find a glow-worm, don't move it. You can take a quick photo to send to us, but otherwise leave it be.



Male glow-worm (photo: C. Quinlin)

The smaller males look more like typical beetles. They scan the vegetation at night looking out for a glow that gives away a female's position. The males then fly over to her.



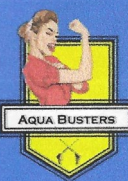
Glow-worm larva (photo: J.Higham)

Glow-worms stay as larvae for 2-3 years, the larvae also glow, but much more faintly.

Why DBRC need to know about glow worms in this area: Glow-worm numbers have been falling. It's not always clear why. Maybe habitat loss, or more lights in the countryside at night. Keeping track of sites with glow-worms is really important. And of course, they will be affected by the use of pesticides and herbicides.

Find out more: [Action for Insects](http://www.actionforinsects.org) campaign at www.devonwildlifetrust.org





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