

Merton Monthly

October 2022

{ Produced by the Village Hall }

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

**Clinton Hall
&
All Saints Church
Merton**

HARVEST SUPPER

Tickets

£12 per adult

£25 per family

October 15th at 7pm

Booking essential, RSVP

Janet 01805 603271 or

info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk

*Please bring a pudding or an item for the
auction.*

*All proceeds shared between the hall and
the church*

All Saints Church



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

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



Dear Friends,

How a few days can change things! It has been quite a month with a new Prime Minister and now a new King as well.

This last month has been dominated by the death of the Queen. We knew she was 96; we knew she was having 'mobility issues'; but still we didn't expect it. Strangely you never do. Somehow death always catches us off balance. We may know that they are dying, but come the actual moment, and we weren't expecting it just then. There is something in us hard wired for life.

Which makes death such a shock. We may have felt it emotionally with the Queen – for many it's like she's been part of the family; but we will all have felt at a deeper level. For the world has changed; the axis has shifted; things are different. And that is always a shock to some degree or other.

For the Queen has always been there. For most of us, that really is the case: we have known no other. For those that can remember back before 1952 – well, it is 70 years ago! And that's still a long time. The Queen has been a constant in our lives. Prime Ministers have come and gone – she clocked up her 15th two days before she died – but the Queen has always been there. There's been a constancy, a certainty.

And now that has gone too! We are reminded that nothing in this world is for ever. Things get broken, they wear out or rot; even we, ourselves, have a sell-by-date. Nothing lasts. Death is always that salutary reminder that we don't go on for ever.

The Queen knew all of that. She has experienced all the highs and lows of human life. She knew the frailty and fragility of this world. But she knew too the one who is the one constant in it all.

Her faith has been regularly referred to. It really was at the heart of her life of service and of all that she has been. When everything else is shaken, she knew that God in Christ was not. Not even in the face of death.

That's the Christian experience. Here is a solid hope, a firm rock that will carry us through all the changes and chances of this world as we look to him in trust. It's a rock we will need as we seek to navigate the challenges of this new era in our nation's life.

Peace and blessing to us all,

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints' Church

2 nd Oct	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel
	11.30am	Peters Marland (Harvest)
9 th Oct	11.00am	Baxter Hall, Petrockstowe (Harvest)
16th Oct	9.30am	Harvest Service
23rd Oct	9.00am	Huish (Communion)
30 th Oct	11.00am	Petrockstowe Chapel

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

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

News from Clinton Hall



*Autumn is here,
time for...*

Tarka Treats
Thursday @ the Clinton Hall
11am - 1pm'ish

Enjoy a brew with friends

A message from the Editor

Hi,

Remember there is the MacMillan coffee morning on Saturday 1st October at the Clinton Hall, where all donations received will be fund matched by Michelle Stacey's employer TT Electronics Barnstaple, pop along for a cuppa and help a great cause.

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

I am pleased to report that, slowly and surely, we are recovering from lockdown, so much so that we have decided to enter the Charity Afternoon League. Our schedule for the next two months will be:

Tue	11-Oct	North Tawton Home	CL	2pm start
Thu	13-Oct	Club Night	CN	7pm start
Thu	27-Oct	Club Night	CN	7pm start
Tue	01-Nov	High Bickington Home	CL	2pm start
Thu	10-Nov	Club Night	CN	7pm start
Tue	15-Nov	Chulmleigh Home	CL	2pm start
Thu	17-Nov	Colebrooke Away	CL	2pm start
Thu	24-Nov	Club Night	CN	7pm start
Tue	29-Nov	Okehampton Home	CL	2pm start

We would still like to build up our membership, but in the meantime we will continue with our social evening roll-ups on a fortnightly basis. If you wish to try out the sport, or just come to watch, you will be given a warm welcome, 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!

For Sale

Lego Friends sets, All Complete, Bagged and with Instructions. No boxes.

Various prices from £2.50 to £30 . Please call for a full list. Thank you.

Julie Bromhead 01805 603620

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for October

Black Bag collection Thursday: Friday 13th Oct, 27th Oct

Green Waste collection Thursday: 6th Oct & 20th Oct

Recycling & Food Caddy: Collected every Friday.

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

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

September 2022

£20-00 Philip Crocker

£10-00 Rodney Elworthy



Merton F C



Fixtures:

October

Saturday 15 th Oct	Merton	V	Bideford AFC	14-30
Saturday 22 nd Oct	Merton	V	South Molton	14-30

November

Saturday 12 th Nov	Merton	V	Georgeham	14-30
Saturday 26 th Nov	Merton	V	AFC Dunumoni	14-30

Results:

Combe Martin Reserves 2 — Merton 3

Petrockstowe Community Church Grand Jigsaw Festival

**Saturday 15th October 2022
10.00am — 4.00pm**

Baxter Hall, Petrockstowe, EX20 3HQ

Over 400 jigsaws made up as pictures
displayed as an art gallery.

All jigsaws will be for sale at very
reasonable prices or just come
and enjoy the spectacular display.

Refreshments and a raffle.

Come and join the fun.

Entrance £1

Raising money for Petrockstowe Community Church.



EARTH WATER FIRE!

CALL OUT FOR PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

**DO YOU LIVE, WORK OR MANAGE THE LAND IN
NORTH DEVON?**

**HELP US TO ENGAGE WITH RELEVANT SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH, SHARE YOUR OPINIONS AND SHAPE
A NEW CONTEMPORARY STORYTELLING SHOW
ABOUT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY.**

**As a project participant you will be required to
attend ONE WORKSHOP in October and ONE SITE
VISIT in November. The date depends on the
relevant issue being discussed. You choose
which is more appropriate to you.**

**You must be happy for your voice and feedback to be
recorded and used as part of the project.**

WORKSHOPS

**FIRE (wildfire, activism): Thursday 13 October 10am - 3pm,
Quince Honey Farm, South Molton**

**WATER (flooding): Saturday 15 October 10am - 3pm,
The Burton, Bideford**

**EARTH (farming): Thursday 20 October 10am - 3pm,
The Clinton Hall, Merton**

SITE VISITS (LOCATIONS TBC)

Friday 11 November

Wednesday 16 November

Thursday 17 November

Travel expenses will be reimbursed, and lunch and refreshments will be provided.

**Email Claire Ayres at earthwaterfire@beaford.org to express
your interest as soon as possible and no later than 2nd Oct.**

**WE NEED
YOUR
INPUT**



beaford



UNIVERSITY OF
PLYMOUTH



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Earth, Water, Fire! is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. It's a collaboration between Lisa Schneidau (storyteller), Matt Biggs (film-maker), Emma Welton (musician), Paula Ditchlow (dramaturg/director), Peter Buffery (technician), community volunteers, Beaford, University of Plymouth and North Devon and Torridge Councils. It will be toured by Beaford Arts in Spring 2023.

Species of the Month

October— Galls

Conservation Communities -Torrington to Hatherleigh

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

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

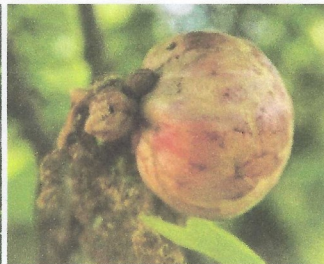
What is a gall?

Galls occur on plants (usually trees and shrubs), they are produced as a response by the plant to insects feeding or laying eggs inside the leaves or branches (these insects and the galls cause little damage to the host plant). Although this activity usually happens in spring, it is often not until autumn, when the leaves fall, that galls become apparent.

Galls come in all sorts of shapes, colours and sizes.



Artichoke Gall



Oak Apple Gall



Robin's Pincushion



Knopper Gall

Here are three common types of gall that you may find on oak trees this autumn.



Photo: Amy Lewis

Oak marble gall is caused by the small wasp (just 2mm long), *Andricus kollari*. Clusters of these oak marble galls can be found on twigs of oak trees. They mature to a brown colour. Inside the gall, larvae feed on the host tissue. The adults emerge, leaving small circular holes in the gall. The empty gall remains, and it is these that we see in the autumn.



Photo: Graham Calow

Spangle galls are caused by the common gall wasp, *Neutroterus quercusbaccarum*. After mating, fertilised eggs are laid on the underside of oak leaves. The galls (which look slightly flattened) are formed by autumn and the wasp larvae remain inside the gall among the leaf litter, throughout winter, emerging in spring.



Photo: Brian Eversham



Photo: Graham Calow

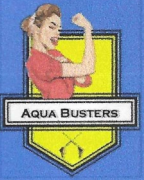
Silk button galls are also found on the underside of oak leaves. These are caused by the wasp *Neuroterus numismalis*. The galls are raised, with a dent in the centre.

In each of these cases, these galls form only one part of the fascinating life cycle of these two species of gall wasps.

Did you know?

- There are around 70 different types of gall wasp for oak trees in the UK?
- Gall wasps have a complicated life cycle, often producing more than one type of gall on a tree.

Adult gall wasps are rarely seen, but their galls are easily spotted, especially in autumn. More information can be found on The Wildlife Trusts "[Wildlife Explorer](http://www.wildlifeexplorer.org.uk)" webpages.



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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** ~

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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 October to be included in the November edition.