

Merton Monthly

September 2023

{ Produced by the Village Hall }

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



Merton Village Social Evening

**Friday 8th September
from 7pm**



**Pop in and enjoy
a casual social
evening with
your neighbours!**

**Bar open
Snacks
Family Friendly.**

Hire Rates for the Clinton Hall

Whole Hall Hire {Not inc Outside Sports Facilities}

Weekend (8am Friday—12pm Sunday or 12pm Friday—8pm Sunday) £500-00

Full Day Hire (8am—12am) £250-00

1/2 Day Hire (6hrs) £135-00

Main Hall

Full Day £120-00

3/4 Day £90.00

1/2 Day £65-00

£11-00 hr

Kitchen

Full Day £50-00

1/2 Day £30-00

1/4 Day £15-00

Meeting Room

Full Day £80-00

1/2 Day £45-00

£8-00 hr

Skittle Alley

Full day £55-00

1/2 Day £35-00

£8-00 hr

Sports Facilities

MUGA £10-00 hr

Tennis Court £6-00 hr

Sports Field

Full Day £50-00

1/2 Day £30-00

Children's Parties (ending before 6pm)

Up to 4 hrs Main Hall & Kitchen (no cooking) £45-00

Up to 4 hrs Main Hall & Kitchen (with cooking) £55-00

For a combination of rooms or specific times/requirements, please contact the Hall for a quote.

E-mail info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk

Telephone 01805 603300 if no answer please leave a message on our answering machine, which will be dealt with as soon as possible.

Advertising Rates for the Merton Monthly

Within parish boundary

1/8 page – Business Card £25-00

¼ page £35-00

½ page £50-00

Full page £100-00

Outside Parish boundary

1/8-page Business card £30-00

¼ page £40-00

½ page £60-00

Full page £110-00

These rates are for 11 issues, from May to April. Local Clubs/Organisations please contact the Editor.

Lost & Found free. Items for sale usually 2 issues free depending on advert size.

One off adverts please contact dave.folland@btinternet.com for pricing.



Join The Clinton hall, Merton
for a
Vintage Tea Dance

3 to 6.30pm.
Sunday 1st October

Tickets in advance, £6 per person or £10 per 2
& £4 for under 13. £8 on the door

↔ • • • ↔
Music from the 1930-1950's. Light afternoon tea included.
Dance or sing-a-long. Raffle & Sweepstake

Tickets from Tarka Treats on a Thursday 11-1pm,
Kerry-07727 657246
Neil-07722 321838
Maria-Lundgrenmaria@rocketmail.com



All Saints Church

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

Methodist Minister: Rev Chris Jackson, tel: 01837-52302



Dear Friends,

Ok, so how do you cope with defeat and failure? I am writing this just after England lost in the World Cup Final to Spain. I'd picked it up with the score at 1-0 to Spain. Surely England would find a way through, just like they had so many times before. But it was not to be. Not this time – even with 13 minutes added in time. They had come so far, but couldn't quite make the final hurdle. Spain were definitely the better team on the night.

So how do you cope? It hasn't worked out, things have gone wrong, it's not what we planned. Well first, be honest. We do have to face the disappointment, or even the anger that it hasn't turned out to be what we hoped. To simply push the feelings down and pretend that it doesn't really matter is straight denial. It does matter – and it does hurt, whether it is disappointment in ourselves or in another.

But equally let's keep it in perspective. After all, it was only a game of football. No-one died! (Yes, I do know Bill Shankley's famous quip about football being more important than life and death!) And that's true about so many things, isn't it. Life can still carry on. It's not as bad – mostly - as the devastation of war in Ukraine or the fires in Hawaii or Canada. And for the Christian, not even death is that bad since we have the confidence of resurrection with Jesus.

And in the end, failure can be the seedbed of fresh success. If you never fail, you never learn anything. At the heart of the Gospel is the Cross of Jesus. You can look at that and see it as complete failure. Jesus crucified, his disciples scattered, their hopes shattered. This is failure par excellence. Indeed, the Gospels record Jesus crying out from the cross, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Even to him, it felt like failure.

But the story doesn't end there. Three days later, we discover Jesus alive again – not resuscitated and brought back to life, but the other side of death. What seemed like failure has become the place where new life begins.

This is what we believe, and many of us testify to, that with God there is always hope. That whatever we have to face, God can bring new life into it – if we will let him. We may not be part of a World Cup team falling short, but we might have to face up to a failing relationship or business; we might have to acknowledge that we have bitten off more than we can manage; we might have messed up with neighbour, or crashed a car, or ..or..... Recovery starts with that place of honesty and then seeking a way forward, finding fresh life in the failure. God is a specialist at that. Maybe you would like someone to pray with you. Please just ask. It doesn't matter whether it is something big or small. And, yes, in complete confidence, if at all possible.

So, here's to the next World Cup. It's only 4 years away.

Every blessing to you,

Martin Warren.

Services at All Saints' Church & around

3 rd Sep	11.00am	Petrockstowe (local-led)
10 th Sep	11.00am	Petrockstowe (Methodist led)
17 th Sep	9.30am	Communion (Merton)
24 th Sep	9.30am	Communion (Huish)

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

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



MERTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

The draw for the upcoming Merton Charity League has been made. We have entered the Afternoon Triples again this year and have been promoted from Div. 3 to Div. 2, we will be playing against High Bickington, Hatherleigh, Winkleigh and North Tawton.

Short Mat Bowls is one of the few sports that can be actively participated in by both men and women of all ages from the very young to those of an advanced age. If you want an inexpensive fun evening out, please come and join us, whether you wish to try out the sport, or just come to watch, we think you will be pleasantly surprised.

Contact Jeanie on **01805 601125** or Julie on **01805 603405** for more details.

We look forward to seeing you!



Merton F C



Results

Woolsery	2	—	Merton	2
Putford	2	—	Merton	3
Merton	10	—	Barnstaple Equalizers	2
Merton	2	—	Kingsley Wizards	1
Langtree	3	—	Merton	2
Bridgerule	3	—	Merton	3

Home Fixtures:

September

Saturday 16 th Sept	Merton	V	Combe Martin	H	14-30
Saturday 30 th Sept	Merton	V	Holsworthy	H	14-30

October

Saturday 7 th Oct	Merton	V	Equalizers	H	14-30
Saturday 21 st Oct	Merton	V	AFC Dumnonii	H	14-30
Saturday 28 th Oct	Merton	V	Morwenstow	H	14-30

The Bar will be open and the Café will be running.

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

August 2023

£20-00 Ron Down

£10-00 Arron Baker

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for September

Black Bag collection Thursday Friday 1st Sept, 14th Sept & 28th Sept

Green Waste collection Thursday 7th Sept & 21st Sept

Recycling & Food Caddy: Saturday every Friday Except Saturday 2nd September

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

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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.

Curious about the story of the Bible?

Just who was Abraham?

Where there really prophecies of Jesus' coming?

Did Goliath actually exist?

Walk through the Bible:

The story of the Old Testament

Told in 4 interactive, entertaining sessions.

Saturday 30th September

10am – 4pm

Baxter Hall, Petrockstowe

Tickets: £14. Please book: 07502-115303

Please bring lunch with you.

EVERY THURSDAY



TARKA TREATS

The Clinton Hall, Merton

Come and join us every Thursday 11am -1pm (ish)

Join us for a cuppa and some tasty treats. It's £3.00 for unlimited tea or coffee and treats. There will also be themed Thursdays throughout the year! Hope to see you there, Vicki and Julie.



Upcoming Events

Social Night Friday 8th September at 7-00pm and Friday 6th October at 7-00pm

Village Tea Dance Sunday 1st October 3-00 to 6-30pm

Harvest Supper Sunday 15th October

More details we be available shortly

If you have any planned events please let me know in plenty of time I will advertise them in the Merton Monthly for you.

E-mail dave.folland@btinternet.com

Or drop a note in my letterbox at Laburnum Cottage, Halfway etween the Garage and the Pub.



YOUR LOCAL GYM

- 24 hour access
- Ample free parking
- No joining fee
- Flexible membership options

**Run BY the local community,
FOR the local community**

A not-for-profit business

**The Gym @ Merton
The Clinton Hall
Merton EX20 3EQ
info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk
01805 603300**

Welcome to Your Local Gym, a not-for-profit fitness centre operated by the local community, exclusively FOR the local community. With our commitment to providing accessible and affordable fitness options, we aim to help individuals lead healthier and happier lives.

Convenience is a priority for us, which is why we offer 24/7 access to our state-of-the-art facility. Located within the grounds of The Clinton Hall in the village of Merton, just a few miles south of Torrington, our gym is easily accessible on the A386.

We boast a wide range of equipment to cater to all your fitness needs. Whether you prefer cardio workouts or strength training, we have you covered. Our gym features a variety of equipment, including treadmills, cross trainers, weightlifting machines, rowing machines, and much more. Whatever your fitness goals may be, our diverse selection of equipment ensures that you can find the perfect workout routine.

We understand the importance of flexibility, so we offer membership options tailored to suit your needs. With no joining fees and no minimum term, you have the freedom to choose a membership that works for you. Monthly membership starts from just £12.50, allowing you to maintain your fitness journey without breaking the bank.

To experience our fantastic facility firsthand, we invite you to a showround. Our friendly team will be happy to guide you through the gym, answer questions, and help you get started on your fitness journey.

Join Your Local Gym today and embark on a healthier lifestyle in a welcoming and supportive community environment.

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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TORRIDGE VOLUNTEER CARS

Admin Volunteers + Drivers

Do you have time on your hands? Would you like to help your Community?

Our **Admin Volunteers** staff our office in Bideford **one** morning a week (Mon – Fri between 09:30 and 13:00, excluding public holidays)

Our **Volunteer Drivers** take passengers to appointments etc, for which expenses are paid.

If you have the time and would like to help, please call the office for a chat.

01237 237140

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01805 603405 or 07970 541448
julie@pound-wisebookkeeping.co.uk

~ **Peter Bright** ~

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Remember the deadline. 15th September
to be included in the October edition.