

Merton Monthly

February 2024

{ Produced by the Clinton Hall Charity Number 1204870 A Not for Profit Business }

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



Clinton Hall BIG Breakfast Club

**Saturday 24th February
From 9.00 - 1130am**

**Join us for a delicious
breakfast**

**Full breakfast £8
For smaller appetites £6**



**To book contact 01805 603300,
or email info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk
or via Facebook.**

Or just turn up!

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.



QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 2nd March

£2.50 per person

Team max - 6 persons

Bar Open 7.00 for 7.30pm start

Book your place now for this
great family night out!

To book your place

Email info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk

Phone 01805 603300



GET INVOLVED!

Tuesday 6th February 7.30 - 9.00pm

**Come and join our friendly committee and help the
community and village hall to thrive.**

**Whether you want to join with us now, or just get a bit more
information....or maybe you have a few ideas for us, come
along to our next meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th
February to see whats its all about.**





All Saints Church

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

Curate: Revd Catherine Duff, tel: 07717-209484

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



Dear Friends,

Recently it has been a joy and privilege to witness and be part of a community working together, loving and caring for one another. People stepping out and helping out when they didn't have to, and when it might all be a bit inconvenient as well. It has been hugely impressive.

I suspect quite a few of those involved would respond that that was what they do. It was there to be done, and they just got on and did it. That's what communities do, isn't it? And they would be absolutely right: that's what communities do. When the chops are down, it is constantly amazing how people pull out the stops. They put themselves out – and are even nice with it.

And should we expect anything else? We find in the Bible that human beings are described as being made in the image of God. So if God is indeed love, that is going to shine through us as well. People will take care of others; they will put themselves out for others; communities will work.

It's not that this doesn't happen: it very definitely does. It's not that this doesn't happen: it's that it doesn't happen all the time. That's the problem. So, we can put ourselves out for so long, but then daily life calls us back. In the crisis, we can be loving and kind; but as normality returns we can return to our bunkers and agendas and prejudices – sorry, personal preferences. Those habits of the other person niggle at us again; we become critical once more. And community becomes fractured.

It's not that love isn't there, but that it gets covered up. We need God's grace, his strength, to help us keep that love uncovered. And uncover it afresh when it does get covered up. It changes us from people who do kind things for each other, to those who are kind. It changes us from the inside out. As Christians we talk about that as the work of the Holy Spirit. It's the life of God within us flowing out. And that's a great goal for Lent.

Lent is coming up. Strangely this year it starts on Feb 14th – the day we celebrate love! So let's celebrate that love – not just the sexy, romantic stuff, great as that is – but too the love that we know in our communities as we see people time and again put themselves out for others. And then maybe, let's use the weeks of Lent (it runs up to Easter) as a time to find that grace for us to share that love all the time, cementing our communities.

Every blessing to you all,

Martin Warren.

Services in Merton and Huish

4 th Feb	11.00am	Petrockstowe (local-led)
	6.00pm	Petrockstowe (Evening Worship)
11 th Feb	11.00am	Petrockstowe (Methodist led)
14 th Feb (Wed)	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Service at Petrockstowe
18 th Feb	11.00am	Communion (Merton)
25 th Feb	9.30am	Communion (Huish)

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

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

Baptism

Welcome to the family

Dec 17th Beatrice Stevens

Funeral

Our prayers for those who grieve

Jan 2nd Barbara Bolt



MERTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

We won against High Bickington Barn Owl at home 20-17 but lost the last two matches, both against Hatherleigh A away 9-30 and at home 13-19. The fixtures for February and March are below:

Date		Time	Home	Away
Thu	01-Feb	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Wed	07-Feb	02:00		High Bickington Tawny Owls
Thu	08-Feb	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Wed	14-Feb	02:00		North Tawton B
Thu	15-Feb	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Wed	21-Feb	02:00		Winkleigh D
Thu	22-Feb	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Wed	28-Feb	02:00		High Bickington Barn Owls
Thu	29-Feb	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Thu	07-Mar	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Thu	14-Mar	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Thu	21-Mar	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Thu	28-Mar	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	

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!

Wednesdays in Lent.....be part of something new.

Langtree Parish Hall

Starting Wed 21st February.

7.00pm



We invite you to join us as we seek to connect with the gospel this Lent in a different way. Each Wednesday evening beginning on February 21st we will be watching episodes of 'The Chosen,' a historical drama based on the life of Jesus and seen through the eyes of those who knew Him. Set against the backdrop of Jewish oppression in first century Israel/Palestine, the series uses the power of film and drama to speak to us in different ways, making these sessions equally accessible to those who are familiar with the stories and those who are not.

Each week there will be an opportunity to discuss what we have seen and share in refreshments and a time of prayer.

For more information contact Julie Cartwright on 01409 281554 or Jon Berry on 01805 601622

2 singing opportunities for 2024 at The Plough Arts Centre

Ploughcappella Choir: Monday evenings 7.30-9.00pm

Join Rosa Rebecka as she brings songs from across the world including her native Sweden, as well as more recent music in English of course, with beautiful harmonies and playful singing explorations. Rosa is a hugely experienced and talented singer, songwriter and choir leader, dedicated to celebrating the joy of singing in all its forms.

Visit www.ploughartscentre.org.uk or phone Box Office on 01805 624624 for more details.

Heartsong: First Sunday of the month (not Aug or Sept) 2pm - 4.15pm

'Heartsong' is a brand NEW monthly harmony singing group on the first Sunday of the Month, at the Plough Arts Centre with the inspirational Alison Whittall (former leader of Ploughcappella). **Next session Sunday 4th February.** With a candle in the centre and compassion in our hearts, we are invited to sing together a cappella in a way that is both powerful and restful. Join Alison in songs of peace, freedom & joy, featuring Contemporary, Gospel, World Music, Harmonic Temple, Taize and original sounds. Our Cafe will open for a tea break.

£12 Full, £10 Supporters £8 Concession (benefits); no card payment will be available so please bring cash. Email alisonwhittall@icloud.com if you need **more details**.



Merton F C



Home Fixtures:

February

Saturday 24th Feb

Merton V Equalizers H 14-30

Merton Football Club have not played for a few weeks because of the Christmas break and bad weather.

The Club are still top of the league with some big games coming up.

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

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

January 2024

£20-00 Shawn Hamley

£10-00 Andrew Woolacott

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

Extra Draw 2024

£5-00 Kath Walsh

£5-00 Dave Griffiths

£5-00 Brian Harris

£5-00 Richard Bright

£5-00 Dave Jackson

£5-00 Danny Jenkins

£5-00 George Bartlett

YOUR LOCAL GYM

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FOR the local community

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Flexible membership options

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

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for February

Black Bag collection: Thursday 1st Feb, 15th Feb & 29th Feb

Green Waste collection: Thursday 8th Feb & 22nd Feb

Recycling & Food Caddy: every Friday

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

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Open every Sunday from 11-4pm

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FOR the local community**

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TARKA TREATS



EVERY THURSDAY 11-1PM

The Clinton Hall, Merton, EX20 3EQ

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 sweet and savoury treats. There will also be themed Thursdays throughout the year.

Hope to see you there, Vicki, Julie and the team.

Tarka treats is a community run event for the community.

From Tarka Treats HQ

Julie and I cannot believe the success of Tarka Treats from late 2022. We have celebrated our first birthday and the birthdays of many who join us for a spot of chat over numerous sweet and savoury treats.

I confess I do make Julie sigh when I suggest theme days but I think she tolerates them very well. We are always open to any days you wish to mark plus we celebrate national holidays and notable days. Coming up will be the annual Tossing the Pancake, (can anyone beat Carol?), St. David's Day, Easter, definitely the Olympics (Julie is already rolling her eyes but what a chance to bake some French treats). I could go on as I do love a theme and a chance to wear a silly hat!

Of course we could not do this without you or our support team also known as The Rock Steady Crew.



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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~ **Peter Bright** ~

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