

Merton Monthly

March 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 March for inclusion in the April issue.



Clinton Hall BIG Breakfast Club

**Saturday 20th April
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.

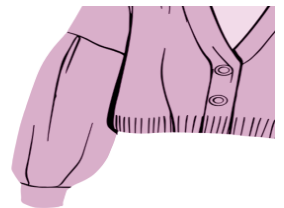
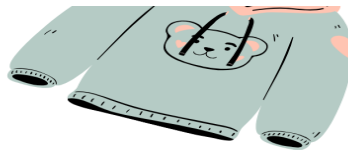
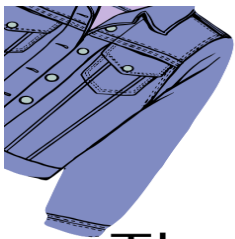
.....ALL SAINTS CHURCH.....

The church has been the centre point of our village for decades and, hopefully, will be so for many years to come. The exterior shows that the weather has not been kind to the stonework, but the church is still there for monthly services and for special occasions, like weddings, baptisms and funerals. We now even have bellringers announcing to the outside world every third Sunday of the month that a service will be taking place inside.



A small band of dedicated parishioners work hard to keep that interior clean and cared for. However, it is only a very small band of elderly cleaners and we desperately need a few willing hands to help us keep on top of things. We usually meet once a month for maybe up to two hours, but any help would be appreciated.

Please phone **Connie on 603318** if you are able to help.



Help to raise funds for
The Clinton C of E School, Merton

Charity number 1037714



BAG 2 SCHOOL



Collection Friday 22nd March
9AM

What we collect

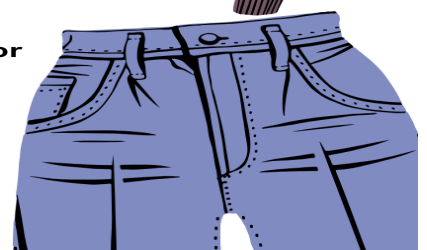
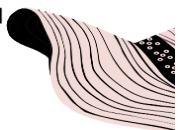
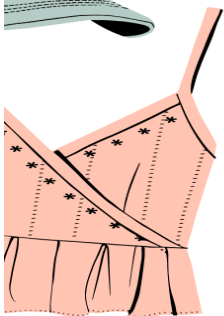
- Clothes
- Paired shoes
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves/ ties
- Bras
- Jewellery
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Curtains
- Towels

Sorry we can't take

- Carpets/ rugs
- Ripped/ painted/ wet clothes
- School uniform & logo workwear
- Batteries
- Furniture

Fill as many bags as you
can!!

For more information or
if you need bags
collecting please
contact Kelly
07929296312





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,

By the end of March we will have arrived at Easter – it's quite early this year! It's tempting to get there too soon, and miss out on the weeks beforehand. Already there are Easter eggs in the shop; hot cross buns are on the shelves all year round. I saw an Easter Bingo advertised for 9th March – weeks before Easter!

These weeks are the season of Lent. So often Lent is seen simply as being about giving up things, of going without, and being all serious. 'Instead of giving up something, why not take up something,' some say, wanting to be positive. Great, if that's what they do – but do they? Or is it just pushing away the idea of giving up things?

So why do we give up things – or to give it its formal name, fast? What's it all about?

Firstly, please note fasting is not just about food. You can fast from anything – even watching Coronation Street! Indeed some definitely shouldn't fast from food. And you can go without for as long or as short a time as you choose. So I could just fast from elevenses, or I could choose to fast for the whole day.

To give up things is about controlling those things that at times can control us. One of my habits that can take me over is doing Sudokus. Now there's nothing wrong with Sudokus, but I can get carried away with them. So for 6 weeks during Lent, I give them up. I get them back under control.

Many of us need to fast from our mobiles. They can be highly addictive. They intrude into times when we are actually physically with other people. Now again, there is nothing wrong with mobile phones. They are hugely useful. But they can take over. Maybe build in several hours in the day when you put the phone away. Or maybe turn off notifications. Ok, so we may not need that discipline – but it's a great example to our youngsters, who really do.

And then to fast is about creating space in our lives. As Christians we want that space to be for God. So Lent is an opportunity to grow closer to God, to take time with him. But we all need that space. Life can be so busy, and so full – and it doesn't seem to matter what age we are. To create a bit of space is to slow down a bit. And to do that we need to give up a few things. But in our busy world, it is so worthwhile. Time to stop, time to reflect, time to wonder, time to think, time to value what really matters.

Use Lent well, and then we can really celebrate with that Easter egg.

Happy Lent everyone.

Martin Warren.

Services in Merton and Huish

3 rd Mar	11.00am	Petrockstowe (local-led)
	6.00pm	Petrockstowe (Evening Worship)
10 th Mar	11.00am	Petrockstowe (Methodist led)
17th Mar	9.30am	Morning Prayer (Merton)
24th Mar	9.30am	Communion (Huish)
29th Mar (Fri)	2.00pm	Good Friday Worship (Merton)
31st Mar	11.00am	Easter Communion (Merton)

Service by Phone

Sundays at 4pm

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



MERTON SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Unfortunately things are not going so well. We lost our next three matches against Hatherleigh B away 7-26, Winkleigh B away 7-25 and High Bickington Tawny Owls 2-30, however, we did manage a draw against North Tawton B away. There are just two more matches to play, Winkleigh B and High Bickington Barn Owls, both away.

With the competition out the way, from next month until September we will be holding roll-ups weekly on Thursday evenings 7 – 9 with the exception of **4th April** when we will be hosting the final of the **Charity League President's Cup**. Members of the public will be very welcome to spectate.

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 Mobile Service Post Office

Merton Square Wednesday 15-00 — 16-00

For more details click this link

[Merton Mobile Service Post Office® | Okehampton | EX20 3EE](#)



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



Results

Merton 2 AFC Dumnonii 2

Merton 13 Georgeham & Croyde 0

At the moment there are no home games in March

The Club are still top of the league.

The players would like to thank everyone who supports the 150 Club and Ron Down who puts in his time and effort, it helps keep the club running.

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

February 2024

£20-00 Jack Kirby

£10-00 Dave Jackson

YOUR LOCAL GYM

Run BY the local community,
FOR the local community

Treadmills, Bikes, X trainer,
Rower, cable cross machines,
multi gym, free weights
and much more.

On the A386 between
Hatherleigh and Torrington

24 hour access
Ample free parking
No joining fee

Flexible membership options

A not-for-profit business
Registered Charity No. 1002372

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

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for March

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

Green Waste collection: Thursday 7th Mar & 21st Mar

Recycling & Food Caddy: every Friday, except **Saturday** 30th Mar

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

Easter Celebration

led by the Clinton School.

Tuesday 26th March, 2.00pm

Merton Church

All are welcome

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installer insurance, sorted

**Something delicious has taken
up residence in Merton!**

CLINTON HALL CAFE

Pop in for a lovely coffee or tea
and some of our amazing cake.



Open every Sunday from 11-4pm

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

A not-for-profit business
Registered Charity No. 1002372

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.

The Clinton Hall

The Clinton Hall is run by volunteers to enable the hall to be the for the whole community near and far. If you feel you could help in anyway no matter how big or how small, we welcome you. Often we have events that require help in the kitchen, behind the bar or help with set up and tidy up from various events. There's always plenty of gardening and tidying up outside to be done also. If you can spare anytime please contact Michelle on 01805603300 or info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk

Upcoming events

March 2nd - quiz (Bi-monthly)

April 20th - Big Breakfast (Bi-monthly)

Summer Social Nights - May

Village Teddy Bears Picnic - June/July

Treasure hunt - July/August

Village fete with Dog show, welly wanging and plenty more - September

Scarecrow festival - October

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

Decorating



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Buckland Filleigh
bucklandaccounts@gmail.com

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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** ~

THATCHER

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website: www.grascottfirewood.co.uk

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Local & Sustainable



YOUR LOCAL GYM

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

Treadmills, Bikes, X trainer,
Rower, cable cross machines,
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Remember the deadline. **15th March** to
be included in the April edition.