

Merton Monthly

April 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 April for inclusion in the May 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.

Merton Vintage & Classic Vehicle 'Rally Around'

**Social Gathering & Fundraising for
THE NORTH DEVON HOSPICE
& DEVON AIR AMBULANCE**



ENTRANCE BY DONATIONS PLEASE.

**Steam Roller ... Vintage & Classic Cars, Tractors, Motorbikes,
Commercials & Engines ... Rolls Royce & Vintage Bus Rides ...
Bouncy Castle ... 'Wonderstruck' Science Workshops ...
Face Painting ... Craft & Local Produce Stalls ... Live Music ...
Steam Train Rides ... and lots more**

**Hog Roast or Pasty, quench your thirst at the Bar or with
Tea/Coffee, Hockings Ice Cream or Tea & Cake.**

SUNDAY 5TH MAY 2024
11^{AM} - 5^{PM}

At The Clinton Hall, Merton (EX20 3EQ) on the A386.





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,

Has it stopped raining yet? Maybe it has by the time you get to read this. It certainly hasn't as I write it! Another gloomy day with the rain coming down. Low cloud and dark. Most years I can look out and see many glorious sunsets behind the trees beyond our garden through the winter. This season there seem to have been very few.

And it certainly has been a very wet period. What was it? February was the wettest February on record? It certainly felt like it. Maybe the spring will make a difference.

So I have had a moan about the weather. But actually that is how we can often feel more generally. Be it the news around us – it doesn't seem to get any better; or indeed our own personal and community situations – be it illnesses or the now loss of our library service – it can all feel pretty depressing and gets us down.

So the arrival of Easter is a huge gate to new hope and life. Not just because it comes with springtime – although that can help. Or because there's lots of chocolate – wonderful! But even more because of what the Easter story offers us.

You know the story: Jesus is put to death, hideously crucified, buried in a tomb. But a few days later he is found to be alive again – and it's not just resurrection – given all he had been through that wouldn't have been very impressive. It was resurrection. It wasn't his coming back from death; it was that he went through death.

And that does change things. For now, just like spring and the flowers and leaves beginning to come and say that the seasons are on the move, so the glimmer of Jesus' resurrection says that all the depressive state of the world is not the end of the story. Even death itself is not the end of the story. There is life – and it begins now.

What a difference Easter makes. To know that the resurrection of Jesus is for real. That's the heart of Christian faith. It doesn't change the world or our circumstances just like that – just at it could still be a wet April! But it does change us - and it does change how we see things – and it does change what we do about things. The way things are is not the end of the story.

Ask any Christian believer. Easter makes such a difference.

Happy Easter all,

Martin Warren.

Services in Merton and Huish

7 th Apr	11.00am	Petrockstowe (local-led)
	6.00pm	Petrockstowe (Evening Worship)
14 th Apr	11.00am	Petrockstowe (Methodist led)
21 st Apr	9.30am	Morning Prayer (Merton)
28 th Apr	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

We have completed our remaining two more matches, unfortunately, we lost to Winkleigh B 16-26 and also to High Bickington Barn Owls 9-10, both were played away.

With the competitions out the way from April 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](#)

.....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.



GET INVOLVED!

Tuesday 23rd April 7.30pm

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 to see whats its all about.





Merton F C



Results

Merton 5 Georgeham & Croyde 0

Combe Martin 3 Merton 2

Some Big games coming up which will decide how our season finishes.

No home fixtures in April at the moment

Merton 2 Combe Martin 1

This win takes Merton into the Final of the North Devon League Bill Smale Cup

It is many years since Merton have been in a Cup Final

The Cup Final will be between Merton verses AFC Dumnonii or Equalizers at Braunton

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

March 2024

£20-00 Lyn Wharton

£10-00 Philip Crocker

YOUR LOCAL GYM

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

Treadmills, Bikes, X trainer,
Rower, cable cross machines,
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The Gym @ Merton, The Clinton Hall, Merton EX20 3EQ
info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk 01805 603300

Bunny & Julie's Golden Wedding

Many thanks to all who helped us to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary.

A special thanks to Julie and Vicki who did the catering, Michelle and Kevin for manning the bar and Cliff for the music. We raised £60 which will be donated to Dementia UK.

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for April

Black Bag collection: Thursday 11th April & 25th April

Green Waste collection: Thursday Friday 5th April & 18th April

Recycling & Food Caddy: every Friday, except **Saturday** 6th April

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

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

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

Farm Fresh Local Milk **Starting
March 19th
8.00am - 7pm**

Reduce Re-Use Recycle

Buy a glass
bottle or bring
your own
container

THE MILK CART



MILKSHAKES



Every Tuesday **The Milk Cart** will be at Clinton Hall, Merton bringing you local fresh milk and milkshakes in our self service vending machine

www.TheMilkCartLtd.co.uk

Lendology CIC

Owning a property is an asset but it also comes with its fair share of expenses. From essential upgrades like roof repairs, new electrics, and boiler replacements to bathroom and kitchen renovations, the need for financing can be a significant challenge. You may even want to reduce your carbon emissions by installing solar panels and batteries or investing in other renewable energy measures.

Did you know that Torridge District Council offers a loan scheme ranging from £1,000 up to £20,000 with a 4% fixed interest rate, regardless of the amount you borrow or the loan term? This initiative aims to provide homeowners with accessible financing solutions for essential property improvements and renewable energy measures.

Torridge District Council works closely with Lendology CIC, who understand the challenges homeowners face when funding property repairs and adaptations. As a B Corp, social enterprise and council-funded lender, Lendology CIC disrupt traditional lending practices by providing accessible financing solutions with decisions made by people, for people.

Lendology CEO, Emma Lower, said: "As a social enterprise lender, we're committed to supporting rural communities. While we may not have a large marketing budget, we rely on word of mouth to ensure everyone can live in a home they're proud of."

With 15 years of experience working across Devon, we're experts in understanding the needs of homeowners. Don't wait any longer to address those persistent property issues. Apply now or find out more at www.lendology.org.uk or call us on 01823 461099 and take the first step towards a safer, more comfortable home.

Representative Example (4% fixed interest rate, Representative 4.2% APR).

Loans are subject to status and are typically protected by a Title Restriction. Borrow £5,000 over 60 months, £92.08 monthly repayments. Total amount repayable = £5,544.96, including £20 fee for registering the Title Restriction against your property at the Land Registry. The £20.00 fee is only payable if a loan is agreed by Lendology and you decide to proceed with a loan. We do not charge interest on the fee. A Title Restriction means that you may not be able to sell your home without our permission unless the loan is fully repaid. Missing payments could affect your credit rating and ability to obtain credit in the future.



TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

lendology.cic

Spring into Action!

Roof Repair Loans, powered by Torridge District Council.

01823 461099 www.lendology.org.uk

Exclusively for homeowners

Church Annual Meeting

Reports, elections, planning

Thurs 18th April

7.30pm

All Saints' Church

Back Lane

May I respectfully request the residents of Clinton Gardens not to park too close to the top of Back Lane. This is the "official" right-of-way for the houses at the bottom. If there is insufficient space between the Peugeot (parked in it's usual place) and any other car, it makes access difficult.

Name supplied.

Dolton and The Clinton School Merton celebrate their prestigious achievement!

Dolton and Merton's primary schools have recently achieved the impressive ACE (Association for Character Education) Award in recognition of the schools' work to ensure pupils become well-rounded individuals. The local village schools are two of fewer than 100 across the UK to achieve the ACE Quality Mark Award.

Headteacher for Dolton CofE Primary School and the Clinton CofE Primary School in Merton, Samantha Drew said: "I am really proud of our prestigious achievement. Everything we believe here is about underpinning that firm foundation for the children based on character, so that they can go off into the world and be confident flourishing adults and inspiring change-makers."

The schools are committed to their character and virtue provision with the key values of civic (community), moral (character), intellectual (academic) and performance (innovation), as their building blocks to a flourishing future. Their curriculum guides individual learners to inspire positive transformation in themselves and in all those around them, through the framework of academic excellence, character formation, community and innovation.

When the children were asked about their achievement and what makes their school special, this was their reply:

The Clinton School, Merton:



'Our teachers are the best, they are kind and help us with our learning.'

'We have no bullying. We might have disagreements, but we learn how to respect each others' opinions.'

'We are like a family, we are caring and supportive of each other.'

'We have so much space inside and our outdoor space is amazing.'

'Learning about character helps us to see the way forward and how to act in different situations, we learn to be reflective, use self-regulation and critical thinking.'

'It helps us to manage our emotions and be more resilient and resourceful, so that we can be more independent.'

'It gives us clear expectations to make ourselves and others proud of our achievements by being the best person that you can be and shapes you for what's to come in the future.'

Dolton Primary School:



'Our school is special because we are taught to be critical thinkers and resilient leaders.'

'We are motivated to become really clever in our work.'

'Our school is special because everyone is nice and friendly.'

'The teachers all really help us, but also I use my critical thinking and resilience to keep going. Our classmates help us too.'

'We learn motivation and how to be a good learner, and that it is ok to make mistakes - we can learn from them.'

'We use generosity when we help each other with our learning, working together we can all do well.'

'In our school everyone is welcoming, friendly and helpful.'

'It is small and safe and all of the children and adults are happy.'

More information about ACE can be found here: www.character-education.org.uk.

Both schools have nurseries on site, and can accept children from the age of 2. Please get in touch with them if you would like to find out more about the school or nursery, and book an appointment to have a look around. More information and contact details can be found here: www.clintonanddolton.org

On a personal note, I have a child in reception and a child in the nursery at The Clinton School, Merton and we couldn't be happier with how well they are progressing and how much they both love going to the school. The school is outstanding in its personal development and it is really lovely to see them so happy and engaged in their learning there, with the help of a dedicated team of teachers and staff who really get to know and understand all of the children and their individual needs and characters. It's a great starting block for them going out into the world and we're so fortunate to have them on our doorstep.

Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin

Local Schools Committee Parent Member and Torridge District Councillor

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



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FOR the local community**

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D
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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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info@clintonhallmerton.co.uk 01805 603300

Remember the deadline. 15th April to be included in the May edition.



Merton Vintage & Classic Rally Around 2024

We are delighted to advise that we are once again holding the Merton Vintage & Classic Rally Around on **SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024**.

Last year, we were delighted with the attendance, and we were able to raise over **£6000** which was divided equally between our chosen charities: **The North Devon Hospice** and **The Devon Air Ambulance**.

We very much look forward to another enjoyable day and as always to make the event a success we rely on volunteers to help our small committee. Thank you to the regular volunteers that have already come forward, but we need more! If you have never helped before or, are new to the area and would like to get involved, please come forward as all help is gratefully received.

This year we are again going to raise funds for the same two very important local Charities in memory of Chris Laughton and all our friends and loved ones who sadly we have lost along the way.

The event is being held at The Clinton Hall and Playing Field on **Sunday 5th May 2024 from 11 am – 5pm**. If you are able to help, please complete the form below and return it to mertonrallyaround@gmail.com, pass to a Merton Monck Committee member, or pop it into Taw and Torridge Coach Depot, Grange Lane, Merton, EX20 3ED.

When we have compiled the rotas, we will contact you with time etc.

We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- setting up the day before
- Donations of cakes to sell slices of.
- Marshalling/assisting with the public parking
- In the kitchen/marquee selling/serving pasties, cakes, teas and coffees
- Clearing tables
- Washing up
- Rubbish collecting
- Selling draw tickets
- On the gate with donation buckets
- Clearing up after

Name/s _____

Contact email _____ Telephone _____

Happy to do: _____

Preferred time if possible (rally is open from 11 am – 5 pm) _____

If you would like to make and donate a cake please can you give us an idea of what you will make and let us know if you are happy to deliver it on Saturday afternoon to the Clinton Hall, Merton or if you would like us to collect it from you.

_____ Us to collect YES/NO

Many thanks. Merton Monck Committee - Tracey, Tony, Linda (Merton), Helen and Emma (Petrockstowe)