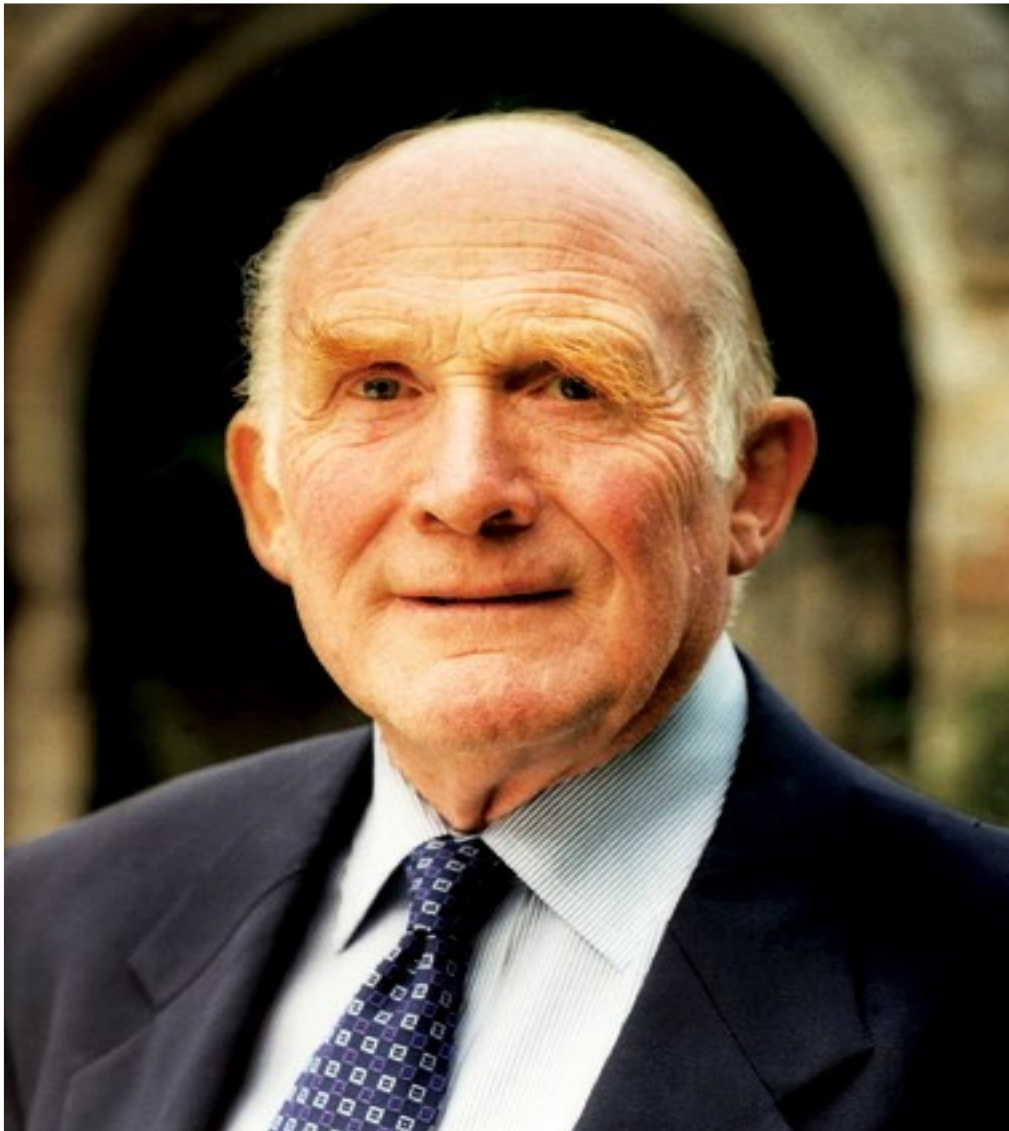


Merton Monthly

May 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 May for inclusion in the June issue.



LORD CLINTON, OBITUARY

It is with great sadness to announce the death of Lord Clinton aged 89, peacefully at his home in East Devon on 2nd April 2024. Born Gerard Fane in 1934, he became the 22nd Baron Clinton in 1965, taking on responsibility for 25,000 acres across three estates in North and East Devon, known collectively as Clinton Devon Estates.

Continued on page 3

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

3/4 Day £40-00

1/2 Day £30-00

1/4 Day £15-00

Conference 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 Field

Full Day £50-00

1/2 Day £30-00

Changing Rooms

Full Day no Showers £20-00

Full Day with Showers £30-00

1/2 Day no Showers £10-00

1/2 Day with Showers £15-00

Children's Parties (ending before 6pm)

Stage Hire

£25-00 set up by the Committee only.

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.



CLINTON DEVON ESTATES

LORD CLINTON, OBITUARY

He leaves his wife, Nicola, always known as Nicky, and three children, the Hon Charles Patrick Rolle Fane Trefusis, who will succeed him, and daughters Caroline and Henrietta.

Lord Clinton made his home for many years at Heanton Satchville at Huish, before moving with his wife to East Devon around five years ago.

Much of his childhood was spent with his great grandfather, Charles Trefusis, 21st Baron Clinton having lost his father, Charles, who was killed in action in Flanders, shortly before the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940 when Gerard was five. After National Service with the Royal Scots between 1953 and 1955 he trained as a land agent, inheriting his title as the 22nd Baron Clinton from his great grandfather, who died in 1957. The title was in abeyance for eight years and Lord Clinton took up his seat in the House of Lords in 1965.

During his lifetime Lord Clinton secured the long-term sustainability of the 700-year-old Estates - the largest in family ownership in Devon - turning a traditional landed estate into a leading land management enterprise fit for the 21st century. His, helping the Clinton Devon Estates to win numerous awards under his stewardship. A firm believer in traditional farming and the importance of food production, to the end of his life Gerard Clinton kept an open mind and his modernising efforts reflected changing times. Clinton Devon Estates comprises farmland and forestry in North and East Devon including woodlands of national importance, the 2,800-acre Pebblebed Heaths and Otter Estuary in East Devon – now designated a National Nature Reserve and the Bicton Arena, at East Budleigh, a leading equestrian venue in East Devon.

Knowing a strong economy was essential for rural communities to thrive inspired substantial new investment in business parks and commercial and residential property in East and North Devon, providing jobs and homes for many hundreds of local people. He built on the achievements of his predecessors by providing land for primary schools, sports grounds, allotments and open public access, as well as many miles of permissive paths. He set up a charitable trust which contributed substantially to local causes over many years.

Although content and grateful to leave the management of day-to-day operations to others, with his wife Nicky's tireless support, Lord Clinton took a detailed and sympathetic interest in everything that went on in North Devon and in the energetic and committed people who made it all happen, whether still active or long retired. Their personal loyalty to the Clintons was correspondingly intense. As Gerard himself remarked, "There are two families really: the family who own the Estate and the family who work there."

Continued on page 4

LORD CLINTON, OBITUARY

Lord Clinton saw himself as a countryman first and foremost and took a close interest in the tenanted and in-hand farming enterprises on the Estate, particularly the Devon Red Cattle. The culling of his herd during the foot and mouth crisis of 2001, caused him enormous distress.

He was also a passionate forester, spending hours inspecting the Estates woodlands, which he saw as both an environmental asset and, when the time came, a crop of sustainable timber to be harvested. In 2019 he unveiled a plaque to mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Forestry Commission – in the same North Devon wood where his great grandfather had planted the newly created Commission's first trees.

The family motto is Tout vient de Dieu – Everything comes from God. Gerard Clinton never forgot to express his gratitude, for what he had been lucky enough to inherit from his great grandfather and the indispensable contribution of the very many individuals whose hard work over more than six decades had enabled him to be “a trustee for life” of the Clinton Estate so that he, in turn, might pass on a thriving estate to the next generation.

He will be remembered with admiration and great affection throughout Devon and beyond.

Clinton Hall

The Clinton Hall committee past and present would like to pass on our deepest heartfelt sympathies to Lady Clinton and her family.

We are grateful to Lord & Lady Clinton for all their support over the years and for opening the hall back in 1998.

Merton FC held a minute silence in honour of Lord Clinton at the last football match in April.

He was a very respected gentleman and shall be greatly missed.

Merton Moncks

The Merton Monck Committee would like to send their condolences to Lady Clinton and family on the very sad news of Lord Clinton's passing.

For many years' Lord Clinton opened the Rally and was incredibly supportive of the event. He had 2 vintage Rolls Royce cars and a Triumph Herald. Lord and Lady Clinton attended the event and would take time chatting to people as they looked around.

There are many memories we could share but our lasting one will be seeing his reaction when he saw Tony drive the 1920's electric three wheel mobility vehicle which belongs to the Clinton family that Tony renovated in time for the 2022 rally. Lord Clinton couldn't resist a go himself!

Lord Clinton was a pure gentleman and will be greatly missed by many.

Merton SMBC

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Lord Clinton. He had been our president for many years. He generally presented the trophy at our Clinton Cup tournament and also attended various social events, together with Lady Clinton. We extend our sympathy to Lady Clinton and family



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,

Stories are always good. There is nothing like a good story. It is still fun to be read to. One memory from the years of when I was living with my uncle and aunt after I had left school. My cousin and I periodically would read Winnie the Pooh to each other!

Stories are good. The media know that. It's why so often they will find 'the human element'. In a war zone or a hospital waiting list, find someone with a story to tell. (And in some cases, if you can't find one, make it up!) It grabs our imagination so much more. And in the village/ family/ pub, it always good to be tell a story: 'Do you know about?'

If you haven't noticed the Bible is no different. It is full of stories of people's lives. Sometimes not always wholesome, sometimes quite instructive. And Jesus gets it, doesn't he. He is a great storyteller. It's just that we call them parables, and so think they are something else. But they are good stories really. It seems God likes stories too.

So do come across to the church during the Rally weekend and see some of the stories from people around Devon. It's under the title 'This is my Story'. People from all sorts of backgrounds share a bit of their story with God. Some of it is very ordinary; some of it is not so ordinary. It's all their stories. The exhibition was first at the County Show last year, and has been touring Devon since. It's our turn now.

So when you've got a moment either on the day of the Rally itself (and you just want a quiet moment), or at another time over the weekend, wander across to the church and dip into some of those stories. And maybe reflect too as what your story with God is. You might be surprised.

Every blessing to you all,

Martin Warren.

Services in Merton and Huish

5 th May	11.00am	Petrockstowe (local-led)
	6.00pm	Petrockstowe (Evening Worship)
12 th May	11.00am	Petrockstowe (Methodist led)
19 th May	9.30am	Communion (Merton)
26 th May	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

On the 4th April we hosted the final of the Merton Charity League President's Cup. Following the sad news of the passing of Lord Clinton we held a 2 minute silence. Play then commenced, the match was fought over 18 ends between Yarnscombe and Winkleigh. At the 17th end the score was 13 all so it all hinged on the final end which was won by Yarnscombe, the final score was 14 to 13. The trophies were presented by Jeanie.



We came 5th in Division 2 of the Afternoon Triples, so narrowly missed relegation! We will not be competing in the Summer, but we will continue to hold weekly roll-ups.

We will be entering the Winter competition which commences in October.

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

Merton	2	Combe Martin	1
Merton	6	Equalizers	1

Merton FC held a minute silence in honour of Lord Clinton at the last football match in April.

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw

April 2024

£20-00 Mary Ford

£10-00 Rodney Elworthy

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.

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

On the A386 between
Hatherleigh and Torrington

24 hour access
Ample free parking
No joining fee

Flexible membership options

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

Black Bag & Green Waste Collections for May

Black Bag collection: Friday 10th May & Thursday 23rd May

Green Waste collection: Thursday 2nd May, 16th & Friday 31st May

Recycling & Food Caddy: every Friday, except Saturday 11th May

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

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



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



QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 11th May

£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

Merton SMBC

David Kirton

This week the club lost a long standing and valuable member, he had served as secretary for many years. David had suffered from poor health for a few years. Our sympathy goes to Jeanie and family.

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](#)

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.



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

AJG Windows & Doors

**Windows, Doors, Conservatories, Fascias, Soffits,
Guttering and Replacement Glass**

Alan Graddock

4 Springfield, Petrockstowe, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 3HF

07528 918982 / 01837 811218

Email: ajgwindowsanddoors@yahoo.com

www.ajgwindowsanddoors.co.uk



 **AJG Windows and Doors**

INSTALLsure 
installer insurance, sorted

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



Painting & Decorating Specialists

Interior * Exterior * Commercial * Domestic

Also guttering and down pipe cleaning

**BUCKLAND ACCOUNTS
SERVICES**

Farm and Rural Business Bookkeeping

Accounts / VAT Bookkeeping – MTD VAT ready
Cashflows/Budgets

Payroll

Tim Cartwright MAAT FIAGSA

Haddiport
Buckland Filleigh
bucklandaccounts@gmail.com

07971 118964



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

POUND-WISE BOOKKEEPING SERVICE

Tanglewood, Merton, Okehampton, EX20 3EA

FOR THE SMALL TO MEDIUM SIZED BUSINESS



- ✓ Accounts
- ✓ VAT
- ✓ Tax Returns
- ✓ Payroll



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

~ **Peter Bright** ~

THATCHER

Wheat Reed – Water Reed
Tel. 01837 810148 (Petrockstowe)

GRASCOTT FIREWOOD

tel. no. 01409 281393
email: info@grascottfirewood.co.uk
website: www.grascottfirewood.co.uk

Loose Logs • Nets • Kindling • Kiln Dried
Local & Sustainable



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

**Remember the deadline. 15th May to be
included in the June 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)