

Merton Monthly

August 2025

{Produced by the Clinton Hall Charity Number 1204870 A Not-for-Profit Business}
Committee Members: Michelle Stacey, Julie Stacey, Vicki Benson and Dave Folland

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

**Your Number. 1
mobile grocery
shop!**

 Amys_Pantry
 Amyspantry@outlook.com
 Amys Pantry



**AMY'S
PANTRY**

Hi my name is Amy from Amy's Pantry and from September 2nd I will be visiting Merton on Tuesdays 1-2.30 and Thursdays 11-00--1.30. I am a mobile grocery shop supplying household essentials and a variety of fresh foods as locally sourced as I can find.

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

We love to support our local football team, especially on home matches. We open the bar, serve hot drinks, and put on food for the players at the end of the match. If you could help with cooking chips or running the bar on a Saturday afternoon, then we would love to hear from you.

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

Skittle Alley

Full day £55-00

1/2 Day £35-00

£8-00 hr

Kitchen

Full Day £50-00

3/4 Day £40-00

1/2 Day £30-00

1/4 Day £15-00

Sports Field

Full Day £50-00

1/2 Day £30-00

Conference Room

Full Day £80-00

1/2 Day £45-00

£8-00 hr

Changing Rooms

Full Day no Showers £20-00

Full Day with Showers £30-00

1/2 Day no Showers £10-00

½ 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.

TARKA TREATS



**EVERY
THURSDAY
11-1PM**

THE CLINTON HALL,
MERTON, EX20 3EQ

ALL WELCOME
MERTON'S
COMMUNITY COFFEE
MORNING
RUN BY THE
COMMUNITY, FOR THE
COMMUNITY
IT'S A SUGGESTED
DONATION OF £4 FOR
UNLIMITED HOT
DRINKS AND SOME
TASTY TREATS.

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 August

Black Bag Collection: 14th August & Friday 29th August

Green Waste Collection: 7th August & 21st August

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

The dates are subject to change for Christmas, New Year, other Bank Holidays and adverse weather conditions. We will announce any changes via our website @ [Torridge District Council](#) and social media



All Saints Church

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

Curate: Catherine Duff, tel: 07717-209484

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



Dear Friends,

Back in May we marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day. It marked the end of the 2nd World War in Europe. There were many commemorations across the country and locally. Bells were rung and various events occurred.

Actually, of course, World War 2 didn't end in May 1945. There was still fighting in the Far East. VJ Day was only on 15th August. My father-in-law was out there, and it would be many months beyond that before he came home. But meanwhile, life had moved on back here in Britain. There had been a General Election: a new government, with all sorts of expectations behind it, was in office. People here didn't want to think about war any longer. So often, those returning from the Far East felt like the forgotten army. What with the atrocious conditions so many had faced and a home audience that didn't want to listen, they for years barely talked about their experiences.

Let's not repeat that error 80 years later. So, we may not have the same events as back in May, but still remember those who lost their lives in that horrendous fight in the jungles of Asia and the Pacific islands. And those too who died in the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki – and those who suffered as a result for many years following. Radiation sickness is a horrible legacy.

It is a terrible thing to be forgotten and ignored. It's one of the treasures of Christian faith that we discover we are not forgotten. It doesn't matter what our situation is, whether it seems that our symptoms have just disappeared into the bowels of the health system or that nobody greets us on the street, God has not forgotten us. Indeed that is one of the striking things of so many of the stories of Jesus, that he picks out folk who no-one else might have noticed: a tax-collector hidden up a tree, an unclean woman, a disabled man unable to access healing resources, and so on. God has not forgotten and God notices.

There is a lovely section in the Old Testament where it describes God as having our names written on his hands. I still sometimes see people do it today: jot a note down on their hand so as they don't forget. (It's more often their phone these days.) That's just the feeling here. God makes sure that he never forgets. None of us are left out.

Think for a moment of those we can easily forget – even when they are there under our nose: the Big Issue seller, the person we haven't seen around for a little while, the person now in a home a little way away, the individual who shared a concern with us some weeks ago. So easy to forget: life is busy, things move on, it falls from our mind – or more correctly, *the person* falls from our mind. I am sorry when that includes the church, as it almost inevitably will from time to time. Please feel free to remind us that you are still here.

But God doesn't forget. Imagine him with your name written on his hand. Imagine him looking at that and remembering you. Imagine him now coming looking for you. You can't be forgotten. You never will be.

The anniversary of VJ Day is on 15th August. Remember the Forgotten Army. Look out too for those we do easily forget and overlook. And know too that you can never be forgotten.

Every blessing to you,
Martin Warren

Services in Merton and Huish

3 rd August	11.00am	Morning Worship (Petrockstowe)
10 th August	11.00am	Morning Worship (Petrockstowe)
17th August	9.30am	Communion (Merton)
24th August	9.30am	Communion (Huish)
31st August	3.00pm	Rural Celebration (Huish)

Service by Phone Sundays at 4pm

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

Celebration of Rural Life

Service with Tea to follow

Sunday 31st August

3.00pm

Huish Church

*Speaker: Richard Sampson
from Farming Community Network (FCN)*

Summer Holiday Clubs

Mon 11th Aug – Wed 13th Aug

10am – 12noon

Shebbear Village Hall

Advance notice useful: tel 01409-281424

Organised by Torridge Team Churches

Old Photographs of Merton from the Beaford Archive

Beaford Arts has recently posted a slide show of 24 old photographs of Merton on its website. These photographs, which come from the many that are held in the Beaford Archive, have been selected by Emily Blackley, an Exeter University student. Emily compiled this slide show for the North Devon Discovery Day that the Devonshire Association held in the Clinton Hall on Saturday 5th July.

These pictures include some that date back over 100 years ago and others taken between 1972 and 1983 by James Ravilious and Roger Deakins, both of whom worked for the Beaford Archive. They include farming scenes, a 1982 vicarage fete, the Malt Scoop Inn, the old Merton Stores, the village under snow in 1978 and a 1972 football match between Merton and Dolton.

The photographs can be found on this website: beaford.org/merton



MERTON SHORTMAT BOWLING CLUB

Again, not a lot to report this month. As we are approaching the end of the season there is very little change. The match against Halwill Shunters has been rearranged to 7th August, so the results of our last four matches will be reported next month.

Please see below the fixtures August:

Thu	07-Aug	07:00	Halwill Shunters	
Thu	14-Aug	02:00	Colebrooke	
Thu	21-Aug	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	
Thu	28-Aug	07:00	CLUB NIGHT	

If you wish to try out the sport, or just come to watch, you will be given a warm welcome. Please come to the Clinton Hall on any club night for an introductory session. We will supply equipment, just bring yourself! If you prefer, contact Jeanie on **01805 601125** or Julie on **01805 603405** for more details:



**We look forward to seeing
you!**

Farm Fresh Local Milk

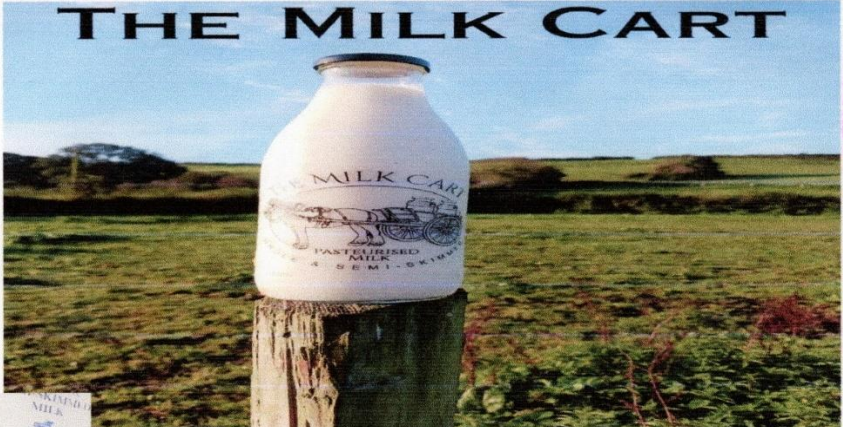
Every Tuesday

THE MILK CART

MILKSHAKES

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

For Sale

Italian 5 zone igel Memory Foam Double Bed Topper.

Used 3 times, not for me.

Plus 2x Cotton Zip Covers. All VGC

Cost £100-00. Open to sensible offers.

igel Nano Tec Graphene Front and Back Sleeper Pillows, had with new bed, far to high for me.

Retail £80-00 each at Bensons Beds £80-00 for both, have a look, never used.

Call Andy on 01805 603194

For Sale

Reebok GT 40 s Treadmill. Can be seen working.

£200-00

Contact Dave 07891424912

Merton AFC 150 Club Draw July 2025

£20-00 Rodney Elworthy

£10-00 Tabatha Paddon

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
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~ **Peter Bright** ~

THATCHER

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Enquiries/Bookings: Sadie Humphreys

07776 076553

devonfoodco@gmail.com



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



Events by night in our quirky vintage converted catering trailer and day events with both trailer and/or professional gazebo

We can provide a bespoke service for your event too!

GRASCOTT FIREWOOD

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

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



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