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1,000 HOMES

Merriott Messenger

www.merriottvillage.org.uk

JULY 2013

Fabulous Day at Rectory Garden Fete



What a fabulous, fabulous day from start to finish!

A packed day of entertainment was sandwiched by a very, very enjoyable puppet show and a highly competitive Tug-o-War, with so much more in between.

The day was not only successful by way of giving enjoyment but also in raising funds: - the current total stands at £2180, with still a little to come – what a fantastic achievement!

In addition, over 20 smaller organisations and cottage industries of Merriott helped to make the day the success it was and I'm pleased to report they also raised well over a thousand pounds for themselves.

Of course, a day such as this depends solely on the help and donations of the community and we'd like to thank everyone who helped. Many, many people gave freely of their time, from the initial organisation, to gardening, shifting tables and collecting the bouncy castle, skittle alley & stocks, to providing music, baking cakes, making copious quantities of tea, running stalls, painting faces, providing vintage vehicles and a barrel organ and, of course, a special thank you to the spectacular displays teams & shows – for those whose interest was piqued by these, the Merriott Karate Club and Brownies are always happy to



welcome new members. We're also grateful to the many businesses and residents who very kindly donated prizes or sponsored the programme and events, all of which went a very long way towards funding the day.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL!!!

Do you have Microsoft Publisher experience?

Merriott Messenger: POSITION AVAILABLE

The member of our team responsible for preparing the Merriott Messenger will be stepping down in the coming months and we are looking for someone to replace her.
More details can be found on Page 3

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Parish Council News

Parish Councillor Vacancies x4
WE NEED YOU!

What the Parish Council does:

- Are responsible for influencing and shaping the long term development of Merriott
- As part of the planning process, they comment on planning applications in the Parish

- Improve the quality of life and the environment in Merriott.
- Work to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents.

Do you have a willingness to represent the Parishioners of Merriott? Do you have an interest in local issues? Can you

attend a monthly meeting, usually the first Monday of the each month?

How to find out more:

Contact Clerk M Andrews –
merriott-clerk@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 01935 863420 or speak with the Chairman Mr A Wallis
Tel: 07768 615253

(continued overleaf)

Come and Meet your MP

Special Advice
Centre with
David Laws
MP

Monday 29th
July 9.30am

Merriott:
junction of
Broadway /
Sherlands

Parish Council News (cont.)

County Councillor representative is Mr Christopher Le Hardy. Contactable on CLEHardy@somerset.gov.uk or Tel:07803 894992.

Speed Watch Group

If you wish to Volunteer, contact Grant Wright on grant@gswright.plus.com Tel:01460 279897 or 07733 108386.

Community Pavilion

Project: Work on this long awaited facility started week commencing June 17th. The building contractor is Mr P Cox. Completion should be mid September. Please watch with interest and be aware that sites are targeted by vandals so please be vigilant and report any untoward activity.

The Parish Council is urging the County Councillor to support the need for more dropped kerbs in Merriott.

Pavement from Newchester Cross into Church Street:

The Distict Council has viewed this and given a estimated price of £35,000. This is far beyond the capabilities of the Parish Council and Section 106 monies will not cover this. It has been suggested that a lined walk way would be an alternative.

MERRIOTT PARISH COUNCIL meet once a month for a formal meeting at Tithe Barn. Usually it is on the first Monday of the month from 7pm. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting for interest or if you have an

issue then the first 10 minutes is an open session when you can address council members. Your issue may then become an agenda item at a subsequent meeting. Minutes of the meeting are posted on the Notice board at the Co-op and at the Church. Next meetings are Monday JULY 1st and AUGUST 5th.

See the Merriott website for agenda and minutes of the meetings.

For all Parish Council correspondence and information please contact Clerk: Marion Andrews.

Tel: 01935 863420 or merriott-clerk@hotmail.co.uk

Presentation Night for Merriott Youth FC



Hundreds of people came to Merriott Social Club last month to take part in the annual presentation night for Merriott Youth FC.

Paul Lawrence, Chairman, thanked everyone for coming. He then thanked all 22 teams, their coaches & mangers and the parents for transporting and supporting the teams. He also paid tribute to all the people behind the scenes who ensure the smooth running of the club—especially Monica and Dave Hayden; Heidi Gould who is responsible for the trophies; Emma Robins and Michelle Dodge, the two very hard working Vice Chairs;

Tracey Maxwell the treasurer; Karen Steer and Jane Hooper; not forgetting all the referees and linesmen! A special thank you was also given to Merriott Social Club who let the club hold all their presentations there.

The Club was started in 1986 with just 13 players. Today, there are more than 350 boys and girls who take part, including the brand new Under 6 team, the Merriott Sharks, who are pictured here. Throughout the night, £690 was raised for Clic House, one of two 'Homes from Home' in Bristol that provides accommodation for families of children being treated for cancer at Bristol Children's Hospital.

The Club are holding a Fun Day on September 1st at Henhayes. All are welcome!

New local business: Jaycee Plumbing and Heating

Jamie Carpenter was employed, in Crewkerne, as a plumber, for fifteen years, and then his boss retired.

He and his cousin, Joe Chidley, have formed a partnership, Jaycee Plumbing and Heating.

They are registered engineers in gas, oil, lpg, water regs. and pressurised systems, so they can do any plumbing jobs from a dripping tap ,via boiler breakdown and servicing, to complete installations.

They take pride in being polite, leaving everything spotless, and their customers satisfied.

Registered office:

20 Shiremoor

Hill, Merriott. TA16 5PH

Jamie - 07970 279778

Joe - 07738 632746

Cubs enjoy the great outdoors!

1st Hinton St George Cub Pack - who meet at Merriott Tithe Barn - enjoyed a weekend camp in the middle of May.

We were fortunate to have the use of a farmer's field behind Cricket St Thomas and the Scouts had their camp in the same field.

The Cubs arrived on the Friday evening to find most of the canvas had been put up during the day by the leaders and all they had to do was to put up one tent, much to their delight!

Activities for the weekend included a 2 hr walk around the local countryside (planned by the oldest Cub, Harvey, as part of his last Challenge badge), an assault course, shelter building using natural materials, helping to cook burgers over a wood fire, a camp fire with songs etc and—probably most enjoyable—the chance to play in the woods. A rare treat to go with the burgers was a chip shop run!

Badges were awarded at the closing ceremony and 2 new leaders were invested, one each for Cubs and Scouts. Harvey was presented with his Chief Scout Silver award, the highest a Cub can get before moving to Scouts, having done lots of hard work. The photo is of the Cubs around the gateway which they helped to build along with 2 Young Leaders, Chris who works with Beavers and Louise, our own Young Leader. Thank you to all those that helped the weekend be a big success and the parents who came on the Saturday and Sunday to help with activities.



Whilst thinking what to tell you about this month, an interesting e-mail arrived in my Inbox about the Hayward family. It was a Mr. Richard A Hayward who generously donated the land and the money to build the Social Club or, as it was then known, The Working Men's Institute. At the first AGM of the club in October 1884 he was recorded as saying he wished the 'Institute' to be "for the whole Parish, irrespective of creed or party."

The official opening of the Institute took place on 7th November 1884, to which over 100 people attended and were catered for by Mr Moass of The Kings Head (a collaboration in Merriott!) and the entertainment was made up of classical music and songs from soloists & duets.

Back to the here and now - in our own way we're trying to continue with Mr. Hayward's ethos and everyone is still very much welcome. Over the last month or so we've had a steady stream of locals enjoying themselves immensely. Whether it's been a 50th birthday party, several get-togethers for the Football Club, a church fundraiser and of course our own free entertainment for all in the form of music from Rick Winter and a fundraising Disco & BBQ organised and run by Jules & Pete of "Chish n Fips" - for which many thanks!

In the coming weeks, the club will be hosting a charity darts tournament in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support- please feel free to come and watch and support this event. We also have the pleasure of hosting a wedding reception—all at the club wish Ashley & Laura the very best for their big day.

Events that will be free to all (including non members) are:

Singer, Joe Santiago **Saturday 13th July @ 8:30pm**
The Intruders **Saturday 17th August @8:00pm.**

As usual, the members draw continues on Saturday nights. Each Sunday night a fun quiz is held from 8:30pm onwards

Merriott Messenger: position available

The member of our team responsible for preparing the Merriott Messenger will be stepping down in the coming months and we are looking for someone to replace her.

You will need to have good communication skills; writing and editing experience; proficiency on MS Office, particularly Publisher.

Job description

To edit and design the Messenger

To liaise with sponsors and contributors

To attend monthly Messenger Editorial meetings

Remuneration rate is available on request.

If you have the necessary skills and experience and are interested in becoming part of the team, **please contact:**

Katherine Nolan on 01460 77047 or email katherinehaines@yahoo.com.

For a continuously updated events list, log onto our Facebook page.

Do you play Skittles? We would be delighted to host a ladies team in the Wednesday night league and we have space for a Men's team on Fridays. What about Darts? We are also looking for a Thursday night Darts Team. Contact us by phone, by Facebook or pop in to the club.

Finally we would like to say a big thank you to all those who are volunteering for shifts!

Come and join us....you'll be very welcome.

Remember that you can download the Merriott Messenger from the village website

www.merriottvillage.org.uk



MERRIOTT GARDENING CLUB

Calling all you budding and experienced gardeners – why not have a go at showing your fruit, vegetables, flowers, photographs or even your homemade cakes at our annual FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW to be held on SATURDAY 10th AUGUST.

We will be holding the event as usual at the Village Hall. All entries should be brought along between 9am and 10.45am. Judging will start at 11am and the Hall will be reopened at 2pm for the general public and, of course, the exhibitors, where you will see if you have won a prize! Prize giving and awards will be at 4pm and the exhibits will be auctioned from 4.15pm. Do join in and get a bargain! Refreshments will be served all afternoon.

Don't forget to pick up your brochure and entry form, which will be available by the time you read this from Osborne's, our Church, the Pharmacy and any of the Committee members. Barbara Byford 72298

MERRIOTT ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

**Half plot available
to let.**

Anyone who is
Interested or would
like further informa-
tion, please contact
Beryl Bellamy,
Secretary
01460 74574



Summers' Afternoon Classical Special

A summer classical special with principals from the Southbank Sinfonia Orchestra who will be performing at All Saints Church on Sunday afternoon 11th August as the Valido String Quartet.

This is yet another classical treat for the local community organised by Joseph Fisher of Merriott who has invited fellow Southbank Sinfonia musicians to perform at All Saints Church. The concert features an International combination of players from Canada, Portugal, New Zealand and of course Merriott, who are performing as the Valido String Quartet. All the players are members of the London based Southbank Sinfonia.

The afternoon concert will be starting at 2:30 with refreshments in the grounds of the church, with the concert commencing at 3pm. Music will include works by Mendelssohn, Haydn, and Puccini. Tickets are £7 and will be available from the village butchers Osborne Stores, The Crewkerne Information Centre, or tel. 07870 404631 or 01460 76360 (to reserve).

Merriott Gardening Club

We had an excellent speaker, Sue Applegate from Kellway Nurseries, at our May meeting.

Sue gave a presentation on Irises and Peonies and gave a practical demonstration on how to propagate from them and, of course, she brought along some wonderful examples too for us to buy - she will definitely be returning at a future date!

Our next meeting on 25th June will be a coach trip to Bicton Gardens at Budleigh Salterton, and at our July meeting we will entertain Christine Brain who is Head Gardener at Barrington Court Gardens. This meeting will be held at the Tithe Barn at 7.30pm on 30th July. Do come along - everyone is welcome. And lastly, don't forget the 10th August which is our Flower & Produce Show (see advert to the left).

Barbara Byford

Mark Wallis Wood

I visited the wood in June, after more than a year and was concerned what I might find.

However, nature is remarkable. The yellow flag irises were swaying in the pond which was swamped in flowering cress. The first part of the track was covered in a swathe of yellow buttercups and looking very beautiful. The sounds of many different birds was very welcoming. The bluebells planted a few years earlier are establishing themselves very well amongst the other ground flora. Sadly, I can't see any sign of the large colony of orchids in the field adjoining.

The main feature is, of course, the wonderful trees planted 16 years ago. An amazing canopy of green foliage all across the reserve. There are so many varieties, it is difficult to identify them all. The wild cherries are covered in fruits already. Ash, oak, willow, lime, cherry, hazel, sycamore, larch, to name but a few.

Please go and visit. It really is worth it—and all in memory of a very special man: Mark Wallis of Scott's Nursery.

Sue Hastings



Mark Wallis Wood

News from your Neighbourhood Beat Team

I have visited victims recently who have stated 'I never thought it would happen to me, not around here, it's so lovely'. Therein lies the problem. We are far too trusting. Sadly the criminals do not care.

To stay safe please ensure you lock the front door when working in the back garden and lock the back or side door if you go to answer the front door. We all tend to leave a window open to air the house, but even a small window offers the opportunity for a thief. Even if you close windows and lock doors, leaving garden tools easily accessible in the garden or in an unlocked shed can assist a thief in breaking in to your property. The most common type of burglary is from sheds and outbuildings (non-dwelling), which includes detached garages. Make sure your shed has a suitable padlock, the round style where the clasp covers the locking bar is best, and the screw heads are NOT showing on the hinges. The best padlock is no use if by removing 3

screws from the hinges the door can be opened from the back edge! Coach bolts are ideal if the shed is strong enough, if the shed is flimsy and the any window is easy to open or break then do not keep anything of value in the shed. Where possible mark any property, gloss paint or Hammerite (a metal paint) is fine, with your initials and postcode. Even livestock has been taken from smallholdings on the edge of villages, please report anything suspicious

We have had reports recently of anti-social behaviour, particularly in Lower Street, Merriott, in the early hours of the morning. Most incidents seem to happen around 2am onwards on a Sunday night/Monday morning. The ringing of doorbells and knocking on doors is a childish practice and can have a serious effect on elderly residents and their health. If you hear anything or see anything please call it in at the time. If it is you, STOP it NOW! If you have any information please contact The Neighbourhood Beat

Team.

PS 3905, Rich Barnett; PC 3589, Lisa Wright; PC 4140, Chris Purcell; PCSO 8913, Michelle Haines; PCSO 7861, Caroline Matthews; PCSO 9447, Dave Lewis
Telephone 101 for non-emergencies
Telephone 999 for ongoing crimes and emergencies

Hinton St. George 'Flix in the Stix' presents

'Lincoln' (12A)

on Saturday, July 13th in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Tickets £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room or £5.50 on the door.
(Tel. 01460 72906).

Steven Spielberg's latest masterpiece, a compelling portrait of Abraham Lincoln, played by Oscar-winning Daniel Day Lewis. Meticulous recreation of 19th century Washington DC. A memorable film, not to be missed.

Merriott pupils make links with school in Africa

Mr Williams, an optician who volunteers with the Akamba Charity, revisited school recently and talked to the children about Muuluko Primary School in Kenya and his work in the area as an optician.

As a result, Merriott First School is now twinned with Muuluko School and hopefully we will receive letters from the children via the charity when it returns to Kenya.

The school has 68 children aged 4 to 9 and is a mud hut built with woven sticks and wet mud squashed in between. Following Mr Williams' previous visit, Merriott children collected glasses to be taken to Kenya to help the people with sight problems. He also took out T shirts and pencils for Muuluko School. We sent so many pencils that Mr Williams distributed them to other schools as well!

He showed us pictures of his work, the local area and some of the children who had dressed in their uniform during holiday time especially for his visit.

Mrs Coghlan presented Mr Williams/Akamba Charity with a cheque for £145. This money was raised by donations after the School Christmas performances.

The theme for this half term is Pirates. A Pirate gazebo and Pirate themed books are on loan from Resources for Learning. We are looking forward to lots of themed learning activities in the coming weeks!



News from All Saints Church

Church Services in July

Sun 7th, 8.30am
Holy Communion

Sun 14th, 9.30am
Parish Communion

Sun 21st
10am-Service
6pm- Evensong

Sun 28th, 10am
Sung Communion

Our Church Council members are getting together this month to think about what it means to be a church community in this place and to come up with ideas about how we would like to grow and strengthen this in the next few years.

Something that is very important to us is that we are an active and integral part of this village. We are fully aware that not every-

one wants to come to church! But we also appreciate that many people still want to support the church in their

own way. The church and churchyard have been, and are special places for many people.

I often hear stories from people who used to sing in the choir! And those whose loved ones have been married here, and so on. At the moment, quite a few parents are coming to have their children baptised (or Christened as many people call it). At this service, families and children are welcomed into the wider church, they are baptised as a sign of God's forgiveness and new life, and we ask God to be with them throughout their lives.

It is our intention and hope that anyone who wants to come to church for a service like this, or for their wed-

ding, or for coffee and cakes will find that they are very welcome. We hope that it will be a positive experience all round, although I'm sure that we don't always get it all right!

It is a huge pleasure for us to work together with other people in our village, which was one of the reasons why the fete was so successful and enjoyable. We also enjoy welcoming the school staff and children into church and appreciate the hospitality that they show to us.

I hope we can continue to play a significant part in the life of this very special community and we would welcome your thoughts and ideas about how we can do this.

Rev'd Julia Hicks



Coffee Morning

With craft and various other stalls

Saturday 13th July

10am to 12.30pm

Tithe Barn, Merriott



Proceeds to

Merriott Church Fabric Fund & OSONA

(a non intrusive machine that detects breast cancers)

Please phone Michelle (07402741828 or 01460 72316) for more details



First 100 Club Draw!

Merriott PreSchool and Friends of Merriott School held their first 100 Club draw on Monday 3rd June at PreSchool.

Jenny Hayne, PreSchool supervisor, assisted as Emily pulled out the first ball, number 27. The lucky winner of £25 was Marie Singleton, who has one child at Merriott PreSchool and one child at Merriott School. The second ball was drawn out by Jack, number 32, winning £10 for Wendy Parker. Congratulations to this month's winners! The next draw will take place at the start of July at School. If you would like to take part, it only costs £12 a year (one draw a month) and you will be helping to raise funds for Merriott PreSchool and Merriott School.

Please enquire at PreSchool or email merriott100club@gmail.com.



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Merriott Childminder: places available

My name is Vanina Cooper. I am French and I have been an Ofsted and PACEY registered childminder since 2008. My Ofsted inspection took place in February 2009 and I received Outstanding in all areas. I previously worked in a pre-school (graded Outstanding). I am married to Simon; we have two daughters. Merriott Childcare is an 'Outstanding' level of care for children from birth and onwards.

We are situated within the beautiful village of Merriott in Somerset and provide quality wrap-around childcare for the local village pre-school and primary school as well as offering ad-hoc sessions. I work with children and their families to provide high standards of childcare adapting to each individual's needs. We aim to help children reach their own potential and achieve self-esteem and self-confidence.

A wide range of toys, activities, craft and resources are available at all times for children to play, learn and develop whilst having fun. We go out and about to local groups within the community and venture further away on trips to the seaside and other exciting places. In the rear garden, children have the use of large enclosed trampoline, slides, Wendy house, Dutch barn and many outdoor toys. The use of the Polytunnel is ideal for outdoor activities, gardening, discoveries etc. Children enjoy feeding the chickens and Guinea pigs and look out for eggs. The house is within walking distance of

the village's pre-school, school and parks. This enables us to walk and enjoy fresh air and daily exercise within our routines.

Ofsted Report: "Overall the quality of the provision is Outstanding. Children thrive in this highly inclusive environment." "Children's views are given high priority by the childminder; she provides an environment where they can freely express themselves and make choices."

www.merriottchildcare.co.uk 01460 74086/ 07807 753 779

Facebook: Merriott Childcare Solutions



Sutton Bingham & District Canoe Club

by Samuel Wycherley

Sutton Bingham & District Canoe Club (SBDCC) is the closest canoe club to Merriott. Located at Sutton Bingham Reservoir, near Yeovil, it has well over 200 members at present and is expanding rapidly, attracting new membership every year, making it a popular club with coaching in many disciplines.

My brother and I joined the canoe club about 4 years ago and have thoroughly enjoyed it – to the point where we now compete in marathon kayak races for the club. The advantage of SBDCC is that there are so many kayak and canoe disciplines to choose from – general purpose kayaking, open canoeing, marathon kayaking, sprint kayaking, and others such as play boating.

The canoe club also organise many trips for all abilities, such as leisurely 1 star trip for beginners on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal, or 3 star rapids at the Dart Loop. These trips are very enjoyable, and a chance to explore some of the local rivers from a new perspective.

The cost of becoming a member is also very low, making it an economical exploit, and you can hire kayaks for each session for only £3.00-4.00 if you do not possess a boat yourself.

The club runs kayaking sessions on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays (Thursday is a youth session), between March and October, at Sutton Bingham Reservoir, so I would urge anyone interested to give it a go.

For more information visit www.sbd.cc





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Tel 01823 327272

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Thank you to our sponsors for their support

Charlotte Hamlin Merriott Childminder OFSTED & NCMA registered Full/part-time hours Between 6.30am and 6.30pm www.merriottchildminder.co.uk 01460 73361 07721 018335	R. A. Wicks Ltd Fireplace Showroom, Flue Lining, and Multi Fuel Stoves 01460 74612	Stoneleigh Lettings “A personal Letting Service Tailored to your Needs” 01460 249175 07747 035322	Beadon Flooring Flooring Contractors Serving Domestic, Commercial & Industrial Lopen Business Park, Mill Lane, Lopen, TA13 5JS 01460 242221 sales@beadonflooring.co.uk	Stokes Partners LLP, Solicitors, Kingfisher House, Market Square. Crewkerne. 01460 279279 www.stokespartners.co.uk
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Moorlands Residential Home Quality care for the elderly Moorlands Road 01460 74425 Fax 01460 77391	Kevin Swain Electrical Contractor Tel 01460 73260	Tony Miles Ltd Building & Roofing Contractor 74 Lower St. Merriott Tel/Fax 01460 75860 Mobile 07774 886379 aamiles@hotmail.co.uk	FUSION FOSTERING We are always looking for families who can offer warm, loving and safe homes to children and young people who need Fostering. Tel: 03301 239355 info@fusionfostering.com	Careford Lodge Residential Home Church Street Contact Lorraine on 01460 75592 ichant@hotmail.co.uk
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Mike Stenner Painting,decorating & ceramic tiling Tel 01460 75799 Mob 07703573892 michael@stenner9459.fsnet.co.uk	The Swan Inn John and Cath Twose 44 Lower St, Merriott TA16 5NN 01460 75699	Merriott Childcare Solutions OFSTED & PACEY registered Graded Outstanding Ad-hoc, F/T and P/T hours Registered for Early Years Educational funding Overnight care available www.merriottchildcare.co.uk 01460 74086/ 07807 753 779	Jaycee Plumbing Heating Engineers Boiler servicing and changes Lpg / Oil / Gas-Safe 20 Shiremoor Hill,Merriott,TA16 5PH 07970279778 07738632746	Lower Severalls Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast Open all year lowerseverallsfarm-house.co.uk 01460 73234

**Copy deadline date for the
August Merriott Messenger
is July12th**

**Articles received after this
date may not be included.**

Editorial Team

E-mail: katherinehaines@yahoo.com
or contact any of the editorial team.

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