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Merriott Messenger

www.merriottvillage.org.uk

MARCH 2013

Please contact us
with any news/
photos/event etc.

This is YOUR
village
newsletter and
we want to make
sure that there is
something here
for everyone!

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Free insulation for Somerset residents

Somerset residents have the opportunity to improve their home for free, thanks to the re-launch of the Warm Streets scheme.

Residents aged over 60 or in receipt of benefits can potentially get both cavity wall and loft insulation installed for free (subject to survey).

This council-supported project aims to tackle the problem of cold, damp homes in Somerset, and to help the most vulnerable residents cut their fuel bills.

All installations need to be completed by the end of March 2013, so spread the word quickly if you know somebody who would benefit.

Warm Streets can also help residents find out about various other ways to lower their heating and electricity bills with free and impartial

energy saving advice.

Warm Streets is funded by the Department for Energy and Climate Change's fuel poverty fund.

For further information and to make an application, call the Home Energy Team on 0800 082 2234 or email: home.energy@cse.org.uk



Unwanted mobile phones?



Do you have an old unwanted mobile phone sitting in a drawer? If so, you may want to help us.

Our 3 year old grandson is diagnosed on the autistic spectrum. Tom is a loving and affectionate boy but has no consistent speech. He has made good progress by using pictures to communicate. We now wish to build on this by getting a computer tablet with an autism communication system app that he can use in nursery and when he starts school in September, to communicate and as a teaching aid. The charity 'Hearts and Minds' provide this in exchange for 175 old phones.

If you have any old phones and can help, it would be really appreciated. Please contact Lynne Woods on 01460 76294 or lynnewoods@gmail.com to arrange collection. Thank you.



Parish Council News

Lorries in Merriott: Residents often voice concern at the route and frequency of lorries at the Co-op. A positive response has been received from the Co-op, where they confirmed that they will endeavour to address the issue. More details of their response can be found on the village website.

New Pavilion: It has been agreed that it will be called the **Community Pavilion Project**. MARCH 11th is the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT WHICH COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL UPDATE RESIDENTS ON PROGRESS.

Recreation Ground Security: CCTV is to be installed in an effort to reduce the vandalism that occurs.

Parish Council Members: At present there are vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in working in your community, then contact either the Chairman Mr A Wallis or the Clerk.

MERRIOTT PARISH COUNCIL meet once a month for a formal meeting at Tithe Barn.

(continued overleaf)

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Garden Fete at the Rectory
Sat 8 June 11am - 3pm

Can you help man a stall? If you can spare an hour or two, please contact us on:
NICKY 78799
LUCY 76070

The photo here shows a 'Shapely Ankles' Competiton from a Merriott Church Fete circa 1950!



Parish Council News (cont.)

Usually it is on the first Monday of the month from 7pm (unless there is a bank holiday).

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.

Next meetings are MARCH 4th and TUESDAY APRIL 2nd THE AGENDA WILL BE POSTED ON THE NOTICE BOARD BY CO-OP. PLEASE COME ALONG!

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

www.merriottvillage.org.uk

For all Parish Council correspondence and information please contact Clerk: Marion Andrews. Tel: 01935 863420 or merriott-clerk@hotmail.co.uk

Should We Have More Wind Turbines in South Somerset?

By Samuel Wycherley



Wind turbines have always been a controversial issue. They are often considered noisy and a blight on the landscape.

However, there are many of these structures in some parts of the country, such as Cornwall, and also many offshore.

Somerset, contrarily, has relatively few, although there are many solar panel installations to be found. Per turbine, wind turbines produce a fair amount of electricity – only a few would be needed to provide for the whole of Merriott. They are also, unlike solar power, well suited to Britain, after all, Britain is the second windiest country in Europe, after the Netherlands. Wind turbines are also very efficient, with a theoretical efficiency of 59 per cent (of all energy in the wind).

However, many are against wind turbines, seeing them as noisy (noise levels are usually similar to that of traffic), and damaging to the landscape. The MoD also often prevents their installation, as wind turbine blades interfere with radio communications. The 'carbon footprint' resulting from the production of the turbines is generally high also, so they are not as 'green' as they may seem.

My personal view is that we should see more of them in South Somerset. The European Union has set a renewable energy target for the U.K. for 2020, and wind turbines will be an effective way of achieving this. After all, would you prefer a wind farm or a coal-fired power station near your house?

School News

To round off the World War II topic the children enjoyed a street party in the School Dining Hall. They wore their WWII costumes and ate food from the era that they had prepared earlier.

Chris Sperring from the Hawk and Owl Trust visited the school with his barn owl Beau.

He talked about the scheme to put a Barn Owl box in every parish in Somerset and that he was going to look at a suitable place to site one in Merriott.. The owl box is now in place and the school children will be the first to know if anything happens in the box. Children heard about the way a Barn Owl hunts and the sort of habitat it needs to survive. Mr Sperring finished off with a question and answer session.

He will be appearing on Spring watch later on in the year.

The Friends of Merriott First School ran a quiz for the children around WWII. Steve Neal represented FOMS, announced the winners (drawn from correct entries from each class) and presented the prizes to Fraser Parsons, Samuel Larkins, Ruby Evans, Jessica Rooke and Cara Gray.

Thanks to Steve for his work and for future quizzes!



World War II Street Party at Merriott First School

ChaSamba Fitness
A partner-free Latin American
Dance Fitness Class

Misterton Village Hall, Weds 1.30pm
 First Class £1 Eve Class Starting Soon
 Tel:07980 168529

E: info@chasambafitness.com

Sunday afternoon concert



The Gehynus String Trio will perform works by Ravel, Satie and Beethoven at All Saints Church on Sunday 3rd March.

The concert begins at 3pm with refreshments at 2:30pm. The Gehynus String Trio

was formed in 2012 by Joseph Fisher. Joseph and his Gehynus Trio are kindly performing at the Church to help raise funds for the piano that has recently been restored. The Trio consists of established classical musicians Joseph Fisher - Viola, Rebecca Minio-Paluello - Violin, Thomas Wraith - Cello. They have all performed as individuals at numerous prestigious venues across London. As the Gehynus Trio they have engagements to perform in a concert series in Germany later this year, as well as various festivals in England.

Tickets are £6 with children free, available from Osborne's Store, Merriott, Crewkerne Information Centre, or on the door.



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Events at The Kings Head



Coffee Morning



With craft and various other stalls

Saturday 9th March

10am to 1pm



Tithe Barn, Merriott



Leading the fight against dementia
Alzheimer's Society

Proceeds to

Merriott Church Fabric Fund &
The Alzheimer's Society

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

Sun March 10th - **Mothers Day Lunch**

2 courses £10.00, booking advised.

Fri March 15th - **Barry Paul as Elvis**", 9.00pm. onwards.

Sun 31st March - **Easter Egg Hunt** for the kids.

Also Bingo starting soon on a Wednesday night. Look out for posters around the village and at the Kings.

New-to-you sale coming soon in aid of Ebony's Wheels. Space available for other charity/groups etc.

KIM'S KITCHEN @ THE KINGS HEAD

Lunches: Wed - Sun, 12 - 2.30 p.m.

Wednesday lunch special 2 courses £5.95.

Usual menu also available.

Evenings: Monday, bookings only, then

Wed - Sat 6.00 - 9.00 p.m.

New Opening Hours:

Mon -Thur 12-3 ; 6 - midnight

Fri - Sat 12-3 ; 6 - 1am

Sun 12-3 ; 6 - midnight



Merriott Gardening Club

Tuesday 26th March

A presentation and talk by the ever popular Neil Lovesey on 'Propagation of Plants'.

Neil has a wealth of knowledge and experience on all aspects of gardening as well as being a good and interesting speaker.

Do come along and be inspired. Non-members are most welcomed (£2 fee at the door). Refreshments and raffle.

And lastly, just a reminder that the meeting on 30th April will be our AGM with a buffet and a surprise quiz - keep this date free - more details in next month's Messenger.

Details on 01460-72298

Auction



Merriott, Hinton, Lopen & Dinnington churches

will hold a joint

Auction on

Wednesday 24th April

at St George's Hall,
Hinton

The Auction will be held from 7.30pm, with viewing beforehand.

Refreshments will be available during viewing time and throughout the evening.

We require all sorts of good quality small and medium sized items - Antiques, Collectables & Vintage items especially welcome. Promises are also invited.

Items may be donated wholly or on a 50/50 basis.

No electrical items and no jumble please.

Contact Gill Esp
Tel: 01460 72355 for more details.



News from your Neighbourhood Beat Team

Please watch out for vulnerable neighbours and support those who may not have family nearby.

As spring approaches, sadly, it is also a time for the opportunist thief as houses are aired after the long winter 'shut down'. 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.

Ideally, use a key-safe for all keys and if no, ensure they are out of sight. NEVER leave a handbag or wallet in plain view.

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. Break in to houses (dwelling burglaries) are rare and the usual type is a theft of handbag or keys when a door is left open and the thief simply walks in and removes items. The most common type of burglary is from sheds and outbuildings (non-dwelling),

which includes detached garages. Theft of meat from freezers in garages is an easy option for thieves. Do not leave the garage door open, with your freezer and tools on full view, especially when you go out!!

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. This makes things less desirable to a thief and means if or when recovered we can return them to you.

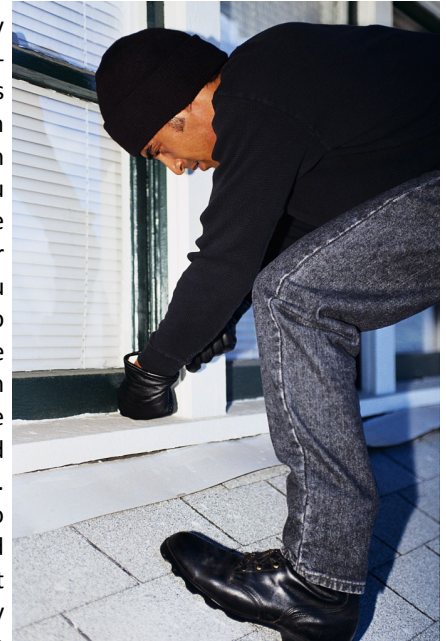
As spring approaches and the garden starts to look lovely and full of colour the garden bench and ornaments find their way back to the garden. These can be discreetly

marked to identify it as yours. Expensive flower pots can be marked on the base, as can statues. If you have a staddle stone in your garden, or if you know anyone who has any, these have quite a high value and despite the weight and size do get stolen. It is possible to chemically weld the top (the bit most commonly removed) to the base.

If you want any security advice please contact us on 101 or via the force website: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

Your Neighbourhood Team
PS Rich Barnett, PC Chris Purcell, PC Lisa Wright, PCSO's Caroline Matthews, Dave Lewis and Michelle Haimes.

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies
 Telephone 999 for ongoing crimes and emergencies



Open Group

March 7th
Annual Dinner at The Swan. Please make your menu choice and forward to Gillian.

March 21st
"Ladies at Ascot" at Lynne's. Wear a hat (or some available on the night) and enjoy the Races, in aid of Brain Tumour Research.

Enquiries:
 Maggie 76186

Charity Lunches in Lent



Come and join us for a light lunch at the following venues on Wednesdays during Lent.

All ages welcome, no ticket required - just give a donation to the chosen charity.

March 6th	The Manor House, Higher St, Merriott (Colliers') Christian Aid
March 13th	Southernhay, High St. Hinton, opp shop (Clements') Homestart
March 20th	Gappers Pool, Church St, Merriott (Dismores') S.O.M.A.

All Lunches are from 12-2pm

Merriott Drivers

Richard Crooke is unable to continue being a Driver, so if you have the updated list of Drivers, would you please delete his name. We are very thankful to Richard for being a volunteer.



If you use the Service to reach your medical appointments and have not as yet requested an up to dated list of Drivers, they are still available from Maggie and Tom on 76186.

News from All Saints Church

Merriott Church Services in March

Sun 3rd, 8.30am
Holy Communion
(Traditional Language)

Sun 10th, 10am
Family Service for
MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sun 17th
9.30am Parish Communion
6pm BCP Evensong

Sun 24th
PALM SUNDAY
10am Sung Parish
Communion

Wed 27th 9pm
Compline (Night Prayer)
for Holy Week

Fri 29th
GOOD FRIDAY
10am to 12pm
Children's Activities and
Worship

Sun 31st
EASTER SUNDAY
10am Easter Communion
(No dawn service this
year)

Please do subscribe to
'The Church Link'
magazine for more details
of these and other church
events.

This month...

We are already well into Lent. Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter are not far away. But it's not too late to come along to our Lent Course 'Fit for Purpose' on Wednesday evenings in church (7.00pm for a 7.30pm start on the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th). We are looking at what the purpose of God's church is, and how we can 'do' community, worship and mission. Do come to our MOTHERING SUNDAY service on the 10th, with activities for children - when we will also be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight. There are also various services throughout Holy Week, beginning with PALM SUNDAY and ending with our great celebration of Christ's

Resurrection on EASTER SUNDAY. Be part of the continuing story of God's love for the world.

New Church Electoral Roll

Every six years, every parish in the Church of England has to prepare a new Church 'Electoral Roll' from scratch. 2013 is one of those years. The process will begin later this month, when notices will go up near the main door of each of our churches, asking for applications. If you are currently on a Church Electoral Roll, you will still need to reapply on the form available in church or from the Electoral Roll Officer for Merriott, Gwen Blunn. The Church Electoral Roll is about registering the level of support in the local community for the Parish Church -

nothing to do with the Local Government Electoral Roll. This is very important, so we would encourage as many as possible to enrol. It is a bit like saying, yes, I have a commitment to my local church - even if you don't often or ever come to services there! It also brings an entitlement to vote at the APCM (on 29 April). In simple terms, to be eligible, you need to be a member of The Church of England, have been baptised and be over the age of 16 - AND EITHER live in the parish OR have habitually attended worship in the parish for at least six months prior to joining. Applications will need to have been received by 31st March.

Rev Bob Hicks, The Rectory, 76406.

Polite message to dog owners

Following several comments made to the Village website, please can dog owners be reminded that dogs are not allowed on the recreation ground. There is a new sign there to remind people of this.

Thank you



St Patricks Day disco

Sat 16th March from 19:30
Social Club in Merriott

Buffet and Raffle
Fancy Dress optional

Fundraising for Africa expedition
Entry £3.50 or £1.50 for under 12 (under 4 free).
Pay on door.

Thank you for your support, Thomas Bending

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Hinton St. George 'Flix in the Stix'
presents

'Quartet'

on Sat March 9th, 7.30 pm in the
Village Hall

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

The residents of Beecham House, a retirement castle for classical musicians, are preparing for their annual gala when an Opera Diva arrives, throwing their plans into chaos. A dream cast of Maggie Smith, Pauline Collins, Michael Gambon, Billy Connolly and Andrew Sachs. A Comedy-drama not to be missed!



Useful Telephone Numbers

Parish Council, Chairman (Ashley Wallis)	76643
Parish Council, Clerk (Miss Marion Andrews)	01935 863420
District Councillor - Paul Maxwell	271155
Merriott Pre-school - Jenny Hayne	77922
Merriott First School—Head, Zoe Coghlan	72547
Village Hall Bookings	72508

All Saints Church	
Rector: Rev Julia Hicks & Rev Bob Hicks	76406
Benefice Administrator (Office), Isabel Welsh	73226
Churchwarden: John Stuttaford	72806

Tithe Barn (Bookings, Mrs Down)	72316
Secretary to Parochial Church Council, Louise Collier	78792
Campanologists (Bell ringers) Anita Glasson	73368

Baby Clinic, Health Visitor	77600
Community Responder Scheme -Jayne Preston	75162
Drivers (Merriott), Tom & Maggie Jones	76186
Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)	101

Aerobic Classes, Jon Ayers	07917 372563
Allotment Association (Merriott), Chris Read	74251
Badminton Club (Merriott), Penny Harvey	73180
Bowling Club, Chris Woods	76294
Brownies, Pat Johns	73738
Cub & Scouts, Garry and Janette Osborne	78969
Dog Training (Merriott)	72169
Evergreen Club, Julie Case	76257
Football Club (Merriott), Secretary - Angie Rowswell	74889
Gardening Club (Merriott), Barbara Byford	72298
Guides, Hilary Court	77538
Gun Club (Merriott), Jack Lowe	72336
History Group (Merriott), Cathy Herriman	76918
Majorettes (Merriott) - Juliet McKelvey	78383
Sarah Foley Instructor	01935 840173
Moguls Investment Club (Merriott), Mrs T Mortimer	72134
Mother's Union, Branch Leader—Hilary Askew	76473
Open Group (Merriott), Maggie Jones	76186
Parent and Toddler Group, Amanda Raybould	78108
Rainbows (First Merriott)	77075
Short Mat Bowls Club	73091
Social Club (Merriott)	74376
Squash Club (Merriott)	77872/ 07718 664147
Membership: Matt Gentle	07872 040204
Traidcraft, Julia Portal	73595
Women's Fellowship (Merriott)	77459
Youth Football Club (Merriott), Monica Hayden	74449

Swing into Spring

Sat 27th April, 7.30pm

All Saints Church invites you to
Merriott Social Club for an evening
featuring the amazing voice of

GRAHAM DAVID

Inc. tributes to Michael Bublé and Robbie Williams

Admission by ticket only, includes a light supper

**Tickets £6 each, available from
Jean & Dave Crisp. Tel: 01460 279654**

All proceeds to Merriott Church



All Saints Church, Merriott

New to You

Saturday
23rd March



10am to 11.30am

In the Tithe Barn, Merriott

Clothes, Books, Toys, Bric a Brac
and Other stalls

Tea and coffee will be available



In aid of Church funds

Thank you to our sponsors for their support

<p>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</p>	<p>R. A. Wicks Ltd Fireplace Showroom, Flue Lining, and Multi Fuel Stoves 01460 74612</p>	<p>Stoneleigh Lettings "A personal Letting Service Tailored to your Needs" 01460 249175 07747 035322</p>	<p>Merriottsford Minibus Quality 14 –16 seaters for that special day/night out 01460 75089 Airline Taxi 01460 76209</p>	<p>Osborne's Broadway, Butcher of local farm meat, groceries, newspapers, wines & spirits 01460 73459</p>
<p>Martyn Porter Painting & Decorating, Tiling & General House Maintenance. No job too small 01460 74952 Mobile: 07805159302</p>	<p>Kingfisher Veterinary Practice, Crewkerne, your local vets. 01460 72443</p>	<p>The Haselbury Mill, Haselbury Plucknett, for Weddings and other Functions. 01460 77095</p>	<p>The Kings Head Mon—Thur: 12-3; 6-midnight Fri: 12-6; 6-midnight Sat; 12noon –1am Sun: 12noon– midnight 01460 72973</p>	<p>Careford Lodge Residential Home Church Street Contact Lorraine on 01460 75592 lchant@hotmail.co.uk</p>
<p>Lawrences Auctioneers Free verbal valuations Home visits 01460 73041 Fax: 01460 270799</p>	<p>Kevin Swain Electrical Contractor Tel 01460 73260</p>	<p>Tony Miles Ltd Building & Roofing Contractor 74 Lower St. Merriott Tel/Fax 01460 75860 Mobile 07774 886379 aamiles@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>ECO Friendly B&B with country views at Shute Spring, Merriott. Open most of the year Contact Hugh and Heather on 01460 75325 hhmatthews@live.co.uk</p>
<p>Moorlands Residential Home Quality care for the elderly Moorlands Road 01460 74425 Fax 01460 77391</p>	<p>Seavington Café Open Daily (Sun—am only) Teas, coffees, cakes, snacks hot/cold lunches, breakfasts Water St. Seavington 01460 249730</p>	<p>Allen Computer Services Sales, Repairs, Servicing, for Home & Small Business 01460 298036 allencomputerservices.co.uk</p>	<p>Popular Motors Merriott Service Station+Spar Shop Broadway, Quality Car Sales, Workshop, MOT testing, 01460 76803</p>	<p>Beehive Self Storage Lopen Business Park, Lopen 01460 243100 www.beehiveselfstorage.co.uk Business, Household Storage & Packing Materials</p>
<p>Chris Martin Interiors Ltd Specialising in installation of kitchens and bathrooms 01460 76612 07976 848677</p>	<p>Entel Servicing Aerial and satellite services Terry Enticott 01460 73273 07773428736</p>	<p>Sassie Ladies stylish fashion and accessories 8 Church St, Crewkerne 01460 74323</p>	<p>Merriott Pharmacy Free prescription collection & delivery 01460 72222 merriottphar- macy@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Richard Ellis Plasterer & Painter Tel: 01460 74460 Mobile: 07768 256416 ellisandellis@tiscali.co.uk</p>
<p>Appliance Maintenance Services Andrew M Sheppard Domestic Appliance Repairs Tel : 01460 72211 Mob: 07970 744115 amser- vices551@btinternet.com</p>	<p>novahomes.co.uk 01460 72225 or email jane.desforjes @novahomes.co.uk</p>	<p>Martin & Co (Yeovil) Letting, Investment and Property Management for S Somerset & W Dorset 01935 420555 yeovil@martinco.com www.martincoyeovil.co.uk</p>	<p>For information on becoming a sponsor, please contact a member of the Editorial Team.</p>	

March events at..



Sat 9th March, 9pm
 Sat 16th March, 7.30pm

Sat 23rd March, 6.30pm

Sun 24th March, 6.30pm for 7.30pm
 Thurs 28th March, 8pm

Flatland Boogie Band
 St Patrick's Day Disco
 (in aid of Africa trip for T Bending)
 Family Music Quiz (in aid of
 Merriott First School)

Easter Bingo
 AGM

Sunday Night Quiz: every Sunday at 8.30pm

Copy deadline date for the
 April Merriott Messenger is
 March 12th 2013.

Articles received after this
 date may not be included.
 Please include any art work or photos.

Editorial Team

E-mail: katherinehaines@yahoo.com

or contact any of the editorial team.

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