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MERRIOTT MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 2016

www.merriottvillage.org.uk

merriottmessenger@gmail.com

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If you would like to sponsor the Merriott Messenger, please contact a member of the editorial team. Details on back page.

Copy date for the October issue is **12th September.**

GARDENING CLUB QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"If I had a flower for every time I thought of you, I could walk through my garden forever.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

LOOK HOW WE'VE GROWN IN 10 YEARS!

The Merriott Messenger started many years ago as a small leaflet three or four times a year. In 2006 we began to publish a more comprehensive magazine to improve communication in the community. Thanks to our earlier editors,

Margaret Barnes and Katherine Nolan, our loyal sponsors and support from the Parish Council we have developed into the publication you now receive free, eleven times a year. We aim to keep you up to date with local news and events, to advertise and



report and give anyone in the community the chance to contribute items of interest or comments they wish to share.

We now publish 1000 copies and will increase that soon for new housing. We have a marvellous band of volunteers who deliver to every house.

Please continue to send us articles so the Messenger can continue to thrive for the next decade and beyond.

The Editorial Team

MERRIOTT MESSENGER September 2006

News from the Parish Council

The Parish Council is a self-governing, local authority within the meaning of various acts of parliament. The members are representatives of the people of the parish and their duty is to make decisions and speak on the people's behalf, with the aim of improving the quality of life in the parish. Responsibilities include provision of facilities for outdoor recreation; management of parking and road signage; provision of buildings for indoor sports, social and recreational activities: comments on

MERRIOTT MESSENGER OCTOBER 2006

THE NEW MERRIOTT MESSENGER

Welcome to the new look *Merriott Messenger*. Not only has the page size increased and colour introduced, but also the *Messenger* will be published monthly. However, the editions for the holiday months of July/August and December/January will be combined, making a total of ten issues annually. The main aims of the *Messenger* is to inform the readers of what the Parish Council is doing to benefit the Community; to advise what imminent activities could affect the village and to give details of forthcoming events. We also want to make it an entertaining read!

Nine hundred copies of each addition will be printed, which will be sufficient for every household. The *Messenger* will be free but we also want to keep advertising to a minimum. Therefore, we are seeking ten sponsors who will be mentioned as sponsors in every edition and in turn have a prominent advert annually. If any more businesses are interested in becoming sponsors please contact a member of the Editorial Panel or the Parish Clerk. If the new *Messenger* is successful we plan to extend its content, but like most things in life it will depend on money, thus sponsorship! The Editorial Panel is grateful to the Parish Council and business sponsors who are already providing financial support. Our special thanks go to the volunteers who have distributed the *Messenger* in the past, many of whom will continue to do so. The late Labour Minister, Aneurin Bevan, once said, "I read the newspapers avidly. It is my one source of continuous fiction". "*The Merriott Messenger*" will give you the facts!

'SIXTEEN BELLS' CHOIR PERFORM A TEA-TIME TREAT OF A SUMMER CONCERT

The newly formed Sixteen Bells' Choir, named after the 16 bells of Dinnington, Hinton St George, Lopen and Merriott Churches to which it is affiliated, gave a wonderful and uplifting performance on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd July at Merriott Church to a packed audience. Numbering around 45 singers, the Choir, who came together for their first rehearsal back in May, sang a range of music from finger clicking spirituals to Howard Goodhall's theme to BBC's Vicar of Dibley, to Thomas Tallis. Their enthusiasm was evident from both the magnificent sound they produced and the joyful smiles on their faces. The Choir's director, Rachel Crane, encouraged the audience in a spot of communal singing (with actions!) which appeared to go down a storm. All of this was followed by a sumptuous tea with a huge array of delicious homemade cakes.



Post Concert tea, All Saints Church, Merriott

The Choir was formed to provide music for the four churches of the Merriott Benefice at their main feasts and festivals. They meet fortnightly during term time on a Wednesday evening at 7pm at Merriott Church and welcome new members. No former singing experience necessary.

The first rehearsal after the summer break will be **Wednesday 7th September**.

For further details please contact Bob or Julia Hicks on 01460 76404.

PLANNING APPLICATION - LAND AT SHIREMOOR HILL

The outline planning application for 30 houses on land adjacent to the Squash Club on Shiremoor Hill was considered by the Area West Committee of South Somerset District Council meeting in Crewkerne on August 17th. The Chairman of Merriott Parish Council spoke in favour of the application though several other speakers from Merriott, including the District Councillor for Merriott, spoke against. After much deliberation the Committee deferred their decision pending the conclusion of negotiations between the applicant and Merriott Parish Council for the transfer of additional land to the Parish Council.

John Bowman



JOIN US AT THE "COFFEE STOP"

"Coffee Stop" takes place **every Tuesday** in Merriott Church from **10-11.30am**

Coffee and cake £1 with free refills, all welcome, children's drinks and play area.

See you there!



FUNDRAISING FOR SOUTH AFRICA TRIP

BINGO at Misterton Village Hall on **Monday 3rd of October**.

Doors open at 6.30 for eyes down at 7.30.

Raffle, tombola and refreshments available together with great prizes. Come and join the fun.

Joseph Bending



CHARITY APPEAL

Yeovil Hospital Charity pays for improvements to facilities and services at Yeovil Hospital, making things easier for patients at what is often a difficult time. You can make a difference too. Call 01935 383020 to find out how.

To donate online go to:
www.justgiving.com/yeovilhospital



Merriott's Monthly Market

First Saturday of the month 10am - 1pm
Merriott Social Club, 71 Lower St

Every month the indoor market has at least 20+ regular stalls attending, selling fresh food products, home-made cakes, home-grown plants, every occasion cards, hand-crafted jewellery, painting, hand-knitted items and unusual crafts and gifts for all occasions. There are various charity stalls and locals selling books, beauty & health products, DVDs and new and used bric-a-brac stalls and much more.

We serve bacon butties, teas and coffees and the bar is open. As well as promoting the Club and raising funds for the new roof, we also support and share the proceeds with many other local charities. So pop along and show your support. For further details call Lola on 07885 424 588, pop into the Club or check us out on



OPEN GROUP

September meetings:

8th Sept - Post Summer Catch-up and coffee

22nd Sept - AGM

If you would like to join this group please contact Marion Biggs Tel 74170 or email:

marionbiggs169@btinternet.com

CELEBRATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MERRIOTT OPEN GROUP

A warm Sunday afternoon at the end of July saw past and present members of Merriott Young Wives, now Merriott Open Group, gather at the Community Pavilion to celebrate 50 years since the formation of this group.

An excellent display of photos and documents charting the various activities and charities supported over the years was much admired.

Marion Biggs



A glass of bubbly was raised to the continued success of the group and to remember absent friends.

Founding members Janette Shire and Ruth Wallis cut the celebration cake.

All Saints Church is planning a visit to Salisbury Cathedral on **Thursday 22nd Sept.**



There will be 2 tours available to be booked, a floor tour and a tower tour. The cost (excluding travel) will be £6.25 per person for entrance which will include the floor tour. The tower tour will be slightly more expensive. Until the numbers are known it is impossible to cost, as the tower tour is charged per tour for 12 people. At the moment we are planning to travel to Salisbury by train. The cost would be £17.50, less 1/3 for party travel. Please contact Dave or Jean Crisp on 01460 279654 or email davidcrisp23@btinternet.com for more information.

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Mon - Sat: 7am - 10pm

Sun: 8am - 10pm

OVER 200 EXHIBITS AT THE MERRIOTT GARDENING CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

We held our Annual Flower & Produce Show on 6th August and had over 200 exhibits. The weather was glorious on the day and in the afternoon we had an abundance of visitors enjoying the exhibits, cream teas, prize giving and auction. Thank you to everyone who took the time and effort to exhibit and to everyone who supported us.

A special thank you to the people from the village who very kindly donated prizes for the raffle table - we appreciate and acknowledge your generosity.



L to R: Alan Keene, Helen Mashin, Mo Frampton, Tom Hemmings, Sarah Hughes and Christine McLeod (Chair of the Merriott Gardening Club)



Prize winners were:

John Wallis Memorial Rose Bowl - Flowers - Sarah Hughes

Peggy Wallis Memorial Cup - Fruit & Veg - Tom Hemmings

Cornelius Shield - Floral Arrangements - Helen Mashin

Cup - Domestic - Mo Frampton

Cup - Arts & Crafts - Mo Frampton

Cup - Photography - Alan Keene

Brigadier Keith Mullins Shield - Most First Prizes in Show - Mo Frampton

On **Tuesday 27th September** there will be a talk by a member of Castle Gardens Sherborne on "Seasonal Colour in the

Garden". Meet in the Tithe Barn at 7.30 pm, refreshments, raffle, plant and seed sale, flower of the month competition. The RHS book "Pests and Diseases" will be available for solutions to garden problems. Guests £2. Why not join our friendly gardening club? We have a number of members from villages other than Merriott and would welcome new members from Hinton St George. Annual subscription £10 single and £15 double.



Mo Frampton
07969 028277

BAR STAFF WANTED

Your Social Club is looking for bar staff to work Friday/Saturday/Sunday - hours to be negotiated. Applications in writing should be sent to Mr D Court at Merriott Social Club as soon as possible.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

There will be a 'Bring and Share' Lunch in the Tithe Barn, Merriott from 12.30pm on **Sunday 16th October** following the Harvest Festival. Everyone welcome.

AUTUMN CLEAN

WORK PARTY

Saturday 15th October
9.30am - 12noon
Merriott Church

We would very much welcome lots of volunteers at our Autumn Clean work party.

There will be jobs in the churchyard, like hedge trimming, wilderness taming and general tidying – and also we will be cleaning inside the church too. Refreshments will be available. Bring suitable clothing and tools.

More details from
Tom Jones (240615) and
Robin Gilkes (75549)



AUTUMN SOCIAL AFTERNOONS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

There will be tea /coffee and cake (£2) served from 3.00pm - 5.00pm on

Wednesday 12th and Friday 28th October

a general social afternoon, with tables available for board games / cards, or bring your needlework and come for a chat. Bring a friend or come alone to meet new ones, everyone welcome.

If this is popular it can continue through the winter months. More details in the October issue of the Merriott Messenger.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on

Monday 12th September
at 7.00pm, Tithe Barn

Planning Applications will not in future be regularly published in the Merriott Messenger.

However, all details can be found in the Parish Council Minutes on either the village notice board, the Merriott website:
www.merriottvillage.org.uk
or on the SSDC website/Planning & Building Control

To keep up-to-date also visit their Facebook page:
Merriott Parish Council



SHOE-BOX APPEAL 2016

The time has come again to be thinking about shoe-boxes! This year we, along with our main sorting centre in Ilminster, have decided to change the charity from Samaritan's Purse to Blythswood Care.

This is mainly for practical reasons. It also provides us with a wider choice for filling the boxes, (eg boxes can be filled for babies and adults, and can include clothing, and liquids such as shampoos etc.) The destinations are the same – mainly in Eastern Europe and Asia. Leaflets giving more details are available from the Broadway Garage and the Church.

Thank you so much for all your support. As in previous years, we are really grateful for completed boxes, as well as 'fillers'. You may also prefer to sponsor a box. The Drop-Off day this year is **Saturday 29th October** at 12 Higher Beadon, Merriott.

Please do get in touch with us if you have any queries.

The Shoe-Box Team. For more details Tel: Beryl Virgin 74917 or Beryl Bellamy 74574).

MERRIOTT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Our Monthly markets are back from Saturday 3rd September from 10am until 1pm. Come and see the various craft stalls, produce and car-boot style tables, all in aid of Merriott Social Clubs' refurbishment programme. If you would like a table at this event please contact Lorraine on our Facebook page, via our website or through the Social Club. Come and have a browse while enjoying a bacon buttie and cup of tea.

Thank you to all our members and non members for their support in raising the funds to enable us to repair the roof of the club, work is almost finished.

Remember to keep an eye on our notice-board for the latest news and events, as well as our website (merriottsocialclub.co.uk) and Facebook page. Thanks once again to all members and non-members who have continued to support us – you are highly appreciated!

Date for your diary:

On the **30th September** we have the popular Karaoke in the bar - great fun for all ages, groups and families. Come and see the extensive range of songs to choose from.



PILATES

at Merriott Village Hall
starts again on
Tuesday 6th September
"Stretch and Strength"
09.30 - 10.30

For more details contact
Belle 07593 299 284 or
01460 249576

MOBILE LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER VISIT:

Tuesday 20th

@ Merriott School

9.30am - 10am

PLEASE NOTE:

Broadway is to be closed from
12th September for
line-painting and other
crucial work.
The work should last approx
three days.



PETER BRYANS SHARES A JOKE.....

A burglar breaks into a house one night and just as he is lifting the DVD player off its shelf he hears a voice in the dark say, "Jesus is watching you!" Startled, the burglar freezes and listens

intently. After a few minutes he puts the voice down to his imagination and reaches for the DVD player and again he hears the voice say "Jesus is watching you!" Now alarmed, the burglar switches on his torch and shines it around the room to find the source of the voice and the torch beam comes to rest on a parrot sitting in its cage.

"Did you say that?" asks the burglar.

"I did" replied the parrot, "but I'm only trying to warn you."

"You, warn me," scoffed the burglar "and who the heck are you to warn me?"

"I'm Moses," replied the parrot.

"Moses," laughed the burglar, "What kind of people call their parrot Moses?"

The parrot squawked then said, "The kind of people who call their Rottweiler, 'JESUS'."



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ALL SAINTS CHURCH NEWS



We have been delighted by how well the new choir has got on the past few months and would like to add our thanks to our excellent and enthusiastic choir leader, Rachel Crane. Thank you to everyone who has sung as well. I think we have surprised ourselves and it has been a hugely enjoyable experience so far. All ages and abilities are welcome when we start again in September.

Rev Julia Hicks - 76406

Church Services - September

Sun 4th 8.30am Holy Communion
Sun 11th 9.30am Parish Communion
Sun 18th 10.00am All Age Communion
Sun 25th 10.00am Sung Communion

Date for your dairy: **Harvest Festival** 11am on **Sunday 16th October**

Re-starting September

Merriott Rainbows

Merriott Village Hall

Monday 5.15pm - 6.15pm

Girls aged 5 - 7 years

For more information please contact:

Ebony Court 07842 833 353 or 01460 77538

Rainbowsatmerriott@outlook.com

HISTORY ON VIEW IN MERRIOTT



Coronation of Edward VII in 1901

Place names and street names can often give an insight in to their history.

Merriott was originally "Maergeat" meaning "Boundary Gate". The boundary was the River Parrett along which Saxon invaders were halted in 658AD.

Several of the Streets in Merriott are self explanatory – Higher Street, Lower Street, Church Street.

Glebe land was an area of land used to support a parish priest.

Bakehouse Corner at the end of Church Street was the site of bakeries in the past.

Broadway, the main route through the village was formerly an old Roman Road.

Boozer Pit, the name that causes much hilarity to visitors, is in fact the site of a quarry belonging to the Boser family.

Merriottsford is the crossing place over Gould's Brook, now thankfully by bridge rather than ford.

Newchester Cross was earlier called Newchurchyard Cross. The name could derive from a cross indicating the way to the church.

Hitchen Field was a 30 acre area of land in the centre of the village that was communally farmed from before the Norman Conquest. It's former name was Landshare.

Moorlands was the area where two streams converged and in the past would

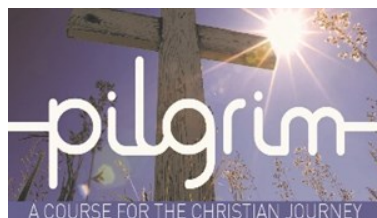
have been rather boggy, hence the name moorland.

The area known as **Knapp** at the south west corner of the village was in the past called The Borough. This was where fairs would have been held in the past and was always the gathering place in times of celebration.



VE Day in 1945

Marion Biggs



'The Lord's Prayer' – did you learn it as a child? How has it survived? What does it mean? How can it help us? This is the subject for our next series of six meetings.

We shall be at Merriott Rectory (warmer than the church in the Autumn!) on Monday evenings starting on **2nd October**.

We begin at **7pm** with refreshments and start our discussions and teaching at 7.30pm finishing about 9pm.

It's free of charge and suitable for teenagers upwards.

Come and join us.

For more information, contact Rev Bob Hicks 01460 76406 or Derek Esp 01460 77224.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



A beautiful Aquilegia

photo taken by Chriselda McPherson - June 2016

Please send your photo to: merriottmessenger@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW ?



There is a sheep breed indigenous to the Isle of Man. It is called the Manx Loaghtan and is one of the more primitive breeds, including the Soay and Shetland breeds, of the north and western parts of the British Isles.



Originally the sheep were white, black, grey and brown or 'moorit' – the colour

of the ram shown in the picture.

Loaghtan is the Manx word for moorit and the breed is now all moorit.

The sheep have grazed the rough upland pastures on the Isle of Man for centuries but by 1950 were almost extinct. Their numbers have now risen and there are several flocks on the island and in main-land UK.

The rams and ewes can be polled (no horns) or have up to six horns. The ram pictured has a magnificent head of four horns. The ewes weigh 40 to 55 kg and produce a fleece of 1.5kg. The wool is hard wearing and because of the colour is much sought after for knitwear.

The Manx Loaghtan sheep are hardy and thrive in extreme conditions. They are disease resistant and long lived and said to produce lambs up to 13 and 14 years of age. The lambs are small but lively. The meat is considered to be well flavoured and a delicacy locally. It has recently received EU recognition and protection under the Protected Designation of Origin scheme, which requires products to originate in a specific region.

John Bowman

FUN WITH BUBBLES!

An easy activity for children – you need an empty SMALL plastic water bottle, a sock which will fit tightly over it, washing up liquid and a bowl.

Cut out the base of the bottle. Fit the sock over the bottle covering the open end.



Just dunk it in a bowl of detergent and blow through the top to make fantastic blobs of bubbles - a great game for the garden!

Ann Lawrence

Merriott Gospel Hall



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