

# MERRIOTT MESSENGER

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July 2022

## Merriott Jubilee Fair

Despite forecasts of rain throughout the day, we were lucky enough to have dry weather and people came and supported us! There was lots to see and some new ventures – Emma Roger's Dog Show was brilliant entertainment and I saw several proud rosettes wearers. Nigel's Axe Throwing still had a queue until the end, the Scouts worked really hard on all their stalls and sold out of hot dogs and hopefully lots of other stalls made some money through the event. Over at the Church Paul Fisher had put together a fascinating display of 70 years in Merriott. It attracted lots of people, and donations amounted to over £80. The Church was also the venue for delicious afternoon tea and the impressive raffle, put together again by John Stuttford. Those events raised over £900 for the Church.

Well done everyone and thank you very much to the businesses who supported us:

Stokes Partnership, Co-op, The Feed Station, The Kings Head, Manor Farm, Merriott Service Station and Top Dog Training.

So far, we have made over £500 profit from the events in the Tithe Barn and Paddock – so £250 + will go to Ukraine DEC.

*Mary Gilson*



Emma Roger's Dog Show in full swing



Some of the fair stalls



Stalls inside the Tithe Barn



The 70 years in Merriott Display



Stalls inside Merriott Church

## Merriott Messenger Contact

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## The Jubilee at Merriott Gardening Club

After months of sowing seeds, potting them on and nurturing them, Merriott Gardening club was at last ready for the plant stall at the jubilee fair on Saturday 4th June. Our aim was to raise enough money to be able to purchase a tree to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We were successful, the decision now is which tree to choose. Feeling amongst some of our members is that it should be a native British tree, a crab apple perhaps. Thank you to all who came along to support us by buying or donating plants.

We are having a coffee morning in the Tithe Barn, Church Street, Merriott on Saturday 2nd of July from 10:00 until 12:00 to raise additional funds. Please put the date in your diary and come and support us.

Our last meeting before the summer break will be a walking treasure hunt around the village. It will be a 7.30pm start at the Tithe Barn on 26th July.



Helen Tre-Vett

## Merriott Social Venue's Jubilee Celebrations

Wow .... what an amazing way to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

Thank you to everyone who turned up. It was so good to see so many residents coming together.

Thank you to our amazing staff and volunteers who jumped behind the bar who worked so hard with the unexpected volume of customers, you did an amazing job. (Sorry for any delays but we got there in the end. )

For the whole team of planners and volunteers on the day it was certainly a long time in the planning but it came together to make a fabulous village event. We made donations to the village hall, squash club, little litter pickers, Crewkerne explorers, and majorettes. Look out for our meat draw starting in July and the return of our Brilliant Pirate Night with One Tree Hill on the 9th July.

We also have planned more prize bingos, quiz night, Christmas party, band nights & a ladies night. Look out for the events.



The  
Street  
Fair

## Planning Applications for July



### 28 Lower Street

Internal and external alterations to listed building, including replacement windows and door, external re-pointing, removal of internal walls, infill of internal openings, provision of two conservation roof lights to rear and installation of solar PV panels to rear. 22/01167/LBC Status: Awaiting decision.

### Agricultural Barn, Moorlands Road

Proposed demolition of agricultural building and the erection of a private dwelling with parking. 22/01192/FUL Status: Awaiting decision

### Court Mill Lower Street

Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to 4 trees and to fell 1 tree within a Conservation area 22/01130/TCA Status: Application Permitted

For more details go to  
[southsomerset.gov.uk](https://southsomerset.gov.uk) and "Search for a planning application"

Marion Biggs



The Jubilee Parade

## Merriott Squash Club Donates Over a Thousand for Defibrillators



Parish Councillor Dave Aslett with Merriott Squash Club's Rev Jonathon Morris

Merriott Squash Club this week presented a cheque for £1,116 to Merriott Parish Council, to help towards the cost of the village defibrillators. The cheque was presented to Parish Councillor Dave Aslett by Merriott Squash Club Chairman, Rev Jonathan Morris.

Merriott saw the instillation of three new defibrillators around the village earlier this year, one at Tithe Barn, one at the old Pharmacy and the other outside the Squash Club itself, so this contribution from the Squash Club to the parish council will significantly help towards the cost and instillation of these defibrillators.

Club Secretary Kate Edwards said, "The squash club has been in the village since 1964, so we wanted to help support the local community who have supported us over the last 58 years, so nothing more fitting than donating a generous sum of money towards the cost of these lifesaving devices."

Merriott Parish Council will be running a Free Defibrillator Training workshop in September, so keep an eye out in the next edition of the Merriott Messenger for date.

Kate Edwards

## Merriott Little Litter Pickers

### Queen Jubilee

The Mobile Library will  
visit Merriott  
on 12th July  
9.30am – 9.50am

Outside the Church

Hello, hope everyone had a nice Jubilee. Thank you to all of the litter pickers that gave there own time to come and help. Welcome to the new pickers that signed up on the day!

It was nice to hear all of the positive feedback which people said about are club on the day. 😊

Jessica Tither

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**Copy date for the August issue is 12<sup>th</sup> July**

### Gardening quote of the month

"Grass is the cheapest plant to  
install and the most expensive to  
maintain."  
- Pat Howell

Sent in by Mo Frampton



## All Saints' Church Services - July

|                 |                          |                 |                                                                                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sun 3rd</b>  | No service in Merriott   | <b>Sun 24th</b> | 9am Holy Communion                                                                       |
| <b>Sun 10th</b> | 10.30am Parish Communion | <b>Sun 31st</b> | 10.30am Parish Communion<br>Guest preacher; Rev Edd Turner from<br>the Diocese of London |
| <b>Sun 17th</b> | 10.30am Morning Prayer   |                 |                                                                                          |

*Rev Bob and Rev Julia Hicks*

### News from All Saints' Church

What an amazing Jubilee weekend! Across our four villages over the four days, we celebrated our Queen's Platinum Jubilee in great style. There were street parties, street fayres and picnics. Tugs of war, silly games and storytelling. A flower festival, a concert, live bands. Raffles, history displays, bellringing. Doughnuts, cream teas, cakes, strawberries, a hog-roast and hotdogs. Pimms and beer and wine and a multitude of other toasts and tipples! And perhaps those most traditional of all jubilee activities; a fun dog show, axe throwing and splat the rat! Such a fabulous variety of ways that people came together. After all these wonderful festivities, around 80 people came together in St George's Church on Sunday evening to give thanks to God for our Queen's 70 years of service to the nation, the Commonwealth and the Church. A lovely end to a memorable weekend, and truly a privilege for our churches to be involved in the communities in which they are set. Village life at its best!

*Rev'd Bob Hicks 01460 76406.*

### QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK MERRIOTT?

Merriott Parish Council  
Merriott-clerk@hotmail.co.uk

As part of the Platinum jubilee celebrations, the parish council has been considering how to permanently commemorate the long reign of Queen Elizabeth. It is generally agreed that the queen has been a positive influence, perhaps a 'ray of light' shining through the negative politics evident throughout the world. In recent years, Merriott Recreation Field, 'The Rec.' has been slowly transforming in to a park, for the benefit of all, as opposed to simply a sports field. It is important that residents give their views on a suggested name change to The Queen Elizabeth Park before a decision is made. Please write to the email address above, or drop a note through your nearest councillors' letter box.

*Iain Hall*



### Holidays!

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## DID YOU KNOW THIS ALL HAPPENED IN JULY?

1690 - The Battle of the Boyne was fought on the east coast of Ireland, between the Catholic King James and the Protestant King William. The battle, won by William, ultimately helped ensure the continuation of Protestant supremacy in Ireland. Curiously, Battle of the Boyne Day is celebrated on 12th July. The mismatch occurred under the Gregorian calendar and 11 days were effectively lost, causing people at the time to clamour 'Give us back our 11 days!'

1837 - Compulsory registration of births, marriages and deaths came into effect in England and Wales.

1903 - The birth of Amy Johnson CBE, a pioneering English pilot. Flying solo or with her husband, Jim Mollison, Johnson set numerous long-distance records during the 1930s. She flew in the Second World War as a part of the Air Transport Auxiliary where she died during a routine flight when returning an aircraft to base.

1911 - The introduction of the British Copyright Act - protecting an author's works for 50 years after their death.

1916 - World War I: Almost 20,000 British soldiers were killed and a further 57,500 were injured on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. It was the greatest number of British casualties in a single day's fighting in modern history. British casualties on day one were greater than the total combined British casualties in the Crimean, Boer, and Korean wars.

1942 - World War II: The first Battle of El Alamein, a battle of the Western Desert Campaign in North Africa, was fought between the Axis forces (Germany and Italy) commanded by Field Marshal Rommel, and Allied forces of the British Eighth Army commanded by General Claude Auchinleck. The battle halted the second, and final advance by the Axis forces into Egypt.

1960 - Ghana became a Republic and Queen Elizabeth II ceased to be its Head of state.

1963 - The British Government admitted that the former diplomat Kim Philby, a high-ranking member of British intelligence had worked as a double agent before defecting to the Soviet Union.

1967 - Colour television came to Europe with a seven hour transmission on BBC 2 from the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships.

1969 - Prince Charles was invested Prince of Wales by his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, at Caernarfon Castle in north Wales.

1977 - British tennis player Virginia Wade won the Women's Singles Championship at Wimbledon in its Centenary Year and during Queen Elizabeth II's Jubilee year.

1996 - In addition to a practical exam, learner drivers in Britain had to pass a written exam for the first time.

1998 - The first meeting of the historic Northern Ireland Assembly in Belfast, following the signing of the Good Friday Peace Agreement.

2005 - The final unveiling of Anthony Gormley's 'Another Place' on Crosby Beach near Liverpool, where 100 cast iron figures face out to sea.

2007 - A smoking ban came into force in England, making it illegal for anyone to smoke in an enclosed public place and within the workplace.

2015 - The death (aged 106) of Sir Nicholas George Winton MBE. He was a British humanitarian who organized the rescue of 669 children, most of them Jewish, from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia during the 9 months before war broke out in 1939. The operation was later known as the Czech Kindertransport.

### New Sponsor - Merriott Short Mat Bowls

Merriott Short Mat Bowls Club is looking for new members for its club in the Village Hall.

We meet on Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9.30pm, and play matches from time to time with other clubs in the area – either friendlies or as part of the area League; we play in a relaxed atmosphere, and play to enjoy the game.

Our Chairman is a Qualified Coach and County Umpire.

The club has three mats and can provide woods for those who wish to try their hand; it is a game for all ages, for both men and women, beginners and experienced alike, we play all year round – in the dry! Prospective players are invited to phone the secretary on 01308 862203, or to come along any Wednesday at 7pm.

## Tithe Barn Repairs

Anyone who has come into the Tithe Barn in recent weeks will have noticed that we've got problems with our end wall over the stage. There was a fairly significant fall of masonry – it filled a bucket – and our builder suggested it should be cordoned off because there could be more falls. The rest of the hall is safe but the stage isn't and something needs to be done.

Unfortunately, it seems likely that the internal damage has been caused by water getting in from the outside over a long period and so we are looking at needing to raise quite a large sum, perhaps £7-8,000, to supply scaffolding and repair inside and out. Please get in touch if you think you might be able to help us with this project. You might have experience in applying for grants for buildings, you might be someone with practical skills or you might be someone who could spare some time to help run a coffee morning or a Nearly New Sale. Even a couple of hours, as you can spare it, would help. Charities are short of money since the pandemic and grants are hard to come by. We only stand a chance of getting a grant if we can show that the people in Merriott care about the Tithe Barn and are willing to get involved. Please think about whether it matters to you – we have a very old building (it dates from 14th century) and we need to look after it, otherwise, it will become unusable.

We have an on-line questionnaire which we really need you to fill in – it will give us one way of showing that Merriott cares about it's Tithe Barn. You'll find it on Residents of Merriott page on Facebook or follow the link here

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/39ZCSWR>

Could you spare some time to get involved with this project? – speak to Julia or Bob at the Rectory or me, Mary Gilson, on 07752 893891.

*Mary Gilson*

## Puddle

Brown water. Cherry blossom petals  
blown by a breath of breeze,  
are gathered around its shores  
as white paper-daily embroidery.  
The gleaming muddy patch  
frames whole trees and tall hedges  
in a scant inch of water,  
as though it commanded  
the dignity of great depth.

Given the chance  
to reflect blue skies  
it would be a mirror  
fit for the vanity of Narcissus.



*Janet Lailey*



Find us on  
Facebook

## Merriott Social Venue - Run by the Community for the Community

Here at Merriott Social Venue we aim to provide a service for the community. Welcoming everyone to use our facilities, be it a weekly club, fitness group, quiet drink, sports match, free music events, bingos, indoor markets or other events. Please look out for more details in the Merriott Messenger, on posters or on Facebook.

**Looking for a space to hold an event, party, wedding, christening, or birthday? Our function room is the perfect home for any celebration, please don't hesitate to contact us for more details.**



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Monday - Rainbows & guides  
Tuesday & Thursday - Karate  
Wednesday - Cash Bingo & Ladies skittles  
Friday - Men's Skittles

We will be open for all England football matches.

### Current Opening Hours:

Tuesday—Saturday  
7pm until late  
We can open at other times for any bookings.

## Wednesday Games and Cards Club

We meet on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm in the Tithe Barn to play card games and board games, like Scrabble. We always start with a cup of tea or coffee and something to go with it and have a chat. You don't need to be an experienced card player and we are happy to try new games if you've got a favourite.

In July we're meeting on

Wednesday, July 6th and 20th, August is left clear but we'll meet again on September 7th and then fortnightly.

Do join us if you'd like to make new friends and are free on a Wednesday. There's a charge of £1.

Mary Gilson

## From Crewkerne u3a

Crewkerne u3a was present for the Jubilee Celebrations in Crewkerne. Under a bright red gazebo with a brand new banner, we attracted many potential members interested in the numerous displays done by our group leaders. In the photo, you can see the Local History, Quilting/Knitting/Embroidery/Jewellery and Digital Technology groups displays. Children were catered for too with Find the Treasure Map game. We had a very good day and recruited 4 new members.

Christiane Banton

The u3a stall at Crewkerne's Jubilee Celebrations



## New Sponsor - Stephen Baker Window Cleaning

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## A Weeder writes...Some Thoughts on Weeds...

Weeds are wildflowers by any other name, and garden flowers' can become 'weeds' if they get the chance -- think of a low-growing little campanula: a mat of beautiful blue flowers in spring, but creeping into its neighbours in the border and intent on smothering them, given half a chance.

Most plants set out to be top dog. Weeds are just better at winning. Consider the Dandelion, for a start. This plant deploys at least four strategies in its bid for world domination as I see them.

i) It puts down a tough taproot -- in our garden, a good specimen has a root a foot long. This can send up more foliage, year after year, however often you wrench off the top-growth in failing to pull it up. You need a proper fork for the job (but what if it is established in a favourite clump of something precious?)

ii) Dandelions grow very fast. Every tiny seedling already has its tiny taproot in place, even when you catch it with hardly a leaf to its name.

iii) These 'lion's teeth' leaves (dents de lion - French) can fight, spreading out to flatten the competition. Even in a lawn mown by a vigilant green-keeper a scarcely visible dandelion can sneak up a flower on a half-inch stalk before you can say 'round-up'.

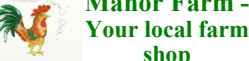
iv) The seeds - thousands of them! spread by the gentlest breeze. Each floats along under its diminutive parachute, ballasted by the trowel-shaped seed itself, ready to dig in wherever it makes landfall.

But dandelions do have many 'wild flower' aspects too. Their sunshine-flowers put on a brilliant show in spring, and nourish bees and other insects. The leaves, actually, are beautiful too, and good in a salad. Lovely to look at, an expanse of grass with a gauze of motionless dandelion-clocks on a calm day, waiting to launch, spread like sunlit silk on the green. Study a single clock, a beautiful sphere of filaments, each wisp just exactly aligned with those that touch it, forming a downy, transparent perfect globe. And then, a puff of wind, and they become a parachute-regiment, bent on victory -- oh dear!

Shakespeare appreciated dandelions in Warwickshire fields: 'Golden lads and girls all must, As chimney sweepers come to dust'

Perhaps he didn't do much weeding, but it's clear he knew what a chimneysweep's brush looked like.

'Under-Gardener'

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p><b>J Knibbs General Builder</b><br/>01460 73617<br/>07976 597762</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>Stephen Baker Window Cleaning</b><br/><br/>Reliable and competitive service to Merriott, Hinton and all surrounding villages. Based in Dinington<br/>Telephone:<br/>01460 351924<br/>07718 906 110</p>                                                                                                                              |  <p>01460 271598<br/><a href="mailto:cafe@thefeedstation">cafe@thefeedstation</a><br/><a href="http://merriott.co.uk">merriott.co.uk</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  <p>Letting, Investment and Property Management for S Somerset &amp; W Dorset<br/>01935 420555<br/><a href="mailto:yeovil@martinco.com">yeovil@martinco.com</a></p>                                                |  <p>Ever thought of Fostering?<br/>Call: Jo<br/>Mob: 03301239355<br/><a href="http://www.fusionfostering.com">www.fusionfostering.com</a></p>                                                 |
| <p><b>Merriott Parish Council</b><br/><a href="mailto:merriott-clerk@hotmail.co.uk">merriott-clerk@hotmail.co.uk</a><br/>07821 372 886<br/><a href="http://@MerriottParishCouncil">@MerriottParishCouncil</a></p>                                                                | <p><b>Ross Harvey Ltd -</b><br/>Car Sale Low mileage cars with service history always purchased with instant payment<br/><br/>Broadway, Merriott<br/>Tel. 01460 279899 or</p>                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |