

MERRIOTT MESSENGER

Delivered free to 1,000+ homes

April 2023

Success for Merriott Youth U11

Merriott Rhinos U11s became the first Merriott side to win the Terry Hazel Champions Cup after successfully beating Sherborne Dragons in a hard fought final. The Rhinos went behind in the opening minutes but came back into the match throughout the first period and gained an equaliser just before half time to go into the break level. The second half and the Rhinos came out the traps all guns blazing and controlled the game and went ahead midway through the second half. Sherborne then came at the Rhinos but the Rhinos defence held firm and held on for a well deserved victory. Manager Matt Tither said "we went into the match expecting a tough encounter. Even going a goal down, the players never dropped their heads and took the game to Sherborne and I'm so so proud of them all. The hard work we have done on the training pitch has really paid off and we thoroughly deserved to bring the trophy home." A special mention must go the parents for your continued support throughout the season.

Winners Terry Hazel Champions Cup



Winners of Clive Gibbs U10 Cup



Monica Hayden

Merriott Messenger Calendar 2024

The Editorial Team have decided to produce a Merriott Messenger Calendar for 2024, which we hope will be available from October 2023 onwards at a cost of about £8. We hope that it will feature photographs, paintings and drawings of village life, places and events while having plenty of calendar space for you to note down appointments, birthdays etc.

To achieve this we would like you to send us your favourite Merriott picture(s) so that 12 or 13 (one per month plus a cover) can be chosen; there may be space for some additional small thumbnail illustrations, or collages. We hope that there will be some entries representing the changing seasons & also some village activities in the next few months. Digital photos need to be files of 1Mb or larger; we can digitise drawings or other non-digital media.

Because the layout has to be compiled after the pictures have been chosen & the printer needs time to prepare the calendar, entries will need to be submitted by July 31st, or the end of the school summer term. More details will be found in future issues of the Messenger.

Please help us with this community project, whose sole aim is to provide financial support to the Merriott Messenger, which is supplied free of charge to 1025 homes in Merriott and the surrounding area. Would you be prepared to buy a calendar? Would you be prepared to financially support the idea of a calendar? Do you have any photos that you think would look good on a Merriott calendar? The Editorial team would love to hear from you about this developing project.

The Editorial Team

The information and views in the Merriott Messenger are those provided by the named individual contributors and are not necessarily supported by the Editorial Team. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the information given is accurate, the Merriott Messenger cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Back issues of Merriott Messenger (April 2021— Feb 2023) can be found on the Parish website: <https://merriottpc.org.uk/village-facilities/the-merriott-messenger>

Copy date for the May issue is 12th April.

Merriott Messenger Information

Your editorial team: John Bowman 74077, Paula Bateman 07856 559502, Marion Biggs 74170, Peter Bryans 78182, Charlie Russell 07505 014647, Eric Vose 351857, Dee Edwards and Dave Williams 76848

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The copy date for the May issue is **12th April**.



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manorfarmsown.weebly.com

MANOR FARM'S OWN!

We now have an outdoor farm cabin for easy social distancing!

We still have a large variety of fresh fruit & vegetables, as well as our free range eggs, farm pressed apple juice, various crafts, cottage style flowers, local jams, chutneys, honey and weekly veg boxes.

We now also have some bedding plants, herbs and a variety of vegetable plants for sale, as well as compost.

If you like a variety of fresh produce, come and visit our small, rural farm 'cabin'.



Tail Mill Tail Trail

We have now opened a new dog walking field in Merriott. Tail Mill Tail Trail is a 5 acre field with beautiful views and is fully fenced with 1.8m secure wire fencing. If you would like to book a slot (for up to 3 dogs) please visit bookwhen.com/manorfarmsown. If you need further information just email manorfarmsown@gmail.com. If you are driving please only come from the top end of Tail Mill (off A356) and PLEASE ALWAYS pick up after your dogs and take all your rubbish home with you.

We really hope you and your dog can enjoy a lovely open space to run freely.



Manor Farm

Merriott Gardening Club

What a lovely start to the year with a fascinating talk from James Crowden. His wealth of knowledge on the history of cider was amazing. Living where we do it's nice to learn about the ancient craft of Cider.

We are very grateful to the Social Venue for helping us out at short notice for our meetings due to the extended work being done at the Tithe Barn.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND VENUE:

Monday 27th March at the Merriott Social Venue 71 Lower Street, Merriott 7.30pm start, a talk from the Gardens Group entitled 'Garden Friends and Foes'.

Monday 24th April- our A.G.M and quiz. As usual a 7.30pm start. New members are always welcome. Our membership cost is £15 per person or £25 per couple for the year.

17th May - Our outing to East Lambrook is self drive (no coach). There is a cost to visit Margery Fish's garden £10 for all guests included as we are having a talk there. With lunch at the Rose and Crown paid for individually on the day. This will be followed by a free visit to Avon Bulbs East Lambrook in the afternoon.

On the 17th June we thought it would be nice to have an Open Gardens event this year to raise funds. You don't have to have a Chelsea garden, even a part of your garden that is interesting would be fine. Please sign up and ask your friends and neighbours in the village to do the same for what I am sure will be a memorable village event. All are welcome to join in, please email me at waddilove18@gmail.com to be included on our map. All details to follow.

Jenny Waddilove

Planning Applications

Land South of Church Street

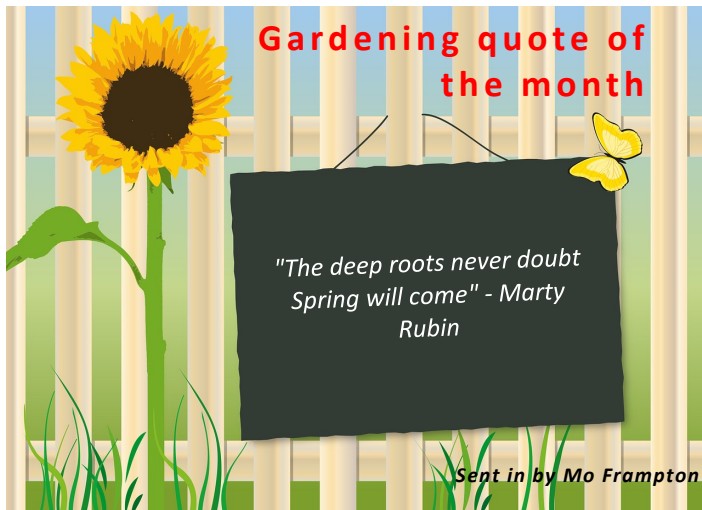
Reserved Matters Application for the approval of access, appearance, landscaping and scale of approval. 18/00688/OUT. Residential development comprising the erection of up to 50 dwelling houses. 23/00296/REM Status: Awaiting decision



For further information go to southsomerset.gov.uk and "Search for a planning application"

Marion Biggs

Gardening quote of the month

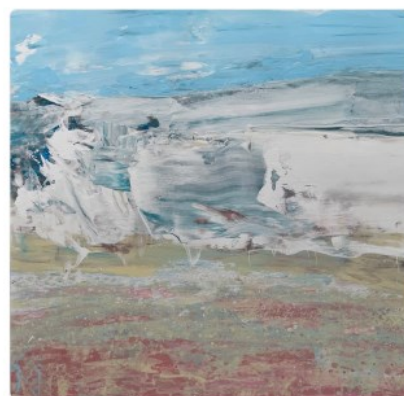


Sent in by Mo Frampton

MIKE NICHOLLS

ART EXHIBITION

'THE ONE HUNDRED'



1st & 2nd April 10am - 4pm

MERRIOTT VILLAGE HALL

www.mikenicholls.org.uk

Moorlands Care Home

Moorlands Road, Merriott, TA16 5NF

Moorlands Care Home offers quality care, provided by trained carers in homely, peaceful surroundings that have been refurbished to a very high standard.

We also have a full time, dedicated, activities co-ordinator making sure that days are as full and active as you would like.

Our services include: **Respite care**
Day care
Long term residential care

For further information, please call Jayne on 01460 74425



Merriott Village Hall – Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Hall at 10.30am on April 22nd. All residents are welcome to attend. This is a chance to learn what has been achieved over the last 12 months to a building which will be 100 years old next year. It is also an opportunity to say what activities you would like to see develop to benefit the village.

Eric Vose, Chair



All Saints' Church Services—April

Sun 2nd PALM SUNDAY

10.30am Benefice Palm Sunday Communion, Hinton St George
(With the 16 Bells Choir. Starting with a procession from the Village Cross)

6.30pm Praise Service @ The Tithe Barn (free supper at 5.30pm)

Thu 6th MAUNDY THURSDAY

6pm Maundy Thursday Communion
(with optional symbolic foot or hand washing)

Fri 7th GOOD FRIDAY

10am Good Friday Story Walk (starting and finishing at the Church)
3pm Good Friday Service 'An Hour at the Cross', Lopen

Sun 9th EASTER DAY

6.30am Easter Sunrise Service, ARK @ Egwood
10.30am Parish Communion

Sun 16th

10.30am Morning Prayer

Sun 23rd

9am Holy Communion

Sun 30th

10.30am Benefice Communion, Lopen

Rev Julia and Rev Bob Hicks

News from All Saints Church

Holy Week begins almost as soon as we enter April. We would love to share the story with you! On Palm Sunday we will gather together as a Benefice in Hinton St George. Our worship will be aided by the 16 Bells Choir, who have been practicing new music for the occasion. The service will start at the Village Cross and we will process into church. Merriott will host the Maundy Thursday Communion Service this year. This is when we remember Christ's initiation of the Eucharist at The Last Supper. We also remember His example of servant leadership, with the option to symbolically have our feet or hands washed by the presiding minister. If you have never experienced this before, do come along, it is a powerful moment. Good Friday sees the return of the 'Story Walk'. This will be loosely based on some of the traditional 'Stations of the Cross', together with 'Stations of the Resurrection'. We will walk around the village, pausing to remember these key events of the Easter story. Come and join us for our big celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Day, either at our dawn service at ARK @ Egwood, or in church for Easter Communion, or why not come to both!

Rev Bob Hicks 01460 76406 bobhicks66@gmail.com

All Saints Church Work Party Day

**Sat 1st April
9am-1pm**

Please could you spare the morning, an hour or even half an hour to help give the church and the churchyard a Spring clean? There will be things to do both inside and out.

Plenty of tea, coffee and cake to keep you going

If you would like to know more, please contact Churchwarden Mark Bunting 01460 76553.



TRY LAWN GREEN BOWLS

It's Healthy, Friendly,

**Drop in to our Open Day on Sunday
April 30th from 10.30am till 4pm at
Merriott Recreation Ground**

Competitive and Fun!

- **Equipment and coaching provided**

The club welcomes men & women (over 18) to try the sport for the first time in a relaxed & friendly environment

- **Please wear flat soled shoes**

For further information contact

Martyn Oliver 01460 77455

martyno54@gmail.com

Jean Crisp

Community Easter Event

Saturday 8th April

2pm

at Merriott Recreation
Ground and Pavillion



Egg and spoon races

An Easter Bonnet Parade

Pop Up Café

Children receive an easter treat



Photos will be taken by members of the camera club

Free Event Organised by Merriott Camera Club and

Merriott Community Café

Lorraine Dry

We have some exciting things happening at The Feed Station!

We are constantly seeking ways in which to delight our customers. With this in mind, we have created *The Feed Station's All Organic Kitchen Garden*! All the fresh produce we grow will be used to create yet more delicious dishes for you to enjoy.

Another bit of excitement to announce is that we are now opening some evenings! Upcoming evenings: 14th of April, 12th of May and 16th of June. Please call us or see our website for details.

Don't forget that we are also available for private hire and for special celebrations.

As always, we would like to thank all our customers for their support, specially through these very difficult times. We have kept our word and kept our prices as low as possible whilst not letting the quality of our offerings suffer in any way. Our fabulous team make the magic happen every day!

Please book your table in advance to avoid disappointment.

The Feed Station Team.



Telephone: 01460 271598

Email: cafe@thefeedstationmerriott.co.uk

South Petherton WI

The year has started well with varied and interesting talks on a variety of subjects. First, a member told us of her life studying tropical medicine and prevention of disease including spending periods in Africa – The Gambia, Tanzania and Egypt, but also in Papua New Guinea. In complete contrast we had an illustrated talk by Cathy Bond of CJ plants about the hundreds of species of bee, many of which visit our gardens. March's speaker is Maggie Hague, one of the fund raisers for the projected Breast Cancer Unit at Yeovil Hospital. The WI has been supporting this with donations of unwanted jewellery. In April we shall have a talk and demonstration by Viv Wiles on the history of food.

The Craft Group are going to make items for our Christmas Shoe Box appeal and are also involved in a competition for a card to celebrate the coronation of King Charles in May. The Book Club is growing in numbers. We have just finished Jane Austen's 'Mansfield Park'. Next is 'The Sea' by John Banville – quite different!

During the past few months we have welcomed several new members and we would welcome anyone wanting to come to a meeting to get a flavour of the WI. Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.30 in The Blake Hall.

Jan Kemp

Merriott Camera Club

February saw us getting to grips with Focal Distances and Macro. Club Members enjoyed a return trip to RSPB reserve Swell Wood, where the Herons were starting to nest, and also to Chard Reservoir.

Merriott Camera Club meets every Thursday at the Pavilion on the Rec at 8pm. We welcome members of all ages and abilities although under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Cost per session is £2. Contact us via our Facebook page, webpage or email: merriott_camera_club@yahoo.com

The programme for April is as follows:

6th April: Easter Still Life

13th April: Movement

20th April: Distorting

27th April: Competition 'Spring'

Black Headed Gull at Chard
Reservoir by Charlotte
Loxston



The winning entry for
February's Competition
'Winter'
by Malcolm Osman.



Macro of a Toy Car by Malcom Hodder



Jayne Scott

Cafe and Craft Event

Huge success for the first Merriott Community Cafe & Craft Event at Merriott Village Hall in March with 25 stalls. Their next event is Sunday 16th April 10-2pm. All proceeds going to local Merriott organisations. Contact Lola on 07885424588.

Lorraine Dry

Successfully Managing Medication and Ensuring You Do Not Run Out!

Regrettably, patients frequently become anxious and frustrated when they arrive at the pharmacy and their prescription isn't ready. Let's face it: it's a pain! On both sides of the counter. This article is written in good faith so we can manage unrealistic expectations and avoid disappointment, most of the time!

The most important tip: Order your medications together, one week before you run out. Too early and the surgery will reject your request and too late and well, you'll run out and that's where the problem starts. Although the surgery states 72 working hours (three days), a week is optimal as it allows for processing delays and ordering time. Working hours by the way don't include evenings and weekends so factor this in.

Pharmacy stock is prohibitively expensive and we use computers and algorithms to manage stock levels. Bad stock control can crush cash-flow and ruin businesses, so work with us on this. Please don't assume your item will always be in stock all of the time. Stock shortages are rife, delivery services are unreliable and scripts can be delayed or arrive late after the next-day cut-off time. A week is suggested as the optimal time to allow for processing and dispensing. It's important to note that at the time of writing, the Lloyds pharmacy chain have just sold up and chosen to exit the UK pharmacy sector. Many of you may have seen me on BBC Points West News recently describing the fate of pharmacy and shortages. It appears we are not allowed to mention the "B" word and it has become the elephant in the room! Notwithstanding there has been chaos ever since.

"It's on repeat so it just comes by itself" or "the doctor orders it for me" are phrases that privately and simultaneously strike terror, bewilderment, and amusement into the hearts of pharmacy personnel. Unless you are on 'batch prescriptions' (and even these eventually expire), somebody somewhere has to trigger the supply process by ordering your meds for you. Doctors rarely do this for repeats but may possibly do it following a consultation. The truth is, you will need to manage your meds carefully and place your order a week before your meds are due. Ultimately you are responsible for ordering your own meds unless you receive blister packs or are in batch prescriptions. The latter are reserved for our more vulnerable patients.

"But my medicines all run out at different times"! Yes, alas this happens. All the time. You may request a balancing prescription from your surgery if they are badly out of kilter (and if you can get through to your surgery) or simply use up or return the excess to us and do NOT order any more to avoid wastage.

ORDER ONLY WHAT YOU NEED. Don't stockpile meds as this leads to huge and monumental wastage. Return unused meds to our pharmacy either in person or via our delivery drivers. Remember: No Needles. Needles must be returned to the local authority (Council) by phoning them in person. You need to do this or your representative. This has been the case for over three years now and it is not new.

Know your NHS number! This will enable us to use the NHS TRACKER software to determine with certainty a. If your prescription has been processed by your prescriber and b. if so, where it has gone. This is your NHS 'account number' keep it in a safe place or even better download and install the NHS app on your phone.

Pharmacists generally can't prescribe in community pharmacies. So don't ask for antibiotics or painkillers. We will need a prescription from your health centre for this. If you run out of important repeat medication, that you are entitled to receive on a regular basis and can prove it, then you are entitled to receive an EMERGENCY SUPPLY. Conditions apply, this is at our pharmacist's discretion and terms and charges may apply. Yes you may not pay for your prescriptions, but if you don't actually have a prescription then you may have to pay for this as a private service.

EMERGENCY SUPPLY OF MEDICATIONS when you run out. If MERRIOTT PHARMACY is closed then our sister pharmacy at SOUTH PETHERTON will welcome your approach. Simply state you are a MERRIOTT PHARMACY PATIENT when you call and we will do our utmost out of hours and at weekends. If you are loyal to us, then we will pull out all the stops to help you in your hour of need.

Finally, use a real pharmacy! Build a relationship with your local bricks and mortar pharmacy team and refrain from anonymous internet providers. A warehouse in Leeds won't help you on a rainy Saturday afternoon! This way we will know you and your meds and are better placed to help you when those mishaps happen as they are sure to. Keep MERRIOTT independent and sovereign. Welcome aboard! Tel: 01460 72222 for more info and any questions.

Max Punni, Pharmacist



'Crewkerne Supporting Cancer Research UK'

Ilminster Easter Hunt

Saturday 8th April 2023

Fun family Easter egg hunt around the town of Ilminster

£5 per child

Easter prize for each paying participant

Limited spaces so be sure to secure your place now!

Call or message Louise on 07939 346422 for an entry sheet

This activity takes place in Ilminster town centre and involves crossing busy roads.
All children must be accompanied by an adult.
Please take care when completing the trail and use pedestrian crossings where possible.
Cancer Research UK public liability does not cover participants in this open event.




Louise Smith

J.KNIBBS

General Builder

Blair Athol, 4 Higher Street

Merriott - Somerset

TA16 5PJ

Tel: 07976597762

Email: j.knibbs@hotmail.co.uk

WORK OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE:

Currently requiring an experienced, preferably self-employed general builder to undertake various building tasks. Reliability essential. Please contact me on the details shown in the advert for further information.

ABOUT US:

Local Merriott builder, available for General Building, Extensions, Painting & Decorating, Renovations, Repairs and Maintenance. Willing to undertake new build work as well as being experienced with listed/older properties which need sympathetic restoration.

All about Lovage

The bronze tinted new growth of lovage is early to appear in spring and arrives in perfect timing to add fresh flavour to soups, stews and salads. It has a savoury herby-citrusy flavour a bit similar to celery, you only need a few leaves as the flavour is quite strong. Raw young leaves are a good companion to creamy cheeses and tomatoes and in a green salad; lightly cooked they can be added to omelettes. Lovage soup is the most popular way to use the herb with a base of potatoes and onions, peas can be added or in summer a chilled soup of lovage and cucumber.

It is a vigorous plant, soon making a large clump and growing up to 2 metres at flowering height, it is best grown in good soil that retains moisture. The leaves are best eaten before flowering as they become bitter once the flower stems appear. The small yellow flowers are held in flat umbels and are very attractive to hoverflies and other pollinators, the seeds are mildly spicy and can be dried and used in breads and soups in the same way as celery seed. The plant will die right back in autumn, disappearing below ground until the following spring.

Lovage is a long-lived perennial herb native to the Mediterranean, its scientific name *Levisticum officinale* is thought to come from the latin *Ligusticum* after the Liguria area in Italy where it commonly grew. The Romans chewed the seeds to aid digestion and Lovage was grown in monastic herb gardens for culinary and medicinal use. In medieval times the plant was used as a deodorising herb and it's believed to have been added to love potions for this reason and known as love parsley. In parts of Europe, the root is cooked as a vegetable.

Scotch Lovage (*Ligusticum scoticum*), is a smaller plant, native to rocky coastal areas of Scotland and Northern Europe, it's leaves are rounded, an attractive dark green colour with a slightly waxy appearance. It is high in vitamin C and was traditionally eaten by sailors and known as sea parsley or sea lovage. Its flavour lacks the strength of true lovage (see what I did there) but the leaves are used in the same way and in the Scottish Hebrides have been used cooked as a green vegetable.

In a garden situation, Scotch lovage prefers a slightly shady spot that is not too dry, the attractive pinky-white flowers are held in rounded heads on stems around 60cm tall and have an airy, cow-parsley like appearance.

Catherine Bond. CB Plants, Lower Severalls Nursery.

Merriott Social Venue News

***** EASTER BINGOS *****

There will be Easter bingos held on Saturday March 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st - for various organisations and charities. Come along and play for some fab Easter prizes.

**** King Charles III Coronation ****

This will be held on SUNDAY MAY 7th from NOON onwards.

Please come along and enjoy an afternoon of live music, food and entertainment. The brilliant Justin Daish will be performing from 1pm - 4pm bringing us great tunes from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s including the Shadows, Pink Floyd, Dire Straights, Buddy Holly and many more.

The road outside the venue will be closed, so children can run free, play games and have their faces painted. Merriott Majorettes will be catering for the event this year, serving hot food - please note they will only accept cash.

Let's all come together again for a great community event that all can enjoy.

***** PIRATE NIGHT *****

SATURDAY JUNE 24th

Yes, it's our traditional pirate night, with LIVE MUSIC FROM ONE TREE HILL. Get your pirate costumes on and have a great evening. Prizes for the best child's/adult costume.

Check our Facebook page for more details

Penny Gibbs - Secretary

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.

Thank you to our sponsors for their support

 Sales lettings and property management for both residential and commercial markets 01460 78277 sales@mckinlayscrewkerne.co.uk	Kevin Swain Electrical Contractor Free Estimates Tel 01460 73260	 Pet Shop dedicated to your best friend. 10 The George Shopping Centre, Crewkerne TA18 7LU 01460 77106 Info@mybestiepets.co.uk	JAYCEE plumbing & heating Heating Engineers Boiler servicing and changes Lpg / Oil / Gas-Safe Laurel Cottage, Shiremoor Hill 07970 279778 / 07738 632746 Ansaphone: 01460 76000	R. A. Wicks Ltd Fireplace Showroom, Flue Lining and Multi Fuel Stoves 01460 74612
AIR LINE TAXIS Yeovil - Crewkerne On Call MON-SAT 7.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Other Hours: Private Hire Bookings 4, 8, 16 seats 01460 75089 / 01935 414444 MERRIOTTSFORD PRIVATE HIRE	 Merriott Village Hall Parties, weddings, community groups welcome 01460 72508 merriottvillagehall@gmail.com	 Residential Care Home built by the community Orchard Vale, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0EX Tel 01460 52077 karen@vaughanleehouse.co.uk	ARB TREE AND GARDEN SERVICES All aspects of tree and garden work undertaken info@arbtrecandgarden.co.uk 01460 77605/ 07799 331 805	Ross Harvey Ltd. Buyer and seller of low mileage cars and vans Broadway, Merriott Office: 01460 279899 Mobile: 07789 951295
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 HASELBURY MILL Restaurant, Hotel & Event venue. We are open every day, pop in for a coffee or book a table on 01460 77095 www.haselburymill.co.uk	MERRIOTT HERITAGE TRUST the.merriottheritage.trust@gmail.com 07961 517903	 Barrett Bros. Butchers Delivery to Merriott Friday and Saturday 25 Market St., Crewkerne Tel. 01460 72900 www.barrettbros.co.uk	 SOMERSET'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT STAIRLIFT & MOBILITY AID SUPPLIER Frobisher Way Taunton TA2 6BB Stairlifts & Mobility Scooters Riser Recliner Armchairs plus a huge range of domestic aids Open Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 5.00pm and Saturday between 9.00am and 1.00pm Telephone our Mobility Shop on: 01823 288 196 or email us at: info@somersestairlifts.co.uk WWW.SOMERSETSTAIRLIFTS.CO.UK	 ACCOMMODATION CLAPPER HAY ANNEX (Merriott) Fully furnished, self contained, self catering accommodation for 2. Suitable for short stays or business trips. Off street parking, central heating, TV and wifi. Contact: Paula on 07856 559 502 or e-mail: clapperhayannex@gmail.com
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