

MERRIOTT MESSENGER

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May 2020

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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. Copy date for the June issue is 12th May.

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Welcome to the Merriott Messenger

We hope you are keeping well, fit and finding excellent ways to remain cheerful.

This issue of Messenger cannot be delivered to every house as usual, but we have tried to make it easily accessible either in print at the Coop, the PO, the Pharmacy and the Church, on line at www.merriottvillage.btck.co.uk or on Facebook? If you know a neighbour who cannot get hold of a copy, perhaps you could print off a copy for them.

Much of the news in the Messenger is usually about upcoming and recent events. Such events have ceased, so we have written articles and amusements which we hope you will enjoy. If anyone wishes to raise community morale by contributing to future issues please do and send them to merriottmessenger@gmail.com.

Merriott is fortunate to have a wealth of community-minded people who have volunteered to help neighbours, particularly the elderly, with shopping and essential supply needs. The Merriott Help list of who to contact was circulated a month ago and the main contacts are reproduced again here, as well as a useful list of who can supply what.

The Messenger is produced thanks to the financial sponsorship of many local businesses, most of whom are currently unable to continue their activities. The sponsors are still listed in this issue but their sponsorship period has been extended to take account of the duration of the virus outbreak. We hope you will support them whenever life returns to some form of normality and when you are able.

The Messenger Team

Round of applause



Can we hear a virtual huge round of applause please for the Parish Council and Parish Church who devised the "Merriott Help" scheme and to all those wonderful volunteers and supporters for their generosity of spirit, invaluable time, effort and help to those who need assistance. We must also include the staff at the Merriott Pharmacy, they have been working well in to the night to make sure we have our medication. Also included are the staff at the Post Office and shop, the Co-op, the growers and suppliers of veg, eggs and local produce and those who deliver. We must also include those kind neighbours who have reached out to others and offered help. Last, but not least, those kind people not mentioned here. A thousand thanks to all you who have been so willing to help.

It would be even better if we could arrange a proper round of applause, along the lines of those for the NHS and suggest that on **Friday 1st May** at 8pm we stand outside our doors (keeping a safe distance from our neighbours) and give a huge round of applause and cheering for all the wonderful helpers in Merriott. We hope All Saints Church will be illuminated. *Mo Frampton*



Coronavirus (COVID-19) response update from Somerset County Council.

Our help and information is now **available in a single place** on the SCC website:

www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice/

This page is refreshed several times a day so please check in regularly to keep up-to-date with news and developments.

Spring is in the air

Photo taken by Steve Bateman





'Parsnip relaxing'



What caption would you give this photo?

Book Review

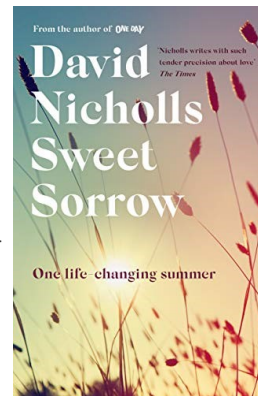
'Sweet Sorrow' by David Nicholls

Charlie has just finished secondary school. He knows he has performed very poorly in his GCSEs and has no ambition to continue his education at college. His parents have separated after his father's music shop business failed and he is finding living with his severely depressed father a strain.

He meets Fran by accident. She's from a different background, successful at the elite school she attends. Because Charlie is attracted to her, he becomes involved with the Company - a group which performs a Shakespeare play each summer vacation. This year's play is Romeo and Juliet where, of course, the quotation "parting is such sweet sorrow" provides the book's title.

It is a novel which tracks the bitter sweet experience of first love: it avoids sentimentality but is both poignant and funny. Its characters are mainly teenagers whose language and behaviour some readers may find shocking, but it rings utterly true. I found it an evocative, moving and worthwhile read.

Sheila Bowman



What are you looking forward to doing when this period of self-isolation is over?

Do share your thoughts (in no more than 30 words) to:

merriottmessenger@gmail.com

We'll publish a selection of them in the next issue.

Merriott Help Group



The Merriott Help Group was set up in response to the Coronavirus Outbreak. It's aim is to ensure that everyone in the village has access to help if they are struggling with shopping, picking up prescriptions, dog walking or loneliness. The set-up has a small team of administrators, a group of 12 co-ordinators and over 50 volunteers, all spread out across the village.

The scheme was set up and running within a week! This was no easy task as none of us could meet face to face. Bob and Julia Hicks from the Church have admin and co-

ordinator roles and the scheme is backed and supported by the Parish Council.

We are helping several people with various tasks and have had a lot of feedback that people are very grateful to know the support is there should they need it.

Alongside this, Paul Fisher has compiled a list of home delivery services around this area. These are located around the village, at the Garage, Co-op and Pharmacy and all coordinators and helpers have access to these. Hopefully everyone should now have the leaflet outlining who to contact for help.

It is amazing and heart warming how quickly the village has come together in these difficult times, to help those around them. I always knew this was a great place to live, and this has just confirmed that. Please email Dee Edwards at dee@macace.net for help. Thank you Merriott.

Sue Wright



There once was a bank clerk called Patrick Whack, 'though everyone called him Paddy. One day a frog came into the Bank and asked for a £1000 loan. Paddy told him that he would need security, but all the frog had was a little china ornament. Paddy was about to refuse point blank when the frog said "go and ask the manager, but don't forget to tell him my father is Mick Jagger". So Paddy goes to see the manager with this story and the ornament as security and to his surprise the manager agreed saying "It's a knick knack Paddy Whack give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone"!

Nature's Blessings

by Ann Stear

Magnolia trees burst forth in flower heralding the Spring
Hark the Blackbird and the Thristle in joy tune up to sing.

Sweet Violets and Primroses adorn the fields and banks
Whilst Folk can open windows up and heave a sigh of thanks.

The Ewes are very busy giving birth to Lambs
And in some hidden waterways there are Beavers building dams.

Orange Tips and Brimstones emerge into the sun
Hustle turns to Bustle a New Season has begun.



Taken by Chandler Candy
in the fields near the reservoir

Sharing happy memories whilst in isolation

The Isles of Scilly (not to be called the Scilly Isles) lies 28 miles out into the Atlantic Ocean off Land's End in Cornwall. Five of the islands are inhabited, the largest, St Mary's just 2.5 sq miles, home to 1800 islanders and born 'n bred Scillonians, the other 4 islands share a total of 400 between them. The first inhabitants are reckoned to have been Megalithic people about 1500 BC, their graves can still be seen today. Over the centuries various ways have been made to make a living but now it is mostly tourism, together with a small flower industry mainly daffodils in the Spring and pinks/carnations during the summer months.

My first holiday on St Mary's was at about 18yrs of age when a girlfriend and I followed our boyfriends who were camping there! We had a little sailing dinghy and potted about in the

turquoise crystal clear sea water, walking the many spectacular coastal paths, and drinking with the Scillonians in the local each evening! The magic of the islands was instantaneous! Since then I have



returned many times introducing Peter about 30 years ago! We have introduced village friends too and hope they love the islands as much as we do.

Take a boat trip to one of the many outer

islands, arriving on a white sandy beach often with no one in sight, or maybe taking a boat to see the seals, puffins, even Bishop Rock Lighthouse if you are lucky. Admire the abundance of wild flowers, spotting birds you would never see in a Somerset garden, the thrushes and sparrows want to eat the crumbs from your plate after a superb cream tea, what could be better, before catching the last launch back in time to cook supper, maybe open a bottle, and plan the next day's itinerary!

I expect you can get the gist that these islands offer a special place in our hearts. So if you like a quiet, tranquil holiday, no dressing up, just a little local entertainment, maybe you should visit too – but please not all at the same time!

Liz Fisk

My name is Kerrie Boon-Lush and I am the owner of Lush Dog Grooming.

I am a fully qualified and experienced dog groomer and run my business from my well equipped and insured, home salon based in Merriott.

I can cater for all your dog grooming needs from a simple bath and dry to a full style. I can offer puppy introductory visits to nail clipping.

Feel free to contact me to discuss your furry friend's grooming requirements. Call Kerrie on 01460 351907 or 07769 801 690.



Lush Dog Grooming

07769 801690 - 01460 351907

Village Quiz

On your daily walks round Merriott no doubt you have walked along or seen these places. Solve the cryptic clues to find where I have been.

1. Is this the place for every Southampton fan to worship? 3,6,6 letters
2. Sounds like a place to have a snooze. 5 letters
3. People who live here must stay verdant all year round. 9,4 letters
4. Ride along the road that was "To the _____ Born". 5,5 letters
5. Cows are making a noise along here. 5,6 letters
6. Decorate a garment by putting a _____ it whilst walking along this rural way. 6,4 letters
7. Can you have a drink in this hole? 6,3 letters
8. A replacement of this Cheshire town when you are angry. 10,5 letters
9. Pick an apple at this cul-de-sac on the outskirts of the village. 8,7 letters
10. Is this the closest thing to a beach in Merriott? 5,4 letters
11. This area in the centre of the village must once have supported a priest. 10 letters
12. Sounds like this Hertfordshire town has come to Merriott. 7 letters
13. Has this wide road been transported from New York? 8 letters
14. Did Charles I once visit this hostelry? 5, 4 letters
15. A palindrome plus e gives us this essential place, 6 letters
16. We have been careful not to get too close in this henhouse. 4 letters

Marion Biggs

Answers can be found on page 11

The answers to the Village Quiz can be found in this Wordsearch

Horizontally, vertically and diagonally

A	M	P	C	N	E	T	I	P	R	E	Z	O	O	B
L	O	P	O	O	C	H	R	E	M	N	L	S	W	E
L	E	A	D	R	B	F	H	X	I	S	T	U	V	N
S	D	N	A	L	E	B	E	L	G	R	O	I	C	K
A	F	K	I	N	G	S	H	E	A	D	R	G	F	E
I	T	A	D	F	J	Q	W	S	N	D	R	H	L	Y
N	E	W	C	H	E	S	T	E	R	C	R	O	S	S
T	O	W	N	S	E	N	D	O	R	C	H	A	R	D
S	P	O	L	K	R	S	N	W	A	Y	D	B	G	J
C	R	O	H	G	L	A	N	T	D	M	Q	W	A	F
H	I	R	S	T	M	B	E	N	T	R	Y	U	R	H
U	D	R	Y	A	W	D	A	O	R	B	F	N	A	S
R	T	E	E	R	T	S	R	E	W	O	L	W	G	H
C	D	R	E	M	E	N	A	L	N	O	D	A	E	B
H	T	A	P	N	E	E	R	G	R	E	V	E	L	G

Pete and Dave were hiking in the Rockies when they noticed a Grizzly bear trailing them. Pete stopped, took off his boots and put on his trainers. Dave said "What are you doing that for, you can't outrun a Grizzly bear." To which Pete replied, "I don't have to, I only have to run faster than you!"



Can you fit the following words into this grid?

The first word has been inserted to get you started

4 letter words

ARIA
TREK

5 letter words

BASIL
BROKE
ENDED
EQUAL
IGLOO
LITHE
LIVID
OLIVE
PAUSE
RAVEN

6 letter words

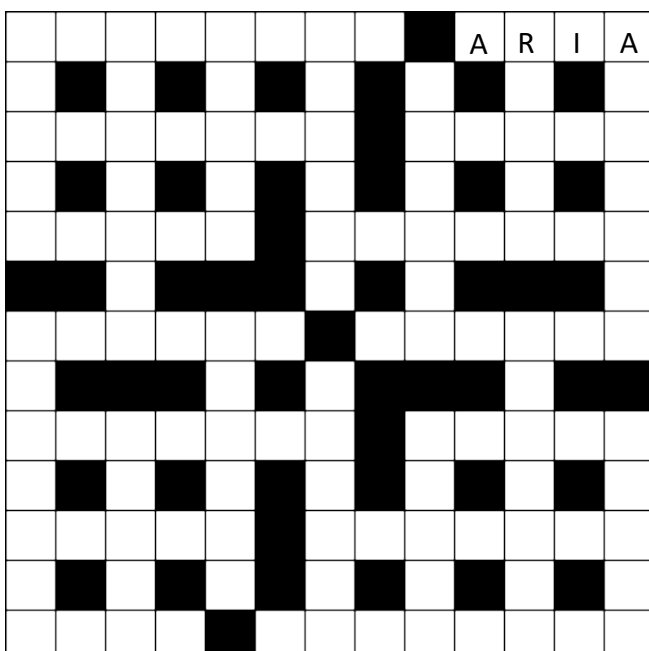
ASPIRE
ELDEST
RARELY
SHAPES
SHERRY
SLEIGH

8 letter words

DECLARED
INVOLVED

7 letter words

ADDRESS
INSIPID
LOCATED
PROSPER
SCIENCE
STUDENT
UMPIRES
VACCINE



Answer page 11

Can you get the car out of the maze of roads?



PEEK CLAM AND MAKE ANAGRAMS

The following are anagrams of well-known films. Can you work them out? The number in brackets is the number of words in the title.

1. Sheen hatted workmanship (3)
2. He that forged (2)
3. Dank thigh trek (3)
4. His drill scents (2)
5. Lip fun topic (2)
6. Unhealthy hotbed go get dad (7)
7. Cub flight (2)
8. Rum pet frogs (2)
9. Seventeenth cow forsook clue (6)
10. Flogs a dole (1)

Answers page 11



Merriott Gardening Club

As our Club members are aware, there will be no meeting in May - and we will keep you and all the villagers informed as to when the meetings will begin again. In the meantime you may like to know that BRIMSMORE GARDEN CENTRE is now closed but have started taking orders (01935-411000). Their Apple Tree Farm Shop is also taking orders and delivers various food items (01935-426596). GROVES & LITTLE GROVES are currently closed but are taking orders via their website for delivery to the DT6/DT8 areas only. Click on News which will give the latest details - the situation is changing all the time and, hopefully, they may extend the delivery areas. (www.grovesnurseries.co.uk). PICKET LANE NURSERY, NORTH PERROTT are selling their plants via FACEBOOK only. In the meantime, do enjoy your garden in this lovely weather.

As a last note (6th April) our swallows have just come and have taken over our barn, so all's well!

Barbara 72298

CAREFORD LODGE



A warm greeting is assured for you at Careford Lodge, so please call in to see Laura and her team at any time. Our home offers a relaxed and homely environment, providing bespoke care packages, social stimulus, a varied choice of delicious menus, freshly prepared daily by our chefs and an activity programme with something for everyone included. Whether looking for day care, respite care, or a home for life, Careford Lodge is here to provide the care and support you need.

Laura and the team would also like to extend an invitation to the local community to visit and spend time with residents whilst enjoying refreshments in the lovely surroundings that we enjoy daily.

For more information, please contact us on 01460 75592 or email Laura at carefordlodge@hotmail.co.uk

Merriott and area retail outlets—Emergency period services

Merriott

Outlet	Opening times	Contact	Goods	Special conditions
Merriott Service Station, Premier Shop	Mon.– Fri. 7.30am – 8pm Sat Sun 7.30am - 10pm	78716	Groceries, alcohol, stationary, news-papers and fuels	Open shop & limited deliveries
Post Office	Mon. - Fri. 9am – 4pm Sat 9am - 1pm	78716	PO services & Cash	PO counter services depend on staff availability
CO-OP	Mon -Sun 7am - 10pm		Groceries, alcohol and newspapers	Open shop
Merriott Pharmacy	Mon - Fri. 9am – 6pm Sat 9am - 1pm	72222	Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals	Deliveries by request
Manor Farm	Pre-order by 6pm for delivery or pick-up next day	72797 Manorfarmsown@ gmail.com	Eggs and vegetables	Deliveries by request
Home End, Church Street	Roadside only		Eggs	Exact Cash Only
Sandy Hole	Roadside only		Limited Eggs	Exact Cash Only
Denmans, Shiremoor Hill	Roadside only		Limited vegetables	Exact Cash Only
Crewkerne				
Lidl's Supermarket	Mon - Sat. 8am – 9pm Sun 10am - 4pm	0800 0977 7766	Groceries, alcohol, toiletries	Open Shop
Waitrose	Mon - Sat 8am - 6pm	72470	Groceries, alcohol, toiletries, stationary	Open shop & deliveries via online
Barrett Bros Butchers	Mon - Sat 9am - 1pm	72900 manager@barrettbros.co.uk	Meats	Deliveries and Open shop
James Hardware	Mon – Sat	73133 07710501766	Hardware & Gardening Items	Deliveries Only
Boots Chemist	Mon. - Sat. 9am -1pm & 2pm -5pm	72310	Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals	Open shop and prescriptions
SAVERS	Mon. - Sat. 9am – 5pm	271362	Toiletries & Household	Open shop
Post Office / Dailztech	Mon. - Fri. 9am-1:30pm Sat. 9am -1pm	dailztech@gmail.com	Cash, Post Office Services, Mobiles	Mobile repairs etc. delivery only
Regency Care & Mobility	On web or tel. calls only	271172	Call outs and mobility products	
Nationwide	Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri. 10am - 2pm	0800 5541275	Banking & Cash	Open shop & 24 hr cash machine

Outlying Areas

Old Dairy Cafe Bower Hinton		01935 5824978	Bread, Vegetables and Eggs	Deliveries via Facebook
Trading Post, Lopen Head		241666 kate@tradingpostfarmshop.co.uk	Vegetables and fruit	Deliveries via online orders
Oakhouse Foods		s.west@oakhousefoods.co.uk	Frozen meals £2.60 to £6.00	Delivery every Wed. to Merriott, orders over £30 free

In addition to this list further information of outlets is available on the Parish website: <http://merriottpc.org/notices> and it will be updated periodically.

Your Curate's Royal Ministry!

Last year I wrote an article for our church magazine about joining the Royal Navy Reserve as a Chaplain and my hope to go to sea on one of the RN's new Aircraft Carriers. Well, last December I spent two weeks sailing from the USA to Portsmouth on HMS Queen Elizabeth, the subject of the BBC2 TV series 'Britain's Biggest Warship'. It was a huge privilege to be on board learning how to be a RN Chaplain after 27 years as a RN Pilot! Getting used to being called 'Bish' (RN's nick name for a Chaplain) rather than 'Wings' (a pilot) took time but I soon settled in. It was quickly clear that Sailors have a warm affection & a high regard for their Chaplains and were very happy to help train me!

So, what does the 'Bish' do on a warship? Much of it is being their parish priest because a warship is a floating village. So HMS Queen Elizabeth is a village about half the population of Merriott with a crew of between 750 and 1600 depending on how many aircraft are on board. The RN Chaplain is very similar to a Church of England village priest, providing for the spiritual & pastoral welfare of all on board, whether Christians or other faiths or even Jedis or no faith at all! All are welcome and sailors don't worry too much about whether you are a Priest, Rabi, Imam or Obi Wan Kenobi! We lead Christian services on board, usually daily Morning Prayer & Communion on Wednesday & Sunday in the ship's Chapel or a Nativity service for 500 in the aircraft hangar on



my second Sunday on board!

Whilst worship and spiritual needs are important much of a Chaplain's time is spent looking after Sailors welfare in support of the RN Divisional system. Life on a warship can be gruelling with long periods away from home and loved ones, working long hours in very demanding jobs. Most of the ship's company are



aged between 17 and 45 with the average 25 and for many this 3½ month deployment was their first time at sea. Inevitably people miss husbands, wives & children creating stress both on board and back at home. The RN takes Sailor's and their family's welfare very seriously

and the Chaplain plays a lead role in the ship's welfare organisation, working with a Welfare Worker, Psychiatric Nurse, Medics and Divisional Officers to provide help if needed. This ranges from the Chaplain having a reassuring chat with a young Sailor missing home; providing advice and support to someone going through a divorce or arranging for a bereaved Sailor to fly home to attend a funeral. RN Chaplains do not hold military rank but assume the rank of the person they are talking too, making this challenging job so much easier because we are everyone's equal and on first name terms with the Captain to the most Junior Sailor.

I was hugely impressed with the moral, enthusiasm and professionalism of everyone on board. The flying operations & modern aircraft are incredibly impressive as is this huge, innovative new Aircraft Carrier. We can be very proud of our British designed and built most advanced aircraft carrier in the world which will play an important part in keeping world peace and provide humanitarian aid world-wide for at least the next 50 years.

If you want to hear more after the current lock down catch me after church or when I'm out and about in the villages! Finally, let the Easter message of hope lift your hearts at this difficult time and rest assured the church family is still here for you. God bless.

Rev'd Nick Clarke



A Reflection

A crisis or disaster elicits both the best and worst in human nature. As this COVID-19 pandemic progresses grimly in this country and abroad, we have seen truly ignorant and arrogant behaviour from some people. Bearing witness to these acts of selfishness can be very dispiriting and anger inducing. But my observation is that these acts are utterly overwhelmed by the countless acts of extraordinary generosity, kindness, bravery, optimism, creativity and hope! It is wonderful to see this goodness being displayed in our own communities too: networks of volunteers offering help, care and concern for vulnerable or isolated neighbours;

use of technology to stay connected; using art as a symbol of hope, a greater appreciation of the natural world around us.

It has also been hard to have some of our liberties taken away; freedom of movement, physical contact, access to non-essential and leisure activities. Why does it take the removal of liberties, pleasures and rights for us to truly appreciate them? Why does it take a crisis for us to discover and nurture goodness? The old clichés 'you don't know what you've got till it's gone' and 'count your blessings' actually seem to be true. Let's try not to take the good things for granted and let's hang onto a generosity of spirit, after we return to 'normal'. Perhaps what we

actually need is a new kind of 'normal'. There will be further hardship and suffering ahead. Some of the novelties in our changed routines are already wearing thin. As we spend longer in our homes, with family, or alone – bigger spaces will develop between the distractions. We will inevitably come face to face with some difficult thoughts and emotions. And there will be pain. If this happens, please find someone to talk to. There are gifts to be found even in the darkest moments. But I pray that we can continue to be hopeful, caring, loving people – offering the best of our human nature to each other – even in the darker days. Light will overcome darkness.

Rev Bob Hicks, Merriott Rectory, 76406

Fascinating Facts about You Tube

- 1 billion hours of video are watched on You Tube every day.
- Every minute, more than 500 hours of video are uploaded.
- You Tube has over 2 billion users, almost one-third of all people on the internet.
- The first You Tube video was uploaded in April 2005, featuring its co-founder Jawed Karim at the San Diego Zoo
- Music video 'Gangnam Style' was so popular, it broke You Tube's view counter, which had to be upgraded.
- You can navigate You Tube in more than 80 languages, covering 95% of the internet population.
- You Tube is the second largest search engine, right after Google. It's bigger than Bing, Yahoo! and Ask combined.
- US\$ 22 million were earned by 7-year-old You Tube star Ryan, from Toys review in 2018.
- At You Tube's Headquarters, employees can either take the elevator, stairs or a big slide.
- Google bought You Tube for US\$ 1.65 billion in stocks just 18 months after its creation.
- You Tube star Grumpy Cat earned more money than Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow in 2014.

A note of appreciation of the poem by Merriott resident David Murray

We found the poem in the February edition captivating. The well chosen and honed words wrought from his emotions and observations were a perfect mirror of his feelings - the dark depth – the beauty of winter – shared to such strong effect. Thank you

Steve Roberts and all at No 42 Manor Drive.



Q. What do you call an Arabian dairy farmer?
A. A milk Sheik

Q. Why don't barbers cut hair any longer?
A. Because they always cut it shorter

Q. How do you make a Band Stand?
A. Take away their chairs

Q. Which dogs go in a corner when a bell rings?
A. Boxers

Q. What single word describes a small mother?
A. Minimum

Whose Secret?

Opaline with age, four tiny glass bottles,
found hidden, dug out of the muddy bank
behind the back door of my soon-to be renovated cottage.
Carefully concealed - by an unknown woman -
I can only guess - needing medicine for some serious ailment.
A woman who struggled with the awkward kitchen range,
who thumped her washing in the copper next to it,
steam and sweat slippery on the rough brick floor?

Perhaps, it may be, a wife beset with babies
conceived uncomfortably in the draughty bedroom?
Or the opposite: the barren wife of a disappointed husband?
Or a desperate work-worn little skivvy?
A busy bustling mother, delighted with her brood,
but, in the thick of life, attacked by illness?

These four phials once held some elixir
To dissolve problems....
the cruel complexities of unhappy love,
of age, or of arthritis, or one of those cruel diseases
which have by now been reinvented
under proper scientific names
but even so are still the same.
--Or too many children, or too few?

My tiny bottles once held four secret doses of hope,
hard to afford from the few farthings
that a woman could keep to herself.

--Stop these gloomy imaginings --
it may just have been
a child's game of secret treasure,
using empty cough-medicine bottles
to weave imaginary spells.

Unstoppered, long emptied of any trace
of what might have been,
they clink in my cupped hands,
void now of all but speculation.

Janet Lailey March 2015

An opportunity to have your short story published in the Merriott Messenger



Using one of either of the opening sentences below, we are inviting readers to write a short story, for possible inclusion in a future edition of the Merriott Messenger.

Two categories: under 14 and over 14. Maximum no. of words: 500

1. The storm was rattling the windows as if someone was trying to get into the house....
2. 'Why won't this drawer open?' *she/he/name* almost shouted in exasperation....

Please send your story, adding your name and age to: merriottmessenger@gmail.com or by post to: Janet Lailey, Newchester Barn, Merriott TA16 5QH.

Closing date for submissions is 10th May.

Editorial Team

Sew & Sew

I'm sure we would all agree that the NHS are doing an excellent job in such difficult times.

Sometimes it's the little things in life that matter so, having heard that nurses working in ITU at Musgrove Hospital were suffering from painful ears due to wearing PPE (hard head/face shields) all day, a group here in the village decided to take action by making head bands that fit under the protective plastic face shield to protect their ears.



At the same time we found used hospital scrubs were being taken home by staff after long shifts in bags that might spread contamination before being washed.

Again, 'Bags were needed we thought' so we are now making bags too. The used scrubs can now go into a bag which then goes directly into the washing machine, 'bag & all', no need to handle the used scrubs.

Can you help? We need more supplies particularly buttons 10p piece size & cord.

At the moment through your generous donations we have enough fabric but this may change in the next few weeks.

Any donations can be left at the front of Paul Fishers' house (opposite the church). Likewise, if you would like to sew, patterns can be found in the same place. Once made please leave at either Paul Fishers' house (opposite the church), leave over the little wooden gate or Sue Wicks at Wisteria Cottage, Church St. We are also happy to collect.

Keep sewing!

Paula Bateman

QUIZ

Take the first letter of each answer to make a place you all know and love.

1. English elections are typically held in which month?
2. Which planet in our solar system has the most water on it?
3. The airport code ROM designates which European airport?
4. What performance gave Irish dance international fame?
5. In which country are most homes heated by geo-thermal energy?
6. Which pungent vegetable should you not feed to a dog?
7. How many astronauts manned each Apollo mission?
8. How many official languages does Canada have?
9. Where is the Rialto Bridge one of four spanning the Grand Canal?
10. Which country did Saint Patrick help to convert to Christianity?
11. Who played the lead in "The Wolf of Wall Street"?
12. What is the national flower of Portugal?
13. Which river in Amsterdam was used to make the beer named after it?
14. Where is Britain's Royal Observatory?
15. In which country did pop art originate?

Answers can be found on page 11

Marion Biggs



5, Higher Street

Application for a Non-Material Amendment to planning permission 19/02279/HOU, to

allow Sandtoft clay modula tiles as replacements and on all new roofs

20/00887/NMA Status: Awaiting decision

Milton Cottage, 20 Higher Street

Two storey and single storey extension with internal alterations 20/00667/HOU Status: Awaiting decision

Higher Easthams Farm

Notice of intent to construct an access track for agricultural purposes 20/00617/AGN Status: Approved

Land off Shiremoor Hill

Application of reserved matters following matters following outline approval of 16/00865/OUT seeking approval of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale 20/00525/REM Status: Awaiting decision

Springfield House and Hamstones, Church Street

Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans), 4 (materials), 7, (access)), and 10 (visibility).

19/00925/FUL to adjust layouts of new build plots 1 and 2 20/00463/S73 Status: Awaiting decision

For the Council minutes go to the new Parish Council website merriottpc.org or look at the notice board outside the Co-op.

Marion Biggs



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Colouring - how will you transform 'Stormy Stan and his crew mates'? Take a photo of your finished picture and send it to merriottmessenger@gmail.com, together with your name and age, and we will print our favourites in the next issue. Have fun!

**Lifeboats**

Ahoy there!



Answers

Anagrams

1. The Shawshank Redemption
2. The Godfather
3. The Dark Knight
4. Schindler's list
5. Pulp Fiction
6. The Good, The Bad and The Ugly
7. Fight Club
8. Forrest Gump
9. One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
10. Goodfellas

Village Quiz

1. All Saints Church
2. Knapp
3. Evergreen Path
4. Manor Drive
5. Lower Street
6. Beadon Lane
7. Boozer Pit
8. Newchester Cross
9. Townsend Orchard
10. Sandy Hole
11. Glebelands
12. Hitchen
13. Broadway
14. Kings Head
15. Garage
16. Co-op

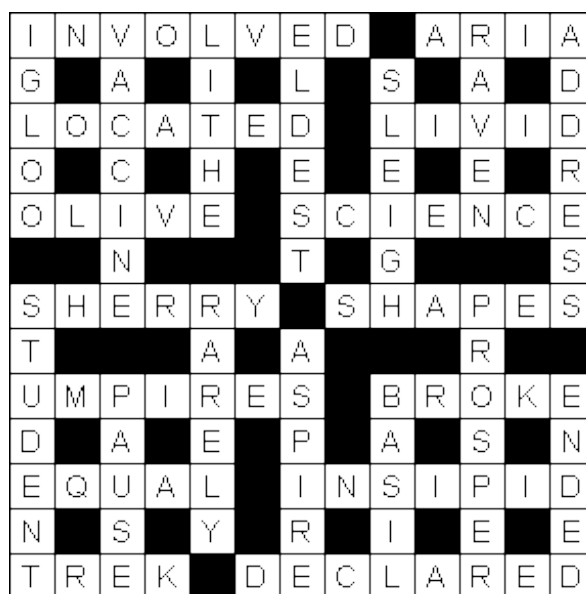
First Letter Quiz

1. May
2. Earth
3. Rome
4. Riverdance
5. Iceland
6. Onion
7. Three
8. Two
9. Venice
10. Ireland
11. Leonardo (di Caprio)
12. Lavender
13. Am
14. Greenwich
15. England.

MERRIOTT VILLAGE

Two prisoners escaped from Strangeways Prison. One was 7ft2ins tall and the other was 4ft11ins tall. Police are searching high and low for them!

Answer: Grid puzzle



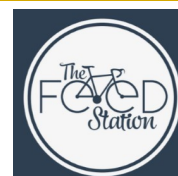
Gardening quote of the month



Sent in by Mo Frampton

"Horticulturally, the month of May is Opening Night, Homecoming and Graduation Day all rolled into one".
- Tam Mossman

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I wonder where he's going?!



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