

MERRIOTT MESSENGER

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June 2026

A Slice of Merriott Camera Club

Over recent weeks, the club has been keen to get out and about. Recent trips have included: *Ham Hill*, *Wayford Woods* and the wonderful *Fairy Door Trail at Manor Farm*. We were also very fortunate to be invited to *The Feed Station*, where we were given the opportunity to sample and photograph some of the delicious items from their menu. Not only does The Feed Station offer fabulous food, it also has a beautiful ambience; a feast for the eyes as well as the tummy!

The image of the chocolate cake was taken by *Yvonne Witcombe*, the tea by *Nic Hodder*, and the Ploughman's Lunch by *Malcolm Hodder*.



June Programme

Thursday 4th

Trip — location TBC

Thursday 11th

Exhibition Prep

Thursday 18th

Still Life: Macro

Thursday 25th

Challenge: Action + Open

If you are interested in joining us, we can be contacted via our 'Friends of Merriott Camera Club' Facebook group or by email:

merriott_camera_club@yahoo.com

Merriott Camera Club



Merriott Messenger Information

Your editorial team: John Bowman 74077 - *Chair*, Paula Bateman 07856 559502 - *Distribution*, Peter Bryans 78182 - *Distribution*, Alyssa Maxwell-Healey 07804 678444 - *Editor*, Eric Vose 351857 - *Treasurer*, Alan Wiseman 74518 - *Designated Safeguarding Lead*

Email: merriottmessenger@gmail.com

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 (February 2016 - May 2026) can be found on the Parish website: <https://merriottpc.org.uk/the-merriott-messenger>

Copy date for the **July** issue is **10th June** — **PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER COPY DATE.**

Easter at All Saints!

Thank you... Thank you... Thank you!

All of us on the Events Team here at All Saints, Merriott would like to say a very big **thank you** to the 50 egg-cited children who brought their families along to our Easter Egg Trail.

Once again, everyone agreed that it was a fun way to spend a beautiful sunny afternoon, with the promise of Easter treats waiting back at the church.

Easter themed crafts and an egg-stremely chocolately raffle were provided by an enthusiastic team of grown ups! This was all followed by Easter biscuits and chocolate krispie cakes... yummy!

Alison Pearse, Events Team Member — All Saints Church



All Saints Church Services in June



All at All Saints Merriott (unless stated otherwise)

Sunday 31st May

10.30am *Benefice Communion for Creation*

Come and celebrate the wonders of the natural world!

Sunday 7th June

6.30pm *Praise Service, Merriott Tithe Barn*

(Supper served at 5.30pm)

Sunday 14th June

10.30am *Communion*

Sunday 21st June

6pm *Evensong*, with the 16 Bells Choir

Sunday 28th June

9am *Communion* (trad. language)

Other Events

Sunday 14th June

2pm to 5pm *Cream Tea with Brass Band, ARK @ Egwood*

Adults £10, children free — book tickets at arkategwood.com

Saturday 11th July

3.30pm 16 Bells Choir 'Summer Concert', Merriott Church



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We are aware that some of you received your copies of the May Merriott Messenger rather late — this was due to the impact of the Easter break on distribution.

The team apologises for this and we hope that it did not cause too much inconvenience to those affected.

Thank you very much for your continued support of the Merriott Messenger!

The Merriott Messenger Team

A Midsummer Serenade
featuring
Ad Hoc Choir

with music by
Tallis, Mozart,
Vaughan Williams,
Rutter, Chilcott
and more...



Saturday 27th June at 6pm
St George's Church, Hinton St George
Doors open 5pm - Bar available
Tickets £12 - to include interval Pimms
(Available from OurSHOP, Hinton St George)

All proceeds to St George's Church,
Hinton St George, Somerset, TA17 8SL.



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News From Merriott Gardening Club

Merriott Gardening Club are hosting a visit
from *Ian Anderson* of the [Somerset Otter
Group](#) on **Tuesday 26th May**.

Ian will present an illustrated update on
the status of otters in the county.

We will meet in the **Tithe Barn, Church
Street, Merriott** at **7pm** for a **7.30pm start**
— refreshments and a raffle will be
available and guests are always welcome
for £3.

Merriott Gardening Club



A Warm Welcome to Our New Sponsor, Evermore Pet Cremation



Hello, we're Clare and Ellie; we have lived in Merriott for
22 years and together we run Evermore Pet Cremation,
an independent and family-run pet aftercare service.

As members of the local community, it means a great deal to us
to be able to help local families when they need it most. We
treat every pet with the same kindness and respect we would
want for our own. We're here to offer support, guidance and
compassion during what is a very emotional time and to make the
final farewell easier to bear.

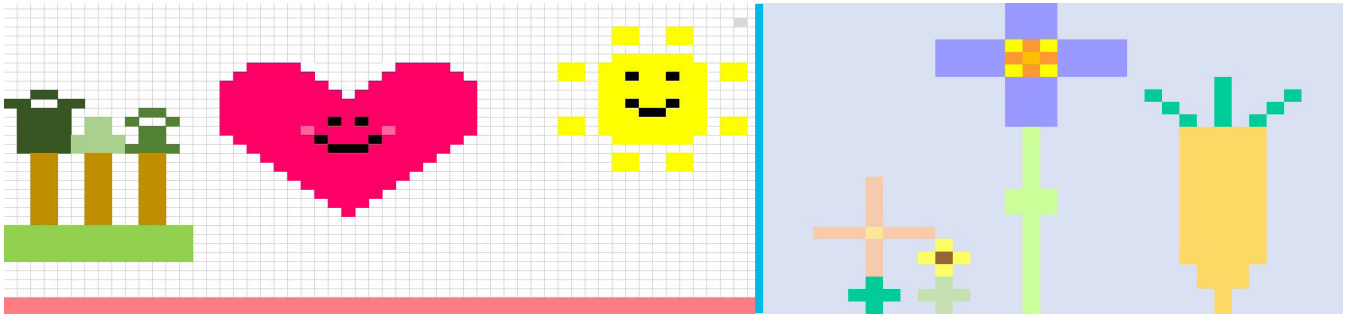


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WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

News From Merriott Primary School



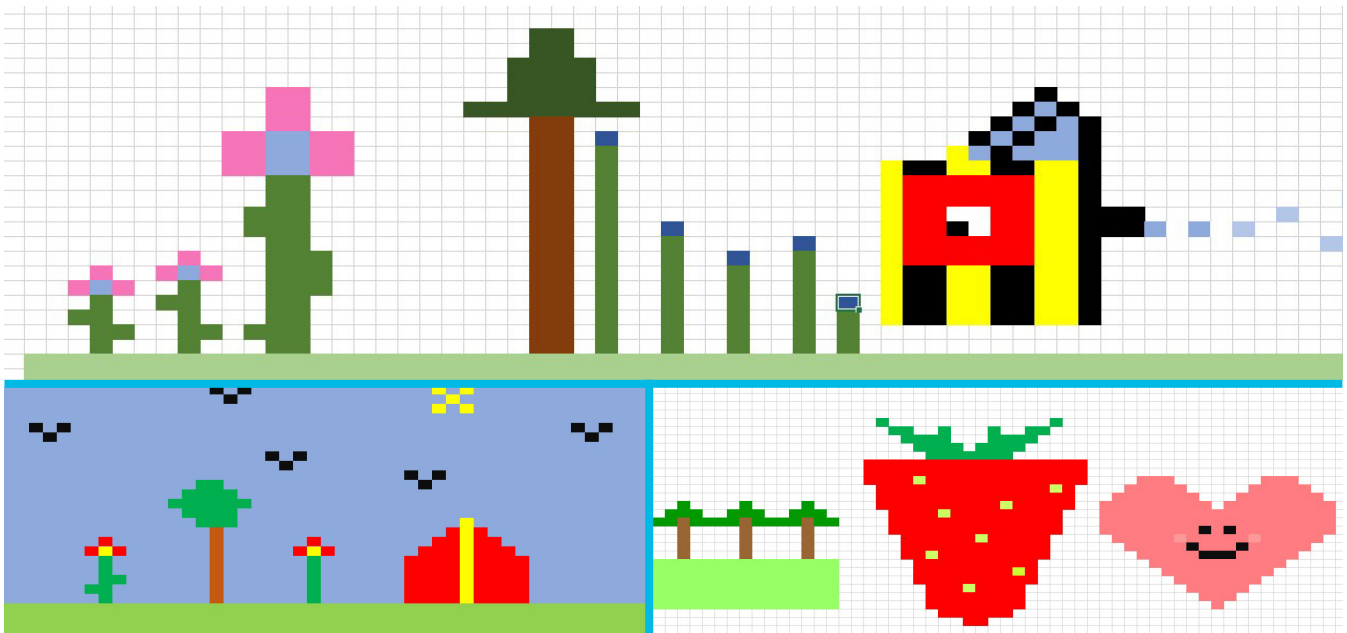
We would like to start this month by saying a huge thank you for the generous donations to our book drive at school through the [Green Dragon Bookshop](#) in Crewkerne. We have received some beautiful new books from the residents of Merriott and we are so very grateful — thank you!

Our last few weeks have been as jam-packed as always, with school trips and residential taking place. Our year 4 children visited Kilve for two days and enjoyed taking part in archery, buggy-building, grass sledging, and climbing. The children showed great team-work and collaboration during some of these tasks and amazing determination and perseverance in others — it was a delight to see them throwing themselves into some new activities.

Our year 6 children took a trip to Perrot Hill School and are soon to take part in a mock trial — we are looking forward to watching them take on the roles of the court room and putting their persuasion and debating skills to the test. Our youngest children, reception to year 2, had a wonderful trip to watch the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

During year 5's computing lessons this half term, the children have been creating pixel art. Two of our students share a little insight into their task: *"In computing in year 5 we have been creating pixel art — little squares that create images on computers. We used the app Excel to create the images and our own designs. These are some of our designs!"*

Nicky Taylor, Senior Teacher — Merriott Primary School



PCSO Hickey at Merriott Pharmacy

June 25th & July 23rd 2026: 10am - 11am

PCSO Hickey will be in Merriott Pharmacy for consultation with any resident who wishes to talk to her.



Avon and Somerset Police
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Safeguarding Policy

The Merriott Messenger has named Alan Wiseman as the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

If you wish to request copies of relevant documentation or have any queries regarding our Safeguarding Policy please get in touch with us by email or phone (contact details can be found on Page 1).

The Merriott Messenger Team



**HELPING TO KEEP
OUR VILLAGE SAFE**



A Warm Welcome to Our New Sponsor, Haselbury Mill

Set in the heart of the Somerset countryside, Haselbury Mill is a much loved local venue where history, hospitality, and community come together.

Our popular Sunday carvery continues to be a firm favourite, bringing people together over freshly prepared roasts, seasonal vegetables, and all of the traditional trimmings. It's a relaxed and friendly setting, perfect for catching up with family and friends at the end of the week.

We are also proud to host a wide range of weddings and events. With beautiful surroundings and flexible spaces, we work closely with guests to create occasions that feel personal, memorable, and truly special; whether it's a wedding celebration, a party, or a community gathering.

We also offer a calm and supportive environment for celebrations of life, helping families come together in a respectful and caring setting to honour loved ones.

We're delighted to be sponsoring the Merriott Messenger and look forward to welcoming members of the local community, both familiar faces and new visitors, to Haselbury Mill.



All Saints Church, Merriott — Parish Giving Scheme

I am writing, as Treasurer of our much loved Parish Church, to let you know about a new and easy way for you to give to the church to enable its upkeep and continued presence in the village. Local churches do not receive any central funding so it is up to us, the members of the congregation and everyone who values the presence of the church in our village, to maintain this beautiful community asset. In recent years, a new nationwide scheme has been set up to make it easier for people to make donations, whether a regular donation or a one-off payment.

All Saints Church, Merriott has now registered for the scheme and we would like as many as possible of our regular and occasional givers to use this scheme for their donations. As a 'guinea pig', I was the first member of the congregation to register for the scheme, and I am happy to report that my donation reached the church with no difficulties and with the added bonus that the Gift Aid on this donation reaches the church automatically, rather than requiring the Treasurer to apply for it. For regular donations, there is no cost to the church for using this service, but a small administration fee is deducted from one-off donations to cover the costs of the whole scheme.

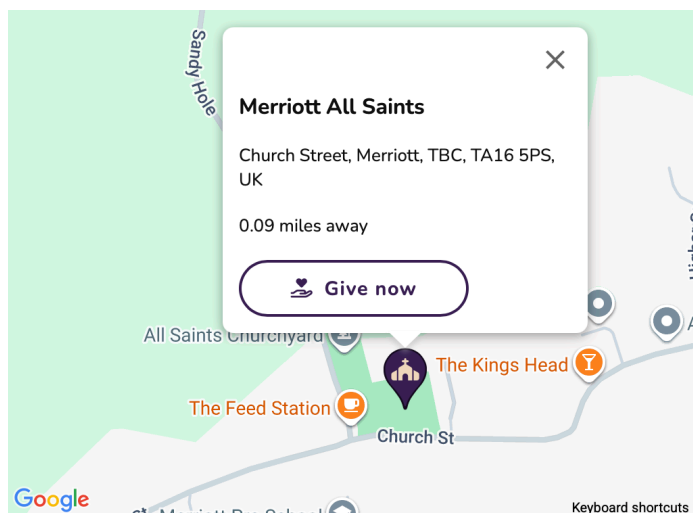
The whole process is very easy; go to the [Parish Giving Scheme](https://www.parishgiving.org.uk) website and search for the church under the 'giver' tab:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish>

A map shows you which local churches are registered with the scheme and when you click on 'give now' it gives you the opportunity to choose whether to set up a regular gift or a one off payment. As part of registering an account to set up a regular donation, you have the opportunity to state whether you are a tax payer so that the Gift Aid can be automatically collected.

We would like to take this opportunity to ask you to reconsider your giving to the church and to sign up for this scheme. Once you have registered, it is easy to log on to change your level of giving if your circumstances change. One final word, if you do decide to change your method of donation to the Parish Giving Scheme, please remember to cancel your standing order from your bank account.

Johanna Harvey, Treasurer — All Saints Church
Email: johannaharvey@outlook.com



News From Merriott Social Venue

Following the information we shared last month detailing pricing in regards to our large function room, our committee has decided to simplify the pricing for the function room as follows:

The hire charge for the room will be **£25**, with the following exemptions — adult evening event (30 plus attendees expected to use the bar), funeral/wake, charity event — these will be free of charge, with bookings typically being in four hour blocks.

A **£30** cleaning deposit is required for all bookings and will be refunded if the room is left clean and tidy.

We are open every evening from 7pm.

Summer skittles to start on **June 3rd**: 4 a side, £20 a team, £10 per game — all money goes into a prize pot.

On **June 5th** Black Swan presents a prize bingo night in aid of DentaId, the dental charity, at **6.30pm**.

World Cup football live on the big screen in the bar begins on **June 11th** — times to be announced, families and accompanied children are welcome. At previous World Cup games involving England we have had additional capacity and an extra screen in the function room.

Our garden at the rear of the building should be more accessible this summer, please have a look.

Merriott Social Venue

Cream Tea with Brass Band
at
ARK
at Egwood

June 14th | 2pm-5pm

£10 per Adult, accompanying children free

A joint summer fundraiser for ARK at Egwood and local churches

Please book online at www.arkategwood.com or scan QR code:

Allington Strings' 50th Anniversary Concert

28th June 2026

MOZART, BACH, ELGAR, BARBER: Allington Strings at Crewkerne Methodist Church.

50th Anniversary Concert at 3pm on Sunday June 28th. Celebrating the greats of String Orchestra Repertoire: **Mozart's** Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, **Bach's** Brandenburg Concerto Number 3, **Elgar's** Serenade for Strings and **Barber's** Adagio for Strings. A truly fantastic concert of phenomenal music.

Advance tickets: **£10 adults, £4 children.**

Available from *Delilah Petal*, Crewkerne (cash), via allingtonstrings@outlook.com (card), or on the door at £12/£5 (cash and card).

Allington Strings

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Yeovil, Sherborne and Bridport



A Warm Welcome to Our New Sponsor, Memorial Worx

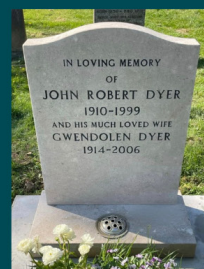
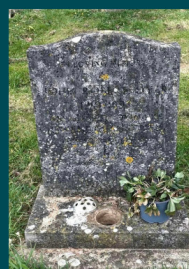
Hello, I'm Mark, the owner of Memorial Worx based in Merriott, where I have lived for the past 22 years.



I provide memorial masonry services - as well as supplying new Headstones and Tablets, I help families care for existing ones. This includes cleaning, repainting and regilding inscriptions and re-levelling - keeping memorials safe, well-presented and helping to preserve the memory of loved ones no longer with us.

I understand how important these tributes are and I take pride in offering a personal and reliable service to local families and communities. We also offer a War Memorial cleaning service and undertake Memorial Safety Testing for Churches and Cemeteries.

Please feel free to get in touch for a no obligation quotation:
memorialworx.co.uk
tel: 07745 - 809243
e: hello@memorialworx.co.uk



Planning Applications

82, Lower Street: Notification of intent to carry out Tree Surgery Works to 2 trees within a conservation area. **26/00993/TCA Status: Awaiting Decision.**

Land at Beadon Lane: Discharge of Conditions No. 03 (external lighting) and No. 10 (materials) of planning application. **24/00792/FUL 26/00825/DOC1 Status: Awaiting Decision.**

Land at Gold Well Farm, Yeovil Road, Crewkerne: Discharge of Condition No. 22 (foul water drainage) of planning application. **20/03708/OUT 26/00174/DOC1 Status: Conditions Discharged.**

Little Moorlands, Moorlands Road: Demolition of modern conservatory and construction of new garden room to the rear of the property, replacement of a single modern toilet window to the front of the property. **26/00469/LBC Status: Approved.**

Merriott Pharmacy, 2 Broadway: Prior Approval for proposed Change Of Use from commercial, business and service use (Class E) to Dwelling House (Class C3) to a one bedroom residential dwelling. **26/00720/P3MA Status: Approved.**

Unit 15, Lopen Business Park: Installation of a 180kw output Wood Gasification Boiler unit external to an existing Joinery Factory in a steel storage container and a 8m high flue on the south elevation of the factory shed building (restrospective application). **26/00568/FUL Status: Approved.**

For further information, go to Somerset.gov.uk and "Search for planning application".

Marion Biggs

Thank you to our
sponsors for their
support

(Featured on pages 6 - 8)



THE MERRIOTT HERITAGE TRUST

If you are interested in the history of Merriott, in conserving its old buildings, preserving its wildlife sites and maintaining its footpath network, we may be able to offer financial help with the cost, for example, of restoring stonework, iron railings, gates and date stones, planting trees and maintaining signposts and stiles.

We are keen to rescue historical artefacts and we are building up a collection of documents, house deeds, photographs and maps. If you have anything you would like to donate, please bring it along. Our growing collection is available for you to look at in *The Heritage Trust* headquarters at 10 Lower Street.

*The
Merriott
Heritage
Trust*

Our opening times are from 10.00 to 12.00 on Thursdays and on the first Saturday of every month, also from 10.00 to 12.00

If you are interested in a undertaking a research project related to the village, we can offer suggestions for topics.

Please contact us if you think we can help you or you can help us.

Email : merriott.heritage.trust@gmail.com

Thank you to our sponsors for their support

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