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Village Magazine



January 2021



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Note from the editors

Traditionally January is a month of resolutions, plans and looking to the future. The overriding theme from our contributors this month, unsurprisingly, is about looking forward to a better year than we had in 2020. Even our anonymous cover artist seems to have gone with the theme of brightness shining through the gloom!

If one of your new year's resolutions is to do some brain training, then have a go at our new year quiz, ably put together by Leo, our treasurer - you might even win a prize! Thanks to Leo for that and also to Tony Dalton for agreeing to be the subject of this month's spotlight feature, adroitly penned by our resident writer, John.

Wishing you all a healthy and happy 2021.

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the February magazine is Friday 22nd January.

Contributions please to mistertonmagazine@gmail.com or through the letter box at Chestnut Lodge, Broughtons Drive.

Magazine committee contact details

Jacquie Lyus Editor 01460 78526

Sarah Watt Editor 01460 351212

mistertonmagazine@gmail.com

Leo Bacigalupo Treasurer and advertising 01460 354174 or 07973 797417

mistertonmagazine@gmail.com

Diana Dyke Distribution 01460 77233

John Coquet Writer 01460 78430

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News from the Parish Council and Recreation Field Trust



Misterton Parish Council hope this finds you all well as we start 2021. We would like to take this time to remind everyone that the Covid support network remains in place and anyone isolating or needing support can get in touch with the team of volunteers or the parish council (contact details at end of article). We would also like to thank Jackie Hewitt for her efforts over many years with the Misterton Emergency Response Team, and hope she enjoys a well-earned rest now she has stepped down. Volunteers are always welcome to join the team – just get in touch.

The weight restrictions at the bridge next to the Globe Inn continue. The weight restriction and diversion order are in place for 18 months; however, we have received an updated indication from the Bridges Team at County Hall that they are hoping for some remedial works to begin in February. We will keep you posted with developments as this may change as the situation progresses. There is also some pavement surfacing scheduled in January, but we have asked to see if the two projects can liaise over road closures and timings to reduce disruption.

Still on the subject of bridges, the Mill Lane bridge was taken out before Christmas by the County Council. They hope that a replacement bridge will be in place in the spring but need the ground to dry out first.

As always, any issues you wish to raise with the Parish Councillors/Rec Field Trustees can be sent via email mistertonpc@gmail.com, or by telephone to the Clerk on 07917 753361. The PC mailbox is now situated just inside the WI Hall gates and post is collected weekly. Stay safe and well.

Cllr Iain Rowland, Chair

WELCOME INFORMATION LEAFLET for newcomers to the village - a useful leaflet telling you all you need to know about Misterton is available on our website at Misterton Parish Council; alternatively, if you would like a copy via email or a hard copy, please contact the Parish Clerk at mistertonpc@gmail.com. ***Village businesses who advertise in this leaflet should forward any amendments to the Parish Clerk.***

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Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team Update

I would like to start by wishing you a very happy New Year and hope that it will be a better one, for all in the village, than 2020 turned out to be.

The Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team (MERT) are meeting via Zoom, like so many others, and it is proving to be an effective way to keep things going. At our last meeting, in December, we discussed the risk of flooding and as part of this would like to contact all residents with riparian rights due to bordering the stream that runs through the village. It would be good to have your details so we can contact you, offer help if needed and check if you need any sandbags (more precisely the modern equivalent).

One of the core members of the MERT, Jackie Hewitt, has stepped down after being part of it since we started a few years ago; we would like to send thanks and wish her all the best for a quieter life in the future. We have found a couple more volunteers to take up the reins and will provide more information next year.

Finally if you need any help or know anyone who does we are here to assist particularly while we progress through the pandemic.

Best wishes from all the team.

Phil Clifton

MERT member

01460 73815

philclifton@hotmail.com

Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team

If an incident occurs in Misterton and you would like the assistance of the emergency and resilience team please call:

Iain Rowland on 01460 78951 or 07968 232998

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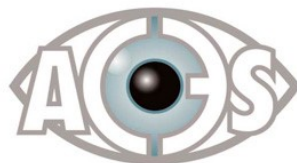
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Misterton Gardeners Association

Gardening notes

Like other organisations, the Gardening Club has paused its meetings since the Covid pandemic began. We will not meet again until it is safe to do so – although we are all hoping that this will not be too far into 2021.

Most members paid their subscriptions early last year and these will be carried forward to 2021. Membership includes a discount voucher for use either at Brimsmore Garden Centre Yeovil or at Castle Gardens Sherborne. We will be delivering these very shortly. They are quite valuable as they give a 25% discount on all items purchased at these centres in January and February. During these months they can be used more than once.

We always make our major gardening purchases for the year using these vouchers. Obviously a £100 spend (whether on plants, seeds, fertiliser or whatever) more than covers your Gardening Club membership fee for the year. And as a Special Offer to encourage new members to join us, we are offering 50% off our usual £15 fee. So for £7.50 you get a voucher and can use it immediately. Do get in contact with me as soon as possible if you want to take advantage of this offer.

January is a month for planning for the year ahead – rather than in the garden doing things. Of course, all your garden tools can be sharpened and generally attended to over the short days of this month. And do look out for the first hint of spring in the Misterton gardens. First will be the aconites and then of course the wonderful array of snowdrops. The ones in St Leonards churchyard are especially wonderful every year

John Dyke

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Local did you know...?

...that the parish boundary between Misterton and Crewkerne was originally at Viney Bridge by Rivermead Garage – following the course of the stream there. It is thought the boundary was changed when the (now disused) Harts Factory was built as the factory needed the stream's water power.

The existing boundary is a dozen or so homes past the Old Stagecoach Inn and one house has its kitchen in Misterton and its lounge in Crewkerne parish.

John Dyke

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Crewkerne Probus Club



Probus Clubs provide regular gatherings for those retired or semi-retired business or professional people who, in retirement, appreciate and value opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances and with similar interests.

Crewkerne Probus Club organises meetings for lunch on the last Wednesday of each month. These are held at the **Windwhistle Inn** at 12.15 for 1.00pm. The 2 course meal currently costs £15 per head and is followed by an after lunch speaker on an interesting topic.

Each year special events are held to which our partners, as well as other guests, are invited – a Ladies Lunch in May, an Autumn Supper, a Christmas Lunch and a summer outing.

If you are a retired professional or business man living in the Crewkerne area, why not consider joining us? Contact David Bryant on 01460 74422

Letter from the Vicar

I write this just before Christmas, when so much remains uncertain on so many levels. The impact of the coronavirus pandemic is going to be felt for some months to come, but at least now we have the hope offered by the various vaccines that are starting to be rolled out across the country. I certainly have never known a year like it in my lifetime and I hope that as the year turns, we will be able to face the future with more confidence. Communities like Misterton have certainly showed their resilience as people have come together to ensure that those who are most vulnerable are not forgotten and can call on assistance as needed.

There will be many challenges ahead next year; the vulnerable state of the economy because of the pandemic, the uncertainty of our relations with our European neighbours as well as the overarching need to tackle the threat of climate change. Locally, Somerset County Council are trying to find a way to secure the future of education and we know that the future of Misterton school remains uncertain. St Leonard's too faces challenges as we try to find people willing to take on key positions. As we have said previously, we are looking for a Treasurer; this is a matter of some urgency so if you think you will be able to help, then please get in touch.

The turn of the year can bring new possibilities; sometimes these take the shape of resolutions, as we aim to try to do things differently; usually they reveal our hopes about ourselves, what we should look like or how we should spend our time. Sometimes our resolutions stretch further afield and reflect the hopes that we may have buried deep within us.

Perhaps a good start to the new year would be for all of us to think about how we can get involved to support and nurture the well-being of our communities. Working together locally might be a good basis to responding to the very real challenges that we face.

With every blessing for the New Year.

Rev Jonathan Morris

01460 72356 jonbea@cooptel.net

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(Gospel of John chapter 1 verse 5)

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Tony Dalton

Tony Dalton has been a film buff since he was six years old. One might even say that he is movie-obsessive, having worked in the film and television industries since 1969.

He was born in Redhill, Surrey in 1947 and spent all his childhood in Caterham, going to infant, junior and senior schools there. His mother, who lived to be ninety-nine, was one of sixteen children. As a result, Tony, his brother, and sister had fifteen pairs of uncles and aunts. They also had about a hundred cousins. His father came to England from Waterford in Eire as a sixteen-year-old. He served in the Irish Guards during the Second World War and became a caretaker after demobilisation.

Tony became an apprentice electrician, working mainly in Croydon. He hated the job, but his parents wanted him to have a 'good' trade. They must have been surprised when he gave it up to take his first job in showbiz as an assistant booking manager in the film library at the British Film Institute. He moved on from that to be the film programmer for the BFI Regional Film Theatres, responsible for selecting film seasons. He also interviewed many celebrities, among them Peter Cushing, Charlton Heston, Harold Lloyd and the noted pioneer of film animation, Ray Harryhausen.

After seven years, he left the BFI to be publicity consultant for such 1970s films as *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters of The Third Kind* and *Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger*. He reviewed films for popular magazines, industry publications and wrote several storylines for the *Eagle* comic's strip, *Dan Dare*, *Pilot of the Future*.

In 1977 he joined the Everyman Cinema in Hampstead, London as programme planner, responsible again for compiling film seasons in addition to writing brochures and organising publicity. On the strength of Tony's work in Hampstead, Leslie Halliwell, the writer of *Film Guide* and *Filmgoers' Companion*, invited him to join Granada Television as the network publicity officer. He went on to carry out film research for literally hundreds of programmes during a period of some twelve years. These included *Brideshead Revisited*, *Jewel in the Crown*, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *World in Action*, and film biographies of James Mason, Laurel and Hardy, David Niven, and Ingrid Bergman.

It was when he moved to Birmingham to work for ATV that he met his husband-to-be, Tim. As Tony says, 'and we've never looked back.' Tim is principally an art historian but has had many jobs in his time. He has been a window-dresser at Liberty's shop in London and has worked for Paramount Pictures. Now, like Tony, he is a film historian. They have been together for forty-three years.

In 1992 Tony became a freelance film researcher and consultant. He worked on the BBC Discovery series, *The Promised Land*, travelling widely in the USA searching for footage and stills. Since then, he worked on a wide variety of programmes for the BBC, Channel 4, and Sky among others. For his work on *Edward VIII*, *The Traitor King* he won the 1996 Indie Archive Award.

He is hard to pin down about his favourite film of all time. 'I love them all,' he says, 'from the late 19th century right up to the present day.' But at the top of his list is James Mason's film



from 1954, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, which Tony saw for the first time when he was seven. Others are *Trip to the Moon* (1902), *Napoleon* (1927), *Casablanca*, *Citizen Kane*, *The Third Man* and *Dunkirk* (the 2017 version).

Since 1985 he has lectured on film history at The Museum of London, BAFTA, and many universities. His subjects have included The History of Animation, History as told by the Movies, Special Effects, and the Hammer films. He has published five books about Ray Harryhausen and co-produced a film about him. He has also co-authored a biography of Freddie Francis

who was famous for his work on Hammer's horror films. Tony is still writing, and at the moment is proof-reading his new book about the director of Hammer Films – *Terence Fisher, Master of Gothic Cinema*. It is due to be published next year.

He moved with Tim from the Isle of Wight in 2019 to their 17th century Grade II listed house – once the New Inn pub – in Silver Street. From there he walks Queenie, his cocker spaniel bitch, around the village. She is nearly twelve now and has a bad back, so has to be carried upstairs. Tony likes to read novels, 'but not the sort that win the Booker Prize,' and, of course, biographies of film actors. At present he is re-reading that of Jack Hawkins.

His musical tastes are wide; they range from Gershwin through Beethoven and Sibelius to the Beatles and the Beach Boys. His most-admired Beach Boys' record is *Good Vibrations*. It is an excellent choice.

He used to like travelling when younger but is now content to take holidays in Britain. His most enjoyable foreign holidays were in Egypt, which he visited three times, even cycling with Tim in the Valley of The Kings. He admits to being passionate about ancient civilisations and their archaeology. Other holidays have been spent in Crete, Greece, and Iceland.

Tony has had a stellar career, being a successful author and mingling with stars of what used to be called the Silver Screen. And he is still working. We wish him all the best for the future.

John Coquet

Christmas Cards

A big thank you to all who generously donated money instead of sending Christmas Cards in the village. It was even more successful than in previous years and a sum of £300 will be sent to Crewkerne Voluntary Transport.

Diane Bradly

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) A, C, CP, F, TH, ? | Clue: The beautiful game |
| 2) J, D, G, A, ? | Clue: Enid's quintet |
| 3) COA, AB, JS, AOC, CH, ? | Clue: Henry's sextet |
| 4) D, G, H, S, B, S, ? | Clue: Walt's septet |
| 5) G, E, L, N, ? | Clue: Pentateuch |
| 6) C, D, H, ? | Clue: Deal with them |
| 7) B, P, W, C, ? | Clue: Dorset towns |
| 8) ND, SD, N, K, O, ? | Clue: The land of the free |
| 9) H, H, L, B, B, C, ? | Clue: Atomic |
| 10) EM, FH, NS, JC, ? | Clue: Vive la France |
| 11) YB, SM, CB, RV, BD, JC, ? | Clue: Magnificent |
| 12) C, A, H, F, ? | Clue: Destination St David's |
| 13) 10B, 11B, 12R, 13B, 14R, ? | Clue: Faites vos jeux |
| 14) JW, PC, MS, DT, ? | Clue: The Doctor will see you now |
| 15) DB, B, P, B, E, ? | Clue: An improving round |

We are offering a cash prize of £25 to the winner of our new year quiz. If there are multiple correct entries, the winner will be drawn from a hat.

Please send your entries to mistertonmagazine@gmail.com or drop them into the post box at Broughton's, Broughton's Drive by Wednesday 20th January.

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The Annual Show

The end of an era – or not?? Or is it a case of ‘all good things must come to an end!’

Having trawled through the WI minutes, it appears that the annual show was started by the WI after they acquired their hall in the late 1960s. From that day to this they have organised this popular show year in and year out on behalf of the village and I believe it has been a popular event inclusive of all the village and beyond. As you will be aware, I have actively been seeking help to carry on running this show and was fortunate enough last year to be offered the services of Alison Lennox (who lives across the road from me in Silver Street). Alison offered to take over the computerised system from start to finish and be involved in the general running of the show, along with her daughter assisting – the W.I. would continue to play their part with booking judges, etc. and organising on the day.

I personally have decided I can't commit to it this year (in fact, I am hanging up my hat permanently but will be happy to oversee any handover should anybody be interested). Sadly, there are no members able to take on the organisation of the show; however, they are willing to help on the day and Alison is also happy to help; bearing in mind our age range from 70 up to 92 (the majority 80+) this should not come as a surprise! However, I think we can hold our heads high and bow out without further ado. All the cups/trophies and past records are in safe storage at the WI hall.

On behalf of the WI I want to thank all the villagers for the part they have played in making the annual show the success that it has been – be it as a helper, judge, competitor, winner, loser!! Apparently, the show used to be held in the WI hall until it got too big when it transferred to the village hall, to whom we extend special thanks for free use of the hall over the years.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you are interested in carrying this show forward or with any comments you may have. Thank you,

Carol Walker

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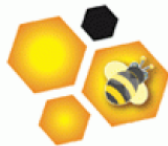
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Vicar – Rev Jonathan Morris 01460 72356

Churchwarden – Robert Jeffreys 01460 279827 Treasurer – Maureen Shepley 01460 73798

Services for the month of January 2021

Note: No singing during the pandemic

Sunday 3rd January

10:00am

Epiphany

United service - North Perrott - H.C. CW

Rev J Morris

Sunday 10th January

8:00am

Baptism of Christ - Epiphany 1

Haselbury - H.C. BCP

Rev J Morris

9:30am

North Perrott - H.C CW

Rev J Morris

11:00am

Misterton - H.C BCP

Rev J Morris

Sunday 17th January

9:30am

Epiphany 2

Misterton - H.C. CW

Rev J Morris

11:00am

Haselbury - H.C. CW

Rev J Morris

Sunday 24th January

9:30am

Epiphany 3

North Perrott - H.C. BCP

Rev J Morris

11:00am

Haselbury - H.C. CW

Rev J Morris

Sunday 31st January

10:00am

Presentation of Christ in the temple

United benefice service - St Bartholomew's
Crewkerne - H.C. CW

Rev J Morris

Flowers

Brass

Cleaning

3rd January

Mrs C Newman

-

-

10th January

CN to check

-

Mrs L Boalch

17th January

Mrs S Coquet

-

-

24th January

SC to check

-

-

31st January

Mrs S Coquet

-

Mrs L Willis

Note: The procedures for cleaning the church will have to comply with the Church Risk Assessment for opening during the current pandemic. I will contact each cleaner before her week's cleaning duty to discuss this.

Maureen Albert



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“ I am glad I have you guys on my side ”



Slow Cooked Lamb with Lemon and Oregano

Some think January food should be all about healthy eating, but at times when it's cold and wet outside, what you really crave is a hearty warming casserole. The secret to this slow cooked lamb is a heavy, deep pan with a good, tight fitting lid.

Serves 4-6

2tbsp olive oil

900g Charlotte potatoes, washed and thickly sliced

8 medium sized shallots, peeled

1 garlic clove, cut in half across the middle

4 good sprigs of oregano

3 bay leaves

2 tsp sea salt

Good grinding black pepper

Approx. 1.64kg shoulder lamb, boned, skinned, and trimmed of a little fat

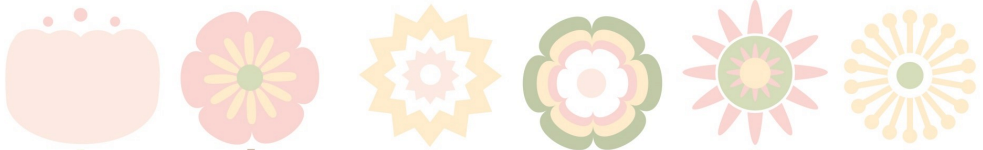
2 small un-waxed lemons, cut in half

200ml vegetable stock

1. Pre-heat the oven to 180°C, 160°C fan, gas 4.
2. Pour the oil into a large ovenproof casserole pan. Add the sliced potatoes, shallots, garlic, oregano, bay, salt and pepper.
3. Trim the lamb and cut into 8-10 large chunks. Place in a bowl, squeeze over the lemon juice and season well.
4. Arrange the lamb, all juices and squeezed lemon halves on top of the vegetables. Pour over the stock. Cover with a tight fitting lid and cook in the oven for 3-3 ½ hours until tender. Baste the lamb with the juices occasionally.
5. To serve, spoon the lamb, vegetables, garlic and herbs onto a warm serving dish and spoon over the juices.
6. Serve with olive bread and a simple, dressed watercress salad.

*Recipe courtesy of
Jacks McDonnell*





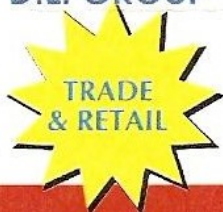
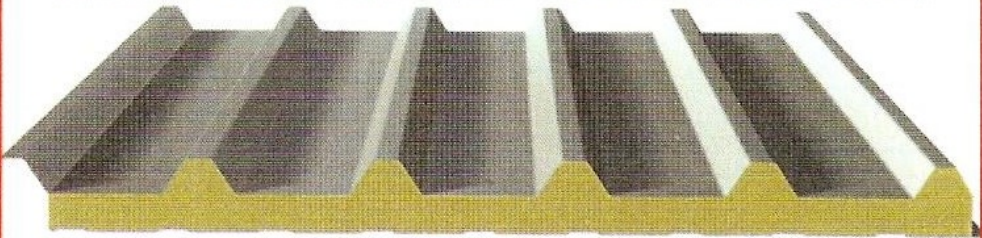
Misterton Flower Guild

Thank you to everyone who ordered a Christmas door hanging, table centre or memorial arrangement from us and thank you to Christine, Brenda, Cheryl and Diana for all their hard work making them.

Delighted to say we made £311 towards our funds for the Flower Festival which we are hoping will happen in August 2021. Watch this space!

Sue Coquet

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Did you know?

The # symbol is not officially called a hashtag. It is technically an octothorpe.

John Coquet



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A happy New Year to all – at the time I wrote this article (early December), it was beginning to look like it would be with the advent of the vaccine – I do hope so! We tried to promote the Christmas spirit with the Christmas tree in the front yard - our thanks to Graham for this. It is true to say that it's been a year like no other in every walk of life and the WI is no exception – none of our usual Christmas events (carol singing, Christmas fayre, Christmas coffee morning) took place but hopefully we cheered our members up a little with the small gifts (to replace our usual Secret Santa at the December meeting) distributed to them. We kept our members up to date with all that's been going on via a monthly newsletter either by email or hard copy.

2020 saw the closure of Denman College, but for members on Wi-Fi there were many online courses available – I think a few of our members even took up with Zoom!! It also saw us having to re-adjust our plans for our Centenary year, but we hope, in 2021, to have that long awaited afternoon tea at Cricket St Thomas to celebrate properly. We are hoping for a more normal 2021 but that is not going to get moving for quite a while whilst restrictions still exist. In the meantime, we will continue as we are and will re-open the hall to the public just as soon as it is safe to do so. Our regular hirers have all confirmed they are ready to return when Covid restrictions permit – having listened to the news as I pen this article, that could be a bit closer than we thought! Eventually we hope to re-start our coffee mornings and other fund-raising events, so do watch this space and our notice board - all are welcome.

Carol Walker

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Old photos of Misterton

Unity Lane 1920.

Note the long brick wall and the thatched cottages in Clarks Lane now rebuilt.



Photo Courtesy of Fiona Easeman

Thank you from Ray Ball's son

I am the son of Ray Ball from Derby Cottage on Middle Street. My wife and I would like to thank those in the village who helped my father during the beginning of the pandemic and through his illness. He told us that people were bringing him supplies, walking his dog, checking on him and mowing his lawn. He was so proud to be a part of such a caring village. Despite all our efforts, he would not leave his home. It gave us peace of mind to know that so many people were watching out for him.

Unfortunately his death was during a time that we were not allowed to give him the fitting wake that he deserved. When the time is safe, we will do this at the Globe which was his second home.

Again thanks to everyone who helped Ray.

Wayne Ball



Dates for your Diary

January 2021

Tuesday January 19th

Parish Council Meeting

6:30pm

Zoom

Misterton's mystery musician

They mystery of the unknown Last Post player has been solved! The Friends of Misterton Cemetery Chapel hired them to play on Remembrance Sunday outside the chapel. Clearly a worthwhile venture given that the music could be heard and appreciated at the other end of the village.

Avian influenza: Latest situation

The government introduced new measures from 14 December 2020 onwards to help protect poultry and captive birds from this highly infectious disease. Poultry and captive bird keepers are legally required to keep their birds indoors, or take appropriate steps to keep them separate from wild birds. Bird keepers are advised to be vigilant for any signs of disease in their birds and any wild birds, and seek prompt advice from their vet if they have any concerns. They can help prevent avian flu by maintaining good biosecurity on their premises.

All keepers are encouraged to register their birds with Defra so they can be contact quickly if there is a disease outbreak in their area and they need to take action. If they have more than 50 birds, they are legally required to register their flock within one month of their arrival at their premises. If they have less than 50 birds, including pet birds, they are still strongly encouraged to register.

Poultry and captive bird keepers and members of the public should report dead wild birds to the Defra helpline on 03459 33 55 77 (option 7), and keepers should report suspicion of disease to APHA on 03000 200 301. Keepers should familiarise themselves with Defra's avian flu advice.

Public Health England advise the risk to public health from the H5N8 and H5N2 strains of bird flu is very low. The Food Standards Agency has said that on the basis of the current scientific evidence, avian influenza poses a very low food safety risk for UK consumers. Properly cooked poultry and poultry products, including eggs, are safe to eat.

For more information, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/avian-influenza-bird-flu-national-prevention-zone-declared>.

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