

Misterton

Village Magazine



November 2022



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Note from the editors

This month's cover is a painting by a local artist whose work we have featured before, Keiron McDonnell. We love his depiction of Betty!

In the spotlight this month is another local resident, David Scotney, who was interviewed by our writer-at-large, John Coquet. And although Misterton School is now closed, the children wanted to share some of their best memories from their time there with us, along with some photos of their celebrations.

We hope you have a fabulous month.

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the December magazine is Monday 21st November.

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

Magazine committee contact details

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<https://mistertonparishcouncil.org.uk/village-information/village-magazine/>



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Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team

In last month's magazine there was a reminder about an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) training session to help provide familiarisation with these simple and effective devices. As yet we have not had many replies about the repeat session in January 2023. Looking ahead to 2023 seems quite a long way off and it is easy to delay in replying, however we do need to plan if we are to run a training session. If you have an interest in attending a short two-hour course one evening in January either for the first time or as a refresher, please let us know (MERT contact details are below).

The lovely autumn weather probably means we are not thinking about the flooding issues that sometimes impact the village. We all know that conditions can change quickly when the weather turns, so with the help of Somerset Prepared run by South Somerset District Council we are updating the MERT emergency plan for the village although we hope we will not need to use it. The updated plan will be on Parish Council website in due course.

After the disruption of the Covid pandemic the Misterton village litter pick has not taken place for a couple of years. The parish council will be organising another one soon with MERT supporting the event and hope some of the village will join in.

Phil

MERT member

MERT Contact Details

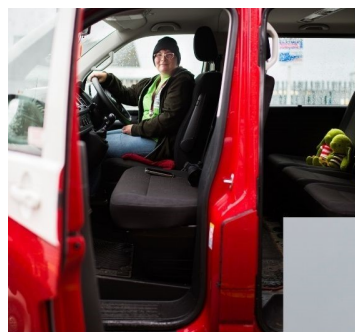
If an incident occurs in Misterton and you would like the assistance of the emergency and resilience team please call:

Iain Rowland on 01460 78951 or 07968 232998

Phil Clifton and Sally Gray on 01460 73815 or 07775 841204 philclifton@hotmail.com

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Due to the forthcoming auction of the WI hall, our very recent parish council meeting was held at @Sue's Café (by the railway station) for the first time. Although slightly noisier, the seats were definitely more comfortable - thank you Sue for allowing us to use your premises.

The auction has also led to the parish council letter box being relocated, for the time being, to the pillar of the gates at Knowle House. It is an ideal home for the many lifestyle questionnaires still unreturned from the October magazine. Please do keep returning them - so far, the questionnaires have indicated the desire for a number of new clubs and warm hubs but as there is currently a shortage of venues, the future of the WI hall has to be known before further progress can be made.

I have now been in post as chair for six months and am getting to grips with what needs to be done. I have a very supportive council and excellent new clerk and we have just co-opted two further councillors meaning we will move forward with a full team. All banking procedures have been updated, enabling the recently formed finance working group to meet. They will recommend next year's draft budget to the full council at the November meeting. This in turn leads to setting of next year's precept which will be very carefully considered, paying particular attention to the present economic situation.

Other developments include the setting up of road and cemetery working groups to cover a range of current issues, the approval of a much-needed seat for the cemetery and the acquisition of new legally required signs for the recreation ground. These together with byelaws should be erected soon. One further initiative we are taking is to seek a visiting Post Office van for half a day each week.

And finally, there are plans for the chairs of the village hall committee and parish council to meet and co-operate on future support by two friendly committees to counter the problems facing the village.

Paul Bradly
Chairman

Wreath making

The Ile Valley Flower Club are holding a wreath making session on Saturday 10th December from 10:30am until 12:30pm. The cost will be £15 includes a wreath or door hanging rings and paddles included. We hope to supply all foliage (If anyone in the village is cutting fern or any spruce, we will gladly accept it).

Bring your own secateurs or scissors and any decoration you would like to put on it. We hope to have some things to purchase.

Also bring a table covering and bag to take away rubbish. Coffee and tea will be available. If anything else is required we will inform you.

Please book with Cheryl on 01460 75025.

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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Letter from Anne

Traditionally November is a time for remembrance. The church commemorates All Souls day at the beginning of November when we remember all those we have loved and lost over the years. On 11th November we then remember all those who gave up their lives or their mental or physical health in service of their country. It is perhaps a reflective month before the busyness of December and Christmas hits us.

As I was reflecting on these acts of remembrance I came across some words

‘Accept your wounds and your disabilities

And know yourself loved by God.

Listen to your feelings

Listen to your story

And know yourself loved by God.’

As we go through life, there are very few of us who remain unscathed by loss. It may be the loss of loved ones, it may be the loss of our physical or mental health. It may be the loss of a marriage, or just the realisation that all those glorious plans we might have had for our life in our early years will never now come to fruition.

The important word for me from the above is **accept** what has happened. Stop fighting or resenting it. We need to accept our wounds and disabilities. If we hold on to our pain, we inevitably pass it on to others.

‘Pain not transmuted is transmitted’ a very wise person once told me.

We all long for peace in our lives, and by accepting our wounds, and knowing that we are all loved by God, we can find that peace. I love the BCP (Book of Common Prayer) evensong service and in that is the following prayer or collect based on Philippians 4.7

O God from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that **peace which the world cannot give**; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and that we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

I pray then that we can this month think about and acknowledge to ourselves our wounds and disabilities, and then lay them at God’s feet. Let him deal with them so that we can float free and live our lives to the full.

Every blessing

Rev Anne Charlton

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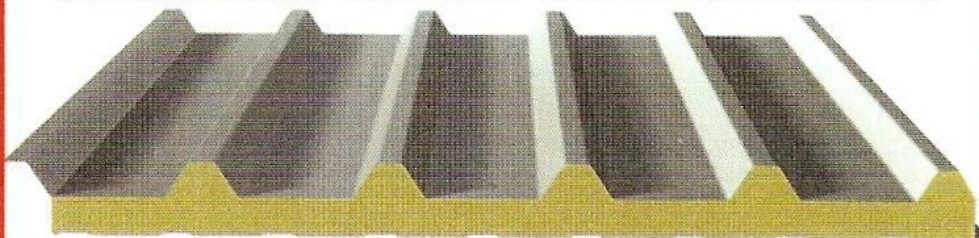
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Christmas Card Donations

Once again Christmas is not so far away, and I am asking that instead of sending cards to local friends you donate a sum of money that in turn will be given to a local charity. The donation can be any sum. The amount will never be revealed; however, your name and greetings will appear in the December edition of the village magazine.

The charity this year is Crewkerne Transport. Please donate, as many Misterton people have used this means of travel and it is such a valuable service.

Donations can be handed to me at Knowle House, Knowle Lane or if easier I can collect. Many thanks. Please would you let me know by 13th November to enable me to get the names to the magazine committee for entry in the December magazine.

Diane Bradly
01460 76761

Misterton Flower Guild Christmas arrangements

We are again making and selling Christmas door hangings £9, festive table centres £6 and memorial arrangements £7. This is the same price as last year.

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Sue Coquet

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Church services November 2022

Sunday 6th November 2022: Trinity 21

Haselbury: 9:30am HC-CW - Rev A Daynes

Wayford: 9:30am HC - Rev CJ Davis

Hewish: 9:30am HC - Rev D Newman

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am HC - TBC

Sunday 13th November 2022: Remembrance Service

Haselbury: 10:50am Remembrance Service - Rev A Daynes

Misterton: 10:50am Remembrance Service - Fr G Reilly

Wayford: 10:45am Remembrance Service - Rev B Key

North Perrott: 10:00am Remembrance Service - Rev D Newman

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 10:50am Remembrance Service - TBC

Sunday 20th November 2022: Trinity 23

Misterton: 9:30am HC-CW - Rev CJ Davis

Wayford: 9:30am HC - Rev D Newman

Haselbury: 11:00am Family Service - Home Team

Hewish: 11:00am HC - Rev B Key

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am HC - TBC

Sunday 27th November 2022: Advent Sunday

North Perrott: 9:30am HC-BCP - Rev CJ Davis

Haselbury: 11:00am HC-CW - Rev A Daynes

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am all ages - TBC

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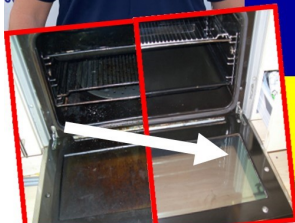
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David Scotney

David lives in one of the New Inn Cottages off Silver Street and has been there since 1994. He was born in Wimbledon in 1954. The family lived in Putney before moving near to Guildford in Surrey. His brother, who lives in Nottingham, is a retired mechanical engineer.

Their father was the Headteacher of a primary school near Tower Bridge in London, and their mother was an operator of a comptometer - a somewhat primitive key-driven calculator, but which was considered to be state-of-the-art in the 1950s.

During the Second World War, Scotney senior was an RAF turret gunner. On a routine bombing raid over Rotterdam docks, and at the Germans' request, he had to drop a prosthetic leg for the double-amputee Douglas Bader, only one of the pair remaining intact after Bader was eventually shot down by the Luftwaffe.

Bader was considered to be a flying ace in the Second World War, piloting both Spitfires and Hurricanes. He was credited with twenty-two aerial victories, even though he had lost both legs in an aeroplane accident in 1931, which he admitted was his own fault. After being shot down, he was sent to a POW camp where, despite his incapacity, he made so many escape attempts that he was moved to the infamous Colditz Castle, believed by the Germans to be escape-proof. On another occasion, David's father's Blenheim bomber was shot down over the English Channel, but the air in his turret miraculously shot him to the surface from where he was rescued. He had an unenviable war, having lost no fewer than twenty-seven room-mates through enemy action. David still has his faded RAF blouse, complete with ribbon bars.

After primary school, David attended Guildford Cathedral Choir School, spending four years there as a chorister. The choir performed at both the Albert and Festival Halls. One of the choir's album recordings came second in the sales charts to the Rolling Stones. He then trained as a teacher in a Bradford college before going on for a year at Leeds University. From there, having declined a Headship in a German Service Children's School and another school in Singapore, he was appointed as Headteacher of a school in Southern Germany in the American Sector for sixteen years. Back in England, he became Headteacher at Ashill School, not far from Ilminster. David is divorced, but has a partner, Lindsay, who lives in Taunton. Like him, she is a retired Headteacher. He has travelled with her to Eastern Europe - Albania, Romania, and Transylvania. According to him, the trains in Romania were noteworthy for being the dirtiest of all. He and his brother have also been to visit relatives in Australia, India, and Malaysia. David is particularly interested in the First World War and has visited most of the European battlefields.

By his own admission, he is interested in most sports with the exception of rugby. He was once given a set of golf clubs, but soon found that he had no ability with them. On the other hand, he used to be a good skier. So much so, that he was a skiing instructor while teaching with the Army in Germany.

He has a fine collection of late-eighteenth-century English porcelain. He also likes to cook and has been on advanced courses run by Rick Stein in Padstow. He enjoys eating out, too. But most of all, he is a cat person. The walls of one of his bedrooms from floor to ceiling are given over completely to cat-show awards - medals and testimonials. There are several hundreds of them, won at home and abroad. All the cats shown were from two breeds: Chinchillas and Colourpoint Long-Haired Persians. Both breeds of cats were UK Champions and Grand Premiers in the late 1990s.



David's choice of books centres on the novels of Mervyn Peake, such as *Gormenghast*, *Titus Groan* and *Titus Alone*. As for music, David admires the Rolling Stones, The Who, Simple Minds, Queen, and Brian Ferry. But if banished to the BBC's fictional desert island, he would want to have with him *Love Over Gold* from Dire Straits' 1982 studio album of the same name.

In retirement, he still involves himself in schooling. He chairs local appeals panels determining the validity of decisions concerning children who have been excluded from particular schools, or parents who have been disappointed that their children have been turned

down from attending the school of their parents' choice.

David has amassed some sixty bottles of gin that he and Lindsay take care to drink from in turns. All the gins come from West Country artisanal distilleries.

Their favourite is Papillon gin with botanicals that include violets that blossom on the Devonshire moors.

John Coquet



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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.

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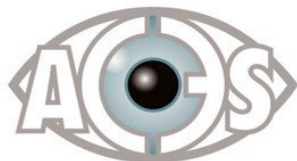


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Misterton WI

Our next meeting is on 1st November at the usual time of 7:15pm. Our speaker is Jan McNeill (many ways to tie a scarf). Competition: your favourite scarf. Teas: Jane Jarrett plus one. New and prospective members always welcome. Enquiries Susan May 01460 73934.

The trustees wish to announce on behalf of Misterton WI that a successful bid was made to purchase the hall at auction on 20th October 2022. This was following a second more recent application to list our hall as a community asset, submitted by Mr Paul Brady on behalf of the parish council being rejected by South Somerset District Council, notification of which was received at the eleventh hour. Several members of Misterton WI attended the auction and although a sad day a great weight has been lifted off our shoulders as we no longer have the worry and financial responsibility of maintaining the hall which had become our main concern.

Misterton WI will continue to be active in the community as we have always been. We believe we are in a position to move forward in a positive way and, as a result of the sale, be in a stronger position to become involved with and support local community projects and local charitable causes.

Misterton WI would also like to take this opportunity to thank those villagers and parishioners who have supported us over the years. Thank you!

Finally, the hall will be closed, as planned, on 1st November 2022 which is the date of our last WI meeting in our hall. Future meetings will be held in a function room at The Globe Inn, Misterton commencing at 7:15pm and visitors/new members are welcome to join us. Our December meeting is on the 6th.

Susan May (President) on behalf of Misterton WI Trustees

Misterton Tennis Club



This is the season for club tournaments. Shiona Meikle has recently won the mixed singles event and on Thursday September 29th we finally managed to stage the mixed doubles event. On a glorious autumnal evening we had six couples taking part. However, we had seven men and only five women, so the eventual winners were the all-male double act of Steve Beach and Nick Watt, aka Stevenetta and Nikita!

The club hosted a presentation evening for all trophy winners at Misterton village hall on Sunday October 23rd. If anyone from the village fancies a knock, please come to club sessions on either Sunday mornings 10-12 or Monday evenings 6:30-9:30. Contact Bob Waterhouse on 07967 535117.

Bob Waterhouse
Chairman

Forthcoming events

Hans Holbein talk by Richard Kay of Lawrences. Friday 11th November 6:30pm for 7pm in the Hoskyns Memorial Hall, North Perrott. Adults £10 - 16 to 18 years £5 to include cheese and wine after the talk.

'Make we Joy' - a Christmas concert with Parnham Voices Choir. A celebration of Christmas in carols and music both old and contemporary interspersed with readings. Saturday 3rd December at 3pm in St Martin's Church, North Perrott. Adults £10 - under 18 years £5 to include tea/coffee and cake after the concert.

Proceeds from both events to St Martin's Church.

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Misterton Gardeners Association

Our meetings for this year are now over. We will begin again in the early spring (venue permitting). So now perhaps is an appropriate time to take stock as to what 2022 has been like in Misterton gardens.

We had a reasonable spring: late March and early April was fairly warm and quite dry. The blossom on our plum and pear trees came quite early - a bit too early perhaps for some pollinating insects. However, in the end there was a pretty good fruit set before the inevitable late frost came (which put an end to the wonderful display on our magnolia). April showers were a bit sparse, but we had some modest rain in May which enabled us to get our vegetable and flower seeds in okay.

Then came the heat, which went on and on. Some crops loved it - our courgettes, early potatoes, and dwarf beans in particular - as did most of our roses. Other crops (like runner beans and indoor tomatoes) almost gave up the ghost. September on the other hand was quite good for our gardens - the Michaelmas daisies and the dahlias have been full of flowers. And, as I write, have still not been hit by frost. So, as I say, every year for Misterton gardeners is different!

One plant that has liked the sun and heat this year is the canna or, to give it its proper name, the canna lily. No wonder since it originates from the tropics. Cannas can grow very tall, but plant breeders have developed cultivars which are smaller and are rather more tolerant of our variable climate. Their leaves are typically pure green, but some have maroon and variegated ones. We have grown one or two cannas for some years now but the person who does best with them locally is George Sweetman of The Avenue. George has brought on a lot of cannas this year (some from just a packet of seeds). Canna flowers are red, orange, or yellow and sometimes a combination of all three (see photo). George says they do best if given a weekly feed of Tomorite and phostrogen and planted where they can receive at least six hours of sunlight during summer. Let's all have a go with them next year!



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Memories of Misterton First School

Saying goodbye to Misterton First School was not going to be easy but as a staff we decided we wanted our last days to be a celebration of what our wonderful school meant to us and our community.

We began our celebrations with a special church service at St Leonards, led by CJ. The children, as always, were amazing. They performed together to share a poem they had written, recited their favourite memories and sang songs chosen by themselves. It was lovely to see some familiar faces in the audience. There was also the opportunity for the local community to share their fond memories too. Thank you to those of you who did.

On Friday 22nd July, our last day, we decided to host a tea party for our family, friends, and past pupils of the school. Everyone loves cake so the turnout was great! It was lovely to see the school full of laughter and chatter as people shared memories with each other and the children. Again, the children performed beautifully and were a credit to the school. This time Mrs Dawson and Miss Wines had some lovely surprises for the children. Each child was awarded with their own 'Little Miss' or 'Little Mr' attribute. Some of which brought a few tears to our eyes. We also said goodbyes to Mrs Diaper, Mrs Parry and Mrs Baker who would not be joining us at Ashlands. The children presented them with some lovely presents as Miss Ball shared how special each of them was to us. Photos of the children and our three lovely ladies across the years made us smile. Luckily the weather held off and our celebration ended with some good old country dancing. A fun time was had by all.

After lunch was all about the children. Mrs Goodison, our chair of the Friends of Misterton School, had arranged for some extra special entertainment. The children enjoyed a large bouncy assault course, some very creative face paints and an ice cream from our local ice cream van. After all this you would expect the children to be tired but alas no! They still had energy for a water battle with Miss Ball, Mrs Dawson, and Miss Wines. I think it was fair to say it was a draw despite Miss Ball throwing buckets of water as her cup was too small! As a final memento of their time at Misterton all the children received a leaver's hoodie. A huge thank you to Mrs Goodison for purchasing and personally delivering them over the holidays. We hope the children had a great couple of days and despite being sad they could all see just how important our school was to everybody around them.

Now we have all moved on we still think about our time at Misterton with many fond memories. To those children who have joined Ashlands we love to see how settled you are in your new classes. To those of you who have moved to new schools I am sure you have settled into your new classes and have made new friends. To Mrs Diaper and Mrs Parry, a huge congratulations as you have both welcomed your first grandchildren. To Mrs Baker I am sure you are enjoying lots of lay ins and time with your ever-growing family!

Misterton will always be a special school which inspired us to have a Love of learning, a Love of Life and a Love of One Another.

Here are just a few of the children's memories and some photos of our celebrations.

During swimming lessons, I always wanted to swim in the big pool at the deep end. In year 4 I did but it was very cold!

I remember when Rich Parker visited our school. He jumped over Mrs Dawson in his roller skates. I did wonder what Mrs Dawson would do if he fell!

I remember our last day. It was the best, it made me happy and sad at the same time.

I remember all our Christmas plays. I was a cheese seller and I shouted, 'Buy my cheese!'

I remember Mrs Diaper helping me to read.

I remember Mrs Parry helping me build a shelter while the Year 4's were at Kilver Court. Mrs Parry gave me an extra sheet as mine kept falling off when I got in.

I remember our teachers dressing up. Mrs Dawson was a mischievous elf and Miss Wines looked fab as a school child. She even had pigtails!

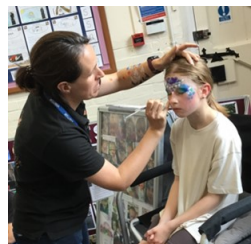
I liked playing 'Pin the tail on the corgi' for the Queen's Jubilee.

I loved playing outside, wearing a chef's costume in the mud kitchen.

Mrs Diaper gave me some special pens. I still have them now at Ashlands.

We wrote weather reports and pretended to be reporters. Mrs Dawson was so impressed she fell off her chair!

I remember all the singing with Miss Wines. She was the best at singing.



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Events in British history that happened in November

- 1st 1858: Queen Victoria is proclaimed ruler of India
- 2nd 1936: BBC starts world's first regular TV service
- 4th 1843: Lord Nelson's statue is placed on top of his column
- 5th 1605: Guy Fawkes is arrested
- 9th 1953: The poet, Dylan Thomas, dies
- 11th 1918: First World War ends
- 14th 1940: Over 500 tons of bombs are dropped on Coventry by the Luftwaffe
- 20th 1947: Princess Elizabeth marries Philip Mountbatten
- 28th 1919: Mary Astor becomes Britain's first woman MP
- 30th 1936: The Crystal Palace burns down

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Dates for your diary

November 2022

Tuesday November 1st	WI meeting	7:15pm	WI hall
Tuesday November 15th	Parish council meeting	6:30pm	TBC
Monday November 28th	Christmas Bingo	6:30pm	Village hall

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