

Misterton

Village Magazine

April 2023



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Note from the editors

We are very happy to be welcoming in spring with this month's lovely bright cover by Chloe Willis, surely inspired by the green fields around Misterton.

For our local resident spotlight, John Coquet talked to Steve Hilson, a relative newcomer to the village, but a welcome addition. And this is your last reminder from us about the village coronation celebrations on Sunday 7th May– it promises to be a great day out, so bring the family!

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the April magazine is Tuesday 21st March.

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

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Misterton Village Magazine is now also online!

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



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Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team

On Sunday 5th March the planned litter pick went ahead, and we are pleased to say it was a great success. Having set up on Middle Street we had a total of 34 residents turn out to pick up equipment and help clean up the village. We were particularly pleased to have a team on the Old Mill estate who are part of the Misterton community.

The attached photos illustrate the activities that were undertaken and the amount of rubbish that was collected. 25 bags of rubbish were collected along with some bigger items and sadly this is only a proportion of what is out there. However, the Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team (MERT) in conjunction with the Parish Council aim to do more collections in the future which we hope the village will support, more of which in due course.

So, it just falls to me to say thanks very much to all who supported the initiative and we look forward to seeing again as we work on improving our highways and byways.

Phil

MERT member



MERT Contact Details

If you would like our assistance please call:

Iain Rowland 01460 78951 or 07968 232998

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

Pete and Jackson Marshall 01460 73507 or 07909 967319 / 07980 768125

Bob Taylor 01460 271658 or 07931 657312

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As I near my first anniversary as both councillor and chairman of Misterton Parish Council (MPC) I must report that our monthly meeting yesterday was as busy and, I hope, successful as previously. First, I add my thanks to all who helped with our village clear up, particularly to our clerk and MERT for their work with the MPC. All available councillors were present and in my twenty years in the village, participation was by far and away the greatest yet. A fuller report is given by MERT. We plan another clear up in the autumn but also would encourage everyone to tidy around their own properties on the coronation weekend (May 6th – 8th) and, if they are able, to add bunting and red, white, and blue balloons so that we can show our village to the world.

Planning for the coronation event at the village hall and recreation field continues. Any residents with artistic talent are encouraged to contact me on 01460 76761. We are looking for drawings, pictures, photographs, modelling, hand crafts and flower arrangements. Our music plans are also taking shape. We plan an 'open mic' session for amateur talent from our village and surrounding villages. We have help from several villagers in the music business. There will be cash prizes but for many it will be the experience that will be most important. Anyone with an interest should contact mistertontalentshow@gmail.com and they will be invited to attend the new music studio to prepare their music.

At our meeting we were able to approve the costs for the long-awaited speed indicator device and this will be installed in the coming weeks. It should help the traffic problem a little but much more is needed. I proposed that the road working group needs to gather data from throughout the village and prioritise it as 1) safety of pedestrians 2) safety of property and 3) safety for motorists. One move that might help is the introduction of a 20mph speed limit throughout the village. Our county councillor advised that was not difficult to implement and that Crewkerne Town were considering a similar solution.

The cemetery working group had been busy. The chapel had been opened on both the first Sunday as planned and on Mothering Sunday. The next openings will be April 2nd and Easter Sunday. Those who had witnessed TV programmes on the death of our rivers will realise that the phosphate problem is real and is preventing the planned extension to the cemetery. Faced with a specialist bill of £2,000 which would not guarantee planning approval, the council voted to change the application for the extension to only interment until the

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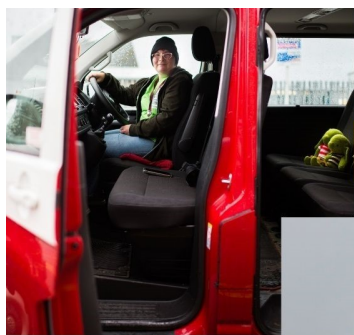
phosphate problem is solved by other initiatives. Finally, the gates have been removed and are being prepared for erection in a safer position.

The meeting agreed the purchase of an additional roving camera which would help in the identification of wrongdoing at the recreation field including drug taking and out of control and fouling dogs.

At the start of our meeting, we received a short presentation from Daniel Moncrieff from Somerset County Council (SCC) where he described the plans for the use of our school and the creation of associated foster homes. Councillors and four members of the public who were present were able to question him. This is early days, but many will want to monitor the progress and we have requested SCC to keep us fully informed with developments.

Paul Bradly
Chairman

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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along and enjoy the day!

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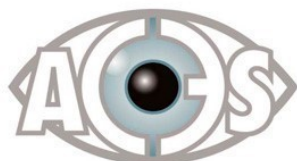


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Probus Clubs provide regular gatherings for those retired or semi-retired business or professional people who, in retirement, appreciate and value opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances and with similar interests.

Crewkerne Probus Club organises meetings for lunch on the last Wednesday of each month. These are held at the **Windwhistle Golf Club** at 12:15pm for 1:00pm. The two-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



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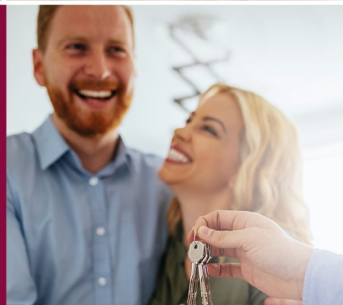
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Steve Hilson

There cannot be many people who have been in a helicopter up close to Princess Anne and the late Duke of Edinburgh. And, more humbly, to the journalist, Kate Adie. But Royal Navy Lieutenant Commander Steve Hilson has. Steve moved from Langport to Misterton's Church Lane a couple of years ago. He shares the house with his wife, Jill, two dogs and two cats. He was born in 1964 in Malvern, Worcestershire. His father was a printer, and his mother worked in schools as a domestic helper. Steve has two older sisters. He went to a junior school and then to The Chase School, a comprehensive, both in Malvern. He enjoyed running, especially cross country. He also played rugby for the school as a wing three-quarter. He still keeps himself enviably fit on a treadmill, aiming for 1,000 kilometers a year.

His first job was with Kay's mail order catalogue in Worcester, at first as a buyer's assistant, then as a buyer. He also played in the company's rugby team.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1987, gaining direct entry as a midshipman, initially signing on for eight years. After moving to Dartmouth, he then went to Culdrose in Cornwall to train as an observer, first in fixed-wing aircraft before moving on to Lynx

helicopters, sitting on the left of the pilot and being responsible for weapons and tactics. As an officer he served abroad in the Baltic, USA, Antarctica, the Mediterranean, South Africa and Diego Garcia - an island in the Indian Ocean where a British naval support facility is based. Since June 2021 he has been working at Yeovilton introducing a weapons system on Wildcat helicopters. Yeovilton is one of the Navy's two principal air bases and one of the busiest military airfields in the UK. He plans to retire next year after 37 years of service.



He met his wife in Malvern. Jill trained as a nurse in Ashford, Kent, which she still is, specializing in bowel screening at hospitals in Taunton and Yeovil. They spent their honeymoon in Jersey. They have two daughters, Emily being the elder, and Molly. Emily has two children: Arthur who is four, and Edith who was born just before last Christmas.

Steve and his wife have spent many holidays abroad, including Italy, Singapore and Greece. Their first marital home was in Weymouth, followed by Dorchester and Langport.

During his service in the Royal Navy, he played squash and golf (his father still plays golf twice a week at the age of 87). Steve used to play drums in various bands, several of them made up of schoolmates. He still has a set of electronic drums. As he says, 'It's kinder on our neighbours.' The bands concentrated on rock, blues and reggae. He has a wide variety of musical taste, enjoying bands such as Florence and the Machine and London Grammar as well as rock groups such as Rush. Indeed, his favourite record is Tom Sawyer by that Canadian rock band. In particular he admires the work of their drummer, the late Neil Peart, whose idol was Charlie Watts, the Rolling Stones' drummer who died in 2021. Steve enjoys watching TV crime series such as Vera, Line of Duty, Silent Witness and Happy Valley. He is particularly interested in books relating to history and he is currently reading an early history of England and the Anglo-Saxons. But his favourite novel is John Grisham's *The Client*. Subsequently, he has read all Grisham's books. Unsurprisingly, considering Steve's job, his choice of film is *Top Gun* and its sequel, *Top Gun Maverick*. As for football, he doesn't confess to follow any team in particular, but does admire the play of Manchester City.

Whilst still serving with the Royal Navy, Steve and family lived in Madrid between 2007 and 2008 where he completed the Spanish Staff Course. Jill meanwhile took the opportunity to gain a 'Teaching English as a Foreign Language' qualification. Their daughters attended a local school in Madrid and then the family moved south to Rota until 2010, near to their most-loved Spanish city, Seville. Steve still retains his 'competency' in Spanish. Perhaps mindful of his impending retirement from the Royal Navy, he has also completed an MBA degree from the Open University - Master of Business Administration. We wish him well for his future.

John Coquet

Letter from Anne

It is suggested to Christians in Lent to walk alongside Jesus in the wilderness as he takes time away to reflect, and to just be, and where he is tempted by the devil before he begins his ministry. Then, in the first week of April, we walk through Holy Week together, share the grief of Good Friday as Christ is crucified, and then have the wonderful joy on Easter morning when we celebrate Christ rising from the dead. In many places Christians break bread together at sunrise to celebrate that joy.

The Easter story may not seem to have much relevance in your life if you are not a practising Christian, but there is something in Jesus's time in the wilderness, which affects all of us.

If we lead our lives without pausing and reflecting, we lose the cause and effect that our actions have on others.

The food industry is a prime example of this. Many of us over the years have bought our food and other commodities based solely on price, without really reflecting on the cause and effect of what that means.

If we took time to reflect seriously on where our food comes from, we would buy local products, meat and vegetables, in season. from local producers. If our only measure for the food we eat, and the goods we buy is its cost, then should we be surprised that unscrupulous businessmen will take advantage of that?

The mess in our food industry perhaps would never have happened if we had spent more time in quiet reflection about the consequences of our actions. Indeed, I suspect we would have stronger local economies, with more employment opportunity for our youngsters, farmers still in business, and less closed shops on our high streets. So many situations we find ourselves in today have only come about because reflecting and thinking seems to have gone out of fashion, cause and effect is being lost.

I suspect we would all benefit by spending some time in the 'wilderness' just pausing to think about the cause and effect of the decisions we make.

That way we are more able to resist temptation and be ready to celebrate Easter together.

With every blessing.

Rev Anne Charlton



Misterton WI

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th April commencing at 7pm at The Globe in Misterton. Our speaker on this occasion is Christine Wallach talking on 'Growing up in a religious cult'. Ladies, you are welcome at any of our meetings as guests or prospective new members and we look forward to meeting some of you in the future.

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Misterton Tennis Club

Our recent quiz night was a huge success with seven teams competing at the Globe. Ultimate victory went to local Misterton team 'You Cannot Be Serious' captained by Wendy Johnson. Many thanks for the refreshments provided by Donna and Mark at the

Globe, to quiz master Roger Lacey, and Bob Waterhouse and Tim Bradley for organising such an enjoyable night.

The mixed winter league team had a notable victory 7-3 at home to Wincanton on Sunday March 12th. This gives the team a good chance of staying up in the highly competitive league two of the Yeovil and District leagues.

Bob Waterhouse
Chairman

Misterton Gardeners Association

Our meeting this month is on Friday 29th April at 7:30pm in the former WI hall. Our speaker is Mike Berks, the founder and Managing Director of the Sherborne Castle and Brimsmore garden centres. His subject is 'More gardening folklore'. Those who have heard Mike before know that he is a very knowledgeable, witty and entertaining speaker. So do come along and tune in to Mike for an enjoyable and fun evening.

Our flower of the month competition continues so bring along a flower from your garden. As ever new members are most welcome to join us. It is a great way to get to know others living in our village.

April is a busy month for us gardeners. With much to do in usually pleasant weather and of course longer days. Do give your shrubs and roses a feed. They have several months ahead of them, and a feed of general-purpose fertiliser will get them off to a good start. Inevitably we do get some frosts this month so if you can cover any half-hardy plants (including fruit trees) when their young buds show. Hardy annuals can be sown in pots or modules to provide colour in the garden during the summer months. And, if you have not done so, sow some tomato and courgette seeds - they will provide some great crops all summer long.

Continuing our saga about daffodils, we bought some double daffodil bulbs last November. I have always had misgivings about any flowers labelled doubles. They seem to me to be a bit unnatural - more the product of a plant breeder's enthusiasm. However, when I saw some photos of a couple of so-called butterfly daffodils, I set my prejudices aside. And sent away for a pack named Acropolis and another called Tahiti (see picture). They are late flowering and do not come out until mid or late April so we will wait and see how they do on Misterton soils. If successful I may get some more next year as they do seem rather exotic.

John Dyke
01460 77233



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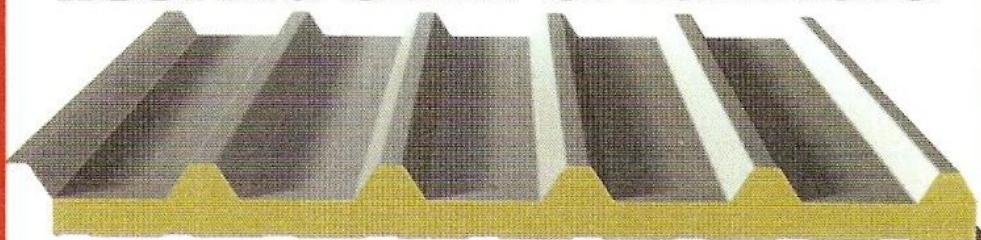
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Church services April 2023

Sunday 2nd April 2023: Palm Sunday

Haselbury: 9:30am HC-CW Rev Andrew Daynes Wayford: 9:30am HC Rev CJ Davis
Hewish: 9:30am HC Rev Bob Key St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am HC Rev CJ Davis

Sunday 9th April 2023: Easter Sunday

Haselbury: 11:00am HC-CW Rev Andrew Daynes North Perrott: 9:30am HC-CW Rev CJ Davis
Misterton: 11am HC-BCP Fr Gerry Reilly St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am HC Rev CJ Davis
Wayford: tbc Hewish: tbc

Sunday 16th April 2023

Haselbury: 11am Family service tbc Misterton: 9:30am HC-CW tbc
St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am All age Rev CJ Davis Wayford: 9:30am HC tbc

Sunday 23rd April 2023

Haselbury: 11am HC-CW tbc North Perrott: 9:30am HC-BCP tbc
St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am Rev CJ Davis

Sunday 30th April 2023

St. Bart's, Crewkerne: 11.00am Combined Service HC Rev CJ Davis

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|------------|--------------|-------|---------------|
| April 9th | Flower guild | - | Mrs B England |
| April 16th | FG to check | - | - |

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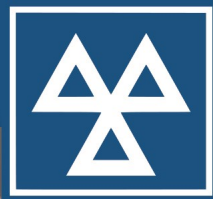
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In this month...

Events in world history that happened in April.

- 1st 1970: America bans advertisements for cigarettes
- 2nd 1982: Argentina invades the Falklands
- 4th 1949: Creation of NATO
- 6th 1896: First Olympics of the modern era take place in Athens
- 10th 1945: Buchenwald concentration camp is liberated
- 12th 1961: Yuri Gagarin becomes the first man in space
- 14th 1865: USA's President Abraham Lincoln is assassinated
- 20th 1889: Birth of Adolf Hitler in Austria
- 26th 1986: Explosion at Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine
- 28th 1789: The Mutiny on the Bounty

John Coquet

Help needed

Somerset Bus Partnership is a voluntary organisation looking to expand its work and needs some assistance with its membership and administration. Do you have a background in planning, traffic management or public transport? Or have fundraising experience and could help with submitting fundraising plans?

If you can help please email somersetbuspartnership@gmail.com.

Peter Travis

Co-Chair Somerset Bus Partnership

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Single Bus Fares

To be extended to June 2023

To find out how the Government can help you Search 'Help for Households'

Rubbish Collections in May

The King's coronation on 6th May brings an extra bank holiday Monday, and therefore some changes to collections. In a change from the norm, crews will collect on bank holiday Monday, 1st May, and on the usual scheduled days all that week. But there will be no collections on the extra bank holiday, Monday 8th May, and collections will be one day later for the rest of that week, including collections that would usually take place on Friday 12th May taking place on Saturday 13th May. Recycling sites will open weekends (9am to 4pm) and, where it's part of their normal opening pattern, on both bank holiday Mondays (1st May and 8th May), from 9am to 6pm.

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to place your order/booking.



Dates for your diary

April 2023

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chapel opened | Sunday April 2nd | 11:00am - 4:00pm | |
| WI meeting | Tuesday April 4th | 7:00pm | The Globe |
| Chapel opened | Sunday April 9th | 11:00am - 4:00pm | |
| Parish council meeting | Tuesday April 18th | 6:30pm | Village hall |
| Gardening club meeting | Friday April 29th | 7:30pm | Former WI hall |
| Coronation celebrations | Sunday May 7th | 11:00am | Village hall/recreation field |

Music in the meadow - Sunday 21st May 2pm

Refugee Support Group is holding its annual much enjoyed musical afternoon in the Secret Garden at the end of West Street in Hinton St George (marquee there if necessary). This year there is a different line-up of three groups. Ricky Romain playing sitar with accompanist, followed by folk band Toad Flax and folk duo Mitchell and Vincent. There will be stalls and a raffle. Please bring chairs and perhaps drinks and a picnic. Adults £10, children free. Please put this event in your diary. All money raised will go to refugee charities.

Many thanks for all support.

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