

Misterton

Village Magazine



October 2023



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Note from the editors

The spotlight this month falls on Bob Taylor, a relatively new addition to the village, whose story is told by John Coquet in our centre spread. And this month's atmospheric barn owl cover is by Alice Watt, who has just started the final year of her degree in illustration.

If there are any artists or photographers in the village who would like to design a front cover for us, please get in touch as we are always on the lookout for new talent!

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the November magazine is Friday 20th October.

Submissions for inclusion in the magazine 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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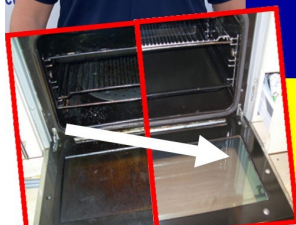
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Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team

Autumn arrived earlier this month with our first big rainfall for a few weeks. Whilst we have not been impacted as much as north Somerset the village was not totally unscathed. The good news is that the drain improvements are continuing at the bottom of Knowle Lane and the drain clearing service have been spotted in the village in mid-September. Unfortunately, as I get ready to submit this update to the magazine, there are reports of other blocked drains which we will raise with the relevant authorities.

The British Heart Foundation did a survey of some houses Misterton to check whether the members of the community know where the defibrillators are. From their brief ad-hoc survey it seems about half of those asked knew where they are. Here is a reminder. There are four of them and they are located at Sue's Café, Misterton Garage, the old phone box in Silver Street and the village hall.

The long-awaited defibrillator training is taking place on Saturday 14th October and those who have expressed an interest are being contacted.

As autumn progresses, please let us know of any issues in the village. .

Phil Clifton

MERT Contact Details

If you would like our assistance please call:

Iain Rowland 01460 78951 or 07968 232998

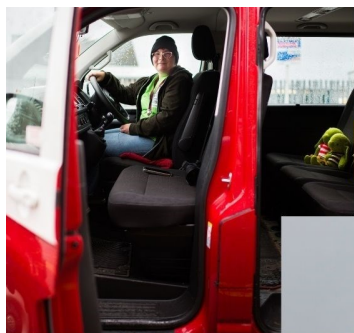
Phil Clifton and Sally Gray 01460 73815 or 07775 841204 philclifton@hotmail.com

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

Bob Taylor 01460 271658 or 07931 657312

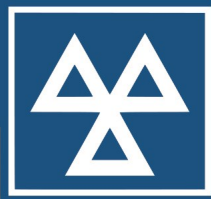
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I note, on the day of our MPC meeting (19th September), that Somerset Council vehicles are out cleaning the drains. After our recent severe storms that might seem like closing the stable door after the horse has bolted. However, as far as I am aware, unlike many to the west of us in Somerset and Devon we did not suffer floods. We owe much to MERT and some of our residents in Middle Street who frequently clear our drains. Similarly, there are some living in Middle Street who regularly keep the pavements around them clean and brushed. On behalf of us all, I thank everyone who actively helps keep our village smart. On the opposite side of the coin there are a few who serve to soil our village by not picking up after their dogs despite the fine of £1,000 and those who allow their hedges to protrude their boundary over the road and of greatest concern, over the footpath particularly where brambles are embedded. Can I ask you all to check your boundaries and take action as appropriate this winter. I would rather not have to use our legal powers to take action and present householders with the bills that they would be required to pay.

It is with great personal sadness that I must tell you all that our excellent parish clerk, Jane, has tendered her resignation so that she can pursue sporting and travel adventures with her husband. When at a similar age, twenty years ago, Diane and I made such a decision and took two months to travel around the world. I hope that Jane's plans are equally successful, but it leaves a problem for MPC. I am asking you all to search your thoughts to help us find a replacement. It is a part time job that needs a good, organised administrator, comfortable with finance and familiar with office IT. If you have ideas, please call me on 01460 76761.



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We agreed at our last meeting to hold back on new initiatives until we have a successor clerk in post. In the meantime, we have replaced the broken notice board on the junction of Silver Street and Turnpike Green and installed a board at the entrance to the cemetery to show when the chapel is open (first Sunday of the month and special days).

We have received three quotes for major hedge trimming in the recreation ground and cemetery and selected one for an early start of clearance. Our Speed Indicator Device (SID) is erected and operating but it will be some time before we understand it well enough to get the maximum benefit. Our finance working group will meet in October to consider the first six months income and expenditure. We are spending more than previously budgeted but this is offset by increase in income from VAT recovery, SID grant and coronation event. The new unitary county council has created a local community network to process work in Somerset. Top of priorities for all towns and villages was traffic levels and roads. MPC has agreed that it will work together with all others to gain a solution for our road problems with this county initiative. It is unlikely we will achieve anything by ourselves.

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.***

Footbridge

The footbridge has been replaced on Misterton CH20/13. The bridge is difficult to find and is right on the county boundary with Mosterton. The contractors have also replaced the broken stile at the roadside with a self-closing pedestrian gate.

Debbie Ebsary
Rights of Way Area Warden: South Somerset, Somerset Council
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Christmas card donations

Once again Christmas is getting ever nearer, 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 the Crewkerne Voluntary Transport. Last year I was able to give them £200 and hope that this year it might be more as they do a wonderful job. The amount will never be revealed; however, your name and greetings will appear in the December edition of the village magazine.

Donations can be handed to me at Knowle House, Knowle Lane or if easier I can collect. Please would you let me know by Monday 13th November 2023 to enable me to get the names to the magazine committee for entry in the December magazine.

My email is paulbradly3@gmail.com if you would like to send me a message to let me know that you want to take part. Many thanks.

Diane Bradly
01460 76761

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Misterton Gardeners Association

Our meeting this month is the final one of the year. It will be on Friday 27th October at 7:30pm in the village hall. Our speaker is Clive Groves from Groves Nurseries at Bridport. Some years ago, Clive went to the Himalayas in search of the flora and fauna indigenous to that area and his illustrated talk is reflective of what he found there. He calls his presentation 'Trekking in the Himalayas through a nurseryman's eyes'. Clive is a great guy, very entertaining, so do come along.

The flower of the month competition is still on. Being our last get-together of the season, the overall winner will be announced at the end of the meeting. I understand that it very be a very close contest this year so don't forget to bring you favourite flower along.

October is a beautiful month for autumnal colours and the first frost. Crisp blue sky days provide a great opportunity for tidying up the garden and preparing it for the cold weather ahead. It is the time to dig up your dahlias and cannas to protect them against frost damage and store them in a cool dark place until spring. It is also the month of the apple so pick off any remaining on the trees and put them in a frost-free place. Properly stored some apples will keep until April. National Apple Day is on October 21st, a Saturday this year, and if things follow their past pattern Jonathan Hoskins will have many varieties on display in his farm shop at North Perrott on or around that day.

During the summer months many people have admired the roses in our driveway and inevitably I have asked them which they prefer. Many have picked the yellow rose pictured here. It is called Simply the Best and was the RHS Rose of the Year in 2002. When it first comes out it reminds me of Tina Turner's song of the same name, and I am always tempted to play Tina's rendition on You Tube. I know she is singing about a person, but I am sure it could equally apply about a simply beautiful rose.



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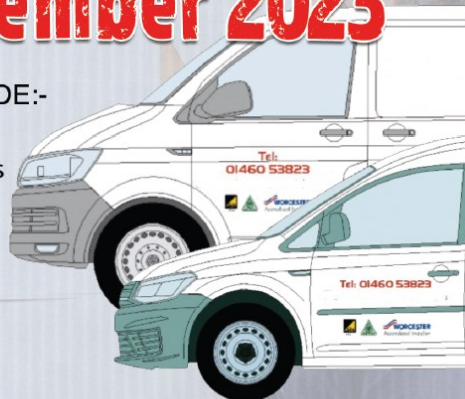
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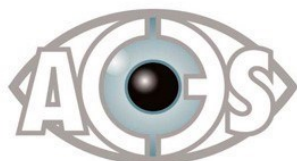


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Bob Taylor

Bob and his wife, Alyson, are among the very few villagers who were born and bred in London. Since last year, they have lived in Dry Close at the bottom of Newbery Lane. The house was built in the 1600s and is listed Grade II. Why Somerset? As Bob says, 'I've always been a country boy at heart.'

Bob was born in 1947 at Wandsworth. He has two younger brothers, David and Michael, who live in Norfolk and Sussex respectively. Bob and Alyson, who were married in 1976, have two children: Ben and Amy. The photo on the opposite page features Bob and his daughter on her wedding day in Ibiza last October. There are four grandchildren: Alfie, Sienna, Lily, and Penelope.

Bob went to Sheringham school, and then to Wandsworth Comprehensive, which he left just short of his 15th birthday.

His father, affectionally known as Punch, had been a professional boxer before the Second World War. Old habits evidently die hard. In a pub on Wandsworth High Street, he once knocked out Frankie Huff because he had tried to steal Punch's pint. Huff had fought for the British middle-weight title and weighed in at over fourteen stone, whereas Punch weighed a mere ten stone.

Bob's father, who had never been further than Southend, was shipped off to North Africa at the start of the Second World War's hostilities and served there before sailing to Italy where he fought at the battle of Monte Cassino. He never went abroad again, even in peacetime. Whenever he was asked why the family used to stay in Margate for their holidays, rather than going to France or Spain, he said, 'I saw enough of Europe during the war.' And Punch's brother, Jim, had been one of the last members of the British Expeditionary Force to be evacuated from Dunkirk. The nearest the family ever came to the European mainland was when they went to the Isle of Wight. Bob's mother spent the war in an armaments factory making bullets. After the war was over, they all lived in an asbestos prefab, one of eight, on what had been a wartime bomb site.

At school, Bob took part in fives, rugby, and fencing. While there, he was taken with his classmates on a skiing trip to Austria, the first time he had travelled abroad.

His first job was at Victoria, working for the Godfrey Davis company, stripping down cars for the panel-beaters at £5 a week. Having passed his driving test, Bob was given an apprenticeship with Jack Barclay's, the Rolls Royce dealership, in its Battersea body-shop. In 1967, with two friends, he drove in his Ford Cortina across France, over the Swiss alps, through Italy and into Yugoslavia, a round trip of nearly 3,000 miles.

By now, he had met Wendy, his first wife, and married her in 1969. They spent their



honeymoon in Marbella, which was the first time he had been in an aircraft, and the couple moved to a new house at Biggin Hill in Kent. Sadly, the marriage lasted only two years. He moved to the family caravan, bought some years earlier with the spoils from a substantial betting coup, and found a job doing panel-beating in Chichester, Sussex. At 43 years of age, he re-trained as a four-colour planner in the print trade, though the advent of Apple Mac caused him to be made redundant. He then started his own architectural paint-spraying company, which he managed till his retirement at 65.

He met his second wife, Alyson, in 1975. She had taken a typing job at the Royal Courts of Justice, working her way up to becoming the PA to the Deputy Official

Solicitor. They were married at the same Croydon Registry Office where he had married his first wife, Wendy. He and Alyson honeymooned in an apartment in the south of France. The newlyweds moved to a cottage on the edge of Tonbridge Wells, Bob having found a job with a transport company.

He has always been a devout supporter of Fulham football club, and turned out for the local village team, ending up as their captain. He ran Tonbridge Wells Veterans football league as well as his own team, Frant Veterans.

The last book Bob enjoyed reading was 'Still Life' by Sarah Winman, possibly redolent of his father's experiences in war-torn Italy. His favourite film is 'The Commitments' and, on TV, 'Breaking Bad.' As for music, he favours the 1985 record 'Why Worry?' by Dire Straits, and the Small Faces' 1966 hit 'All or Nothing.' Now, though, he spends a lot of his time on his new home and its extensive plot of land. He is also a member of MERT, the Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team. Where do he and Alyson spend their holidays? 'Any Greek island will do for us,' he says.

True Londoners would describe Bob as a real diamond geezer. Rightly so, as he and Alyson have made themselves very welcome in our village.

John Coquet

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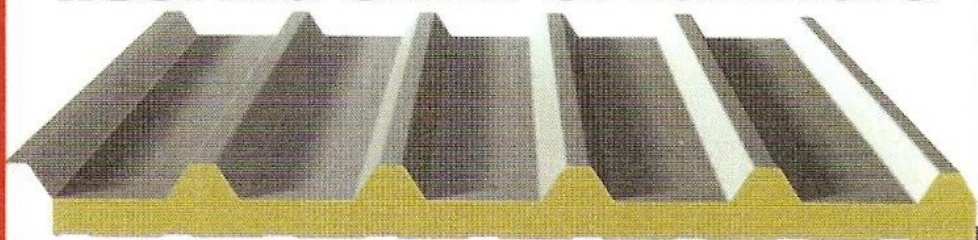


Misterton first team are off to a solid start in their 2023/24 PSDL Premier campaign. Seven points have been picked up from four games, including a comprehensive win against long-time rivals South Petherton. This leaves them lying in second place in the league currently, looking to kick on over the next few weeks and add vital points to their tally. Special mention to Kieran Adams who has started the campaign with an impressive six goals in four games. Over the next two weeks they travel to Chard to start their coronation cup campaign, followed by a tricky away tie to Barrington.

Misterton reserves have had a really good start to the season after losing the first two games and then winning the next three. They have showed some real determination by coming back from goals down against both Dowlish and Netherbury as well as a George Hallett hatrick against West & Middle Chinnock. This has left them in a healthy fourth place position and hoping to pick up further points against Pymore, Donyatt and Forton Rangers Reserves in the coming weeks.

Rob Doble
Manager

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Changes in the Benefice

I wanted to let you know about a very helpful plan leading to some rearrangements in our benefice. In response to the Deanery Deployment Plan, a pastoral reorganisation of the Benefices of Wulfric and Merriott with Hinton St George, Dinnington and Lopen will take place at the beginning of Advent 2023. This will involve the parishes of Haselbury Plucknett and North Perrott moving from the Wulfric Benefice to that of Merriott with Hinton St George, Dinnington and Lopen. From that point, these two villages will be under the oversight of Revds Julia and Bob Hicks, with day-to-day ministry carried out by a local ministry team comprising Reader Ian Stobart, Revd Andrew Daynes and Revd Canon Ian Gibson as well as continuing to receive the support of other ministers. This change in practice will be followed by the necessary legal changes, and during this time both sets of incumbents are committed to working closely together to enable ministry to flourish in these villages. There will be an opportunity to mark this change more formally later but at this time of transition, please do hold the new local ministry team and the villages of Haselbury Plucknett and North Perrott in your prayers.

I am very grateful for those who have arranged this. My prayer is that this will lead to God-given growth in Haselbury Plucknett and North Perrott as well as in Crewkerne, Hewish, Wayford and of course Misterton. Please pray for that and please contact me with any questions.

With very best wishes

CJ Davis



Crewkerne Proboscis Club

Proboscis 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 Proboscis 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.

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Church services October 2023

Sunday 1st October 2023

Haselbury: 9:30am HC CW Rev CJ Davis

Wayford: 9:30am HC Fr G Reilly

Hewish: 9:30am HC Rev D Newman

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am HC Rev CJ Davis + tbc

Sunday 8th October 2023

Haselbury: 9:30am HC BCP Rev A Daynes

North Perrott: 9:30am HC CW Rev D Newman

Misterton: 11am HC CW Rev A Daynes

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am Rev CJ Davis + tbc

Sunday 15th October 2023

Misterton: 9:30am HC CW Rev D Newman

Wayford: 9:30am HC Rev CJ Davis

Haselbury: 11am Family Rev A Daynes

Hewish: 11am HC Fr Gerry Reilly

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am HC CJ Davis + tbc

Sunday 22nd October 2023

North Perrott: 9:30am HC BCP CJ Davis

Haselbury: 11am HC CW Rev A Daynes

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am All age Rev CJ Davis

Sunday 29th October 2023

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11am Combined service

	Flowers	Brass	Cleaning
8th October	Flower guild	-	Mrs C Walker
<i>The Flower Guild will decorate the church for a harvest celebration.</i>			
15th October	FG to check	-	-

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In this month...

Events in world history that happened in October.

- 1st 1908: Henry Ford's Model T car went on sale for the first time
- 4th 1957: Russia launches Sputnik, the first satellite sent into orbit
- 6th 1927: The first screening of a spoken-dialogue film, The Jazz Singer
- 9th 1940: Birth of John Lennon
- 11th 1899: The Boer War starts in South Africa
- 12th 1492: Columbus makes his first landfall (The Bahamas) in the New World
- 13th 54: Roman Emperor Claudius is poisoned by his wife, Empress Agrippina
- 15th 1815: Napoleon is exiled to the island of St Helena
- 23rd 1956: Hungarian uprising against Communist rule
- 25th 1854: The Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava

John Coquet

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WI meeting - 103rd celebration	Tuesday 3rd October	7:00pm	The Globe
Parish council meeting	Tuesday 17th October	6:30pm	Village hall
Village hall AGM	Thursday 19th October	7:15pm	Village hall
Gardeners association meeting	Friday 27th October	7:30pm	Village hall



Misterton WI - celebrating 103rd birthday

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd October at The Globe in Misterton at 7:00pm when we are pleased to be celebrating our 103rd birthday. Due to a change of plan for our September meeting, when we had a very enjoyable 'indoors' picnic, our speaker this month is Jan McNeill and the title of her talk 'How a Sassenach became a whisky distillery guide' which promises to be very entertaining. 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. There will be birthday cake!

Susan May
01460 73934



We have had our courts repainted in September. They are now in perfect condition and ready to use. Some of our club competitions have had to be postponed unfortunately but can now be rearranged. These courts are available for all residents who are potential members. If you fancy a hit, please contact either me on 07967 535117 or our secretary Tim Bradley on 07702 242000. We have club sessions on Sunday 10am-12 and Monday 6:30pm-9:30pm. We also have child and adult coaching on Wednesdays.

Bob Waterhouse
Chairman

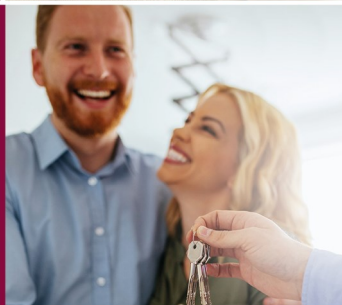
Royal British Legion

The Crewkerne Branch of the RBL has recently changed its status and standard to formally become The Crewkerne and District Branch. This is significant for our village and other surrounding villages because it recognises that many ex-service personnel are resident in the villages surrounding Crewkerne. Currently I have accepted the role of first contact for RBL in Misterton and will happily answer or action any queries or requests concerning the workings of our local RBL.

Paul Bradly (Gp Capt RAF Retd)



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