

Misterton Village Magazine



October 2024



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Note from the editors

If you are wondering what the mystery front cover photo is this month, look no further than page 16 where all will be revealed by Barry Wills, who produced a very entertaining read about his mid-life crisis!

This month's parish council article provoked some discussion and we realised that there are various unsung heroes in the village that deserve our thanks. Many residents provide services to the village, completely free of charge, that most people are probably unaware of. From the upkeep of the cemetery, chapel and church to consolidating bins in order to minimise charges to residents from Somerset Council, many things we take for granted or don't even know about are done without fuss by altruistic locals. So if you are one of those generous individuals, we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you very much for all you do for the village.

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the November magazine is Friday 18th October.

Submissions for inclusion in the magazine 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

Misterton Village Magazine is now also online!

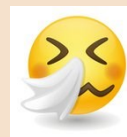
<https://mistertonparishcouncil.org.uk/village-information/village-magazine/>



John's odd facts #84

Sneezing when driving at 60mph means your eyes are closed for about 50 feet.

John Coquet



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News from the Parish Council and Recreation Field Trust



Dear residents

The new school has now opened, and I would like to start by welcoming staff and pupils to Misterton. The village hopes that this new venture goes well for the school and the residents, and that people can respect different needs and priorities. Car parking, particularly outside the school and along the top end of Silver Street, is already causing problems, particularly as the roadworks in Crewkerne are completed and the large volume of traffic passing through the village is back to normal. It was agreed with Somerset Council that the school (staff and visitors) would use alternative parking areas in the village, and it is hoped that this agreement will be adhered to.

On the subject of roads, the parish council continually endeavours to ensure that Somerset Council fulfil their statutory highway duties. These include maintaining gullies, verges, hedges, grass cutting and gritting. But there are always things that need attention so please report them, preferably online at www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road/ or let the clerk know.

We have heard that from April 2025 Somerset Council are planning on introducing charges to empty the 16 rubbish and dog bins around the village. The parish council will do their best to keep these charges to a minimum so that the annual precept does not have to be increased by a large amount but it may mean there are changes to bin locations.

In the meantime, the resilience team, as part of the parish council, are organising an autumn litter pick to tidy Misterton before the winter. Residents (and friends and visitors) are invited to meet at Sunnyside (opposite the school) at 10am on Saturday 2nd November where gloves, litter pickers and rubbish sacks will all be provided. MRT will give a short brief as part of the required risk assessment. If you are willing to help improve the village, please come along and join us then.

And finally, I am delighted to report that Cllr Paul Bradly has been awarded a well-deserved Somerset Council Chairman's Award for Services to the Community.

Graham White
Chairman

Misterton Resilience Team contact details

If you would like our assistance please call:

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

Bruce Martins 07770 744531

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In an emergency the first line of support should be via the Emergency Services on 999.

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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Christmas cards

I cannot believe that we are even thinking about Christmas, but I am sure there are cards in the shops already. Instead of sending Christmas cards to local friends would you like donate a sum of money instead and the final amount 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.

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 Monday 11th November to enable me to get the names to the magazine committee for entry in the December magazine.

Diane Bradly
01460 76761

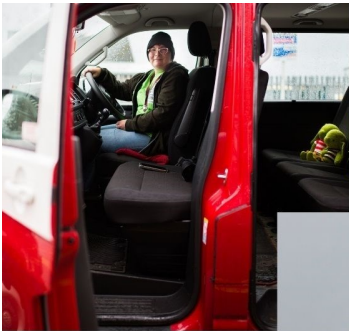
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Crewkerne Probus Club

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 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

At last month's meeting, our ladies were treated to a very in-depth, informative yet amusing talk by Alison Baker of Mind in Somerset. We were also joined by new member Jeanine Erskine, who we warmly welcome to Misterton WI.

We held our September coffee morning at Mallabones last month, where our ladies enjoyed delicious scones thanks to Zoey. A collection for breast cancer care was made.

So, ladies, here is a taste of what we have planned for future months:

Our birthday meeting is Tuesday 1st October at The Globe in Misterton, when Tony Foot of the Owlsley Trust will give a short talk on how the organisation helps individuals locally. We plan a fun quiz on this evening too, and yes, there will be birthday cake! Please join us.

We have an afternoon tea at the Shrubbery in Ilminster on 10th October to formally celebrate Misterton WIs 104th birthday, and an outing to the Swisstulle factory in Chard on 24th October. And skittles on 17th October and 20th November. We are always looking for ladies to join our skittles team, when match evenings end with a light supper.

President Judy has asked us to start collecting for the annual shoebox appeal. These will then be taken to the WI AGM later in October.

Future speakers include Rob Rainbow from Purple Fields Productions and of course our Christmas social. So all in all, a busy few months ahead.

The next coffee morning will be at Lynnbrook, Newbury Lane on Tuesday October 15th from 10:30am to 12pm. A collection for The Royal British Legion will be made for the poppy appeal.

Finally, Anne Taylor, a past member of many years standing recently passed away. She kindly bequeathed her vast collection of fabric, wool and much more to our WI. Items made from the supplies and all remaining supplies will be donated to Ferne Animal Sanctuary, as was her wish. Thank you, Anne.

Please phone Judy on 01460 78831 or Jan on 01460 77598 for more details.

The committee



Alison at our September meeting

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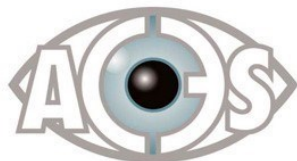


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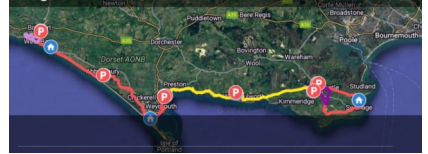
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Making blisters for charity

2024 has been the year where my mid-life crisis has really kicked in. For no apparent reason the normal challenges of life have no longer been enough for me. I was looking for something else which would give me a reason to get fitter again. Little did I know that the motivation was going to be my cousin being diagnosed with myeloma, a form of blood cancer.

I wanted to do something for her. So, the challenge was on. I can't cook so a bake sale wasn't the answer. I was too late for dry January and too early for Movember so it was down to my love of hiking and running. When I found the Jurassic Coast 100 Kilometre Ultra Marathon, I knew that was going to be it. All was set for 18th May. At this stage, I wanted to raise money for an animal charity too, so I eventually set up JustGiving pages for Myeloma UK and Blue Cross charities.

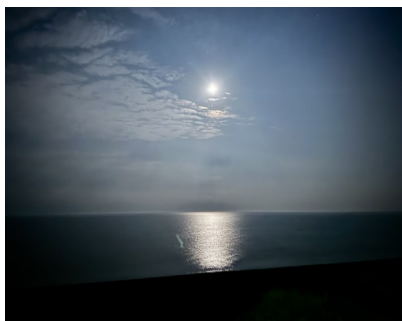


The training started locally with the many walks and trails that there are around Misterton. However, I quickly progressed to hikes and runs further afield along the south coast. During some of the hikes I became determined to not just walk it, but to do it as quickly as I could. For a 30-mile hike from Torquay to Exmouth I set myself the target of reaching the same fitness standard as the Royal Marines (I work with a couple of ex-marines). Anything the Royal Marines can do, an old boy approaching 50, with metal pins in his leg, can do too! Like them, I had to do the 30 miles in under eight hours... and I did.

I found I really enjoyed the training. Among others in the south west, I went for treks along the Granite Trail, Camel Trail and, for a complete change of scenery, I trekked over the Seven Sisters and Beachy Head in Sussex. We really have some amazing walks in the south of the UK. The training culminated in a 45-mile route from West Bay to Exmouth, leaving me just 17 miles short of the target distance.

I thought I was well prepared and felt ready to do the whole thing (in less than 24 hours). With hundreds of participants at the Corfe Castle start point, little did we know how punishing that very familiar coast path to Bridport was going to be. Rain the previous day had left the ground sodden and the going was extremely wet. Most difficult was walking on the shingle beaches, the hills and walking with wet feet, never a pleasant experience. Nonetheless, there were well spaced refreshment stops along the route and the amazing





local coastline views helped to keep my spirits up. It was near the halfway point my morale was lifted as some family and friends joined me to do a bit of the route. As the daylight finally vanished, the remaining part of the walk went well, and I found I really enjoyed walking in the dark. I finally crossed the finish line early on Sunday morning, with only a few blisters for company and I had completed the 62 miles in less than 20 hours. I was happy that I had raised over £1,300 for Myeloma UK and over £800 for Blue Cross. It was a

few days later, once the skin had grown back on my feet, that I realised I had caught the 'ultra' bug and would be doing more of this madness.



A chance conversation with a mate, John, in Packers Way, led me to my next challenge event - The 24 Hour, National Three Peaks (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon). We completed it in 19 hours and 33 minutes on 20th July. We were made up when we were told that less than 40% manage the challenge in less than 24 hours. More importantly, our team of five have so far raised over £1,500 for Bliss, a charity for sick and premature babies. We think our driver only got one speeding fine too!

Although I did the events, it is my friends, family, neighbours and their friends who have donated the money to these charities. Thank you all, for whatever you donated to any of the charities concerned, it really wouldn't mean as much to me without your generosity.

What's next - June 2025 - 'The Wall' 70 mile Ultra Marathon: Carlisle Castle to Newcastle upon Tyne following Hadrian's Wall. Blister plasters already bulk bought.

Barry Wills





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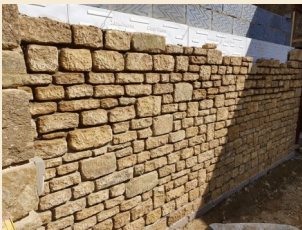
Friday 25th October sees our final meeting of the year. It begins at 7:30pm in the village hall. Our speaker is a famous orchid specialist Howard Burnett, and his illustrated talk is entitled 'All about orchids'. Howard invites members to bring along their own orchids if they wish, especially orchids needing a bit of help. He is happy to advise on remedies.

Our flower of the month comes to an end this month. I understand that things are very close, so bring along your favourite. The overall winner will get free membership of the gardening club next year.

I always think of October as a clearing up month. By this I mean clearing up old crops so that they cannot harbour pests throughout the winter. As you tidy up French and runner beans pick and store those which are past eating quality but contain seeds for next year. Clear out your greenhouse (if you have one) and wash the glass - again you do not want to store unwelcome bugs which can do damage in early spring. Of course, this is a good month to plant drifts of spring bulbs like daffodils, crocuses and fritillaries.

October is the month when Somerset apples are at their very best. Indeed, Monday October 21st has been declared National Apple Day. In Somerset apples ripen a week or so earlier, so the apple tasting event at North Perrott Fruit Farm takes place on the weekend of 12th and 13th October. Do go along and taste a whole array of apples (and buy some if you wish). This is a very useful occasion if you intend planting an apple tree in your garden over the winter months. People often ask me for my favourite. It is very much a personal thing but eventually I think I would opt for Fiesta (or Red Pippin as it is sometimes called). Fiesta (see photo) is a close relative of Cox's Orange Pippin but is easier to grow and has a crisp juicy flavour.

John Dyke
01460 77233



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John Dyke

Editors note: John's 'did you know' seems highly appropriate this month given Barry's article about his long distance hikes!

*Reproduced from Years beyond Memory by Edward J King,
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A view from Bale's towards North Perrott across the western part of Misterton

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Wear it pink

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**Misterton
Tennis
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On Sunday September 29th September at 2pm we are holding an introduction to pickleball event. The event will be open to all, and I would strongly encourage all villagers, and their children, to learn about this fast-growing game. The event will be hosted by two experienced pickleball players, and members of Misterton Tennis Club, Roger Lacey and Nick Watt. The event will be followed by the official 'switch on' of our new lighting system. The lights are lower and should create far less light pollution than their predecessors. They will be switched on by our president and well known Misterton resident Chris Ellis. The lights were installed partly with the help of club members who, through their labours, have saved the club thousands of pounds, and this is unlikely to have happened at other tennis clubs. A big thank you goes out to Peter Smith and Graham White in particular.

We are currently in the middle of our club tournament season with the ladies' doubles being won by Shiona Meikle and Catherine Carins and the men's doubles by Roger Lacey and Nick Watt.

We are very pleased to announce the appointment of new adult coach Luke Andrews who has already provided two coaching sessions to members. We are also intending to encourage local people who used to play tennis to return to the game through attending 'Rusty Racquets' sessions.

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Letter

"...God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment" - 1 Timothy 6:17

A great Bible verse for harvest time!

Thankfully the New Testament is against asceticism, that quite common idea which says that we are more spiritual if we cut out the enjoyment of creation – marriage, possessions etc... and food!

Not so says the Apostle Paul. God created these things richly for us to enjoy. So...

Gratitude for them – certainly. Generosity with them – certainly. Worshipping the Creator not creation – certainly. But enjoying them – definitely!

Have a happy – and very enjoyable Somerset harvest time!

With prayers and warm best wishes

CJ Davis

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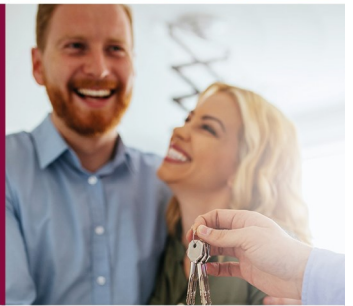
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