

Misterton Village Magazine



January 2025



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Note from the editors

And here we are at the start of another new year! For those who like a quiz at this time of year, we have a head-scratcher on page 13 with a prize on offer if you can solve it. If you'd rather be entertained in a less puzzling manner, our feature this month is the story of our parish clerk and her husband's adventures driving pickups to provide aid in Ukraine.

Happy new year!

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the February magazine is Tuesday 21st January.

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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News from the Parish Council and Recreation Field Trust



Dear residents

In my last message I promised to write to Adam Dance MP, the CEO of Somerset Council, and the Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner listing the worries of the village about Misterton Learning Centre and the home in Unity Lane. We received an acknowledgement from our MP and a detailed response from Somerset Council but most helpful has been a police constable from Crewkerne Police Station who we have been liaising with. He and a colleague attended the December Parish Council meeting and gave a very helpful insight into the situation from a police point of view. At the moment they do not consider either the school or the home to be a problem or drain on their resources and following discussions with the school they currently believe that everything is in order. They went on to say that the crime figures for Misterton are very low, but this could be because things are not being reported. If residents are concerned or witness something they must report it to the police. This can be done by calling 999 (in an emergency) or 101 or by completing an online form www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/contact. All reports are registered and recorded on a database. It is this database which will show a change and if the number of reports increases then things will be looked at and, if necessary, more resources allocated. Residents are encouraged to follow this advice and, if possible, inform the clerk so that a record of reported incidents can be kept.

At the December parish council meeting we finalised the budget and precept for 2025/26. There will be a small increase (the first time in three years) with each household seeing a 6.16% increase. For a Band D property this means an increase of £3.72 per annum (£60.38 to £64.10). The amounts for all bands of properties are available on request from the clerk.

The latest improvement to the village is the repositioning of the gates and a new memorial bench in the cemetery. Work has also started to improve the area immediately around the chapel.

The parish council would ask all residents to be vigilant and considerate of water on the roads during this prolonged spell of wet and windy weather. In particular please looking out for blocked drains or surface water and when encountered drive slowly to help keep the wash down and making the flooding worse.

There will be no parish council meeting in January - the next one is scheduled for Tuesday 18th February 2025 at 6:30pm in the village hall (back room). And finally another date for your diaries is the Annual Village Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 29th April at 6pm at Mallabones.

Happy New Year

Graham White
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.*

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

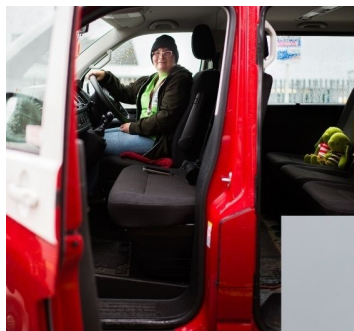
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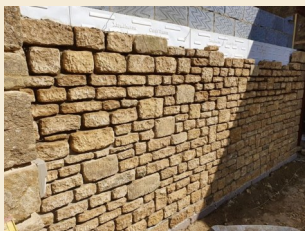
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Our group carol concert and the Wells concert were enjoyed very much by those ladies attending. On 3rd December we held our Christmas meeting and this took the form of a Call My Bluff evening which turned out to be very entertaining. We welcomed several guests and members' partners, who all commented on the friendliness of the group. The panel of guests turned out to be very competent liars, as only two teams scored one correct guess each! We had a tie break to determine the winning team, who were given small gifts. During the evening, we all enjoyed mulled wine and a buffet, Christmas cake, and mince pies.

So to 2025 and the first of our speakers on 7th January, the first meeting of the new year. We have Jamie Lewis joining us to speak about Somerset Independent Living, And we will resume our skittles matches too - remember we are always looking for members to join our team.

So ladies give us a try! For any further information please contact Judy on 01460 78931 or Jan on 01460 77599 jancd136@hotmail.com.

The committee

Some photos of our Christmas Call My Bluff evening



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New Year Quiz

Answers can be submitted to the magazine email address or dropped into the letterbox at Broughtons at the bottom of Broughtons Drive by the closing date of 20th January 2025. The prize is £25 and if nobody scores 15 points, the highest score will win. In the event of multiple correct entries, the winner's name will be picked out of a hat so don't forget to include your contact details. The answers and winner's name will be published in the February magazine. Good luck!

- 1) 42 T in a DM
- 2) 15 P in a RUT
- 3) 102 F in the ESB
- 4) 90 D in a RA
- 5) 220 Y in a F
- 6) 8 L on a S
- 7) 4 L in TS



Bonus two-point question:

- 8) 15 R on a ST
- 9) 6 Z in a M
- 10) 206 B in the HB
- 11) 66 B in the B
- 12) 30 J in the GN
- 13) 9 R in C



- 14) 826 = P of M in 2011 according to W



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Our Ukrainian adventures with Pickups for Peace

In June and November 2024, we were asked if we could drive vehicles to Ukraine for the Scottish charity P4P - www.pickupsforpeace.co.uk - as part of the monthly convoy. Since its inception in 2023 the charity has dedicated itself to supplying four-wheel drive vehicles and urgently needed aid to the people of Ukraine. The 17 convoys that have happened so far have delivered 525 vehicles, each of which is estimated to save between eight and ten lives.

Our first adventure began when we collected a venerable Mitsubishi Shogun, which had a modest 188,000 miles on the clock and, after the usual faff with insurance and all that malarkey (who knew that all our insurances would be invalid in Ukraine?), we set off on what would be a very special and memorable five-day adventure. We drove about 1,400 miles across Europe, stopping with kind friends in Kent and then overnight stays near Koln, Wroclaw (which is lovely and strongly recommended) and, finally, Lviv, another beautiful city, laden with the most complicated history and threatened once again.



Our destination approaches

The second trip (in an even more battered Hilux) was very similar, but we followed a slightly different route enabling us to stop in Amiens and Dresden before joining our fellow drivers at Wrocław. A sobering journey through the battlefields of World War I and II, heading towards another battlefield.



Each time we stayed in Lviv for 36 hours. We were wonderfully looked after and were struck by the kindness of our Ukrainian hosts who were genuinely grateful for the vehicles, which were despatched immediately to the front lines for service as ambulances and supply vehicles, for the aid in the vehicles and for the visible and constant support from Britain, which has been steadfast throughout.

The war is everywhere: air raid warnings (including one while we were there) military vehicles and uniforms, church services and funerals, the constant throb of petrol generators

- reminders that these innocent people face an existential threat that is utterly alien to us lucky island dwellers. The brave Ukrainians are fighting a war so that we don't have to.



Too soon we were back in Poland and on our way home. Each time we were immensely moved by the experience and, if needed, will return again. In the meantime, thanks to our very generous supporters, we have, so far, raised over £10,000 which will be used to buy two more vehicles.

If anybody would like to learn more about Pickups for Peace, make a donation or are inspired to help deliver a vehicle please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Slava Ukraini! Heroyam Slava!

Jane and Philip Thicknesse



Letter

Down ... into the pitch black, cold, freezing water, down into the mud and slime, then up again, ... lungs almost bursting, back again to the green and warm and sunlit water, and then at last out into the sunshine, holding in his hand the dripping thing he went down to get".

In his essay, "The Grand Miracle", CS Lewis pictures Christ as this great diver who has come down to rescue us. After the Christmas cheer and into a new year - don't our lives and world still so often need hoicking out of the mud? The good news? "*For unto you **was born that day** in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord"*

Warmest wishes and prayers for 2025

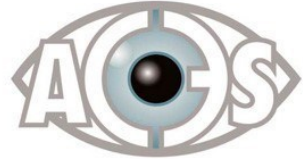
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In spite of the weather, we have managed to play four out of the five scheduled Yeovil & District Winter League matches, gaining a win and a draw, totalling 15 points. We welcomed Matt Farrington to the team. A break over the festive period will see the league resume in the new year.

Thank you to those who attended and/or supported our fundraising bingo event in Misterton Village Hall just before Christmas. We had a generous raffle and fun prize bags to give out and the community came together to enjoy this annual event.



Players Catherine Carins, Paudie O'Hagan, Shiona Meikle and Graham White

If you are thinking of taking up a new sport, or want to come back to tennis, we would love to see you. Check out our website <https://www.mistertontennis.co.uk/> for our very reasonable membership charges and make 2025 the year you come and have fun, get fit and make new friends.

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Misterton village hall

A very happy new year to you all and we hope that you have had a wonderful break.

You may recall from the December article that the bingo season was in full swing; the event on 2nd December aimed to raise funds for the hall and we are pleased to report that the evening raised £1,350! This is a fantastic sum, and our thanks go to all who supported the night, in particular to Joan and Claire for organising it so brilliantly.

Now onto 2025 - the redecoration of the main hall itself commences on 6th January and is scheduled to take two weeks to complete. Just a reminder that the hall will be shut completely during the first week (6th-10th January) and from 13th-17th January it will be available for evening use only. Normal service will be resumed from Saturday 18th January (please note the craft fair booking for 12th January will not be affected). We apologise in advance for any inconvenience, but this work is long overdue, and we are looking forward to the results.

Our next project is the kitchen refurbishment and improvements to the toilet facilities. The committee is busy gathering quotes for this and work is expected to commence in late February/early March. Again, watch this space for the impact to our users whilst this essential work is carried out.

From a village hall fund raising perspective, the next date for your diaries is Friday 14th February when the hall will be hosting a Disco Night. Tickets are still available at Mallabones for this event, and we are extremely grateful to Hannah Palmer for organising the evening. If you would like further information on what promises to be a fantastic night, please contact Hannah via our secretary Sue Kennedy on 01460 72660.

Planning is also underway for the Misterton Village Hall's 50th Anniversary Fete, which will take place on Saturday 19th July. Our logo for the event is at the top of this article and we are extremely grateful to Alice Watt from Church Lane for taking the time to design this for us. We already have a handful of volunteers for the event but could always do with more help - if you would like to offer assistance in any way, we would love to hear from you; please contact our secretary Sue Kennedy on the number above to register your interest.



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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.

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Christmas arrangements

Following our piece in last month's magazine, we are pleased to say that we have made and sold at least eleven door hangings, seven table centres and six memorial arrangements, raising over £200 for Flower Guild funds. Thank you to everyone who placed orders and hope you enjoyed your arrangements. Happy new year.

Sue Coquet, Christine Perrin & Cheryl Newman



Mallabones

All of us at Mallabones would like to wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year! Thank you for your support in 2024 and we hope you continue to enjoy our wonderful food and events throughout 2025! We had an exciting first year, welcoming some amazing bands on our music nights, and testing your knowledge on an array of subjects in our quizzes (with more than a hint of David Bowie trivia of course!). The book club has flourished, and we have enjoyed the sense of community and fellowship that the space has fostered. We have more plans for 2025 so do follow us on Instagram or pop in regularly to stay updated on all our events.

We are so grateful to the many of you who are regulars throughout the week, and to Zoey and Mica for the amazing food... especially the cakes! We will reopen after our Christmas break on 2nd January so do come in and see what new weekly savoury and sweet specials Zoey and Mica can tempt you with.

Clare and Nick will be hosting our first quiz of the year on Saturday 11th January, so come and dust off the tinsel and get those little grey cells firing with some fiendish questions! Tickets will go on sale from the 2nd, so book your tables early to avoid disappointment.

We have loved hosting various private events over the last year, so do please get in touch if you have an event we can help you with, all personalised to your needs and budget. Just pop into the hall, or email us on mallabonesmisterton@gmail.com.

Please spread the word to your friends and neighbours who may not have visited us yet, and we look forward to seeing you all very soon!

Christmas cards

Many thanks to all the villagers who participated in the Christmas card scheme. Everyone was very generous, and we were able to give £225 to the Friends of Crewkerne Station. They do a marvellous job in keeping the station looking clean and tidy and there are always tubs of flowers to brighten up the station.

Diane Bradley

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Dates for your diary

January 2025

WI meeting	Tuesday 7th January	7pm	The Globe
Quiz night	Saturday 11th January		Mallabones
70s disco	Friday 14th February	7pm	Village hall
Parish council meeting	Tuesday 18th February	6:30pm	Village hall
Annual village meeting	Tuesday 29th April	6pm	Mallabones

Church Services January 2025

Crewkerne Benefice					Merriott Benefice	
Rector: Rev C J Davis 07707 719137 cj@stbartscrewkerne.org						
Date	Misterton	Wayford	Hewish	St Bart's	North Perrott	Haselbury
Sun 5th		9:30am HC tbc	9:30am HC tbc	11am HC CJ	9am HC CW	10:30am HC CW
Sun 12th	11am HC tbc			8am HC 11am Morn P		10:30am HC BCP
Sun 19th		9:30am HC tbc	11am HC tbc	8am HC 11am Morn P	9am HC BCP	10:30am Family S
Sun 26th	9:30am HC tbc			11am HC CJ		10:30am All Age Service

CJ = Rev C J Davis BK = Very Rev Bob Key DN = Rev David Newman HC = Holy Communion

	Flowers	Brass	Cleaning
Sunday 12th January	Mrs J Nicholls	-	Mrs K White
Sunday 26th January	JN to check	-	-

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