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St Peter's Church

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As most of you know our Church is currently undergoing repairs. Work has now started on the North walls and will take some time. Lime plaster is being put on the walls and can take two weeks between coats. As ever, when the floor was taken up and the pews taken out (in order to start work on the wall) more damage was found than originally thought. We are currently applying for more grants to cover the shortfall.

So for now, the Church remains closed but we are going to hold services outside in the Churchyard, weather permitting, and details of these services can be found in the Church and Bradleys notice boards.

Check Your Outbuildings

Avid readers of the *Messenger* may remember the report that outbuildings in Ilton had been burgled. Although the note has appeared before it is obviously just as valid as ever. So please be extra vigilant even though the night-time hours - and opportunities for criminal activities - are reducing for another few weeks. So if you see, or suspect, anything please report it to the police.

Merryfield Hall 100 Club

The 100 Club is a monthly draw with a chance to win £20, £15, £10 or £5. Its subscriptions of £12 yearly are due in March and these go towards funds and events for Merryfield Hall. This year's 100 Club draws started in April.

If you would like to continue or join the group you can either pay by cheque, cash or Standing Order. For further details telephone Marie 55601 or Jemma 55294.

We look forward to hearing from you.

April's draw:

1st No.15 Thomas King
2nd No.28 Sarah Stoodley
3rd No.32 Jeanette Bere
4th No.79 Jacqueline & Mark Bennett

Easter Egg Winners:

Gem Vaux; George & Ros Fox
Jemma Harris Andrew Carter
Steve Lonton Briony Carter
Mr & Mrs R Miller Bob Bragg
Ally Potter & Mark Bushby
Sarah & Richard Justice

May winners:

1st No.69 Linda Latham
2nd No.62 Jan Easterbrook
3rd No.85 Patricia Major
4th No.79 Jacqueline & Mark Bennett

We've had a wonderful response this year and we can always allocate more numbers if needed. Well done to all and thank you for supporting the 100 Club.



Merryfield Messenger

No. 9 Spring 2021

The Hall Trustees are: Emma Adams; Louise Atyeo; Jackie Bridges; Peter Bourdon; Mark Cook; Jemma Harris; Pat Matravers; Marie Stratton-Baldwin; Lisa Taylor.

Merryfield Hall

We are planning to re-open the Hall on 2nd July with the 2021 AGM.

Merryfield Hall AGM

The Trustees of Merryfield Hall have arranged to hold the AGM on 2nd July 2021 at 7.30pm. This is normally an annual event which sadly had to be cancelled last year due to Covid restrictions. The AGM will be followed as usual by Cheese and Wine, teas and coffee. This will enable Trustees to give an overview of the Hall and its facilities, particularly for newcomers to the village. The Hall is Covid compliant. We hope to see you there.

..... and Friendship Club

We are hoping to re-open the Friendship Club on Monday 11th October 2021. The Club is for over-50s and is held on the 2nd Monday of each month, doors open at 2.00pm. It is a social occasion where friends can meet for tea/coffee and cake and various activities, including occasional speakers. It will be great to meet old friends again and to welcome new ones.

Hiring the Hall

..... as our world gradually opens up, you may wish to hire the Hall for your activities. If so, please contact the Bookings Secretary, **Jemma Harris** Telephone 55294, or email: jemma25harris@talktalk.net

Hourly Hiring rates *(except where shown)*

| Hirer \ Facility | Main Hall | Kitchen |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Ilton-based clubs and residents | £6 | £1/hr extra* |
| Hirers from outside Ilton | £7 | £1/hr extra* |
| All-day hire | As arranged | |

Charges based on minimum 2hrs hire.

***Kitchen - max charge £5**

A deposit will sometimes be payable

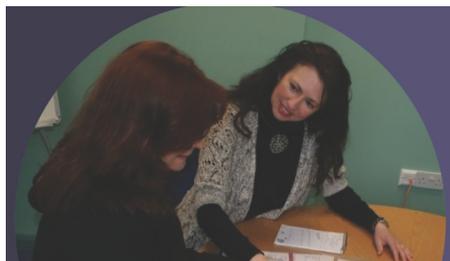
See Hall leaflet for Hiring Conditions



HELPING FAMILIES
TO HELP THEMSELVES

4Family delivers a family support programme offering help to struggling families so that they can regain control over their own lives and feel empowered and equipped to move forward.

We offer the support of Family Link Workers who are the families' voice amongst the agencies, but also, each family is offered a **Volunteer Mentor who plays a crucial role.**



Could you be a Mentor?

Be part of a fantastic family mentoring programme which carefully matches mentors with a family living within South Somerset. For more information about becoming a Y4F mentor contact Andrew:

Email: andrew.dunningham@yeovil4family.org.uk

Tel: 07970 952653

Website: www.yeovilcommunitychurch.co.uk/yeovil-4-family/

Merryfield Messenger

We now plan four issues a year, with deadline dates 20th February, 20th May, 20th August and 20th November.

Please add the dates to your diaries.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

My name is **Marie** and, being a member of the Ilton Parish Council, am responsible for restarting the local **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**. Should anyone want to report something or offer suggestions to keep our village and its residents safe, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Telephone: 01460-55803
and leave a message *or*

Email: mariejeanmorley@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL

CAN YOU HELP?

Ilton Parish Council are trying to do some in-house maintenance and would appreciate any help that you might be able to give. Can you spare two hours of your time each month, between now and September, to help trim and cut some grass? We have the necessary equipment if you can help in any of the following areas; Churchyard, Cemetery & Playpark.

Please contact **Jacqueline Bennett** on 54164 or at jak.bennett@btinternet.com if you can help. Many thanks.

Dog Walking

If you regularly walk your dog please respect the enjoyment and safety of everyone. Please ensure your dog remains on a lead at all times and please **PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG** and deposit the waste in the bins provided or take it home if you are not near a bin. **DOG FAECES IS DANGEROUS AND A SERIOUS HEALTH RISK, ESPECIALLY TO CHILDREN.** The District Council is empowered to issue fines if these requests are ignored and the culprit is known.

AUGUST EVENTS

Providing all is well I am planning to stage the following two evenings:



Friday 6th August

Win some lovely prizes at our summer bingo night. £5 & £10 packages only (includes bingo tickets, raffle tickets, flyers & refreshments.) Doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Friday 13th August

'Ilton - An Illustrated History Talk'

Hear and see how Ilton has changed over the years when we show the old photographs and tell of the stories behind them. £5 per person to include refreshments. 7.30 - 9.30pm.

Both events will be in the Village Hall and even though we are, at the moment, allowed to have as many as we like after June 21st, we are restricting numbers to 40 - allowing everyone to stay socially distanced and feel a little safer. For this reason **both events are bookings only** - please do not turn up on the night as we may be full and I will not be allowed to let you in. **Phone Jacqueline on 54164 to make your booking.** (Note the date changes from those previously advertised)

Ilton History

.....an ongoing project

As Jacqueline has stated before, she has been researching local history during lockdowns and getting her records in order. Having given one illustrated talk that filled the Hall to overflowing, a second opportunity to delve into Ilton's history is planned for mid-August on a most auspicious day - Friday 13th!

Jacqueline repeats her plea from an earlier *Messenger*: "However, all of this means research, which takes hours sometimes, so I am asking if you can help with your property details? I am trying to create a '2020' starting point of the whole village and then working my history around that.

If you are happy to help, please can you email, phone me or put a note through my door, with the following details:

Name of Property

When was it built?

Name of Occupants in 2020

How long you have lived at that address

Do you know the previous occupiers' name?

All information provided will be strictly confidential and protected for at least 60 years, the only exception being the date that the property was built. This snapshot of life in Ilton in 2020 will no doubt be a wonderful piece of social history for the historian 60 years from now."

My details (for those of you that don't know!) are: **Jacqueline Bennett**

3, Cottage Corner (blue house on the main road through the village).

Tel: 54164. Text: 07773 949 487 or Email: jak.bennett@btinternet.com