

The Bridge

April 2016

*monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade*



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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

Please submit articles either by email to viv.thomas146@btinternet.com or by hand (legible handwriting please!) and take them to the drop-off locations at Barbers Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline.

News, reports, updates, thank you's, etc, from individuals or local organisations are free – the more the merrier – keep 'em coming!

File types

Save your files as .doc – please don't send .docx files – I can't always open them successfully.

Advertising

Small ads are £1 for each item whether 'For Sale' or 'Wanted'.

Events/local organisation ads (churches, clubs, playgroups, etc) are £2 per month for a boxed advert.

Full page ads cost £7.50, are subject to space availability and cannot be guaranteed,

If you are advertising, don't forget to take the fee – cash or cheque in a sealed envelope please, to either of the drop-off points (Barbers Plant Centre or Acres Supply).

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

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Deadline

**Deadline for articles
or adverts for the next
issue of The Bridge is
4pm 19th April**

**Please note that no
items will be accepted
after this date**

April



Saturday 2nd

Corsley litter pick – 10 am, meet opposite the Royal Oak

Monday 4th

Deadline for Bus Service Consultation responses to Wiltshire Council

Tuesday 5th

Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 12th April

Chapmanslade Village Hall AGM – 8-15 pm, at the Hall

Wednesday 13th

Warminster mobile library

Thursday 14th

Corsley WI - 'Objects from the Past' – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

Chapmanslade Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

Friday 15th

Fashion Show – 7 for 7.30 pm, M&Co, Warminster.

Tuesday 19th

Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church

Fracking information evening – 8.15 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 21st

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am - noon Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Saturday 23rd

Fun Quiz – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 26th

Defibrillator awareness session – 6.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 27th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Thursday 28th

Warminster Area Board – 7 pm, Warminster Civic Centre

Saturday 30th

Bluebell Walk (provisional date) – phone Judith Helliar on 01373 832803

Diary Dates

May

Tuesday 3rd

Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 7th

Corsley litter pick – 10 am, meet opposite the Royal Oak

Cantamus Chamber Choir Spring Concert - a celebration of music and verse –

7.30 pm, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Tickets from Wiltshire Music Centre

01225 860100. www.cantamuschamberchoir.co.uk

Sunday 8th

Corsley Festival Choir - 'A Royal Celebration' – 7.30pm, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Thursday 12th

Chapmanslade Parish Council Annual General Meeting – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

Monday 16th

Annual Parish Council Meeting (Corsley) – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 19th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am - noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Saturday 21st

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches May Fayre – Corsley Manor Farm

Wednesday 25th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 - 1.30 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Thursday 26th

Defibrillator Awareness Evening – 6.30 pm onwards, Corsley Reading Room

June

Friday 3rd

Keith Hyett instrumental guitar concert – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 4th

Corsley litter pick – 10 am, meet opposite the Royal Oak

Monday 6th

Corsley Parish Council Quarterly Meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 7th

Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

continued...

Thursday 9th

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12th

The Queen's 90th birthday celebration

Thursday 16th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am - noon, Three Horseshoes
Chapmanslade

Wednesday 22nd

Lite Bites Soup Lunch 12.30 Corsley Reading Rooms

Thursday 30th

Warminster Area Board – 7 pm, Warminster Civic Centre

Wiltshire Council

Temporary Closure of A362 (part) Warminster to Corsley

(Ref: TTRO 4213)

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic the A362 (Part) Warminster and Corsley; from its junction with A36 Warminster Bypass to its junction with Picket Post.

To enable Wiltshire Council to carry out kerbing, carriageway patching work, road marking and adjustment of ironworks.

Alternative route: via A362 (unaffected length) – A361 – A36 and vice versa. The closure and diversion route will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on **18 April 2016** and it is anticipated that the closure will be required nightly between the hours of 7 pm and 6 am until **25 April 2016**. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

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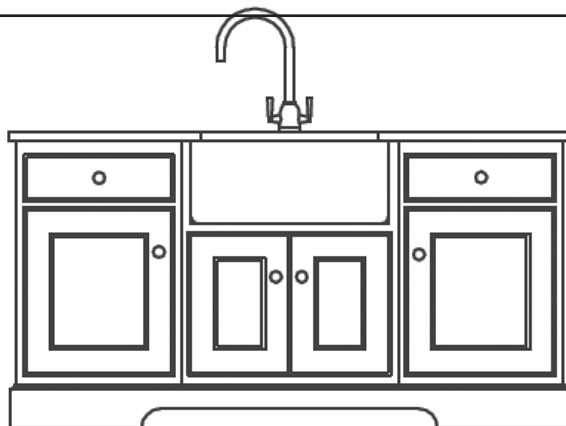
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Bob's bafflers

- 1 Which planet has moons named after Shakespearean characters?
- 2 Brimstone is the old name for which element?
- 3 Which flower's name is derived from the French for 'lion's tooth'?
- 4 What was Mother Theresa's real first name?
- 5 Which is the smallest ocean in the world?
- 6 Which US State is known as 'the last frontier'?
- 7 Which book of the bible has the shortest name?
- 8 Marilyn Monroe sang 'Happy Birthday, Mr President' celebrating President Kennedy's birthday; what age was he due to celebrate?
- 9 CI is the international registration plate for which African country?
- 10 The Battle of Trafalgar (1805) took place off the coast of which country?
- 11 What can a tiger and puma do which a cheetah cannot?
- 12 Which is the world's smallest flightless bird?

Answers on page 48

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Chapmanslade Village Hall AGM

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Cross Keys update

Community purchase progress

We have made great progress in the last month. By the time you read this we anticipate both the exchange of contracts and knowing the completion date for the purchase of our village pub.

The planning for the much needed maintenance and redecoration is actively underway in order for the work to start the day after the Cross Keys is ours.

Whilst we will provide disabled access and improved facilities, some of which will require formal planning approval, we intend to open once vital repairs and decorations are done. A rolling programme of the further works will then be undertaken to reach our goal to provide a community asset of which we can be truly proud.

In order that you can keep abreast of the up-to-date news of our progress and learn



of the details of the imminent share offer, we urge you to go to our website <http://hdwebsites.wix.com/cross-keys>.

As I am sure you appreciate, things are now moving extremely quickly and the time between submission to and delivery of the Bridge is such that timely provision of this information cannot be achieved. We will of course give further news in next month's Bridge.

Please remember that the value of investments can go down as well as up

Help wanted!

Frome Selwood Rotary are hosting an event on the 16th April at Chapmanslade Village Hall and need some help. We need help with washing-up and waitressing between 8 and 10 pm. Rate of pay is £10 per hour. If you're interested, please contact Yvonne Hitchinson on 01373 859207. This event is a cuisine evening for charity and is a sell-out.



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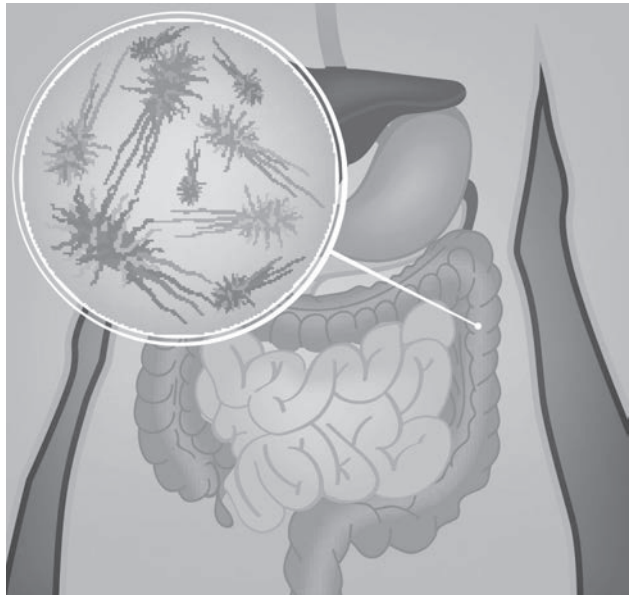
Biology: changing the world

Does your body contain more human or bacterial cells?

It's a surprise to most people that the human body is claimed to contain up to ten times as many bacterial cells as human ones

Recent work suggests that this may be an overestimate, but the numbers are at least equal and, anyway, human cells are much bigger than bacteria. Of course, bacteria are rarely found in tissues, unless you have an infection. They occur on the internal and external surfaces of the body – on your skin, in your mouth, airways and gut, and on all moist surfaces. The vast majority are found in the lower gut – in the small intestine and colon. In addition to bacteria, your gut also contains some fungi, viruses and other microbes. This is called the 'gut microbiome'.

It has been known for some time that the gut microbiome differs between individuals and that it can affect health. Recent work has shown that it may influence obesity, for example. A number of companies sell drinks or yoghurt that have live bacteria in them – known as probiotics. These harmless bacteria are intended to reproduce in your gut and work with the microbes already present to help in digestive processes. There is some evidence that probiotic drinks and yoghurts can help people who have digestive problems and this is a relatively benign way of helping to



generate a healthy internal population of so-called 'good bacteria'.

However, when the normal gut microbiome is disrupted – such as by antibiotics, which kill both beneficial and disease-causing bacteria alike – problems can ensue. Elderly patients on long courses of antibiotics sometimes suffer from *Clostridium difficile* infections. 'C. diff', as this bacterium is frequently called, may colonise the gut replacing the beneficial bacteria that have been killed by antibiotics. *C. diff* produces

toxins that can cause serious and potentially fatal illness.

There are now more extreme ways of replacing an abnormal gut microbiome, which is sometimes used for people who have had major antibiotic or surgical treatment. This is the "faecal transplant" or 'poo pill' where faeces from a healthy individual (maybe the same patient before treatment) are given in a pill to repopulate the gut with a normal healthy microbial population. Do not try this at home!

Nigel Brown is a retired Professor of Microbiology, now living in Chapmanslade. He is happy to receive comments, questions and suggestions for future articles at nigelbrown48@gmail.com

AMAZING ACHIEVERS

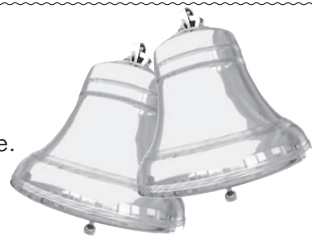
Congratulations to David Terrett, of Brimhill Rise, Chapmanslade, who has just celebrated 50 years of working in the oil industry!

David started his career at Butler Fuels in Avonmouth in 1966 and currently works for local firm Kinch Fuel Oils Ltd. With no intention of retiring any time soon, it seems like David has oil running through his veins!

A popular resident, he and his wife have lived in Chapmanslade for some 36 years. David's milestone achievement was recently featured in the Wiltshire Gazette.

Campanology News

I haven't had a lot to write these past two months just gone.
We've rung our bells for service and each practice night bar one.
In February we lost Dick, he moved to pastures new.
We miss his guidance all the time and his experience too.



Dick taught our learners, now we're stuck, we've no-one with the skill.
There's courses run, I'm booked on one, to take place in April.
The good news is we have three more who want to learn our art,
They haven't learnt to ring yet but are keen to play their part.

One is at present learning, Mariella's just beginning
With help from others who can teach she'll soon be with us ringing.
And Melanie began to learn and progressed quite quickly
But sadly had to stop a while to finish her degree.

Our band is slowly growing and the future's looking bright
But there's always room for others, if you're thinking 'Well I might'.
Just come along and take a look one Friday when you're free,
Or if you want to have a word, you've only to ring me.

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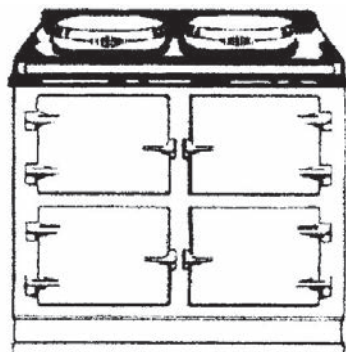


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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Neil Britten reports on the parish council's activities in March

The main Parish Council (PC) event in March was the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) which was followed by brief PC meeting to discuss a planning application.

Annual Parish Meeting

Broadband

The major topic was the so-called 'superfast' broadband prospects for Corsley. Hugh Deed and Neil Carpenter gave a joint presentation covering the work that they have done to establish what level of service Corsley currently receives, the capability of the existing infrastructure and the results of the village survey indicating how residents use broadband now and the limitations of the service provided to Corsley. These presentations will be available on The Bridge website.

I reported last month the news that BT did in fact have plans to link part of Corsley to the fibre connection which is available at the Chapmanslade telephone exchange, contrary to earlier statements that we were definitely not in the Phase 2 roll out plan. BT have now completed their survey work in support of this initiative and the outline details, provided verbally, are:

- Approximately 150 properties in the Corsley Heath area will be connected to 'superfast' broadband, i.e. at least 24Mbps, with possibly some households in Temple also benefiting.

However, two things should be stressed. First, this plan has been developed to meet the Wiltshire target of 91% of the County to receive at least 24Mbps. Whilst the plan clearly benefits a good chunk of Corsley residents, any improvement for the remainder, about 140 houses, could provide better speeds but would not sit within this target and is therefore not in the plan. We are still working on this issue and BT have been conducting further investigative feasibility and cost modelling to look at options based on a connection to the fibre at the St Margaret's green box to improve the speeds in other areas of Corsley. BT have said that there would be a 'node' at the St Margaret's box which could allow such a connection. The results of this work are due at the time of writing and, once received and digested, the intention is to put on a public meeting to allow the options to be debated.

Second, the information above was the result of a telephone conversation. We have not received any formal commitment from either Wiltshire Online or BT, but this has been sought.

However, BT were clear that their next step would be to issue the appropriate road

- Fibre will be run from Chapmanslade, past the green cabinet at St Margaret's Church and up Deep Lane terminating at a new cabinet to be located just north of the junction between Cley Hill and Deep lane

closure notice, for the statutory 13-week consultation period, with a view to a 7 – 10 day closure at the end of this period, i.e. sometime in June, to allow installation of the new box on Deep Lane. The exact timescale for the improved service to come online was not disclosed. The impact of a road closure was explained to BT and they have agreed that the parish would be given the opportunity to discuss the details with the installation team.

Corsley Reading Rooms

Hugh Deed, the new Chairman of the Reading Rooms Committee (CRR) gave a brief presentation on the Reading Rooms and plans for the immediate future. He warmly congratulated the previous management, under Dick and Rosemary Collins, for their many years of dedicated and imaginative involvement.

Under the new management, continuing work has been undertaken on a number of aspects of safety and security. In addition several new areas of material improvement have been identified including improvements to the kitchen (provision of catering-type washing up facilities), refurbishment of the main room floor and the ceiling/roof space (insulation).

These were longer term projects, with significant financial implications and the CRR would work with the PC and others to develop a plan for their execution.

Annual PC report

The PC annual report covering the activities of the PC – the council, streetscene, planning, finance, OSPF and footpaths and fracking. The presentation is available on the Bridge website.

The last item, fracking, was a ‘heads-up’ that Corsley sits within a block of four 10km by 10km sites for which a coal bed methane type drilling exploration licence has been issued by the Department of Energy and Climate Control (DECC) to a company called South Western (in partnership with South Western Energy Ltd). It should be noted that Wiltshire objected to these licences.

Any activity on these sites in pursuance of the licences would be subject to planning and regulatory approvals and the PC has not been made aware of any such applications at the present time. However, there could be potential for the latter at any time in the near future and the PC is looking further at the implications with a view to providing better information to the village in due course.

Planning application

16/01228/FUL - Erection of agricultural workers dwelling at Chipp’s Farm.

This application was a re-submission of 15/09455/FUL, which had been refused by Wiltshire on two grounds, first that the case had not been made for a dwelling for a third agricultural worker and second that the proposed dwelling in that location was not appropriate for the character of the local area.

Since the previous application, Mr G Dyke had decided to retire and exercise a right to continue occupying his current dwelling. This left two active farm workers with the second still requiring accommodation. The new application was thus for a smaller agricultural dwelling, for the second of the two full-time farm workers, in a more

continued on page 21

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discrete location, adjacent to Mr G Dyke's bungalow. The PC fully supported the application for one of the very small number of remaining successful working farms in Corsley.

Dates of next meetings

Annual Parish Council Meeting 16th May
(Election of Chair)

Quarterly Meeting 6th June

Quarterly Meeting 5th September

Quarterly Meeting 5th December

Occasional meetings, at short notice, will also be held to discuss planning applications and other urgent business. Please watch the village notice-boards and the Bridge web site for these.

Neil Britten
Chairman, Corsley Parish Council
neil.britten@btinternet.com

Chapmanslade Village Hall

Fun Quiz

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The Corsley Reading Room Committee would like to hear from anyone interested in taking a stall at this year's Christmas Market. There's loads of time to get making/crafting lovely things to sell – wooden toys, crafted candles, Christmas cards, funky jewellery – whatever you fancy selling!

Stallholders will be carefully selected to give buyers the widest choice of products possible.

To get ahead of the pack, please contact Vanessa Hyde on 01373 832700.

Saturday 19th November
Corsley Reading Room

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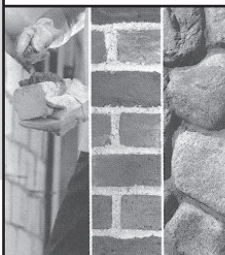
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Three Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I write on a glorious day of bright sunshine and clear blue sky. I have just returned from taking Alfie for a walk and marvel at the shiny yellow beauty of the wild flowers that adorn grass verges and the extraordinarily weightless appearance of several buzzards gliding and hanging in the air.

By the time you read this Easter Day will probably have come and gone as it was so very early this year, but we continue with an Easter theme in the church for 6 weeks until we come to Pentecost on May 15th. Easter is the time when we fill the church with flowers and sing celebratory hymns and songs that proclaim the wonder of new life, that announce that death has no more dominion and such like. I often wonder at these time what it is like for those who haven't reached Easter Day yet and who are forced by circumstances to remain in the darkness of Good Friday.

Being the Priest in Charge here I am privileged and humbled to be able to accompany those who are struggling with life, whether it be bereavement, terminal illness or relationship breakdown to name but a few of the situations I encounter. How does the Easter story intersect with occasions like this, with the terrible plight of the thousands of refugees who have nowhere to call home, with those who suffer at the hands of others, those who go to sleep day after day hungry? I don't have a neatly worked out answer, and I cry out with others at the injustice and suffering that is so much part of human life. But I believe that Good Friday and Easter Day show us that God is with us in our deepest darkness, in life and in death and beyond, that love is stronger than evil, and that there is no place that God is not. That's not to say that I can just sit back and relax because God has it all in hand, far from it. When we pray in the Lord's Prayer 'Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.' we are not asking God to do it all, we are pledging our time and energy to the task of bringing about that kingdom of justice and peace; we know in this life that God's kingdom has yet to be realised fully, but we need to be doing our bit even if it is only a tiny spark of light in the darkness.

To return to the image of those buzzards hanging in the air the bible tells us that 'Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint.' (Isaiah 40: 31) and from the book of Deuteronomy we hear that God is 'Like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft.' (Deuteronomy 32:11)

If your wings are bit broken at the moment and you long for the freedom of flight, allow God to catch you and carry you on his wings, to be with you in your Good Friday so that you can hold on to the hope of Easter Day when all things are made new.

Love and Prayers

Pauline

April Church Diary

Sunday 3rd April: Second Sunday of Easter

8 am at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: 1662 BCP H Communion

9.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

10.30 am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Morning Worship



Tuesday 5th April

7.30 pm at The Anchorage, Corsley

After Alpha Home Group. Details from Richard on 832594



Sunday 10th April: Third Sunday of Easter

9.30 am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Family Eucharist

10.30 am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist

11 am at St Mary's, Temple, Corsley: Matins



Monday 11th April

10.30 am: Time to Think Home Group

Details from Phil on 832845



Sunday 17th April: Fourth Sunday of Easter

9 am at St Mary's, Temple, Corsley: 1662 BCP Holy Communion

10.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Family Worship

10.30 am at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: Eucharist

5 pm at St John the Baptist, Horningsham: Evensong



Tuesday 19th April

7.30 pm at St Margaret's, Corsley

Annual Parochial Church Meeting



Thursday 21st April

10 am to 12 noon at Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade
Church & Community Coffee Morning

Sunday 24th April: Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.30 am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Eucharist

10.30 am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Eucharist



Monday 25th April

10.30 am: Time to Think Home Group

Details from Phil on 832845



Wednesday 27th April

12.30 pm to 1.30 pm at the Reading Rooms, Corsley:

Light Bites Bread & Soup Lunch



Sunday 1st May: Sixth Sunday of Easter

8 am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: 1662 BCP Holy Communion

9.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

10.30 am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Morning Worship

Welcome and Congratulations

We congratulate Ricky Viner and Carly Young who were married at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill on March 19th.

Prayers and Sympathy

We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family of Elvina Joyce Hammond whose funeral service was held at St Philip & St James, Chapmanslade.

Musical Evening

Our Musical Evening on Friday 11th March at St Margaret's, Corsley was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience of a hundred happy people. The music covered South Pacific, Glenn Miller, songs by Vera Lynn, and some rousing tunes usually heard at the Last Night of the Proms. We were treated to songs from Robert Thackway, harp music from Laura Oakham and some flute music from Helen Buick. We had poetry readings from Rev Pauline Reid and Andrew Campbell. Geoff Titt played the organ and demonstrated to us the versatility of both the organ and the organist. The church choir led the community singing and Dennis Barnard compered the evening in his own very special style. A very enjoyable evening which also raised almost a thousand pounds for the work of the church.

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com	01985 841290
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	Barbara Hughes	01373 832273
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Benefice Administrator	Marion Muston cleyhillchurches@gmail.com	01373 839026 or 832755

Fundraising

At our Easter Sunday service we gave away £10 notes to the congregation to take away and use in our 2016 Talents Challenge. Participants will come back to the Harvest services and we shall reap the reward of their efforts and raise a significant amount for church funds. Examples from previous challenges are jam making, cake making, a Bridge afternoon, car cleaning, gardening and general help around the house. How will you GROW your Talents to help raise funds for the church and have fun at the same time? If you want to participate in our Talents challenge please contact Keith Muston.

We are delighted to confirm that our May Fayre on Saturday 21st May will again be held at Manor Farm. Our thanks to Chris and Claire da Costa for allowing us to use their gardens. The 50/50 Club Summer Draw will take place and ten people will be winners of cash prizes, with £200 being the first prize. We need your donations for our stalls and offers of help on the day. Please contact either Stella on 832230 or Phil on 832845 for more details.

Copy for 3 Open Doors should be sent to Keith Muston at
themustons@btinternet.com subject 3ODs or phone 01373 832755.

If you would like to receive weekly news of Church events and activities, please send your email address to the above, with subject 'Through the Open Doors' or download a pdf from the 'churches' pages at www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk



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Corsley WI March News



There was a very good attendance at the Annual Meeting of Corsley WI held in March. We began with the singing of 'Jerusalem' and the usual monthly business matters were swiftly dealt with. New events organised by the Wiltshire Federation, include a workshop on painting on glass and a visit to Bucklers Hard. The Scrabble team won their last match.

The beautiful Rose Bowl was awarded to Jean White for the most points won in the monthly competitions during the year. The summer outing is to Sudeley Castle, near Cheltenham on Thursday 30th June. If you would like to come with us, please contact Carol Seward on 01373 832446, for details.

Our WI Advisor, Lesley Holdway, then took over for our annual meeting business. The Treasurer, Anne Carruthers, presented the Financial Statement, which was approved. The Committee's Report, prepared by the Secretary, Caroline Higham, reflected back over a memorable year, with our 95th birthday and the NFWI Centenary celebrated with a dinner. To mark these events, Val Benbow made a gorgeous new tablecloth for our competition table and Fiona Johnston made a splendid centenary banner. Cath Fricker had given us a programme full of interest and fun over the year, from talks on Aberdeen Angus to the RNLI, helping families in Ghana and stargazing at the

night sky. We enjoyed a coach outing to Beaulieu, our Produce & Handicraft Show in August, trips to Longleat and High House Farm and we joined other Wiltshire members to hear Michael Portillo speak in Salisbury. Our skittles and Scrabble teams continued to do well, the Bridge Club flourished and the Gardening Club enthusiasts were off visiting gardens in all weathers.

The President thanked all the committee members for their hard work this year. After a secret ballot, Carol Seward was re-elected as President and the Committee was re-elected *en-bloc*. Everyone then enjoyed a delicious cream tea before the raffle was drawn.

We revert back to evening meetings starting at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th April, when John Girvan will be telling us about 'Objects from the Past' and we will discover the purpose of some unusual items. The competition is for an old kitchen utensil.

If you are new to the area, seeking to make new friends or would just like to hear our speakers, we would love you to join us. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, usually in the Corsley Reading Room. The dates and times are listed in The Bridge Diary Dates, or you can ring Carol Seward on 01373 832446 for more information.

Everyone is very welcome to join us for the following activities:

Bridge Club	First and third Tuesdays each month, 2-4pm, Corsley Reading Room
Gardening Club	Third Wednesday each month, 2.30 pm, various venues
Lunch Club	Last Tuesday of the month, 12.30pm, various venues

More details on the Gardening Club and Bridge Club from Pauline on 01985 215760

BBC Radio 2

500 Words competition – 2016

Jake Taylor, aged 9, of Chapmanslade School,
submitted this story to the competition...

I can see sparkling spiders crawling around in their cobweb city, glistening in the beams of sunlight coming through the cracked and dust caked windows. The smell of rotting fabric and mouldy food from at least 50 years ago flooded my nostrils. Venturing to another room I found some old, dead and shrivelled up plants, packets of seeds and shattered plant pots.

Onwards I went, deeper into the house where I discovered a musty room with a stuffed bear, weapons and ancient wooden rifles hanging from the walls. A sword above the fireplace and a cracked mirror lay on the floor. Gazing into the mirror's faded glass, behind my pale reflection I realised that something wasn't right. I blinked and shook my head, then looked back into the mirror. Behind my reflection I saw a brown fuzzy texture. Odd! It must be the cracks in the mirror or the wooden rifles that were making the image.

In trepidation I went upstairs to find a long corridor with a large oak door at the end. Anxiously I entered the room opposite the staircase. It was dark! I could see the silhouette of a toilet, a basin and another, which I just couldn't make out. The shadows dappled across the room, I flicked the switch, the lights turned on.

I could see a stuffed bear very much like the one in the weapons room downstairs. The old owner must have loved hunting, I thought to myself. I walked out and went into

the room next door where the lights were already on. The same bear was in that room too. Weird! The same bear in three rooms? Maybe they were fakes. I reached out to touch it. "AAAAAARRRRRGGGGHHH!!!!!!!" to my horror it was slowly advancing towards me! As I ran, I screamed and the bear pursued me down the stairs and into some rooms that I hadn't explored.

There was a living room with rotting leather furniture and an ancient TV. It was huge with a shattered screen at the front and two large antennas. Running through the plant room with the bear close behind, I lurched forward and backed onto the door away from the bear as the massive creature reared up. I frantically opened the door and shot out. Closing it behind me I ran breathlessly back upstairs.

Trying to get out, I found myself in another room. The bear was there!! Goose bumps washed over me as I was chased into the weapons room. I snatched the sword above the fireplace holding it out at arm's length towards the bear. It stopped in its tracks for a moment before rearing up again and roaring as it chased me along the corridor. I tripped and backed away from the bear again. My back was flat against the door now. With the sword pointing towards the bear, I reached out with my sweaty hand to open the door. I opened it a crack and peered through.

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Now spring has arrived, your garden will be starting to come back to life

Bottle your garden

This year, I'd like to encourage you to plant a fruit plant, or two; they have a lot more to offer than meets the eye!

Planting a fruit bush is a great way to fill in any gaps in shrub beds or borders. They offer colour when in flower and will reward you with delicious fruit later on in the year. My personal favourites are raspberries and redcurrants.

These days, we are always hearing about the need to eat and live healthy. Whilst at a trade show, I heard a talk by James Wong, an ethnobotanist, who told us that antioxidants are very good for us – helping to protect our body's cells from damage from exposure to chemicals and radiation as well as being good for the heart and even lowering the risk of some infections and cancer.

Antioxidant levels are much higher in fruit grown at home compared to that from a supermarket because it isn't processed or subject to the demand for 'big' fruit. Blueberries are a perfect example, home-grown, they may be slightly smaller than the big blueberries brought from a supermarket, but they are a lot better for us and provide more long-term benefits.

Finally, after eating healthily and getting out and about planting fruit trees or shrubs in your garden, it's time to have a little bit of fun: take a clear glass bottle and, very carefully, put an immature fruit (keeping it on the tree!) into the bottle. Secure the bottle to the tree. As the fruit matures inside the bottle, keep an eye out for any bugs and



ensure the bottle doesn't fill up with rain. It's probably a good idea to do a few just in case some don't quite work out. When the time comes, you can harvest both the fruit and the bottle!

Your fruit in a bottle would be perfect as a gift, so you could either add some ribbon and leave it as it is, or add some vodka to fill the bottle. The taste of the fruit will infuse into the vodka and you will have a lovely fruity-tasting vodka to drink.

So now you have three brilliant reasons as to why you should plant some fruit trees/plants in your garden this spring.

*Kaylee Evans
Acres Supply Garden Centre
Corsley*

Join Jotipal to find out about...

Fracking, a moral issue?

Fracking licences have been granted to UK Methane to cover areas that surround Chapmanslade and Westbury

Free coffee, pudding and film!

What would it mean to have fracking come to our village and surrounding areas?

There is growing concern for fracking (hydraulic fracturing), as many communities in America and Australia are now reporting severe environmental damage and serious health impacts on communities that live on or near a frack site. In America and Australia, fracking has caused pollution to ground water and rivers with radioactive and carcinogenic chemicals and methane leaking into the water table. All wells leak eventually. According to research by oil services company Schlumberger, around 50% of wells leak within 15 years, which poses a massive threat to local people and the surrounding landscape.

Fracking has also been shown to contaminate the air with methane gas and creates heavy industrialisation to the roads as just one frack needs between 2-8 million gallons of water. This water is brought to the site by large articulated lorries driving in and out of the area every day. Earthquakes in Lancashire have been reported after a test drill in 2011. And in America house prices have plummeted for those who live near to a frack site.

The government seems dead set on pushing ahead with fracking despite rising opposition from local communities in this country.

Due to the new legislation being pushed through, planning applications from fracking companies will be sent straight to central government which means that local councils and local people, like you and I, may not have a say in whether this will happen here. The first we know about this beautiful area being fracked is when around 400 tankers turn up to bring our precious water to the gas well.

Come along, get informed and find out more!

**8.15pm, Tuesday 19th April
Chapmanslade Village Hall**

More details contact
Jotipal 07774 553227





Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches

May Fayrø

2.30pm Saturday 21st May

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Phil Jefferson reports on the parish council's activities in March

The parish council meet twice last month, on 10th and 23rd March. A report on the 23rd March meeting will appear in next month's Bridge. About 20 residents attended the 10th March meeting.

Planning applications

16/01065/FUL Thoulstone Park
James Hughes-Hallett, the owner of Thoulstone Park, and his agent Jeremy Smalley, have visited the parish council several times in recent years to consult us about his plans to develop the site. The last time was in September last year when we were consulted on a plan to build an employment hub. On that occasion, council members and residents present at the meeting queried need for such a development and expressed concern about its proposed location – the field between the A36 and the old road fronting the former golf club building.

Mr Hughes-Hallett has nonetheless decided to proceed with the application. He and Mr Smalley attended our meeting to give us a further explanation of his plans. He confirmed that he is still hoping to build a 54-bed hotel on the Thoulstone site, having received planning consent for this some time

ago, and he is currently in discussion with potential developers.

We spent over an hour discussing the employment hub proposal, which if implemented would produce a workspace for up to 170 workers, with parking spaces for 80 cars; a smaller number than originally suggested. We were told that there is a significant demand for owner-managed work spaces in rural locations and that a developer based in Frome, Forward Space, is currently in discussion with Mr Hughes-Hallett.

Whilst not wishing to be negative about an opportunity to create new employment in our parish we were profoundly sceptical about the proposal. We couldn't see that it would actually create new employment; rather it would be more likely to redistribute existing employment to a new location.

The main concerns of residents and the parish council relate to traffic issues and the impact of the proposed office block on our rural landscape. A third concern is about drainage issues. We all know just how often that field has flooded in past years.

We were assured that detailed information

www.chapmanslade.org.uk

contained in the application about traffic flow takes into account both the proposed hotel and the proposed office development. We couldn't find any evidence of this. We were concerned that the combined effect of traffic generated by two enterprises in that location would be quite substantial, creating great danger at a point on the A36 which is currently dangerous enough. As we all know, traffic comes up Black Dog Hill at a tremendous speed and extra traffic generated at the A3098 sliproads and the access to Thoulstone would produce a highly dangerous situation. We were not convinced, either, that people working at the proposed hub would be likely to get there on foot or by bicycle.

We were concerned that the proposed development would be an unnecessary and unwelcome urban intrusion into a cherished rural location, one which the community had fought hard to protect two years ago at the time of the wind turbine proposals! We couldn't understand why, if it must go ahead, it couldn't be positioned inside the main part of Thoulstone Park. We pointed out industrial parks in Frome Warminster and Trowbridge which we considered might be more suitable locations; the response being that a rural location was the prime consideration for potential clients.

Finally, we felt that the application was inadequate because it lacked a holistic approach. We might have been more impressed if the application had considered the site as a whole and considered the likely impact of not just the employment hub but the hotel as well and any other potential development proposals.

As a consequence we resolved unanimously to object to the application and we have asked Fleur de Rhé-Philipe, our Wiltshire

councillor, to call in the application should the planning officers recommend approval. This would mean that matter would then be considered by elected members at a public meeting. Fleur has agreed to do this. We will keep you in touch.

16/00494/FUL

Wiltshire Council has given planning consent to the owners of Chapel Cottage, 77 Wood Lane, to erect a first floor side extension and a single storey rear extension at their property.

15/12310/FUL and 15/12471/LBC

The owners of Short Street Farm, 160 Short Street, which is a listed building, have also been given consent to convert an existing outbuilding, including internal alterations, replacement garaging and landscaping.

14/09400/FUL Sienna's Valley

The appeals concerning the static caravan at Sienna's Valley in Huntenhull Lane were considered by a Government planning inspector at a hearing held at the Civic Centre in Trowbridge on Tuesday 15th March. Dennis Barnard, Francis Morland and I attended to represent the parish council. A number of residents were also present. We learned that the number of alpacas on the site had fallen owing to an outbreak of TB. The hearing lasted almost five hours and was followed by a site visit, which only the inspector and Wiltshire Council's planning officer were allowed to attend. The inspector will announce his decision in a month or two's time and I will keep you fully informed in due course.

Road Safety

The working group set up to come up with ideas to improve road safety in the village continues to meet. At our March meeting, due to be held after the time of writing, we

will study an analysis of questionnaires kindly completed by parents of children attending the school and Busy Bees. Hopefully that will provide us with much useful information and suggestions.

I mention each month that Speedwatch is an important part of our determination to make our High Street safer for all of us. We carry out up to ten sessions, each of them lasting an hour, in the weeks we have the camera, normally one week each month. Volunteers normally offer one or two hours each week and we all enjoy the experience. Several of our volunteers will be moving from the village shortly so we really do need some more residents to come along and offer their help. The police provide training and equipment as well as support by being alongside us whenever they get the opportunity. So, if you are concerned about speeding vehicles in the village, why not join the team? Do get in touch if you can.

Highways

There have been several complaints about excessive mud on some of our roads

following the damp winter, which have been reported to Wiltshire Highways. We are also requesting Wiltshire to resurface those parts of the A3098 through the parish which are looking very tired and to refresh the white lines and road markings throughout the parish.

Future meetings

Our next scheduled parish council meeting is on Thursday 14th April at the school. It will follow the Annual Parish Meeting, which starts at 7.30 pm. The Annual Parish meeting, which I chair but which is not a parish council meeting, provides you with the opportunity to give us your views on village issues and how we have performed as a parish council over the past twelve months. We also intend to present our annual report at this meeting. In May we will meet on the 12th and this will be our Annual General Meeting, at which we elect our officers for the coming year.

Phil Jefferson
832845

phil.jefferson@virgin.net

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Jackiejasper1@hotmail.co.uk



News from the Nest

Welcome to this month's news from
Corsley Cuckoo's PreSchool in Lyes Green, Corsley.

Spring definitely has sprung at Corsley Cuckoos Preschool

We have been watching and learning about the frogspawn which is currently growing nicely in our mini pond. The daffodils are flowering and the grass on the Corsley community field has had its first cut, which always makes us feel full of spring. The children and staff feel very privileged to be able to use the community field as it makes for an excellent learning landscape. The children have made bird feeders and bug houses so we have our very own version of spring watch!



Our popular Stories by Starlight evening took place Friday 4th March, in conjunction with other World Book Day events. Over 40 children, parents and grandparents joined us for an hour of bedtime stories read by parents accompanied with hot chocolate and marshmallows. The evening is always great success as the children love to join us dressed up in their pyjamas.

Feeling sporty

The children took part in a sponsored cycle and scoot on Friday 18th March as part of the National Sport Relief events – over 20 children navigated themselves around a mini-circuit. Even at their young age the children are able to learn about charity and fundraising for other children who are not as fortunate. On that sporty note we are collecting Sainsbury's Sports equipment vouchers so please send them to us if you can.

Term-time opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9 am - 3 pm

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For more information, please contact us on 01373 832298

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Whitbourne Chapel

'...What is man that you are mindful of him?' (Psalm 8:4)

His perfect hand

Have you been following Major Tim Peake's visit to the International Space Station? Major Tim is the seventh person from the United Kingdom to go into space. He was launched on 15th December 2015 and will be on the ISS for a total of six months.

I remember as a schoolboy watching black and white grainy pictures of the American Apollo Missions to the Moon. It was President J F Kennedy who predicted, in 1961, that "a man would land on the moon and return safely to the earth before the decade was complete". This was to happen when, on 20 July 1969, Apollo 11 landed on the moon and the first moon-walk, led by Astronaut Neil Armstrong took place the following day.

The Bible reminds us that God created the Earth and everything in it and later King David writes "When I consider your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars which you have ordained, what is man that you are mindful of him? (Psalm 8 v3/4a). This reminds us that God, who created all that we see around us and the universe the full extent of which we barely understand, at the same time loves and cares for each and every one of us. As we look at the earth around us and continue to follow Major Peake on the ISS, let's remember God who has His perfect hand on all things and whose love for all of us continues for all time.

Chris Andrews, visiting preacher.

Beyond our control

I've remembered the words of our heading many times recently, when the mild wet weather we had all through December and January, gave way in February to cold clear nights and days, encouraging us to turn up the heating and huddle under a blanket every evening. By the time you read this, I'll have been to Italy again, this time to Lake Garda and Venice.

I've looked up the average temperatures local to the Lake and find I have a 40% chance of rain, a 20% chance of cloud and the average temperature could be 9°, though it could reach 13°, or fall as low as 4°! Whatever it is, it'll suit me; I think it's wonderful that we have no control over the weather! It's strange to think that something beyond our control should be a comfort, isn't it?

Trust in Him

We know that Christ rose from the dead.

It happened just as He said.

The outlook's not grim

If we trust in Him.

The grave will, for us, lose its dread.

Gill Redman

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Wiltshire Sight

Online Today Project

Wiltshire Sight is to help blind and partially sighted people – and/or people with hearing loss – across Wiltshire get online and enjoy the benefits of the internet

The Wiltshire charity is helping to deliver the nationwide Online Today project which is being led by The Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) and funded by a £5.8m Big Lottery Fund grant.

Online Today aims to help those with sensory loss get online. This could be someone living with hearing loss, sight loss or both. The programme enables people to get the most out of being online. Wiltshire Sight will help people with sensory loss learn everything from sending emails to keeping in touch with family and friends to browsing websites to keep up to date with news and leisure interests. Introductions to social media are also available with Online Today, assistance with Twitter and Facebook can be provided as well as setting up a skype account.

Online today is led by RNIB and 37 other groups. These include Guide Dogs and Sense and Action on Hearing Loss. The scheme will help more than 200 adults with hearing or sight loss feel the benefits of technology across Wiltshire. In total, Online Today is being delivered to 125,000 with sensory loss across the UK.

Neil Heslop, Managing Director of RNIB Solutions, said, "Technology has changed the way we live our lives, from how we communicate and socialise to the way we look for jobs and pay our bills. For people who have sight or hearing loss, being able

to get online can make a huge difference to being able to live independently but it can be quite daunting if you don't know where to start.

Online Today will deliver the skills, training and confidence that will make a huge difference to so many people's lives and will make sure they're not being excluded from today's digital world."

Wiltshire Sight aims to use this programme to arrange introduction taster sessions throughout the year to inform over 200 people across the county about the advantages of getting online. The information will be available at all of the charity's monthly drop-ins, technology sessions and at their main office – St Lucy's Sight Centre in Devizes.

For more information, contact Wiltshire Sight on either 01380 739113 or info@wiltshiresight.org

About Wiltshire Sight

Wiltshire Sight is an independent charity supporting people living with sight loss in Wiltshire. We offer information, advice and guidance, as well as giving people practical and emotional support to help them in their daily lives. We have a fully equipped resource centre at St Lucy's in Devizes, offering state-of-the-art assistive technology products and low vision aids.

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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

While I deduce, from the first note the hollow cuckoo sings, the symphony of spring

Easter was so early this year, but thankfully there were daffodils a-plenty to decorate our churches. The good news is that the Parish Council and the Elizabethan Committee are jointly funding the purchase of daffodil bulbs for planting this coming autumn. We'll be looking for volunteers to plant them throughout the village, in public areas and verges.

Already the longer daylight hours are helping on the farm, with field work such as muck-spreading followed by chain harrowing (to spread the manure around), then heavy rolling to flatten the ground. Hopefully, a good April shower will make the grass grow so that six to eight weeks later we can take the first cut of silage or hay. Both winter and spring-sown cereals are watched carefully by our agronomist; checking for mineral deficiencies, airborne infections and insect and bird damage.

The cows are now grazing in the fields during the day, enjoying the fresh grass and the opportunity to stretch their legs. However, they are quite pleased to come in for milking, and then to stay in their comfortable stalls through the nights until the night-time temperatures are higher.

What a joy to see the lambs out skipping and dancing in the sunshine! Once again can I please ask dog owners to keep dogs on leads when walking on farmland and

woodlands? There was a recent serious report of dogs worrying sheep, and many ewes died; fortunately, it wasn't local! Wildlife is also at risk from dogs: ground nesting birds such as partridge and skylark are easily disturbed and will not return to care for their eggs or young. Fawns (young deer) will be hidden by their mother but, once frightened and separated, the youngsters probably won't survive.

April really is a beautiful month of fresh colours in fields, hedges and woodland. By the end of the month we will hear the full dawn chorus as all our summer migrants arrive. Listen and watch out for the first swallows, chiffchaffs, willow warblers and many others. Violets, primroses, wood anemones and bluebells will be brightening up our verges and woodlands whilst the trees become alive with sticky buds and beautiful blossom.

Enjoy spring in our countryside.

Judith HelliarJudith Helliar

*Provisional date for a
Bluebell walk
Saturday April 30th
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confirmation or phone Judith Helliar
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Unhappy child, unhealthy adult

Caroline Le Vine, Counsellor in Corsley

There's been a lot of media interest in mental health and emotional wellbeing in recent months - and hurrah for that. The BBC Radio 4 programme 'Unhappy Child, Unhealthy Adult' was, for me, particularly interesting. In case you didn't catch it, it explored the link between emotional distress in childhood and physical ill health in adulthood and it seems that the evidence is piling up - our chances of developing serious conditions including diabetes and heart problems are significantly raised by trauma and unhappiness in our early years. And the medical profession are acknowledging it - another hurrah.

I've long been an advocate of the idea that this connection exists and, along with many other practitioners, I use the idea of the physical-emotional connection in my practice. Our bodies tell us about what we're feeling emotionally all the time. We aren't encouraged to notice this often subtle information, though. We're all aware of tears signalling sadness or joy, of a churning stomach indicating anxiety and the association of stress with hunched shoulders and tensed neck muscles. What we often miss are the smaller signs of disquiet: the unconscious twiddling of our hair, the jogging of a leg while sitting. Or, more subtle still: changes in our breathing. Next time you feel under pressure, check out how you're breathing. Maybe your breath

becomes more shallow; maybe you stop breathing altogether briefly. I know I do.

It's my experience that, if we process painful feelings, physical symptoms often diminish or even disappear. I'm not, of course, suggesting that therapy promises a cure for serious illness. It doesn't. But, if we put less stress on the body by sorting out the emotional stuff, we're reducing the harmful chemicals produced by that stress - particularly adrenaline and cortisol, both of which are toxic in large and sustained amounts.

So, the conclusions seem clear: help stressed children by whatever means necessary to preserve their health into adulthood and listen to your body and do what you can to reduce any physical discomfort by relieving emotional discomfort.

If you'd like to explore the physical-emotional link, come and see me. I practise at St Margaret's Church, Deep Lane, Corsley. A first meeting of up to half an hour is free

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Note from Editor: if you enquired to these previously advertised items, please do call again as the seller may have incorrectly taken down your phone number.

WANTED

Frome Selwood Rotary are hosting an event on the 16th April at Chapmanslade Village Hall and need some help. We need help with washing-up and waitressing between 8 and 10 pm. Rate of pay is £10 per hour. If you're interested, please contact Yvonne Hitchinson on 01373 859207. This event is a cuisine evening for charity and is a sell-out.

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Uranus
- 2 Sulphur
- 3 Dandelion
- 4 Agnes
- 5 Arctic ocean
- 6 Alaska
- 7 Job
- 8 45
- 9 Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire)
- 10 Spain
- 11 Retract its claws
- 12 Kiwi

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