

The Bridge

April 2023

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



Join the Playing Field Spring Clean, get crafty in the afternoons, bid in the Silent Auction or buy some Promises, get quized by the Two Bobs, hear some choral music with the Dolce Singers, pop along to the coffee mornings, there's lots to do in April...



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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

Please submit articles either by email to **paradisefound86@icloud.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 – and with the fee!

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 £2.50 per month for a boxed advert.

Full page ads cost £8, 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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do your bit

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a cunning quiz

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Chapmanslade

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chapel colloquy

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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**

Diary *Dates*

April

Saturday 1st

Corsley Memorial War Memorial Playing Field

Spring Clean – 10 am to 3 pm

Jack and the Magical Beanstalk – 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Tuesday 4th

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

Wednesday 5th

Crafternoons – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes (in the gallery)

Thursday 6th

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, at the village hall

Friday 7th

Messy Church – 11 am, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Tuesday 11th

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Temple, BA12 7QN

Chapmanslade Village Hall Annual General Meeting – 8 pm, at the hall

Thursday 13th

Corsley WI - 'How well do we really know Wiltshire?' – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 20th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Saturday 22nd

Silent Auction and Sale of Promises – 7 for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Sunday 23rd

St George's Day Lunch – Market Table, Standerwick (see advert on page 14)

Wednesday 26th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room (last one for this 'season')

Wednesday 27th

Crafternoons – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes (in the gallery)

Saturday 29th

Quiz Night with Bob & Bob – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Dolce Singers - Mozart Requiem – 7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church, Corsley



May

Tuesday 2nd

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

Tuesday 9th

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning – 10
am to 12 noon, Temple, BA12 7QN

Sunday 7th

Coronation Big Lunch at Chapmanslade
Village Hall

Coronation Big Lunch Picnic – 12.30 pm
to 4 pm, Corsley War Memorial Playing
Field

Sunday 14th

Corsley Tennis Club tournament season
begins

Thursday 18th

Church and Community Coffee Morning
– 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes,
Chapmanslade

June

Tuesday 6th

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

Tuesday 13th

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning – 10
am to 12 noon, Temple, BA12 7QN

Wednesday 21st

National Make Music Day – an evening
concert by Wiltshire Rural Music, Corsley
Reading Room

Thursday 15th

Church and Community Coffee Morning
– 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes,

A personal 'thank you' from the Britten family

We would like to express our sincere
thanks for the love and support
shown to us over the past few
months and since Neil's death by this
wonderful community of Corsley and
Chapmanslade. The cards and many
messages received will be remembered
with gratitude by all the family. Thank
you.

Diana, Will and Bryony

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 5th April

Wednesday 19th April

Wednesday 3rd May

Wednesday 17th May

Wednesday 31st May

Wednesday 14th June

Wednesday 28th June

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 26th July

Wednesday 9th August

Wednesday 23rd August

Wiltshire Council

Do your bit for recycling

Councillor Bill Parks reports on some important recycling information

Spring is a special season, marking the time when our plant and wildlife starts to emerge from a dormant state after winter. Thankfully this winter did not have long shutdowns due to snow, but we still had some cold snaps and plenty of rain in the middle part of the winter. The wet weather was enough to cause flooding in many parts of the county, but most parts of this area were not badly affected.

Wiltshire Council has been advertising some of the areas that it is trying to improve in its service delivery. The Council has been asking for your help to recycle more by ensuring you only put the correct things into your blue-lidded bin. Please look at the hanger that you may find attached to your blue-lidded bin. More information on these bin hangers can be found here:

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/residents-reminded-to-put-the-correct-items-in-their-recycling-bins

For information, the most common 'wrong item' that people put into their blue-lidded bin is plastic bags – this includes carrier bags, bin bags and plastic film such as fruit bags or the film on top of meat or ready meal trays. The Council has made clear that they will check some bins for 'correct content'. If this happens to you and you think that the check was either too intrusive or unfair, please let me know.



Wiltshire Council is also trying to help those who rely on public transport. The £2 single bus fare promotion has been extended until Friday 30th June, so you can enjoy cheap and convenient travel until the summer. Many single bus fares throughout Wiltshire have been capped at just £2 for both adults and concessions. If the single fare was originally less than £2, it will remain at the reduced price, and many day return tickets have also been reduced. The promotion, which began on 1st January, is proving to be very popular in Wiltshire, with one bus operator in the county seeing more than 70,000 reduced-fare trips in the first month alone.

So, as we move into warmer weather there is some good news and let us hope that the rest of the year brings better news for us all. Perhaps a fall in inflation, lower interest rates and lower energy prices would be a good start! Here's hoping.

Bill Parks

*Wiltshire Councillor for Warminster North and Rural
07712 490075 or bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk*



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yogawithjackiej@gmail.com



Bob's bafflers

- 1 On which river does the city of Stoke stand?
- 2 In which US State would you find Graceland, Elvis's mansion?
- 3 Which farmyard animal has breeds such as Tamworth and Gloucester Old Spot?
- 4 According to the nursery rhyme, who lives on Drury Lane?
- 5 Which seaside resort is home to the longest pier in England?
- 6 In which film would you find Jiminy Cricket?
- 7 Scarlet Emperor, Enorma and Firelight are varieties of which vegetable?
- 8 What is the first name of Mrs Biden, the current US First Lady?
- 9 The island group the Azores, are part of which country?
- 10 Which river flows into the Dead Sea?
- 11 What is the fifth letter of the Greek alphabet?
- 12 Which is the only number to have the same spelling in both English and French?

Answers on page 40

Help!

We're hoping some of our longest-standing members of the villages can help with a bit of investigating! Over the last 110 years, the Corsley Show were very fortunate to have had a number of cups donated to be awarded to winners of classes in the Horticulture and Crafts competition. With the demise of the Corsley Show, we are no longer able to award the cups for the Corsley Fayre (it takes an awful lot of organising and databases to accurately award them) so we need to track

down either the original owners of the cups or their relatives to be able to return them. If you know of any surviving relatives (no matter where they are in the world!), we'd be very grateful for any information you have. Thanks to Judith Helliard and Jill and Hedley Hares, we've made some progress with some of the cups – if you have any information on the people listed below, please do let Viv Thomas know at paradisefound86@icloud.com

Jack Open (sadly, he drowned but his son used to farm at Popes Farm, Corsley)

F Milton Russ JP (Solicitor - this is a very long shot as the cup is dated 1957)

W F Pearce

H T Cookson (used to live at Sandhayes)

Fred Carpenter (sadly deceased but his children live in France)

Change of advertising rates

Trade adverts

We last changed our advertising rates in 2013 and since then our print run has increased from around 700 to 752 (from this edition) as the new Honey Glade estate in Chapmanslade becomes occupied. In addition, the printer increased his rates by 10% at the end of last year. We regret that, in order to continue to deliver the magazine free of charge to all households, we have now had to increase our rates. Our new rates appear on the inside back cover.

Other advertising

The fee for all 'boxed' adverts for notices, coffee mornings, etc., has also increased to £2.50. Info for these type of adverts can be found on the inside front cover.

Lite Bites Soup Lunch for all

A VERY BIG **THANK YOU** from the Lite Bites Team to all those who attended our Soup lunch on Wednesday 22nd February. Our record numbers helped us raise £316.50 for the earthquake disaster fund in Turkey and Syria. We look forward to seeing you again in March and at our final lunch of the 'season' on 26th April when we will be supporting Dorothy House. Corsley Reading Room 12.30 – 2 pm

Maureen Willcox

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning

Free cakes, coffee and chat



**Every 2nd Tuesday of each month
from 10 am to 12 noon
Temple, Corsley, BA12 7QN**

**If you need transport,
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www.whitbournechapel.org

Pat Mizen

Patricia Catherine Mizen (nee Fowler) sadly passed away at home on 4th February 2023, aged 79. Pat was beloved wife to Derek, mother to Kim (Basil), Kathleen and Brian, Hilary, John and Denise. Grandmother to ten and Great Grandmother to thirteen. Patricia's funeral service was held at St Margaret's Church, Corsley on Monday 6th March followed by cremation at West Wilts Crematorium.

Christian Healing Prayer in Westbury

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Hold the Date!

8 pm, Saturday 2nd September
Corsley showground, Deep Lane

The **Corsley Ceilidh** will be back again this year, raising funds for Bath Cancer Unit Support Group (last year the ceilidh raised over £4500).

More details and how to book your tickets in next month's edition of *The Bridge*.

Dolce Singers Mozart Requiem

On Saturday 29th April at 7.30 pm, the 'Dolce Singers' chamber choir will be performing a programme of music at St Margaret's Church, Corsley which include Canticles by BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM Album of the Week Dorset-based composer Matthew Coleridge. This is the first live performance of his 'Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis' with the composer himself singing. As well as Matthew's music the evening will be comprised of other choral classics including Mozart's 'Requiem', Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and Parry's 'I was glad'.

Please see the concert advert on the next page for ticket details.

Chapmanslade Village Hall Annual General Meeting

8 pm, Tuesday 11th April

Everyone welcome
Free tea/coffee & homemade biscuits!!
Come along to hear what is happening
at **YOUR** village hall
A chance to have your say

For up-to-date information such as occasional parish council meetings, church services, previous editions of *The Bridge*, local clubs and activities, business listings, and other useful information, please visit

www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk

Want something added? Just email the Editor with your request!

Chapmanslade Village Hall

Quiz with Bob & Bob

7.30 pm Saturday 29th April

£10 to include supper
(fish, fishcake or sausage with chips)

Tickets must be purchased in advance to order food

Licenced Bar

Raffle

Contact: Frank 832678

DOLCE SINGERS

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MUSICAL DIRECTOR: DANIEL ROBERT CUSHING

Mozart Requiem

Saturday 29th April, 7:30pm

St. Margaret's Church, Corsley

Handel – Zadok the Priest

Coleridge – Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis

Parry – I was Glad

Tickets - £15 | Under 18 - £5
dolcesingers.co.uk

Dolce
Singers

making
music

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Please contact us to book your table.

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23rd April 2023

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Chapmanslade

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Tim Humphreys reports on the PC's March meeting

The Parish Council met at the village hall on Thursday 9th March with 19 members of the public present plus our local councillor Bill Parks.

Opportunity for the public to speak

There were a number of residents living adjacent to the proposed development on the land south of 92 High Street who spoke strongly in objection, summarising the more detailed comments posted both individually and collectively on the Wiltshire Council (WC) Planning portal. Governance for the formal process from 2017 that resulted in a change to the settlement boundary of the site was questioned; however the PC Chair reminded that the current application should be considered on its merits only.

Planning applications

- **PL/2022/09808 Land south of 92 High Street, Chapmanslade. Demolition of stables and construction of new house with associated works and change of use of land to C3 (resubmission of PL/2022/03190).**

The PC understood the strength of feeling expressed by adjacent residents, but in consideration of planning regulations and guidance unanimously agreed to object to this proposed development since it failed to fulfil the criteria under a number of key WC core policies. There being no demonstrated essential need under CP1, the development exceeded the settlement boundary limit required under CP2, and the scale and prominence of the building would result

in a significantly harmful effect on the character and appearance of the area contravening CP 51 & 57. Other concerns were expressed in respect of the access track size and vehicular capacity (especially during the construction period) pedestrian safety for resident approach to the rear of their properties, and certain inconsistencies in detail given within the application documents over building placement and elevation.

Irrespective of the views expressed by the PC, this application has been 'called in' by our local councillor for determination by the Planning Inspectorate within WC.

- **PL/2022/09234 Lawful development: Existing use. Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of the building as a Pro Golf Shop and Café Driving Range Building, Thoulstone Park Golf Club, Thoulstone.**
No comment returned by the Council since, as worded and countersigned, the Certificate is factually correct. Any future prospective redevelopment of the disused shop/café would need to be considered under a separate planning application.
- **PL/2023/01244 Householder planning permission. Proposed two storey rear extension, internal alterations, Proposed Carport, Ancillary works. 107 High Street, Chapmanslade.** There were no objections raised against this application.

- **PL/2023/01386 Full planning permission. Change of use of building to a dwelling and land within the curtilage to ancillary residential use. Building and Land, Access and Track off the High Street.**

Notwithstanding there were no external alterations required / proposed and certain offered assurances given against future further development of the site, the PC felt compelled to object to this development primarily since it is well outside of the settlement boundary and therefore considered as a new-build, has poor access, no current utility services, and that any offered section 106 covenant could be modified or discharged on application after a 5 year period.

- **Planning Appeal – Decision**
Appeal Reference: APP/Y3940/W/22/3298668. Application reference: 20/06919/OUT. Outline planning application for 5 no. serviced self-build plots - land to the north east of 150 High Street, Chapmanslade.

The appeal by the applicant has been dismissed by the WC Planning Inspector, who, in a detailed critique, concluded the proposed scheme conflicted with Core Policies 1, 2 and 31 of the Core Strategy, and therefore with the development plan as a whole.

Other matters

- Our local councillor has proposed a signage scheme to address the current inadequate signage for the existing weight limit (18.5t) through our village. This is intended as an interim measure whilst a reduced HGV weight limit negotiation continues with Wiltshire Highways department.
- At a recent meeting by the three villages affected by HGV traffic – Chapmanslade, Corsley, and Maiden Bradley, it was agreed that a joint petition statement be prepared

to keep pressure on WC to reduce our weight limits and to require HGVs to use the identified strategic freight routes for Wiltshire.

- The PC agreed that a public meeting at the Village Hall would be helpful to discuss and identify potential community projects funded through the CIL funding that has arisen from the Honey Glade development at Barters Plant Centre. A previous village Facebook request for public suggestions didn't gain traction and it is important that suitable projects can be agreed/taken forward this year.
- Also allied to the Barters Farm development, Section 106 money is now available for request from the PC for identified projects to improve the memorial ground at the hall, and to enhance our footpaths (rights of way).
- Plans are under way to arrange a Big Lunch at the village hall to celebrate the Coronation of HRH Charles III on Saturday 7th May; this will be similar to the event held last year to commemorate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The PC is delighted to support holding of celebratory events separately arranged by other village groups i.e. the school, Three Horseshoes, Barters Farm and the Church.
- The PC noted and agreed with the sentiments expressed within the letter written by Westbury Council in response to losing the appeal decision against building of an 'energy from waste' incinerator by Northacre Renewable Energy.

The next PC meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on 6th April at the village hall.

Minutes of the meeting can be found on the Parish Council website

www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

Tim Humphreys
Parish Councillor



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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I have thought a lot about what on earth I am going to say in this Easter edition of my letter. Easter is about resurrection hope, a glimmer of light pointing beyond the darkness of despair, suffering and death. But I am acutely aware that for many people both in the UK and the wider world, that light is very hard to find today.

We live in a ridiculous, confusing world do we not. As I write there is much in news about a wonder drug that can be used to combat obesity, and yes, every day we read in the newspapers that this obesity 'epidemic' is killing us. And yet the rising price of food, fuel and just about everything means that we hear reports of parents having to forgo their own meals so that their children can eat. 43 million people in 38 countries across the globe are at risk of falling into famine or a severe hunger crisis. Globally, almost one in ten people don't have enough food to eat. 3.1 billion people can't afford a healthy, nutritious diet. Desperate people continue to flee their own countries, forced to risk their lives in attempting to find sanctuary, hope, and safety from persecution and death. Thousands of people languish in refugee camps, forgotten, ignored, just another statistic. Where is the resurrection hope for these people, God's children just as we are?

The Christian message is that Jesus came and lived among us to share what it means to be human and that he died and rose again so that we might have eternal life. But what does this actually mean? Is this life after death, a nice cosy home with God in heaven when we die, and what or where is heaven? To be honest I don't know the answer to these questions; I do believe that when we die in some mysterious way, we are united with God, but I wouldn't presume to know what that looks like.

So is that it do you think, is the idea of eternal life only about the hereafter, doesn't it have something to do with how we live our lives now as well? In the Old Testament there is a very powerful imperative to care for the orphan and stranger, to see that justice for the poor is upheld, essentially to love God and neighbour. Jesus took this one step further and blew apart the prevailing understanding of justice. The stories that he told and the way he lived show us that eternal life is very much about the here and now, it's about life in all its fullness for all people. Resurrection isn't just something that happened two thousand years ago, it needs to happen now for all those people who are crying out for food, for justice for life, and we all have a part to play in making that happen.

Of course, there is still a place for chocolate eggs and such like, and we should enjoy and give thanks for the good gifts that God gives us. But let's not forget that Easter is for all God's children and not just for us.

Happy Easter
Pauline

April Church Diary

2nd April: Palm Sunday

Reading of The Passion

8 am Holy Communion, Kingston

9.30 am Eucharist, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge



6th April: Maundy Thursday

7 pm Agape Meal, Chapmanslade

7 pm Agape Meal, Longbridge



7th April: Good Friday

10.30 am Messy Church, Chapmanslade

11 pm St Matthew's Passion, Brixton



9th April: Easter Day

9.30 am Eucharist, Corsley

9.30 am Eucharist, Kingston

11.15 am Eucharist, Horningsham



16th April: Easter 2

10 am Eucharist, Brixton

11 am Matins, Corsley

6 pm Evensong, Longbridge



23rd April: Easter 3 and St George's Day

9.30 am Eucharist, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Longbridge



30th April: Easter 4

Benefice service

10 am Eucharist, Horningsham



7th May

8 am Communion, Kingston

10 am Morning Worship to celebrate the Coronation
followed by bubbles and cake, Longbridge

9.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

**Messy
CHURCH**

**Messy
Easter**



Good Friday Messy Church

Please come and join us
at our next Messy Church event
on Good Friday 7th April at
St. Philip & St James Church
Chapmanslade from 11.00am
for some crafts and fun activities,
followed by a short service
We would love to see you.



With drinks and Hot Cross Buns

Community Church and Coffee Morning

Thursday 20th April, 10am – 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Crafternoons

Wednesday 5th & Thursday 27th April
3 – 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Lite Bites Soup Lunch

12.30 pm – 2 pm, 26th April, Corsley Reading Rooms

Funerals during March

Neil Britten, 3rd March at St Margaret's, Corsley
Pat Mizen, 6th March at St Margaret's, Corsley
Our thoughts and prayers are with their families at this difficult time

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid (day off is Fridays) revpauline@btinternet.com	01985 841290
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner	01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson	01373 832393
Churchwardens St Margaret's	Vacancy – contact Shane C R MacKean	01373 832506 07763 915620
St Philip & St James' Deputy Churchwardens St Philip & St James'	Ian Buick Janet Aylesbury	01373 832318 01373 832752
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	Ian and Janet Buick	01373 832318
Choir Leader	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Tower Captain	Michael Attenborough	01373 832777
Electoral Roll	Di Britten	01373 832515
Light Bites Lunches	Maureen Willcox	01373 832171

Copy for Six Open Doors should be sent to Di Britten at dianabritten69@gmail.com
Please contact Di if you would like to receive weekly news of Church events and activities

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Corsley

Coronation Big Lunch Picnic

Sunday May 7th 2023

Memorial Playing Field BA12 7PW

The whole village is invited to celebrate
The Coronation of King Charles III

Bring your own food and drink to join the community together
in an afternoon of fun, games and festivities. 12.30 pm to 4 pm

Royal toast to His Majesty with a glass of Fizz, scones and cream

Children's games, skittles, croquet, mini tennis, boules, quiz



Limited and disabled parking available on the field so being dropped off is advised.

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Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches

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Corsley WI

March news

Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the March meeting and announces some forthcoming events



The March meeting, which was held in the Reading Room, began with our AGM.

The business part of the meeting was followed by an interesting and informative talk given by Nigel Insel from EFA Training Ltd which is based in Westbury. The company offers various first aid courses but our theme for the evening was ‘Stayin’ Alive’ and focussed on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of defibrillators.

Nigel began by explaining that during a cardiac arrest the heartbeat becomes irregular and chaotic, the heart is in fibrillating mode, and needs defibrillating straight away. Defibrillating machines may be sited several minutes away and should be accessed as quickly as possible. While waiting for medical help, and while someone is fetching the defibrillator, it is vital to replace the heart action with CPR.

Community defibrillators have a code which unlocks them, the 999 service will give the code to access it. The defibrillator should be used immediately it is available; it analyses the condition of the patient and can assess and detect changes and it can send electric pulses to reset the heart. Nigel showed us a defibrillator and demonstrated how it works.

He told us that the machine gives clear instructions, guiding you through its use.

The talk reminded us all how important it is to learn basic techniques like CPR and reassured us that we would be able to use a defibrillator in an emergency.

There are defibrillators at The Cross Keys and The Royal Oak in Corsley, and at The Three Horseshoes in Chapmanslade.

Our speaker in April will be Sarah Buttenshaw, who will be asking “How well do we really know Wiltshire?” Meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of the month, at 7.30pm and guests are very welcome to join us in the Reading Room.

If you would like more information about Corsley WI please contact Alice Helliard on either 07989 339632 or at alicecambridge40@gmail.com



Corsley Tennis Club News



Time to join the club or renew your membership

For existing members – subscriptions are due, so you have until April 14th to renew your membership. If you are not yet a member why not make this the year you decide to join the Tennis club?

Why would you? Well it's a great way to get fit, stay fit and to make new friends.

Is it expensive? Adult membership costs £96 a year, so if you play once a week it'll cost you less than £2 each time.

Couple membership is £155 and family £180. If you live in Chapmanslade or Corsley your children (up to 18-year-olds and full time students) can play for FREE.

You can meet others through club sessions and via the WhatsApp group and, if you feel you need some tuition, we now have a coach, Martin, who is already offering children's sessions throughout the coming months and will soon be offering some adult group sessions.

Bookings are underway for the group sessions for children in two age groups – 5-7 and 8-13 years. These start from Sunday

16th April (there are some places left!). It costs £36 for a six week session. Martin has lots of experience and promises the sessions will be fun as well as giving children and young people the chance to play tennis and learn together.

It's not long now until tournament season begins! The dates are:

Women's and Men's Singles begin in April and take place throughout the summer; Mixed Doubles Tournament follows on Sunday 14th May and Women's Doubles on 21st May. Men's Doubles on Sunday 11th June and the American Tournament on Sunday 25th June. All of those are at 2 pm

The Over 70's Tournament will be on Thursday 20th July at 10 am. Always a fiercely fought competition, this timing allows for a lot of practice and time to size up the opposition!

All the details are on the clubwebsite.

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/>

CorsleyTennisClub

See you on court!

*Liz Garrett
Club Secretary*



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An April Fool at large!



We're off to Dorset again, to Shaftesbury. Take the A350 road from Warminster to Shaftesbury and pass the new developments on its outskirts. At the first 'proper' roundabout, find the town centre exit (third off) and follow signs to the pay and display car park, off Bleke Street. The Bell Inn once stood here, plus a cattle market in the late 1800s. Walk past the King's Arms at the car park's right edge, pass toilets on your left and you're on High Street; a road called Dimport is to your right and the town's to your left.

Cross the road and head left towards the Town Hall, built in 1827 as the town's gift from Lord Grosvenor, who previously bought two-thirds of Shaftesbury for over £60,000; you'll find frequent London-type road names

and buildings here. Left of the town hall is an entrance to Gold Hill, but beside that is Shaftesbury's oldest surviving church, St. Peter's. It was built in medieval times, for pilgrims visiting the Benedictine Abbey whose walls edge Gold Hill; the base of the church tower dates back to 1304. The nave of the church resembles a concert hall now, a light and airy space.

The Gold Hill entrance, beside the church tower, is steep and the cobbles slippery, so I returned to the right side of the town hall and descended the path there, using handrails and going carefully! The views here are wonderful, with the boundary walls of the Abbey lands on your right – an amazing feat of engineering in medieval times. Partway



down, the hill almost levels for a moment and there's the 'Salt Cellar' cafe, for a quick break or second breakfast; there's also a Hovis-shaped collection box here! At the bottom of Gold Hill is flat St. James Street; go right and walk till you find the park on your right. The play area's being improved and updated, so you can't miss the entrance. Climb back to the top of Shaftesbury



on the winding path, not one going straight up in the air, as Gold Hill does! Don't rush this, but stop occasionally and look back at the views across Blackmore Vale.

At the top of the incline you're on Park Walk, a wide promenade laid out in the 1760s and gifted to the town in 1816. This is a pleasant area, with covered seating like a bandstand away left. The buildings backing onto this Walk include Westminster Hospital, the original building and modern ones. The hospital was built in memory of a Marquis of Westminster; his wife donated the ground and

£2000 – and the hospital's still in use.

Go right, heading for town, and pass the remains of the Abbey founded by King Alfred in 888AD; his daughter Aethelgifu was its first Abbess. There's an archway into the ruins and garden here and a man walked in, so I followed, asking a lady inside how to access the gardens. She asked if I was a visitor. I said 'yes' and she told me, "We don't open till the First of April." My answer? "I'm the April Fool, arriving early!" She didn't even smile! I was returned to the foyer and another lady escorted me off-site. I said, "I've been thrown out of better places than this, you know!" and she didn't smile, either! Don't let my 'trespass' put you off visiting after 1st April, though, because entry is FREE, the gardens are wonderful and there is a cafe.

Walk the promenade back



to High Street, turn right, pass the Town Hall and church and go window-shopping in a wide selection of little places. If you get hungry, try 'John Peel' café (on the left) for all day breakfast and brunch-type dishes; it's basic, but has great value and a casual feel. When you reach the big crossroads, the grand Post Office is ahead, built on the site of the Angel Inn, home to Shaftesbury's first postmaster around 1667. This current building became the Post Office in 1946 and it's still open.

Turn left into Angel Lane, and marvel at a town that still has a proper Police Station! Angel Lane leads into a car park; walk through that and you're on Bell Street, with its impressive United Church. Turn left and walk beyond the church to Morrisons supermarket and Bell Street car park. If you still have parking time left (and energy!), find Dimport again and walk it, eventually swinging round to Park Walk for the return stroll...



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Whitbourne Chapel

"Today, you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23, v42

God demonstrates His own love for us...

Almost a century ago, on 26th April 1923 the future King George VI married Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (the Queen Mother). As they left Westminster Abbey at the end of the Service, the bride laid her flowers on the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. This act of remembrance to all who have fallen in war has been followed by every Royal bride who has married at Westminster Abbey since.

In the Bible, Luke records in his Gospel the conversation that took place between the Lord Jesus and the two criminals who were being crucified with Him. One of the criminals still rebuked Jesus; even in these last few hours of his own life on earth. However, Luke records that the second criminal said to Jesus "Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom". The Lord Jesus replies with a most precious promise "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise" (Luke 23 v 42)

This Easter time refreshes in our minds that indeed Jesus hasn't forgotten us, and that He knows us if we believe in and follow Him. Later, after Jesus had arisen and ascended back to heaven, the Apostle Paul wrote "Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man,

though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5 v 7-8).

That's why Easter is such a special time, as we worship, and give thanks to God that Jesus was prepared to go to the Cross and die for us. But it did not end on Good Friday

because He arose and was found alive on Easter Sunday. He now lives, remembering all who confess and put their trust in faith in Him, and one day we too will be with Him forever.

Chris Andrews, occasional preacher at Whitbourne

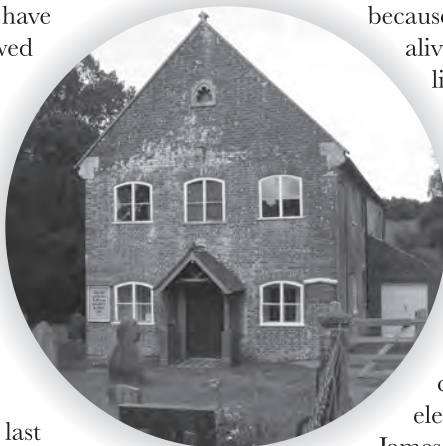
Looking to the Future!

At our recent AGM, current officers were re-elected en-bloc, with Mr James Wicks as Deputy Treasurer.

Coffee Mornings will continue, as members and visitors enjoy the time together.

Important dates: Corsley Fayre on Saturday 2nd September; our Harvest Service on October 15th (donations of food and cash going to a local food bank) and the Candlelight service on December 17th.

Long before these events is Easter Sunday on 9th April. Come to the Chapel and celebrate this special day with us; you'll be made very welcome!



Please remember:

If you need help or simply someone to talk to, ring 07980 013685 and we'll do our best to help you. Otherwise, visit our website www.whitbournechapel.org.uk or google 'Whitbourne Baptist Chapel'.

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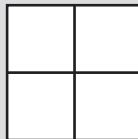
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Tickets

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Homemade Cream Teas: £5 per person

Served from 2:30PM

Tickets on sale now:

www.heywoodhouse.com/whats-on

A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

This month, Judith muses on the sounds of the countryside

6 am on Sunday 19th March, the sun is rising just behind Clay Hill, there's little traffic on the A362 so all I hear is the sound of the countryside.

A cock pheasant is calling to his 'ladies', wood pigeons with their lazy repetitive call, and the Canada geese, calling as they fly down river to their daytime feeding area. There's even a woodpecker drilling into a nearby tree. The rooks are leaving their night roosts and gathering together in the top of a large oak, cawing noisily to one another.

In the farmyard, the throb of the milking machine can be heard as the cows shuffle about as they wait to be milked. The cows that have already been milked wait with interest to see which field they are going to today, the larger fields are fenced off with electric fencing measured to suit the size of herd that will graze there for one day only. The following day they'll be in a fresh field with fresh pasture.

It is interesting to see some new hedging being planted in some areas of the farm; with the government's encouragement, farmers are now more and more thinking of ways to encourage more windbreaks and suitable cover for birds, mammals and insects.

The new hedges are a mixture of native shrubs and trees and will need protecting from rabbits and deer for a few years, but hopefully,

given time, will bring more wildlife to the countryside.

Sadly I seem to see more rubbish on road verges and lanes. Yesterday, on a 100m length of a foot path adjacent to an A road, I saw two empty bottles of wine, an empty plastic container of Domestos, three empty cans of drink and numerous containers that had contained fast food. All these items

are deliberately left, will cause danger to animals and will not naturally break down. This is not an area where the council would even go, so it either builds up or we ask our Local Parish Council to organise a regular village litter pick!

Can I remind gardeners to save as much rain water as possible, the lack of rain this winter may mean a continuation of the hosepipe ban this coming summer.

April and May are my favourite months in the countryside; there's so much new life on the farm. Trees and hedges spring into life, and our summer birds return and there's plenty of food for insects and wildlife.

While dog walking, look out for ground nesting birds, young deer and hare in the long grass and check again for those ticks that can attach themselves to humans and dogs.

Enjoy this beautiful time of our year and if it does rain, just be grateful, we really need it!

Judith Helliar



Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

Chairman, Hugh Deed, reports on the latest happenings at the hall



Coffee Mornings

The next Coffee Morning on Tuesday 4th April (10 am to 12 noon). Please do join us and see the state of the roof refurbishment and see the new photos (see below).

Save the date... 21st June – National Make Music Day

We expect to have a musical performance on the evening of Wednesday 21st June by Wiltshire Rural Music. More details next month.

Refurbishment Programme

By the time this is delivered to you we should be over halfway through the refurbishment of the roof. We have had no nasty surprises

so far. See our website for more up-to-date information. More here next month when it should be complete.

'Photographs of Corsley' Competition

The new photos are now on show in the main hall having replaced the original four.

New Treasurer

Following her appointment as a trustee, Caroline Hutton has now taken over fully from Vanessa Hyde as the charity treasurer. Should you need to contact her then please use treasurer@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk.

Farewell Vanessa!

The trustees held a self-funded evening to say farewell to Vanessa Hyde and thank her for her time at the Reading Room. Though it is unclear exactly when Vanessa will leave the village, she has now stood down as a trustee.

See website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for up-to-date information and more details about the Reading Room.

To hire, see the website or call Gill Parkinson (01373 832322) to discuss.

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

01373 832897

Committee Members

David Carruthers, Hugh Deed, Claire Firman-Ford,
Liz Garrett, Caroline Hutton, Jackie Jasper, Gill Parkinson, Mark Richards

Small ads

£1 for EACH item for sale or wanted (cash only please) - at one of the two drop-off locations)

Please note: no cash, no advert!

FOR SALE

Days Escape wheelchair – hardly used **£80**

Days Escape Rollator **£20**

01373 465931

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Trent
- 2 Tennessee
- 3 Pig
- 4 The muffin man
- 5 Southend on Sea
- 6 Pinocchio
- 7 Runner beans
- 8 Jill
- 9 Portugal
- 10 River Jordan
- 11 Epsilon
- 12 Six

Local organisation adverts

£2.50 per month for a small boxed advert or £8 for a full page. Full page adverts are allocated depending on space available and cannot be guaranteed. All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations (Barter's Plant Centre or Acres Supply Garden Centre) by **4pm** on the **19th** of the month. Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Annual trade advertisements (12 issues, when space is available)

1 space	(69mm wide x 33mm high)	£24
2 spaces	(69mm wide x 66mm high)	£47
3 spaces	(quarter page - 69mm wide x 100mm high)	£68
4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£85
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£120

Trade advertisement material should be supplied in print-ready format,
to the chosen standard size and correct shape.

For trade advertising enquiries, please contact David James (Trade advert coordinator/Treasurer)
at either thebridge832@gmail.com or 01373 832443.

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