The Bridge monthly village magazine

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Local organisation adverts (not trade)

£2.00 per month for a boxed advert

All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations: Barters Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley) by 4pm on the 12th of December.

Please note: no cash, no advert!

From the Editor

Corrigendum: from November's 'Did you know' (p42), as spotted by an eagle-eyed reader – 'Google' is an internet search engine. A GOOGOL is the name given to a number equating to 1 followed by a HUNDRED zeroes, generally regarded as the highest practical number.

editor V

NEW January Deadline

In order to ensure the The Bridge is delivered on time, the deadline for articles or adverts for the January issue is 4pm 12th December.

Please note that no items will be accepted after this date

Please submit your articles either by email to me at viv.thomas146@btinternet.com or take them to either

Barters Plant Centre Chapmanslade or

Barters Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley.

If you are advertising, please don't forget to include the advertiser's fee. Small ads are 80p PER ITEM, local organisations (churches, playgroups, clubs, etc) who are advertising events are £2.00. News, reports, updates, thank you's, etc, from individuals or local organisations are free - the more the merrier - keep 'em coming! Space allotted for events adverts is always dependent on availability at the time.



Saturday 1st

Corsley litter pick – 11.00, meet opposite the Royal Oak



Community Carol Evening – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 4th

Coffee Morning – 10.00 - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 8th

Chapmanslade Litter Pick – 12 noon, meet opposite The Three Horseshoes

Christmas Fayre – 2.30pm, Chapmanslade School (see ad for more information)

Saturday 9th

Corsley Festival Choir – 7.30pm, St Margaret's Church

Tuesday 11th

Evening of Yoga and Mince Pies – 6.30pm, Corsley Reading Room (see ad for more info)

Wednesday 12th

Light Bites Christmas Lunch – 12.30 for 1.00pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Thursday 13th

Corsley WI Christmas Dinner

Saturday 15th

Little Cuckoos Christmas Fayre

Monday 17th

Village Carol Singing in Chapmanslade – meet at 6.00pm at the Old Post Office, Chapmanslade)

Wednesday 19th

Village Carol Singing around Corsley – from 6.00pm

Thursday 20th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – from 10.00am, The Three Horseshoes

January

Saturday 5th

Corsley litter pick – 11.00, meet opposite the Royal Oak

Diary Dates

Thursday 10th

Corsley WI – 2.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 16th

Light Bites - Soup and Ploughman's Lunch – 12.30 - 1.30pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Friday 18th and Saturday 19th

'Entertaining Angels' performed by Deverill Players – 7.00pm, Manor Farm Barn, Kingston Deverill, BA12 7HB

Friday 25th

'Our Afghanistan Tour 2012' - a talk by Lt Col Zac Stenning MBE CO of 3 Yorks - 7.30pm, Civic Centre, Warminster

February

Tuesday 5th

Coffee Morning – 10.00 - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 9th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches Auction – Chapmanslade Village Hall

March

Tuesday 5th

Coffee Morning – 10.00 - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Friday 22nd

Irish Night – 7.00pm, Corsley Reading Room

Corsley Show

Results available on our website

www.corsleyshow.org.uk

If you need reminding how well you did at the Corsley Show this year, you have only to log on to our website where results for the Horticulture & Crafts Show, Dog Show and Children's Sports are available.

Do not lament the passing of the Ash...

but rejoice and relish the opportunity the replacement offers.

Future woods and future loves.

Weep a little but smile more, at the prospects of a countryside refreshed and renewed with new trees, new enthusiasm, new woods and new loves.

Pass on not sadness to the next generation, but tell them about the tall slender trees that you remember of your youth.

Pass on the joy of the ash, of the cool dapple shade offered on sunlit days.

And remember the great Elms of our younger days?, the most magnificent and the most eminently climbable of all old England's trees.

No more coffin wood, no more great beams, and no more wheel hubs.

Gone they may be but their memories and their folklore linger still – and so will it be with the Ash.

Woody Sniggers

Has the sad news of the inevitable demise of our Ash trees made you dispirited and downhearted? Turn to page 12 for some inspiration...

Litter pickers

Chapmanslade litter pickers

We will be meeting opposite the Three Horseshoes at noon on Saturday 8th December. We provide all the necessary equipment and spend about an hour or so collecting litter from the High Street and surrounding area.

Phil Jefferson 01373 832845

Corsley litter pickers

We meet opposite the Royal Oak at 11am on the first Saturday of each month. Our next 'pick' is on Saturday 1st December – do come along and help keep our village beautiful.

Cath Aylesbury and Sue Taylor

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches



Saturday 1st December 4 Roddenbury View, Corsley from 10.30 am until noon

by kind permission of John and Judith Helliar

Christmas Gifts 50/50 Club Draw

All welcome – do come along, we'd love to see you



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Ring the changes with **Campanology News**

The month since I last wrote has been quite busy in our local bell ringing circles. I am very pleased to say that at Corsley we have managed to practice every Friday but one with generally 6 or 7 of our usual band of Corsley and Warminster ringers being available again. Sadly, as the Minster have bells for their 9.30 service every Sunday, we were unable to ring for the 9.30 service at St Margaret's on 4th November as without them there were only 3 of us to ring.

We have recently rung for two weddings: Gareth Hobbs and Karen Louise Brimble on 29th September and Kevin Baskin Wright and Harriet Jane Dyer on 10th November

The bells were rung for the arrival of the bride and again for the departure of the couple after the service. A very special way to celebrate such a happy occasion.

This last month also included Remembrance Sunday. The bells were muffled for this service. A leather damper is attached to one side of the clapper such that when the bells are rung in rounds (in order one after another) there are 6 blows or strikes sounding normally and 6 with a muted or muffled sound creating and echo effect. The final sound is extremely effective giving an added reverence to the sound of the bells.

Muffling the bells is quite an exacting activity as it

requires someone going up into the actual bell tower and attaching the muffles. There is not much room and in order to reach the clappers the bells have to be left up (in the ringing position). We have to thank Mike Clarke, our Steeple Keeper, for doing this and looking after the condition of our bells and the tower generally.

Traditionally, when bells are rung for a funeral, they are rung muffled for everyone's arrival to mourn the passing of the departed and rung open (muffles removed) after the service in celebration of their life.

Personally, I have enjoyed this last month immensely. As you might imagine, not only do the Warminster ringers regularly join us, we join them on their practice nights and service ringing in return. I have been ringing at least 4 times a week and this month, with the addition of weddings and extra services, I have been ringing 5 and 6 times.

Most ringers only ring twice a week. At the rate I am going I shall catch up the 40 years missed ringing in no time at all!

Marion Moldon

Bell ringing practice every Friday from 7.30 to 9.00pm



Buzzing news from the hive

Children in Need

Busy Bees Pre-school would like to thank the school for allowing us to be part of their Children in Need experience. The staff and children really enjoyed getting to meet Pudsey Bear on the 16th November. We would like to give a BIG thank-you to Asda, Frome for making this exciting experience happen.



Bags 2 School

Its that time of year again where Busy Bee's is collecting all your unwanted recyclable items to help raise funds for the pre-school and After-school club, which gives you the perfect opportunity to clear out your cupboards before Santa makes his arrival! Bags 2 school are collecting from Busy Bees pre-school on the December 10th at 9am, so if you have any bags, please drop them off to the Pre-school before the the date and time above. We would be very grateful for your help.

Bags 2 school is a free fundraising scheme established in 2001. They work in partnership with Schools, Business, Community Groups, Local Councils and Charities to help us raise funds from your donations.

Bag2School collects good quality second hand adults and children's clothing, sheets, blankets, curtains, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags. All items collected are for RE-LISE

Please note we cannot accept:

- Dirty or wet clothing
- Single shoes
- Off cuts of material
- Mats
- Carpets
- Pillows
- Duvets
- Bric-a-Brac
- Corporate clothing
- Industrial curtains/bedding

Busy Bees Pre-School is a charity run pre-school based in Chapmanslade.

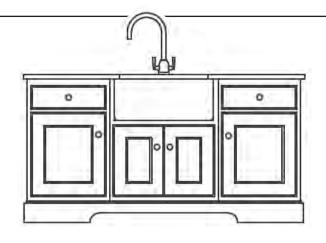
If you would like to give us visit then please call us on 07749 257608.

We are now also holding toddler groups on Tuesdays and Thursdays 1 pm-3 pm.

We hope to see you then!

Chapmanslade C of E School, High Street, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AN T. 07749 257608 E. busybeespre-school@hotmail.co.uk





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Corsley and Chapmanslade Operation Christmas Child

A big thank you to everyone who so generously gave shoe boxes full of gifts for the children in needy countries and to the people who knitted the hand

puppets. On Sunday 28th October we gathered all the shoe boxes together blessed them before sending them on their way. This year we took 24 shoeboxes to the Samaritans Purse depot in Melksham, where they are made ready for distribution, primarily to countries in Eastern Europe.

Each box is checked to ensure that all items included are suitable, and any that are not

are re-distributed to other charities. The boxes are then sealed and packed into large cartons which are stacked onto pallets before being loaded on to lorries. Each

vehicle will transport between 10,000 and 13,000 boxes, which at this time of year, travel out almost weekly. In 2011, 1,089,018 shoe boxes were sent from UK and Ireland to 14 different countries.

Once again, thank you Corsley, Chapmanslade and Little Cuckoos Pre School for giving not just the gifts but also your time and thought in putting the boxes together.

Pat Ryan, St Margarets Church

Corsley and Chapmanslade Poppy Appeal Collection

The 2012 house to house collections and the static collections at the three Corsley pubs, Acres Supply, Little Cuckoos Nursery, The Steiner Academy and Chapmanslade school, have raised £1056.85. The collections from the Remembrance Services at Corsley and Chapmanslade along with a donation from the Church charity fund raised a further £700, so the total raised was £1756.85. This is wonderful, especially considering the current economic climate.

Many thanks to all the collectors and to everyone who gave so generously.

The Royal British Legion not only remembers and honours the sacrifices of those who fought and continue to fight in the service of our nation, but also contributes to providing them with lifelong care.

Many thanks

Jackie Jasper Poppy Appeal Organiser for Corsley

Bob's bafflers

- 1 Winston Smith is the central protagonist in which famous novel?
- 2 Au is the symbol for which chemical element?
- 3 "Barwick Green" is the name of the theme tune for which radio series?
- 4 When Charles Dickens died in 1870, which novel did he leave unfinished?
- 5 Listing all 50 States of America, which comes first alphabetically?
- 6 Listing all the administrative English counties, which comes first alphabetically?
- 7 On TV, whose neighbours were Margo and Jerry Leadbetter?
- 8 How many incisor teeth should an adult human have?
- 9 The name of which drink translates as "Auntie Mary"?
- 10 Southdown, Romney and Herdwick are breeds of which animal?
- 11 According to the proverb, where do all roads lead?
- 12 Who is the longest reigning King in British history?

Answers on page 47

Corsley Festival Choir



7.30pm, Sunday 9th December St Margaret's Church

Haydns at Christmas
Run ye shepherds to the light
St Nicholas Mass

and a selection of Christmas carols for choir and audience

Corsley Festival Orchestra Soloists from Trinity College of Music Tickets £10 Telephone 01985 217191

the three horseshoes

The pub Chapmanslade deserve

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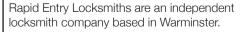
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Corsley WI November News



The President, Judith Helliar, gave a warm welcome to members and visitors to the meeting of Corsley WI held on 8 November and introduced Phil Cary with his talk and slides about 150 years of Frome Show. Phil has long been a part of the Frome & District Agricultural Society, both his father and grandfather before him were chairmen of Frome Show.

The Agricultural Society was founded in 1861 due to a rise in the number of dairy cows and the need to market the cheese and butter. The advent of the railway to the town helped exploit a growing nationwide demand for these products and the first Cheese Show took place in the autumn of 1861 in the market yard in Frome when despite vast storms, up to 3000 people attended and an amazing 25 tons of cheese were sold.

In 1875 a new market hall, now known as the Cheese & Grain, was built and land on the other side of the river from the Market Yard was turned into a show field every year. A grandstand built there before the First World War was later taken down and rebuilt on the Fromefield Show ground when the show moved there in 1920. It stood for more than another 50 years before being burned down shortly after the 1972 show. The Cheese & Grain building had been used for munitions during the 1914/18 war and was not given back to the society.

In 1999 having outgrown the Fromefield site, the show moved to West Woodlands and now goes from strength to strength, with a new lake for country pursuits and a permanent Cheese Pavilion to showcase produce from all over the country. Di Dowling gave the vote of thanks for a very interesting talk.

During October some of our members attended a meeting of the Weavers Group of WIs to hear an amusing account of health

Activities open to everyone

Coffee Morning

4th December, 10 - 12 noon – Corsley Reading Room

Gardening Club

For details please contact Pauline Scott on 01985 215760

Bridge Club

1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month, 2 - 4pm, at Corsley Reading Room. Beginners welcome.

and beauty advice published in magazines of the 1950's. The Gardening Club enjoyed their visit to Westonbirt to see the autumn colours. Anne Carruthers reported on the Wiltshire Federation Autumn Council Meeting at which one of the speakers had been Paul Mayhew-Archer, a scriptwriter of The Vicar of Dibley and other sit-coms. The competition for a china animal was won by Jean White, with Val Benbow second and Hilary Vallis third.

The next meeting is on 10 January at 2.30pm and is open to visitors. There will be a talk with slides on Dairy Farming around the World by David Helliar.

If you would like to join our WI, please contact Carol on 01373 832446 or come to the meeting in Corsley Reading Room.

Horticulture & Crafts at Corsley Show 2013

ATTENTION craft workers, artists and gardeners!

It is never too early to start planning and preparing to ensure success at the 2013 Show.

To enable you to get started we have produced a preliminary schedule covering the vegetable, craft and art classes.

Copies will be available from Acres Supply Garden Centre and can be viewed on our website www.corsleyshow.org Alternatively apply to Fraser Mills, Horticulture & Crafts Chairman Telephone 01373 832858 or e-mail: ifrasermills@gol.com

Only minor changes have been made to the vegetable classes. However in the Handicraft Division the following new classes are being introduced:

- Fabric handy hanging organiser. Max size 46cm x 78cm (replaces 'dolls house room box')
- Pin cushion (replaces 'peg bag')
- Brooch made from buttons (replaces 'picture made from buttons')
- Decorated pebble Max.size 20cms (replaces 'decorated flower pot').

In the Art Division:

 Pen and wash of any subject (replaces 'still life').

The full schedule will be distributed at the usual time in the early summer.

Good luck with your preparations!

www.corsleyshow.org.uk

The Great British Elm Experiment

The Conservation Foundation is attempting to unlock the mystery of why some trees survived Dutch elm disease which wiped out over 25 million elms in the UK.



Why are we doing it?

Cuttings taken from mature trees that appear to have resisted Dutch elm disease for over 60 years have been skilfully micro propagated. The resulting saplings are being distributed to hundreds of schools, community groups, local authorities and private landowners who have signed up to take part in the 'Great British Elm Experiment'

"We want to interest a new generation in the elm, so much a feature of the British life and landscape for centuries and also to try and

find out why some trees survived Dutch elm disease. So many have disappeared over recent years

that we can only hope to replace some. But rather than just give up and forget the elm, we think it's worth a try." - David Shreeve, Director, The Conservation Foundation.

Height, girth, biodiversity and any signs of disease are being recorded and it is hoped that in time a new generation of elms will become established throughout the UK and a new generation of young people will be encouraged to have an interest in elms and biodiversity. The project also heralds hope

for the White-letter hairstreak butterfly that relies on the elm for food.

This exciting project was launched during the UN's International Year of Biodiversity. Partners in the project include MicroPropation Services, Millhouse Nurseries, Alba Trees and Trees Direct.

How do I take part?

Saplings are being offered **free** to

schools and non-profit organisations

Saplings are being offered free to schools and non-profit organisations, whilst private individuals and businesses can purchase

> them at a modest cost. Each small tree is accompanied by a certificate showing

its parent tree and type and schools will also receive a poster with growing tips and project ideas.

Please email elms@conservationfoundation. co.uk and we'll get back to you with all the details we need for you to take part in the experiment.

For private orders of up to 10 saplings, please go to TreesDirect.co.uk.

www.conservationfoundation.co.uk

An evening with

Lieutenant Colonel Zac Stenning MBE Commanding Officer 3 Yorks

'Our Afghanistan Tour 2012'

Civic Centre, Warminster 7.30pm, Friday 25th January 2013

Entry fee £10 (to include a glass of wine) with all profits going to the Regimental Charity
Tickets can be obtained from the Information Centre, Civic Centre,
Travel Angels, or at the door

Sponsored by The Rotary Club of Warminster

Christmas

by Caroline Le Vine, counsellor in Corsley

It's a major annual focus for most people. Its significance to the Christian community is obvious and it's a time to be spent with the family, relaxing and having fun. It's a wonderful pause in the year. But not for everyone. For some, Christmas feels anything but festive. Some of you will have been recently bereaved or otherwise missing a loved one who can't or won't be with you. Some of you will feel harassed and anary because, yet again, you're taking care of all the preparations single-handedly. Some of you will be dreading spending time with the people you "should" want to see but, for whatever reason, don't want to have in the same room. If any of this strikes a chord with you, counselling could help. There are many expectations in the air during the season of goodwill. They feel so universal that they go unquestioned. Spending time reflecting on those expectations and

exploring which ones you choose to fulfil can be immensely liberating. Regaining (or even discovering for



the first time) a sense of being in control and having choices — even at Christmas — allows us to grow a little further into who we really are. When this happens, we are more content. Of course, we can't change everything and everyone around us but we can change how we respond. You have the potential to create a happier new year.

If you're feeling unhappy this month, come and see me. You can ring or text me on 07817 192008, email le_vine@sky.com or find me at www.carolinelevine.co.uk . I practice at St Margaret's Church, Deep Lane. A first half hour meeting with me is free of charge.

In the meantime, I wish you a peaceful Christmas and a hopeful New Year.



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Corsley Tennis Club

New members welcome – all ages, all abilities Automatic right of membership to residents of Corsley and Chapmanslade Good courts Low subscriptions Contact either Marlene Latchem 01373 832357 or Sue Newell 01373 825560

Chapmanslade Village Hall

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For hiring information, phone Ken Davies 01373 832034 or email chapmansladehall@blueyonder.co.uk

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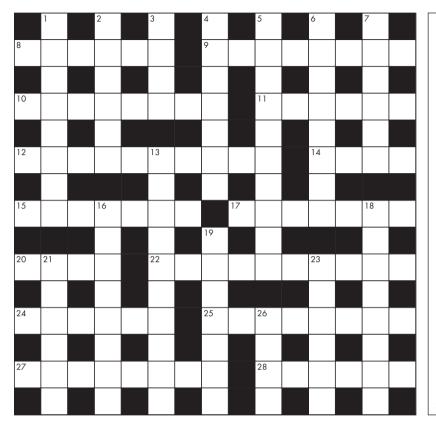


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Canopus



Doodle pad

solution page 47

Clues across

- 8 You look so ceremonial in uniform, Allenby (6)
- 9 Angry Dave in collapsed tent wants to settle the score (8)
- 10 Right after 15 ac? That's even more peculiar! (8)
- 11 Hang around it in a quite different role (6)
- 12 Ray and I fight about who decorates the tree (10)
- 14 Little Edward in a spin? (4)
- 15 Unusual road to the mountains (7)
- 17 Gold a Conservative goes on about (7)
- 20 Rent to the Navy? (4)
- 22 Will dancing make the prince gain weight? (10)
- 24 Mistakenly feel you are heard to be topping up? (6)
- 25 ...or up to sad lid in Tijuana (8)
- 27 Correctly deduce at leaving school (8)
- 28 Illustrate in a particularly crude picture (6)

Clues down

- 1 Shrink from a formal agreement (8)
- 2 Spoil the claim to be two? (6)
- 3 Beat at awful golf (4)
- 4 Oddly, five agree a norm (7)
- 5 Until a real change happens, it will always be one-sided (10)
- 6 Sent round to keep 10 cents on the bottom (8)
- 7 Show up in somewhat tender fashion (6)
- 13 US soldier in this neck of the woods? That's reasonable! (10)
- 16 Proclaim a little weight, reportedly (8)
- 18 Carrier shaped for car, OK? (4,4)
- 19 By the path in the ways I decide to walk (7)
- 20 Oliver initially drove appallingly, to the extreme (6)
- 23 One for the lance-corporal (6)
- 26 Pointless demon in this form? (4)

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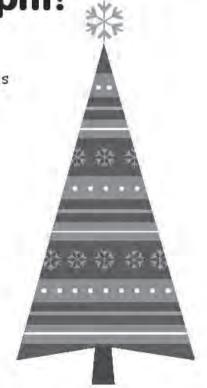
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Three Open Doors

The Rector writes:

Are you into reality TV? I find it fascinating and surprising that such programmes seem to have such wide appeal. I speak with almost no authority on the subject as I rarely, if ever, watch them. But I do remember seeing one in which a family was helped to 'de-clutter' their house. There was ruthlessness and determination on the part of the facilitator of the process. She invested in huge quantities of black sacks and filled them! Her encouragement enabled the family to do something they found difficult or impossible alone.

I think many of us need help and motivation to deal with the things that crowd in and clutter our lives. This time of year, as Christmas approaches, is a good time to take stock and do some physical sorting (to make space for the children's new toys or new gadgetry for the kitchen etc.) and also to engage in some more reflective sorting about the things that are really important to us. Each of us will respond differently but I suspect the what our thoughts have in common will be to do with relationships rather than material things.

Last month I wrote about friends and friendships. December and the approach of Christmas seems to concentrate our thoughts on our families too. This may be because the Christmas story centres on a family, far from home and in less than easy circumstances; we know that from the moment of Jesus' birth, many challenges would pepper that particular family's life, as indeed they do our own. As you prepare for your Christmas celebrations, and are busy with card writing, present buying and wrapping, menu planning and food preparation, spare a few moments to think about what is important in your life. You may even find it possible to leave aside the things that are less important, things that add only clutter and pressure.

The reality that fires our Christmas celebrations comes to us because of the birth of the Christ-child, a gift beyond all others, which we are all invited to receive. I hope and pray that you have space to accept that gift in your lives and through it, to know God's love. I wish you all a Very Happy Christmas.

December Church Diary

Saturday 1st December
10.30am Coffee Morning and 50/50 Club Christmas Draw at
High Field, 4 Roddenbury View, Corsley.

**

Sunday 2nd December: First Sunday of Advent 9.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley Fucharist

**

Sunday 9th December: Second Sunday of Advent 9.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade Eucharist

11am at St Mary's, Temple Matins



Wednesday 12th December 12.30pm to 1.30pm at Corsley Reading Rooms Christmas Lunch – Book yours on 01373 832650

*

Sunday 16th December: Third Sunday of Advent 9.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade Eucharist

3pm at St Margaret's, Corsley Christingle Service – collection for the Children's Society

*

Monday 17th December

Meet at 6pm at the Old Post Office, Chapmanslade Village Carol singing – in aid of the Children's Society

**

Wednesday 19th December
From 6pm around Corsley
Village Carol singing – in aid of the Children's Society

Thursday 20th December

From 10am at the Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade Church and Community Coffee Morning



Sunday 23rd December: Fourth Sunday of Advent 10.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley Parish Family Worship

> 6pm at St Margaret's, Corsley Carol Service



Monday 24th December: Christmas Eve 3pm at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade Crib Service

11.30pm at St Mary's, Kingston Deverill Midnight Communion for Christmas



Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Day 9am at St Mary's, Temple 1662 BCP Holy Communion

10.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade Christmas Eucharist



Sunday 30th December: First Sunday of Christmas 10.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley Benefice Eucharist Service



Sunday 6th January: Epiphany 9.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley Eucharist

Rector	Rev. Norma Payne	01985 841321		
	The Rectory, 6 Homefields, Longbridge Deverill,			
	Warminster, Wilts. BA12 7DQ (day off is Monday)			
	revnpayne@btinternet.com			
Assistant Priest	Rev Di Britten (days off are Monday & Friday)	01373 832515		
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Claire Tanner	01985 218099		
	Richard Dean	01373 832594		
	Barbara Hughes	01373 832273		
	Gay Maynard	01373 832490		
Churchwarden	Charles Thackway	01373 832048		
Deputy Churchwarden	St Philip & St James – Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752		
Deputy Churchwarden	St Margaret's – Judith Helliar	01373 832803		
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50/50 Club	Neil Britten	01373 832515		
Electoral Roll	Michael Taylor	01373 832566		
Team Office	Dick Collins (Cley Hill Villages Benefice)	01985 215460		

Reverend Richard Yates, Horningsham

Many people in the Benefice, and indeed beyond it, were saddened to hear of the death of the Reverend Richard Yates on 15th November.

Richard was widely known and held in great affection by friends, neighbours, parishioners and former patients. I would like to pay tribute to his kindness and generosity and particularly to his willingness to remain involved in the leading of worship in the benefice churches (and neighbouring parishes) after his retirement. His enthusiasm for those causes dear to his heart was an inspiration, most especially the Diocesan Sudan Medical Link. It has been a privilege to have known him as a colleague.

Heartfelt condolences go to Jane, David and Charlie and all the members of Richard's family at this sad time.

Norma Payne

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

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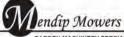
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Countryside Matters **Ash Dieback**

This month Judith has asked me to provide some information about Ash Dieback: a disease that could greatly affect our countryside.

Ash Dieback is a serious disease of ash trees, caused by the fungus Chalara fraxinea. It was first observed in Poland in 1992 and has since spread to 21 European countries, reaching Denmark in 2002 where it has affected 90-95% of Danish ash trees. The fungus infects 60-90% of Ash: causing leaf loss, bark lesions and crown dieback. Young trees are killed very rapidly, whilst older trees often resist for longer, but do succumb with prolonged exposure. The disease is spread in the leaf litter, and the wind is believed to play a role in transmitting fungal spores. The Forestry Commission has produced a pictorial guide to the symptoms: best seen on their website: this can be made available as printed copies

The disease was first discovered here in the UK in February 2012; in a consignment of infected trees sent from the Netherlands to a nursery in Buckinghamshire. At first

if requested.

all known cases were linked to plantations and nurseries but Ash Dieback has now been discovered in the natural environment. The Forestry Commission has undertaken a nationwide survey, confirming that the disease has spread across much of the UK.

At present (16th November) the Forestry Commission has not confirmed any cases of Ash Dieback in West Wiltshire/Somerset, but is nonetheless encouraging landowners and the public to be vigilant. If you see any Ash trees which you suspect of showing signs of ash dieback please contact the Forestry Commission straight away: there is an onsite diagnostic kit which can be used to give a result in a matter of minutes.

Ash trees make up around 30% of England's woodland cover and the thousands of miles of hedgerows which knit our landscapes together. It is a very important tree species, not just for the many species of flowers. birds, insects and lichens reliant upon or closely associated with it, but also for its place in our countryside.

out and about

The government has already banned the import and movement of Ash trees; infected trees on nurseries will be destroyed. The scientific advice is that it won't be possible to eradicate this disease, but that does not necessarily mean the end of the British Ash. Slowing its spread will allow time to find those trees with genetic resistance to the disease. Current advice from the government is:

- Report any suspected cases to the Forestry Commission, which will then advise
- Mature trees should not be removed, as they are valuable to wildlife, take longer to die and can help us learn more about genetic strains that might be resistant to the disease. Infection does not occur directly from tree to tree.
- Foresters, land managers, environment groups and the general public will be informed about how to identify diseased trees and those likely to be resistant to the disease, and will be advised what to do if they find a diseased tree.

Eve Tigwell Friggle Street

A note for your diary Coffee Morning

Saturday 1st December 2012 High Field, Roddenbury View, Corsley

In aid of Church Funds

Books for charity

After the theft of a tub of books from the layby at Apple Garden, Acres Supply have kindly offered to house the new collection. of books in their coffee shop, for which I am very grateful. I would like to thank the Rev Di Britten and Amanda George of Chapmanslade for the very generous donations of books which they have given to me, in the hope that they will make some money for the new Cancer Centre at the Royal United Hospital – I suggest £1 for hardbacks and 50p for paperbacks. The tub is full to overflowing so please take some time to have a browse, and maybe have a coffee at the same time! I would also like to thank Sue Wye of Corsley for her financial donation, which has already been sent to the RUH

> Dianne Young 01373 832323

Barters Open Day

Legh and Diana would like to thank everyone who came to Barters Open Day & Exhibition, 75 people attended and the information gathered will be passed to Chapcap.

Anyone who missed the open days can find the information on www.adamsintegra. co.uk and can make comment by email to: enquiries@adamsintegra.co.uk or make an appointment to see Legh on 01373 832512 or email diana@barters.co.uk

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Don't get the needle, look after your Christmas Tree

Some years ago the Forestry Commission's scientists discovered that the secret of preventing your Christmas tree from losing its needles was to encourage your tree to drink water whilst in your house at Christmas time. They proved that it is possible for cut Christmas trees WITH NO ROOTS to drink water, by capillary action, through their bark - in the same way that cut flowers drink water in a vase. There are lots of different types of trees available – the green Norway spruce being the traditional tree which to me smells like Christmas. Nowadays the Nordman Blue non-drop trees are the favourites as no one wants to be constantly picking up needles. Here are a few tips to get your Christmas tree through to the new year...

- **1** Ensure that you buy a fresh tree. Check that the tree is fresh by gently running your fingers down the length of one of the lower branches; the needles should stay on.
- **2** Once home, if you are not going to take the tree into your house immediately, put it in a cool, dry place out of the wind. If possible, place it in a bucket of water, so that the tree can have a good drink. It is also a good idea to put the tree out of sight as Christmas trees have a tendency to be stolen!
- **3** Just before you take the Christmas tree in the house, saw off the bottom 1" (3cm) of the trunk. This creates a fresh cut and opens up the pores in the bark, which otherwise block up with sap within a few hours of being cut. The tree is then able to drink water through these pores via capillary action.

- **4** Try not to expose your tree to sudden changes in temperature. So far, there is limited scientific evidence to support this, but on a very cold day/ night, many gardeners are careful not to bring a plant from the outdoors straight into a very warm room.
- **5** Once inside the house, try and position your Christmas tree away from any heat sources such as radiators and doors. Heat will dry out your tree faster, so the further from its source the better.
- **6** Place your tree in plain water not soil or sand which will block the pores in the bark. This is best achieved by using a Christmas tree stand that holds water. Many precious hours can be wasted trying to make a Christmas Tree stand up straight in an ordinary bucket, using just bricks or stones!
- 7 Keep the Christmas tree stand topped up with water, add some sugar to the water as this can beneficial to the tree. Your Christmas tree may drink 2-3 pints (1-2 litres) of water per day, depending on its size and your central heating settings. This is very important as once the water level drops below the tree's trunk, sap will reseal the bark within a few hours, preventing the tree from drinking any further water even if you then re-fill the Christmas tree stand. You won't want to have to saw off the bottom inch of the trunk again! An empty bottle of wine is ideal for this task and a good way of remembering to aive your tree a Christmas drink!

Rob White Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley

Bring this copy of 'The Bridge' to Acres Supply to get 10% OFF ALL REAL CHRISTMAS TREES

Poet's Corner

Coming home from Weymouth

"Let's catch the train to Weymouth, dear," I told granddaughter Jess, "It's better than the drive down south — I think the train is best."
But all of Frome had thought the same and carriages were full.
People stood the journey long; I feared I'd lose my cool.

Our passengers were well-behaved but others had a fight. Weymouth cops turned out in force to put wrong-doers right. Oh happy time in Weymouth had; we paddled in the sea, Had chips and coffee near the beach, toured shops till nearly three.

Back to the train we early went and found an empty seat, But many people had to stand, our driver began to bleat. "I refuse to leave the station, folks, this train is packed to bursting. Would half of you to Portsmouth go, however much you're hurting?"

"To Portsmouth? Why would we go there and wait to change for Westbury, When this train calls there anyway? Of course we won't, dearie." "Well something has to give, folks; this train's going nowhere. The engine's small, can't pull the weight. Get off and try elsewhere."

After an hour waiting in the heat, while kiddies needed loos, Back on the system the driver came, and gave out some good news -But not for travellers Yeovil bound. "A bus is now outside. Get off here and get on that bus, if at Yeovil you reside."

We watched as people left the train and stumbled to the bus, They knew the driver meant to make a silly mega-fuss. "Now everybody's sitting down, this train can pull you home." Next time we want a seaside trip, we'll use the car alone.

Gill Redman

Light Bites

We would like to invite you to come and join us for a

Christmas Lunch

Corsley Reading Rooms Wednesday 12th December 12.30 for 1.00

Please ring to reserve your place. We make no charge for our lunches Phone Pat 832650, Gay 832490 or Dot 832059 A big 'thank you' to all who turned out for another successful fashion show at M&Co in Warminster last month

Fashion Show update

The raffle gave away £90 in M&Co vouchers plus many other great prizes, so there were some happy winners among the crowd. Everyone could shop with 10% discount, so bargains to be had all round. Thanks also to Sabine and the staff at M&Co and the models, with Dot Robertson being the star performer, in my opinion.

Monies raised will be used to help keep the playing field maintained for another year, but will not go very far towards helping us replace the very old see-saw which had to be removed as it was no longer safe. In addition, the surface under the old swings will have to be replaced as constant wear has rubbed a hole in the mat.

To all Corsley families who use, or have used, the see-saw or old swings, please could you make a donation towards their replacement? Anything you can spare will be a help as the total cost will be £3,260, a sum that we cannot raise by our normal fundraising activities.

Please call our treasurer, Barbara, on 01373 832 273 for more information.



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to help raise funds for the Disabled Newlife Centre in Kathmandu 6.30pm, Tuesday 11 December

at Corsley Reading Rooms Cost £10.00

For more information and to book your place, mat and mince pie contact Jackie Jasper on 01373 832301

The evening will start with some information about the Disabled Newlife Centre and William and Olly's trip to raise funds. Then we will have a fun and easy yoga session followed by mince pies and mulled apple juice.

Regular Tuesday evening classes start again on 15 January 2013 Deverills Players present

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Can you crack the 'uncrackable code'?

Code breaker

Britain's top code-breakers at GCHQ are stumped by a code written in 1944, found in a capsule attached to the leg of a dead pigeon found in a chimney!

Here's the code						
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	•	_Q XSR	DJHFP	GOVFN	MIAPX	
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		LKXGH	RGGHT		FNKTQ	
			FQIRW	AOAKI	V 27 1525/6	
		KLDTS	1 0.1			

If you crack the code, do let GCHQ know.!

Their address is Press Office, Room A3a, GCHQ, Hubble Road, Cheltenham, GL51 0EX My favourite suggestion is that the message starts 'Dear Santa...'



News from the Nest

Welcome to this month's feature of 'News from the Nest' from Little Cuckoo's Pre-School in Lyes Green, Corsley.

We are in the middle of what is proving to be a very busy term!
Last half-term saw our Bags 2 School collection, and our first open afternoon, for the parent's to come in and see all their children's hard work. This was a great success and we are hoping to repeat it once every half term.

This half-term, already we have had a Parent's evening - again this is the first time that we have held one at Little Cuckoo's. It went very well and was a lovely opportunity for parents and key workers to have a proper chat about their child's progress, and to discuss any concerns (thankfully, very few!)

By the time you read this, we will have had a 'Spotty Day' for Children in Need. The children have been asked to come in wearing a spotty item of clothing and to donate £1 to Children in Need. They will also be making spotty bandanas for their teddy bears!

And then we see Christmas rapidly approaching! We are hosting a Christmas Shopping Evening on the 30th November, which will have been and gone by the time The Bridge is published, and I hope it will have been

a roaring success! 10 hand-picked stalls selling beautiful crafts, Christmas wreaths, and decorations, and lots more. If you missed out this time, you can always come next year!

We are holding our annual Christmas Fayre on the 15th December. All welcome. Bring the children to meet Father Christmas, and join in with all the Christmas fun!

There will be a family Christingle service in St Margaret's Church on the 16th December, and the children from Little Cuckoos have been invited to attend, so hopefully we will see some of you there.

We are also holding our own Advent Service for the families of the children at Little Cuckoos, in the church on the 19th December. I am sure we will see some wonderful performances from the children!

Phew! There we are, a busy term. It only remains for me to wish a Happy Christmas to one and all from everyone at Little Cuckoos!

Jen Gale Committee Chair

Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9am - 3pm Mother and toddler group: Tuesday 10am - 11.30am

For more information, please contact 01373 832298 www.littlecuckoos.co.uk

A fascinating (true)story about one of the nation's favourite board games

Get out of jail free!

As an increasing number of British airmen found themselves to be involuntary guests of the Third Reich, the Crown was casting about for ways and means to facilitate their escape. Now obviously, one of the most helpful aids to that end is a useful and accurate map - one showing not only where stuff was, but also showing the locations of 'safe houses' where a POW on-the-lam could go for food and shelter.

Paper maps had some real drawbacks - they make a lot of noise when you open and fold them, they wear out rapidly and if they get wet they turn to mush. Someone in MI-5 got the idea of printing escape maps on silk. It's durable, can be scrunched-up into tiny wads, and unfolded as many times as needed, and it makes no noise whatsoever. At that time, there was only one manufacturer in Great Britain that had perfected the technology of printing on silk, and that was John Waddington, Ltd. When approached by the government the firm was only too happy to do it's bit for the war effort.

By pure coincidence, Waddington was also the UK Licensee for the popular board game Monopoly. As it happened, 'games and pastimes' was a category of item that qualified for insertion into 'CARE packages' dispatched by the International Red Cross to prisoners of war.

Under the strictest of secrecy, in a securely guarded and inaccessible old workshop on the grounds of Waddington's, a group of employees began mass-producing escape maps, keyed to each region of Germany (or Italy where Allied POW camps were in a regional system). When processed, these maps could be folded into such tiny bits that they would actually fit inside a Monopoly playing piece. While they were at it, the clever workmen at Waddington's also managed to add:

- A playing token, containing a small magnetic compass
- A two-part metal file that could easily be screwed together
- Useful amounts of genuine highdenomination German, Italian, and French currency hidden within the Monopoly money!

Before taking off on their first mission, British and American aircrews were advised on how to identify a 'rigged' Monopoly set - by means of one tiny red dot, cleverly fashioned to look like an ordinary printing glitch, located in the corner of the 'Free Parking' square on the playing board.

Of approximately 35,000 Allied POWs who successfully escaped, an estimated one-third were aided in their flight by the rigged Monopoly sets. Everyone who used them was sworn to secrecy indefinitely since the British Government may have wanted to use this highly successful ruse in yet another war in the future. The story wasn't actually 'de-classified' until 2007, when the surviving craftsmen from Waddington's - and also the firm itself - were finally honoured in a public ceremony.

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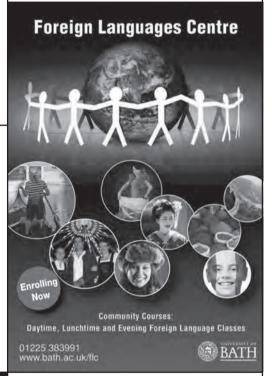
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We wish all our readers a Peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

The work of Operation Mobilisation

We were visited recently by Trevor Brain, the West Country's representative for Operation Mobilisation. In the 1950s, an American woman prayed for students in her community and gave a copy of John's gospel to a young man named George Verwer. He later pledged his life to the Lord and founded Operation Mobilisation.

By 1963, 2000 Christians were working in Europe on summer projects and teams moved into India to begin year-long work. The aim, then as now, was to reach people who'd never heard of Jesus.

Today over 6000 workers are busy in 110 countries, changing the lives of people through the sharing of God's word.

Operation Mobilisation uses a ship, Logos Hope, as a floating 'church', visiting ports and opening the ship to visitors while docked. Outreach teams from the vessel visit local communities to spread God's word. At present the ship is being renovated in the Philippines.

Tanzania 2012

We recently had an update from Henry Sandoe, on his visit to Tanzania with Camps International, and were treated to a slide show.

Tanzania is the largest country in East Africa and boasts 120 different ethnic groups. Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania is the highest mountain in Africa, while the Spice Islands of Zanzibar and the world's biggest game reserve are included within Tanzania's boundaries.

Camps International has bases where students sleep in tents and work on local projects. Henry said tasks included building projects and painting classrooms.

We saw slides of the varied and interesting wildlife, from a praying mantis and flamingos to zebras, hippos and lions.

Students helped clear a local river bed, improving the water flow for human and for wildlife use. The group also had a safari trip at Tahengarie National Park, where they saw wildebeest, impala, an ostrich and an elephant. Ngorongoro crater was visited and a 'twister' seen.

Camp Tanga is on the Indian Ocean shoreline, where temperatures reached 35° centigrade. Here, a hut was built from local materials; it was basically wattle-and-daub walls with a thatched roof, the daub being mixed by foot!

The group also climbed Mount Meru, a volcano almost 15,000 feet high and last active in 1910. Only half the students managed the climb, due to altitude sickness. Although Henry managed that project, he missed another due to illness.

His lasting impressions of his trip include the beauty of the landscape and the poverty of the people – and most of all, their happiness with their lot in life. How unlike us in the Western world!

Regular times

Every Sunday morning at 11.00 for about an hour (coffee served at 10.45)

Communion on the first Sunday of each month at 12 noon for 15 minutes.

Favourite hymns + tea party every third Sunday in the month at 5 to 6.30

House-group Bible study every Tuesday at 7.30



Children's Fun Drama Classes in Chapmanslade!!!

The leaves have fallen, the clocks have changed, and everyone's jumpers have been pulled out of the back of the drawers. Winter is certainly here! It wasn't that long ago that we were starting our classes for the term and now we are already thinking about Christmas! We have had a jam packed term so far with lots of fun! For those of you that didn't know, this is the first term for the Helen O'Grady Drama Academy in the 'BA' postcode. We are really passionate about what our programme can offer children in

the local area. Not only do they gain in confidence, but they learn life skills which can increase their ability to ask and answer questions with assurance, to make friends more easily and to converse with adults effectively. An excellent foundation for

the future!

often dependent on our development as a child. Building strong verbal communication skills in the early years is paramount to unlocking the world in which we live. Realising a child's creative and expressive potential through drama is a key to a child's healthy development.

Term is well underway for the Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, and as a principal it is amazing to witness how quickly the new ones settle into our classes. Because the curriculum can easily be adapted to

> challenae children of any ability, no-one feels threatened and all students can develop at their own pace, while being part of something positive and successful. Classes are great fun and, in such an

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In this fast-moving technological world, many children are learning to communicate by text, email and social networking and, because of this, they may lack the essential talking skills necessary for them to speak up with assurance.

Self-esteem and confidence in later life is

environment, children learn very quickly.

These affordable classes are available in Chapmanslade Village Hall on Thursday afternoons from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Why not call our office on 01761 434 075 or email bath@helenogrady.co.uk to find out more and enrol your child for a FREE TRIAL lesson.

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Step back in time...

1st 1135 England's King Henry I died. He had fallen ill seven days earlier after eating too many lampreys. He was 66, and had ruled for 35 years.

2nd 1697 Sir Christopher Wren's St Paul's Cathedral is opened in London.

3rd 1989 The Cold War ended after 52 years of superpower rivalry. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and US President George Bush ended their shipboard summit meeting off Malta.

4th 1872 Crew from the British brigantine Die Gratia boarded a deserted ship drifting mid Atlantic. The captain's table was set for a meal aboard the US ship Marie Celeste but the Captain, crew and passengers were all missing.

6th 1921 Ireland's 26 southern states were granted independence from Britain, becoming the Irish Free State. Ulster in the north remains part of the UK.

7th 1783 William Pitt became British Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer at the tender age of 24.

8th 1980 Forty-year-old ex-Beatle John Lennon was murdered in New York.

10th 1901 The first Nobel Peace Prizes were awarded worth \$30,000 each. Nobel, a Swedish chemist, had died five years earlier leaving the fortune he had amassed from his invention, dynamite, to the awarding foundation.

11th 1936 Britain's King Edward VIII renounces the throne in a radio broadcast to the nation. After the broadcast he boards a ship to join the twice-divorced Mrs Wallis Simpson in France.

12th 1955 British engineer Christopher Cockerell patented a new kind of vehicle.

Half-ship and half-aircraft, his 'hovercraft' floats on an air cushion.

17th 1778 Birthday of Sir Humphrey Davy, English inventor of the safety lamp for miners, who also discovered sodium, magnesium, calcium, barium and strontium

18th 1946 Clement Atlee's Labour government won the vote on state ownership which lead to the nationalizing of the railways, ports, mines, etc.

19th 1848 Emily Bronte, English author of Wuthering Heights, dies of tuberculosis at the tender age of 30.

21st 1988 A Pan American jumbo jet bound for New York is blown out of the sky by a terrorist bomb and crashes onto the Scottish town of Lockerbie killing all 259 passengers and 11 people on the ground.

23rd 1922 The world's first regular radio broadcasts are transmitted by the BBC.

24th 1508 London houses receive piped water again, for the first time in over a thousand years, since the Romans left town!

25th 440 Church leaders agree to fix the date of the birth of Christ. Previously some people had celebrated it in May, others in January.

28th 1918 The results of the first General Election in Britain in which women have been allowed to vote, confirmed David Lloyd George as Prime Minister.

29th 1170 Four of King Henry II's knights murdered the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas a Becket, in Canterbury Cathedral.

31st 1720 Birthday of Charles Edward Stuart, Scottish royal better know as Bonnie Prince Charlie or the Young Pretender, son of James, the Old Pretender.

Here's an incentive to get everyone started on their Christmas baking...

Vodka Christmas Cake

Once again, I've had requests for my vodka Christmas cake recipe, so here goes...

Ingredients

1 cup sugar

1 tsp. baking powder

1 cup water

1 tsp. salt

1 cup brown sugar

Lemon juice

4 large eggs

Nuts

1...bottle Vodka

2 cups dried fruit

Method

Sample a cup of Vodka to check quality. Take a large bowl, check the Vodka again to be sure it is of the highest quality then Repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer.

Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.

Add 1 teaspoon of sugar.

Beat again.

At this point, it is best to make sure the Vodka is still OK. Try another cup just in case.

Turn off the mixerer thingy.

Break 2 eegs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit.

Pick the fruit up off the floor, wash it and put it in the bowl a piece at a time trying to count it

Mix on the turner.



If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers, just pry it loose with a drewscriver.

Sample the Vodka to test for tonsisticity.

Next, sift 2 cups of salt, or something.

Check the Vodka.

Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.

Add one table.

Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find.

Greash the oven.

Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over.

Don't forget to beat off the turner.

Finally, throw the bowl through the window.

Finish the Vodka and wipe the counter with the cat.

Tennis News

The Tennis Club held their
Presentation and Social
Evening at the Royal Oak on the
16th November. Again another big 'thank
you' to the Royal Oak for their help in
ensuring this was such a successful evening.
The Evening was very well supported
and members enjoyed an excellent meal
followed by a guiz.

Chairperson, Marlene Latchem, welcomed everybody and our President, Charlotte Beswick presented the following club trophies:-

Juniors

Boys under 16 Improver's Shield Beginner's Trophy Joseph Broomfield Natasha Koslowski Isabella Stockting.

Adults

Ladies' Singles Men's Singles Ladies' Doubles

Brian Young
Sue Newell
Jane Snedden
Brian Young
Allan Snedden
Brenda Levitt
Michael Clarke

Alison Plummer

Men's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Congratulations to all our winners.

Tennis is played all year round and the winter months are no exception. Newcomers are always welcome and youngsters encouraged. Please contact Marlene Latchem on 01373 832357 for details.

The Tennis Club would like to take this opportunity to wish all The Bridge readers a very Happy Christmas.

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 1984
- 2 Gold
- 3 The Archers
- 4 The Mystery of Edwin Drood
- 5 Alabama
- 6 Bedfordshire (Avon is not administrative following changes under local government in some areas in the 1990s and 2009 creating unitary authorities, a number of districts, although forming part of a larger ceremonial county, themselves form a nonmetropolitan county. Avon was renamed North Somerset in 2005)
- 7 Tom and Barbara Good (The Good Life)
- 8 8
- 9 Tia Maria
- 10 Sheep
- 11 Rome
- 12 George III (59 years and 96 days)

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